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## College heightens acquaintance rape awareness

By David Engelman  
Assistant News Editor

"Acquaintance rape and sexual misconduct is not just a problem at other institutions. It is a problem at Alma College," according to a letter from Dean of Students James Kridler addressed to the campus community and dated Mar. 26.

The letter described three separate incidents this academic year in which the students responsible for, "unwanted sexual contact or, in some instances, acquaintance rape," were removed from campus.

Charges ranged from assault and battery with a \$610 fine and a 30-day jail sentence to the third student's case, which is still pending, "but he may be charged with third degree criminal sexual misconduct which is a felony and carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison," said the letter from Kridler.

To educate the campus community concerning this delicate issue, a program is planned for Monday, Apr. 8 at 8 p.m. in Jones Auditorium which will include a panel of speakers from the Dean of Students Office, The Center, Wilcox Medical Center and the Alma Police Department.

"Each year we have had cases (of acquaintance rape), but the numbers were quite low," said Health Services Director William Clark.

Clark defined acquaintance rape as, "the unsolicited and forced physical contact that occurs between two or more individuals when one individual is vehemently stating that they do not wish that activity or contact to occur."

Clark also stressed that this definition disregards gender. "It can occur both ways, but the highest percentage of cases is men attacking women," he added.

"We've had an increase in the number of reports. We're seeing more people willing to report incidents. They want to do something about it. The sad thing is, it's probably only one-third of what is really occurring," he added.

Kridler said he does not think the occurrence of acquaintance rape is on the rise at Alma College. He described it as a problem here on campus and a problem of society. Kridler added that victims are speaking up more and that a woman is much more likely to be assaulted by someone she knows.

"The good news is that at Alma it (the number of acquaintance rapes) is no worse than at any other institution. The bad news is that it is no better at Alma than at any other institution," Kridler said.

Several explanations were offered for the acquaintance rape problem, among them, alcohol. "In over 75% of all the cases reported to The Center, the Medical Center and the Dean of Students, alcohol was a contributing factor," Kridler said in his Mar. 26 letter.

Assistant Director for Counseling/Placement and Career Planning Maggie Martin-Echternach described how alcohol misuse and abuse play a role in acquaintance rape.

"What happens is there are parties where there is alcohol involved. The person who is assaulted and the

assailant are not able to make clear decisions," she said.

Clark said that alcohol, among other drugs, may be part of the atmosphere on campus which contributes to the problem. "Students are misusing and abusing alcohol to a greater extent. Contrary to belief, we have people who use marijuana and other mind altering drugs, though alcohol is the highest used drug (on campus)."

Clark was in favor of campus organizations such as Boosting Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students (BACCHUS), which meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in The Center. "They diligently and aggressively address the problem of alcohol abuse," Clark said.

He added that, "The uneducated individual who doesn't know how to have a relationship with their fellow students" may also be a factor in the number of acquaintance rapes reported.

"What concerns me is the lack of respect, concern and recognition of each other as individual human beings. There is a desire and almost demand to fulfill one's own needs at another's expense. That's part of our society, which wants instant gratification," said Clark.

Martin-Echternach agreed that acquaintance rape may stem from a larger social problem, reflecting immature social attitudes. "I see it as a problem because it is such a violation of rights, trust and dignity, not to mention the physical risk of AIDS. Emotionally, it can be literally devastating."

"The assailant faces expulsion and criminal charges," she added.

Captain Lombardi, of the Alma Police Department, said there are four degrees of criminal sexual conduct, the degree depending on the circumstances of the assault. These range from first degree which includes sexual penetration, a felony, to fourth degree, a misdemeanor, which would involve touching.

Lombardi explained that if the police are brought into a case involving criminal sexual conduct, that they do not determine the degree of the assault. He said that their job is only to investigate the circumstances, not to blame or judge. "It's the court who decides," he added.

Lombardi said that there is usually one charge of criminal sexual conduct each year from the College, but that three such charges in one year is more than in the past for Alma College. He added that compared with the same problem of criminal sexual conduct it is not as major a problem as within the Alma community.

Martin-Echternach listed several places where acquaintance rape victims could go for help in addition to her office. "Students can go to the Health Center, the Dean's Office or even the Police Department. Hopefully they will end up somewhere where they will find emotional support."

"If they come to The Center," she said, "we're very supportive. We try to help the person identify their feelings. We take care of the student

academically, emotionally, physically and financially. We look at their options. We don't force them to prosecute. We try to work with Wilcox Medical Center and the Dean's Office."

Clark said the Medical Center also works closely with The Center when they encounter a case of acquaintance rape.

"If a person goes to The Center with this type of problem, they'll send them over here as soon as possible and vice versa. We may even call The Center right away if the person is under too much stress to have a physical examination."

"It is important to get a physical exam as soon as possible after such an incident to get physical evidence documented before it is altered," Clark said.

"This is one of the hardest things for victims. In order to start appropriate treatment, we need to deal with the physical and psychological needs of the victim," he added.

"We do not force patients to do so, but we tell them that it will probably be necessary to talk with the Dean's Office also at some time."

Clark said that Wilcox Medical Center does not call parents in cases of acquaintance rape, nor are they required to. "We're glad to talk with parents and students, but it's the student's initiation of the process."

Kridler outlined the actions that Alma College has been taking to prevent acquaintance rape in the past several years, including Residence Assistant programs, pamphlets, preterm and RA training and leadership programs for fraternities

and sororities.

The April 9 program described in Kridler's March 26 letter was in the works prior to the three incidents of acquaintance rape and unwanted sexual contact also described in the letter.

Kridler said the Dean's Office treats a reported incident confidentially, adding that the College is not going to let the campus body know about specifics. "Rumors compound and contribute to the problem," he added.

Concerning acquaintance rape, Kridler said, "it is a problem in society as well as here on campus. We're trying to provide information to let the students know what to expect. If they have been a victim, they should report it to someone."

Students can avoid acquaintance rape, Clark assured. "Be aware of yourself—your values and your decision-making ability," he said, "especially in situations where you have chemical altering substances in your system. Don't let a chemical agent make a decision for you."

"Be precautionary without being paranoid," he said. Martin-Echternach said to take care of yourself when you drink. "If you drink too much, take care to get back to your room safely. Have a trusted roommate or friend help you."

The program on April 9 in Jones Auditorium at 8 p.m. will address the emotional, medical and legal aspects of acquaintance rape and unwanted sexual conduct in greater detail.

Marti Amundsen and Michele Myers  
contributed to this article

## Student Affairs announces new Resident Assistants



The new Resident Assistants for 1990-91.

Photo by Mary B. Sweet

By Sharonne O'Shea  
Staff Writer

Recently, the new Resident Assistant (RA) appointments were made. They, along with all other RA's, will be receiving corridor assignments some time in August.

When you ask someone what it means to be an RA, undoubtedly the word responsibility pops up. Mitchell Residence Hall Director Alan Zoltowski said the biggest responsibility for an RA is maintaining both the "disciplinarian as well as student roles." He explained, "The label of 'RA' makes it difficult. It changes who they are. As soon as they become an RA they have a label."

Newly appointed RA Kirk Everett recognizes this, commenting that an RA must "maintain his own set of norms as well as enforce (the duties of an RA)."

Lisa Batterbee, Gelston's Residence Hall Director comments that they are an "RA regardless of where

they are." This supports her concept of an RA role model.

Melissa Hogan, sophomore RA in Gelston, expanded on the role model concept. She said you have to, "show you can have fun and not go to extremes." She added, "An RA is someone people can respect as a person overall. If people look down on you, there is no way you're going to get your job done."

Along with these responsibilities come some benefits. RA's have their own rooms in addition to a paid position. Everett cited another benefit as the opportunity to make a "better living environment." It also "enables one to practice leadership capabilities" and benefits the R.A. through public service oriented work. Hogan said, "(it's) a chance to meet people on a different level. It gives you a reason and position to talk to people unlike you normally do. Everyone in the building is more familiar with you."

Becoming an RA requires a rather lengthy application process. As Hogan said, "you have to really

want the position to go through it." Each applicant was required to fill out an essay application, get recommendations, turn in a resume, and go through an interview.

Qualities which aid in being a good RA according to Batterbee are "maturity and past leadership experience." Zoltowski added good organizational and social skills to the list. Hogan stated, "It's important to be there and be approachable for your corridor. If you get to know your corridor you can solve little things before they get huge."

Congratulations to new RA's Kirk Everett, Brad Guigar, Stephan Hallead, Dan Zettel, Julia Boldt, Robyn Grieve, Marti Amundsen, Chris Komperda, Cecelia Davis, Kristina Edgerly, Hanni Hollbacher, Rebecca Klinger, Lisa Knoerr, Deborah Mertz, Jennifer Remenak, Marci Siedlik, Barbara Swift, Dana Young, Keith Brodie, Dave Brown, Ben Grossman, Dave Orlandini and alternates Sarah Slater and Heather Ruppel.

## Student Congress works through full agenda

By Mike Collins  
Staff Writer

At last Thursday's Student Congress meeting, Congress had a heavy agenda dealing with issues involving their constitution, contingency requests, High School Leadership Day, Student Judicial Committee guidelines and student parking.

After weeks of hearing recommendations and debate, Congress finally passed revisions to its constitution. The only area revised involved procedures followed after a member of the Executive Council vacates an office. The new provisions passed call for use of the line of succession method to fill the

vacancy. If the office of the president is vacated, the vice president should step up to fill the void.

Another additional item passed concerned the percentage of membership needed to approve the new officer. Now only 3/4 of those present need to approve the new president. This is a contrast to the old provision that required 3/4 of full voting membership.

Congress also heard two contingency requests presented by Treasurer Kevin O'Shaughnessey. The first request came from the Scotsman, which wanted \$1,380 to buy a 35mm camera and a passport camera. The Scotsman expressed the need for a 35mm camera because

presently each member has to provide their own camera, and thought it would be beneficial to have one for general use of the staff. They desired the passport camera to help with the production of the Alma College Facefinder. with a passport camera, the Facefinder would be published approximately one week earlier with assured quality. Congress unanimously granted the funds for this request.

The other request came from Bruske Hall, which requested \$1,700 for a new television, treadmill and pool table refinishing. Congress only granted \$1,150 for the treadmill and pool table refinishing. Congress asked the residence hall to look into

the television reception problem more before granting them this money.

Chairman of High School Leadership Day Rick Lantz reported on the progress of the day. The activities, which are set for this Thursday, Apr. 5 will involve 14 schools and 100 students. It will be from 8:30-11:45 a.m. featuring a lecture from Counseling and Career Planning Placement Director Robert Perkins and 10 leadership workshops.

Lantz also introduced new Student Judicial sanction guidelines passed by Student Life Committee. The guidelines set up a standard for sanctions for various offenses. The

first alcohol or quiet hours violation will typically be met with a \$25 fine and written warning. For each successive offense the sanctions get steeper or if the offense is more serious nature. Lantz warned, "these are not etched in stone, they are only guidelines." He also added that these new guidelines are not revolutionary, but are basically how Student Judicial operates now, and will be published in the Student Life handbook next year.

Before adjourning, Congress revisited the issue of parking. This year anyone can park in any lot as long as they have an Alma College parking sticker. This is in contrast to previous year's seniority system

when you had to get a sticker for a particular lot or park in the P.E. lot. The Physical Plant likes the new system, citing maximization of space and ticketing down 55%.

Still, a survey showed that a majority of students liked the old way better. Treasurer Kevin O'Shaughnessey announced a plan to have the old system during the week and open parking on the weekends. While there was some approval of this plan, there was not enough to amend the present system.

Congress's next meeting will be Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m. in AC 113. The winners of the class and Student Congress elections will be announced at that time.



NEWS  
NOTESLondon levies  
poll tax

A new poll tax became effective in England and Wales on Sunday, Apr. 1. Under the new tax, every Briton who is at least 18 years of age will have to pay a flat sum to finance local community services such as garbage collection and education. Everyone in the community will pay the same amount regardless of income or property ownership. This is expected to raise each household's bill an estimated \$1,107 annually.

On Saturday, Mar. 31, approximately 90 people were injured in London when thousands gathered to protest the new tax. Nearly 40,000 had gathered peacefully in Trafalgar Square to attend a rally, but as the march progressed the protestors became militant. Police officers were pelted with rocks and bottles, a six-story office building was set ablaze and several other small fires were started.

Earth Day  
celebrated

The 20th anniversary of Earth Day is Apr. 22. Although an estimated 100 million people around the world will be participating by planting trees, giving lectures and marching, the expected boost in Michigan's environmental movement may not materialize because of missing political clout. In general, the effectiveness of the movement is hampered by industrial interests that carry more weight in the State legislature. Members of the environmental groups, on the whole, have showed a reluctance to get involved in the political realm, thus the lobbying is not as effective.

Flag issue put  
on fast track

The Supreme Court has agreed to decide by July the constitutionality of a new federal law making it a crime to burn the U.S. flag. This is a result of the Bush administration's request for immediate review of the constitutionality of the Flag Protection Act of 1989 which ruled that flag burning as a political protest is constitutionally protected under the First Amendment.

This move by the Supreme Court will enable the case to become a campaign issue for fall congressional elections.

U of M forced  
to permit  
Hash Bash

On Friday, Mar. 30, Washtenaw County Circuit Judge Donald Shelton issued an injunction requiring the University of Michigan to honor the permit it had granted to the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) for the rally at the center of the Ann Arbor campus.

Campus administration indicated that the University never intended to issue the permit, but rather was the effect of a clerical mix-up. General Counsel Elsa Cole commented that some of the opinions involved in the case may need to be reviewed by a higher court. The University, however, will not take any action until Apr. 1.

## Memorial service commemorates life of provost

By Michele Myers  
Staff Writer

The memorial service for Ronald Kapp which was conducted in Dunning Memorial Chapel last Thursday was a heart-felt tribute to a man who has inspired this campus and community. The service celebrated Kapp's life through the celebrants' praise of his work, the prayers of the college and community and the beautiful music of Steven Wietstock, Kevin Putz, Alma College Choir, and the congregation.

Reverend Jesse Perry guided the service as a day rich in memories and asked that, "As we celebrate Dr. Kapp's life we celebrate life itself."

Stephen Scott addressed the congregation on behalf of the student body. Scott spoke for many students and alumni who shared time with Kapp through his Spring Flora class, where Kapp was, "full of more energy than we ever had." He was a man who insisted everyone learn. Scott recalled Kapp capturing wayward listeners by tossing sticks

at them—for their closer inspection of course.

Scott said, "We all share special memories of Dr. Kapp. He took us square dancing in the blue grass of Kentucky to the rain forests of Nigeria." Steve shared an insight that, "we should all be thankful to have an opportunity to be touched

ered that to Kapp, "Interaction is a full person, intellectual-contact way of life." Kapp represented to him, "The ideal of the Christian concept of selflessness, always giving of his talent and time."

Tracy Luke, Faculty Chairperson, another celebrant of Kapp, expressed all our anger, sadness,

provost would have dismissed him. But Ron Kapp did not. "He insisted we remain focused upon our future...he lived without regrets because he acted." He helped Luke see his future and gave him the chance he deserved, as he did for so many others. Luke continued that, "He lived spiritually, simply, with a

Kapp was the catalyst to the ascendance of the sciences at Alma College. He was behind the construction and renovation of the science building. When Alma College paid their highest honor to him by naming the science building the Ronald O. Kapp Science Building he was overwhelmed, and humbly questioned if he was "deserving." President Stone said, "Ron Kapp will never leave this community because we will remember."

Acting Provost Joseph Walser ended the services by asking the congregation to find a freshness in the mystery and miracle of life as we mourn for someone so large in life, so large in our lives. His professionalism is imbedded into our character. He would want us to, "Press on. Learn more."

President Stone quoted Kapp, "Mine has been a rich and rewarding life filled with work and family I have loved."

He has made all our lives richer and we will sorely miss him.

*"He insisted we remain focused upon our future...he lived without regrets because he acted."*

- Tracy Luke

by him...and someday be to someone else what he was to you."

Alan Edgar, professor of biology, remembered the call to Kapp inviting him to become the third member of the Alma College Biology Department staff. As a beginning professor he didn't have an office of his own, but instead was asked to share an office with the Student Secretary, Phyllis. She in turn agreed to share the next years with him as his wife. Edgar shared his memory of a camping trip he took with Kapp. He said he discov-

emptiness of loss, and sense of injustice at such a young, vigorous life taken away.

As the minister from Tuesday's funeral service said, "...Just as trimming a young branch helps the whole bush flourish and grow, there is a lot of goodness that has been spread in his memory," and no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Luke recalled the respect and affection he developed for Ron Kapp eleven years ago when his life was falling apart. A lesser man as

deep love for his family. He delighted in the beauty of every person he met."

President Alan Stone said, "Dr. Kapp set a tone and vision in ways that are immeasurable. He was a mentor, friend, colleague, leader...a standard by which others are measured." Stone remembers Kapp as the first person to greet him when he came to Alma, and often afterwards taking him on long drives to show him the topography, fauna, and flora, helping him to truly know Michigan. President Stone said, "Dr.

## Panel fields questions on diversity

By David Engelman  
Assistant News Editor

Students interested in voicing concerns about the Five-Year Plan for increasing diversity on campus met on March 27 in the Bruske lobby at 7 p.m. with President Alan Stone and representatives from the Task Force on Increasing Diversity.

Issues discussed included miscon-

ceptions about changes in financial aid, admissions standards, the campus visits planned by Admissions Counselor Mark Nazario and attempts at increasing communication lines concerning the diversity question between students and administration.

Freshman Eunice Rowe cleared up several student concerns, saying that as a minority on campus, she receives no outside aid and entered

Alma College with an average ACT score for incoming first year students.

Several students expressed concern at the numbers of minority students bussed to campus from inner-city Detroit. According to sophomore Jen Remenak, students did not like the "bus load effect." They thought it was unfair to the students visiting campus. Remenak said, "The recruiting does not seem

to be on the personal level that I was treated with. The personal level has disappeared while recruiting minorities." In contrast, Rowe said, "Mark (Nazario) is very good with recruiting people. Once he has made a call to you, he continues to follow through."

Nazario defended his campus visit program. He indicated that he had previously developed relationships with the high schools invited to visit

campus as far back as a year and a half. Nazario said he knew each of the students who visited campus personally.

Joining President Stone at the meeting were senior Carl Grant, Admissions Counselor Mark Nazario, Assistant Dean of Students Emily Perl, freshman Eunice Rowe and Director of Admissions J. Leon Washington.

## Reid elaborates on Marriott food preparation

By Stacie Herriman  
Staff Writer

This is the second part of the two part interview with John "JR" Reid, Director of Marriott Food Service. Two weeks ago the focus was on variety and choice; this week the focus is on food preparation.

Q: Why isn't there more variety in the menus featured from week to week as each week?

A: "Basically our menu is run on a 4-week cycle—28 days—and at three meals a day there are 84 different meals that are put together. There are 84 meals, what do we have for meats? We have beef, pork, poultry and fish.

I have to come up with 56 different meat recipes (28 dinners with two meats per dinner), but I have only 4 meat groups to work from so there is bound to be some repetition. Again I return to the comment that students like variety, but variety in the items they like. I am offering variety, especially in the items students like; for example, spaghetti. But students are not taking it. They won't try the meatless spaghetti sauce because it wouldn't be spaghetti then."

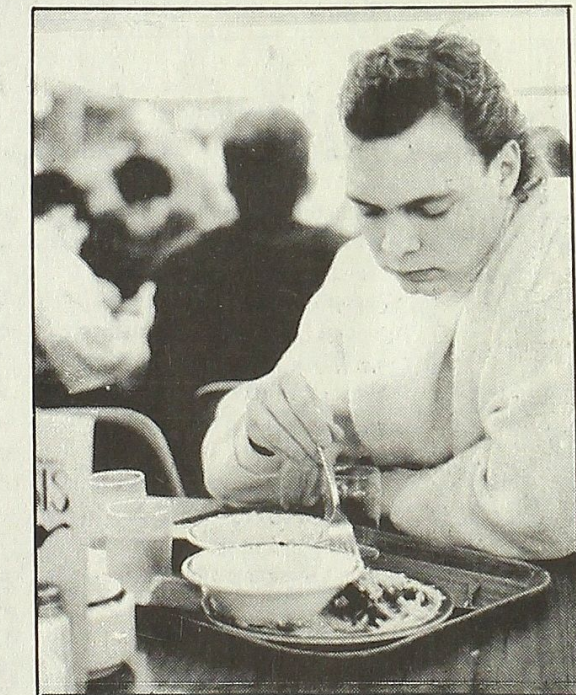
Reid refuted these student arguments by stating, "I offer you more variety than you've ever had at home, and it is just that you are eating in the same place, at the same time, and with the same people that there appears to be no variety here."

"Add some spice to your life. Go to dinner with some different people and eat in another area," he suggested.

"Variety is there if students want it. That is part of the reason that we do those monthly specials because we want to make people, at least once a month, change their pattern a little and experience something new."

"Another way we provide variety is through those pace-changer bars up front, like the fresh vegetables, the hot pretzels and the crepes. We alternate these, also, so as to avoid boredom and repetition."

Q: What is the difference between



Lee Dewitt contemplates his dinner

Photo by Stuart Tannehill

lunch and dinner menus?

A: "There should be some difference between the two because when we create the menus, they are created very differently."

"What we're offering for lunch is typically a sandwich, a casserole, and a vegetarian item. For dinner, what we're offering is a solid meat entrée, a casserole or another solid meat and a vegetarian entrée."

Q: How do you accommodate students with special dietary needs?

A: "We work with the Med Shed (Wilcox Medical Center) because that is where students will first typically go with dietary needs for health reasons."

"The doctors will call up and say that there is a student that needs a potential diet and can you set up a time to talk with them. What we then do is set up a time for that student to meet with Jenny, the registered dietitian who sets up the specialized dietary programs."

"Right now we have students that are on special diets that we create special foods for them for each meal, and we have a number of students that have dietary supplements to their regular three meals a day that we provide them with additional food to meet their medical

requirements."

"This is something you have on campus when you have a corporation running the food service program. Otherwise, if the school ran it, there probably would not be a registered dietitian on staff."

Q: What about the meat quality?

A: "When you are cooking 500-600 steaks or whatever at a time, the chances are that some pieces of meat will slide

through that we didn't catch that are not cooked quite right."

"This is in part because we are cooking as we go throughout the entire meal; we don't cook hours ahead and then wait for meal time."

"By being the type of management that walks around, students can come up to us and tell us if there is something wrong with the meat. If the claim is valid, we will replace the piece of meat with a new one and will take the bad piece back to the kitchen where it will become a learning process for the cooks."

"We are using a product that has been specified for Marriott, and due to the volume that it is bought in, it is possible that we will get some meat, although still acceptable in terms of the requirements, that slides through the system."

"If you find your meat unsatisfactory, tell me or one of the managers because you are the customer and we have to satisfy you."

Q: Why on Saturday night, if someone is getting shrimp and can only go through the line once, and more money goes to dinner as there are only two each day on the weekend, does he/she only receive 5-7 shrimp?

A: "The individual always receives

7 shrimp. On a steak and shrimp night, the cost of the steak, the cost of the shrimp, or the cost of the 8-ounce chicken breast is much more costly than your typical dinner entrée Sunday through Friday night."

"That is the only reason why there is only one time through the line. We have allocated more money to that hot entrée on Saturday night than we have on the other nights."

Q: What is the food cooked in?

A: "All of the items that we fry, we fry in Kenola oil. Kenola oil is the best oil on the market today; it has the least amount of saturated fats, it costs us more, but it is the most healthy and nutritious."

"As far as the amount of fried foods, the only foods that are fried—take dinner for example—are batter fried fish, a turkey cutlet, veal Parmesan, or the pork steak."

"These are breaded items so they are fried, but any of our other meats are generally baked; most of the chicken is baked. We try to stay away from the fried foods. If it seems like there is oil in other things, for example, the soup, it is only 100% vegetable margarine, which we use for flavor and taste."

Q: Why don't you use spices in your food?

A: "All of our recipes are based on the national menu; our recipes are figured so that at all colleges and universities, the average student can eat our food because everyone comes from different backgrounds."

"In the dining room we have spices that people can add to their food. Presently we are trying to find a spice dispensing unit for the dining room that will provide more spices and that students could just go up to and get the amount that they wanted."

"We have shakers, but they get stolen and people take them to their table and keep them there so others can't use them."

"Our food is spiced for a moderate palate so that the average student can eat it and feel that it is not too spicy. We'll continue to spice the way we are spicing because we want to be consistent and we want to

ensure the student that the food will taste approximately the same each time he/she selects it."

Q: Where can students deposit suggestions and criticisms about the cafeteria food and service?

A: "My impression of management here at Alma is that I should have managers out in the dining room, and myself, at all meals."

"At every meal that is served on this campus, there is a manager that walks through the dining rooms—he/she isn't necessarily out in the dining room for the whole hour that the meal is open because he/she is making sure that the food is being batch cooked properly in the back and that the dish room is running all right—they are walking through all over."

"We manage by walking around. With regards to suggestions and criticisms, my philosophy is to have friendly managers that students can go and tell if they like or dislike something rather than having a suggestion box. My reason for that is by having people walk through the dining room and talking to tables, students can tell them if something is bad. If students tell me something is bad, realistically, I don't run back to the line and tell them to stop serving it, but I ask the question: 'What's wrong? Is it the taste? Is it overcooked? Under cooked?'"

"I try to get an idea and then I go back to the line and taste a portion of it. If I make the decision that it is bad, I pull it right then and there and stop serving it."

"Therefore, I don't use suggestion boards because I manage right away—chances are if you don't like it, none of the other students who come after you will like it either—and, also, we don't become 'the managers'—people who don't talk to the students."

Reid summarized the overall goal of Marriott in serving the students and faculty of Alma College.

"We do care about people, and we're small enough that we try to get to know the majority of the student body. We do prepare the food here at Alma College, but we serve the people."



# Students offer insight into Pine River Anthology

The Pine River Anthology is due to come out any day now. Many students participate in bringing this literary magazine together with not only poems and short stories from Alma College students, but also art work.

Last term, in Ute Stargardt's English 101 class, she assigned a critique paper to her students. They were asked to critique certain pieces of art work that would appear in the Pine River Anthology. The following are some of those critiques that students wrote. Hopefully these critiques will give people a little insight into the long-awaited Pine River Anthology.

By Amy Coles  
G. Scott Campbell expertly captured many emotions in the black and white photograph of a misty forest scene which he left untitled. At a first glance, the image appears to be a rather dull and ordinary picture of an old, dead, fallen tree. But as I study the picture, I find myself captivated by it. The photograph was taken in an eerie forest and the background consists of scrawny, diseased trees ironically silhouetted against radiant sunlight. In contrast to the sunlight, the main subject in the photograph is the

fallen tree in the foreground whose branches are tangled in a rotting mass. The branches resemble tentacles reaching out to snatch the onlooker into its doom.

By photographing the scene from ground-level, the audience can associate the presence of death and deterioration with the enormous decaying tree. The black and white film also enhances this aura of doom.

The blackness of the foreground emphasizes the main feeling of despair, but in the background, like a thought in the back of one's mind is the hint of sunlight conveying the secret promise of eternal life. To me, this picture is the photographer's interpretation of death and life, also revealing his talents as a photographer by portraying deep and profound human concerns.

By Stephen Moore

Goethe said of art that, "the highest problem of every art is, by means of appearances, to produce the illusion of a loftier reality."

This illusion is produced beautifully in Jim Ledyard's pressed paper sculpture White Mask, Brown Mask, Red Mask. Utilizing sparse, yet explicit hues along with stimulating textures and melancholy features,

Ledyard transports the viewer to his "three mask" reality of intense expression and symbolism.

The overall appearance of the sculpture is shocking. The three masks hang in a triangle pattern with the white mask to the left, the brown mask to the right, and the red mask centered below these two. Each mask is approximately eight inches wide and twelve inches long. They are all identical in shape: Gaunt, elongated man-faces with exaggerated eyebrows and noses as if some man had added clay to his nose and eyebrows and sunken his nose into some kind of mold. The three mouths hang open slightly farther than if they were forming coughs.

In the bottom of each mouth rests a tongue, smaller than expected, flattened by a nonexistent tongue depressor. The man seems to be neither breathing nor screaming, simply opening his mouth possibly to vomit out his tongue. The shape of the lower lip of each mask is natural. This contrasts drastically with the shape of the upper lip which resembles the healed remains of a band of flesh torn by a dentist's pick. Large, determined veins tunnel from the temples and disappear into the eyes and nostrils. Others trickle down the foreheads and fade into the flesh of the cheeks. The cheekbones protrude just under the eyes,

stretching taut all of the flesh between the eyes and chin. Just under each chin and at the center of each temple, the pressed paper flattens, neglecting the natural form of the human face. Here the sculpture becomes like dehydrated bread dough, losing its cohesive ability, spreading and splitting around the circumference of each mask.

The textures of the masks change with the colors. The white mask is smooth and creamy, perfect. Its softness reminds me of my childhood blanket or of the plastic bunnies coated with velvety, false fur. The brown mask, on the other hand, is blemished with old brown leaves still attached to their stems. This creates patches of vein patterns on the forehead and cheekbones to which the leaves are bonded. The red mask is also stained with the brown leaves and contains sections where layers of the paper are superimposed upon each other. This shingling creates small red paper plateaus for probing fingers to climb. The surface of the red mask is nearly identical to the undecorated rump of a pinata horse constructed with old newspapers.

The textures, colors, and configuration of this sculpture conjure powerful and impressive symbolism. The color sequences of white, brown, and red represents the three

phases of life: purity, sin, and death. The masks themselves are the masks of human personality. This is also expressed by the three colors as the white of false innocence conceals the brown of inner filth which hovers over the blood red of passion. The veins of the leaves associated with those of the faces, suggesting yet another symbol. Leaves dawn green, evolve into yellows and oranges, and finally submit to death as withered reds and browns. Similarly, the human begins white and pure, is blemished with the brown of sin, and eventually finds the red of death.

Emerson once stated that, "every artist was first an amateur." White Mask, Brown Mask, Red Mask, is supposedly the work of an amateur. With this piece as a sample of Ledyard's work, there is incredible potential in one such amateur who can create a piece of art with this much beauty and meaning.

By Brad Schafer

Brad Guigar's painting entitled Everybody's Reachin' Out for Someone, depicts golden humans reaching out for each other.

The painting is three dimensional in appearance and shows the golden humans falling from all directions

toward the center of the canvas into nothingness. This represents human existence. When men die, they are forever in a void of nothingness.

The colors are excellent and were obviously chosen with care. The human figures are gold because many have called humanity the light of the world and a golden race. The background consists of dark shades of blue, dark green, and black.

As the figures approach the center, the canvas becomes darker. This gives the impression of a tunnel without a light at the end. This tunnel is like a black hole absorbing the light of the world. As the golden ones are swirling into the tunnel, they are straining to reach one another. However, all their attempts are unsuccessful.

We are doing the same today. Countries are trying to put aside their differences and live in peace. The different races are desperately trying to rid themselves of their prejudices and live in harmony. Yet, all of these attempts at reaching out have failed.

There is racial unrest in South Africa. There are constant battles in the Middle East in which many nations are involved. This painting is a superb vision of the strife and eventual downfall of the human race painted in a simplistic style everyone can understand.

## Lisa Batterbee talks about life as a Resident Assistant

By Rachelle Reinhardt  
Staff Writer

Lisa Batterbee, the new hall director of Gelston, is often mistaken as a student at Alma. This results in some uncomfortable situations for her.

For example, she said she will be sitting at a table in dinner with a group of students, and people will begin to mention things that they

wouldn't normally mention in front of a hall director.

Batterbee said she casually introduces herself as a hall director and the student immediately stops talking and becomes embarrassed. Batterbee just laughs it off and the tension is eased.

Batterbee was a resident assistant at Aquinas College before coming to Alma. She often talks of the practical

jokes she played on her friends, where in one instance, she captured a friend's gorilla and held it hostage. This gave several residents of Gelston the idea to kidnap her bear and hold it for a ransom of home-made brownies.

Despite all the fun she has with the residents, Batterbee said she's aware of her responsibilities as hall director and doesn't allow her

friendships to influence her job. When discipline is necessary, she said she enforces it.

Currently Batterbee is working on her masters degree in counseling at Central Michigan University. Once completed, she said she would like to counsel in a college setting.

Batterbee has helped Gelston's Hall Council to become more

active. The Council is comprised of all freshman this year, with the major duty to provide recreation for Gelston residents. One way they have done this is by sponsoring movie nights in the basement. An assassination game is also being planned for later in the year. In addition, the Gelston Hall Council helps with improvements to Gelston, such as more furniture in the basement.

Batterbee currently keeps company

with her three fish—Slick, Clarence, and Garbriel. But what about the pet policy here at Alma?

"Hall directors should be allowed to have pets because this is our home, but I understand the need for the policy," she explained.

One thing Batterbee said she appreciates is the way the RA's and students accept her. All in all she said she likes "the atmosphere of Gelston."

## Orchesis Dance Concert has something for everyone

By Ann Fuller  
Staff Writer

As the term dwindles to an end, it is once again time for the traditional Orchesis concert.

Orchesis, which is a Theater and Dance class, (151), is a class for dancers of all levels of experience, from beginners to those with years of training.

"Everyone can dance at some level," said Carol Fike, dance instructor and coordinator of Orchesis. "I think that is the driving force of the class."

In the six years she has taught dance at Alma College, Fike has seen the Orchesis class grow from 15-16 students to now nearly 80. More males have participated this year than in any other year which Fike considers to be a "wonderful compliment to the positiveness of

the group."

According to Fike, Orchesis is growing on its own power due to the students that have participated in it.

"I have given out the seed (to dance) and they (the students) are planting all the trees," said Fike.

This year the program is really varied with seventeen dances. "There is something for everyone," said Fike. "That's the main attraction of the concert."

Many of the dances are student choreographed. This is a good opportunity for the students to use their leadership qualities.

"It is a big commitment to choreograph," said Fike. "They have to be leaders, make decisions, be aggressive, do some directing and lots of organizing."

The students must first try out to be in the dances and then the dances must try out to be in the show.

For the students that do not have a lot of dance experience, Fike choreographs her own numbers for them. These numbers do not require a lot of technical training, but they do require commitment.

"My role is to expose people to the arts," said Fike. "Orchesis is a good opportunity for the students to perform. They might never have this opportunity again."

In addition, Fike would like to say a special thanks to all the tech people in the Theater Company class, without whom, this show would not be possible.

Orchesis takes place this weekend, on Fri. April 6 and Sat. April 7, at 8 p.m. and Sun. April 8 at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$2 for students and \$3 for non-students. Advanced sales can be made by calling 463-7306 between 1-5 p.m..



Orchesis dancers kick into motion

Photo by Stuart Tannehill

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# Rasche makes comparison to Brazilian lifestyle

By Maria Stephens  
Staff Writer

If you only met or casually talked to sophomore Adriana Rasche, you'd probably never guess that she's a native Brazilian and has lived almost her entire life, excluding the past three years, in Brazil. "People never believe me now," she said, referring to her nationality. "I have to get out my I.D. and prove it to them."

Aside from her tanned complexion and very slight accent at times, no other signs attest to Adriana's background. Both Adriana's parents are native Brazilians, but both attended the University of Michigan through a special program. Adriana was born in the U.S., but her family returned to Adriana's home, Porto Alegre, three weeks after she was born. Because of this, Adriana has double nationality. Her parents are presently working in Mount Pleasant on a leave of absence which will total four years, when her parents return to Brazil next year.

"When my younger brother, Gustavo, goes to college, they

(Adriana's parents) will go back," she said. Adriana explained that they are returning to take care of their parents and to be with their family.

"One of their main reasons for coming here was so we (Adriana and her brothers) could get our education here," she said, explaining that the quality of education in Brazil is poor.

Another reason for their decision to come to the United States was the state of the economy.

"We have 50% a month inflation in Brazil," she stated. "Because of the troubled economy, there is much crime and political tension. We had to have alarms and bars on our house," she said, likening the situation everywhere in Brazil to downtown Detroit.

Adriana said she and her family still go home each Christmas to visit with relatives and stay in their old home. Despite the pleasure of seeing their homeland, Adriana says that because of Brazil's many difficulties, it is sometimes hard for the family to go back.

"Last time we went home, there were many riots because of the

election," she added. "It's hard to go back now," she added, "because of the political and economic situation."

Adriana said she feels that she has adjusted well to the American society and now feels at home here.

"I've become very Americanized," she stated. Unlike her two brothers, Gustavo and Ricardo and her parents, Adriana has lost almost all of her accent.

"When people meet my parents they can't believe they are my parents," she said, explaining that her parents have very strong accents. Adriana is not sure why she has less of an accent than either of her brothers, who are 17 and 21.

"My mom thinks it's because I came here," said Adriana, referring to Alma. Adriana said she thinks that having to speak English all the time while in college has diminished her accent. At home, she said, her family members spoke Portuguese to each other.

More than the language barrier, Adriana said that she has had some trouble adjusting to the cultural differences between Brazil and the

U.S.

"Brazil is a very traditional society. Family is the center of everything there. Divorce is a very big deal," she said. Adriana said that when one of her first friends in American high school told her that her parents were divorced, she was "so sad for her. I said, 'I'm so sorry. That must really be hard.'"

"In Brazil, to make relationships work is so important," she stated, adding that none of her friends in Brazil had parents who were divorced.

But one negative side to the traditional values in Brazil is the prevalent sexism.

"Brazil is a very sexist society," she stated. In her science-oriented high school, only four out of 23 graduates were female.

"Girls are brought up to marry and take care of kids," she said, adding that of the 3% of graduating seniors who go on to college, only about 20% are women.

"My mom had a lot of problems (with the sexism), and that's one reason she came here for school," stated Adriana, whose mother is a

clinical psychologist. Because of the sexism, Adriana plans to stay in the U.S. to pursue her chosen career, law.

"It would be very difficult for me to be a lawyer there," she said. "You never hear of women lawyers down there."

However, Adriana was quick to point out that she thinks sometimes the U.S. news media exaggerates the degree of sexism in Brazil. She referred specifically to a *60 Minutes* program a few years ago, which gave many of her high school classmates the impression that all men in Brazil abuse their wives and girlfriends. "It's not that bad," she said.

Adriana said that she is also able to clear up false impressions many of her Brazilian friends have of the U.S. when she goes home. Adriana said that many South Americans think of Americans as very selfish people who don't care about the rest of the world, mostly from their contact with tourists.

"When I go home, I tell my friends that all Americans are not

that way. I tell them that many of them (Americans) are really interested in finding out about me and my background."

Adriana said that she did experience some degree of discrimination when she first came here as a foreigner.

"There were jokes about foreigners, and many teachers lowered their standards for me."

Adriana said that this special treatment from teachers bothered her because, "then you know that they think you can't do better."

Adriana feels that she has experienced much less discrimination since she came to college; on the contrary, she said most people she has met admire her for her fluency in Portuguese, Spanish, and English and recognize the challenge of attending college in a foreign country.

"In college, people recognize that I know two other languages, and that I have had a lot of experiences they haven't had, with going to college in a foreign country. People are really interested to find out about my background," she said.

# Canadian fiction is expanding its audience

By Kristine Lovasz  
News Editor

Canadian fiction? Most don't even know it is a developing genre in literature, but the Canadian renaissance of fiction is exploding just north of the United States.

On March 28, Geoff Hancock, Editor-in-Chief of *Canadian Fiction Magazine*, visited campus to provide insight into modernist Canadian fiction. He said, "(I'm going to) try to explain what it is we do here."

Hancock explained that Canadian fiction has only become a reality in the past 20 years. In 1967, Canada hosted the "most successful World's

Fair ever." There was a boom of pro-Canadian nationalism and anti-Americanism. Hancock said, "the 'baby boomers' came into their own" and needed a realm of expression. He added, "Suddenly people began publishing."

Canadian fiction is on the "transition." During the nineteenth century, Canadian fiction was caught up in the aristocracy of European literature. Authors attempted to create a completely European story set in the North America. Now, Canadian authors have developed a deeply rooted North American character and have begun to establish truly Canadian literature.

The Canadian fiction authors have moved away from the Edgar Allen Poe model of short stories to the Jorgeluis Borges model of short stories introduced in *Ficciones*. Emphasis is no longer place on the traditional elements of the story such as plot, character and theme. Rather, mood, voice and attitude are important. Hancock said, "You could actually have a story that didn't have a plot, didn't have characters..."

Hancock indicated that many Canadian authors deal with the "old philosophical question 'What is reality?'" A story can be an intellectual debate with an idea. Hancock said, "(they are) inward adventures

that are a part of the fiction."

Canadian fiction is not strongly marketed in the United States because of restrictive U.S. publication laws. Another significant reason for the lack of Canadian literature reaching our boarders is the author's desire for a specific audience. Many Canadian author's want to be read only by Canadians.

For the past 16 years Hancock has been the sole employee of *Canadian Fiction Magazine*. He reads every submission that is sent to him. From these selections, Hancock chooses the works that are published in the magazine. His publication selections are based on perception. Instead of

"I think therefore I am," it is "I am whatever I think I am." Through his magazine, Hancock has been instrumental in shaping what is accepted as modernist Canadian fiction.

Hancock has lectured in creative writing at University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University. He was a consultant to Multiculturalism Directorate in Ottawa, and a literary consultant to CBC Radio Program.

In his writings, Hancock emphasizes what he calls magic realism. The stories blend fantasy and realism with an emotionally powerful result. Hancock expands the

limitations of reality while presenting ordinary scenes without strange distortions that leave the reader with an undecipherable "feeling." Hancock's stories fall somewhere in a realm between science fiction and the surrealist.

During his visit, Hancock met with faculty and students, spoke in selected classes and lectured in Jones Auditorium in the evening.

The literary message that Hancock left to the student body was "don't walk, read or think any faster than you can meditate. Because if you walk at a meditative pace you perceive the world differently."

# Internships provide opportunity to test interests

By Karen Pawlowicz  
Assistant Feature Editor

Did you have grand ideas to do an internship this summer, but your plans somehow get pushed aside by other commitments?

It may not be too late to find one—if you act now. By using the right resources, you can still gain the experience you desire.

But why go through the hassle of arranging an internship at all? There are several good reasons.

First of all, it directly correlates your academics to the occupational community. You can see how your classroom experience would be applied in the "working" world.

You could earn practical work experience by undergoing an internship. The skills you learn could be a base for obtaining further knowledge. Also, according to Ginna Holmes, assistant director of placement and career planning, "This is one more time for you to check if this is the career area you're

interested in."

On the other hand, if you aren't sure what you want to do in the area of careers, you may pursue different options which interest you. It could be a time to "test the waters."

Another feature of performing an internship is the potential for travel. You could see places you never would have by flipping burgers.

If you are sure of your career pursuit, an internship in your chosen field could develop contacts which could be very valuable in your

future. The more people you know, or "network" with, the smoother your eventual placement will be.

So an internship seems like a good idea. Where do you start to look for one? If you're a freshman, sophomore or junior, all you have to do is faithfully check your mailbox. Twice a year (more with updates), the Center for Counseling, Career Planning, and Placement publishes *Experience*.

*Experience* is an informational newsletter published by the friendly

folks at "The Center." Each issue features current articles on experiential learning, highlights of upcoming career-oriented programs and lists of various opportunities and resources available.

Anyone at The Center is qualified to help you investigate internships, but in particular, you should speak with the internship counselor, Carlos Toro-Mendez.

If you wish to strike out on your own to look at internship possibilities, you should establish an

objective: what is it that you want to gain from the experience? Once you have stated your goal, you communicate it to people in your chosen area. These people are family members, friends, old employers, alumni, even professors.

In any event, an internship is a good idea. You have nothing to lose, and a lot to gain. Even if a summer internship is not a viable option, you can get a jump start planning for an internship next year.

# Students share Lotto dreams

By Sara Rowland  
Feature Editor

When people hear the word Lotto, one thing comes to mind—money. Unlimited amounts of that green stuff. Winning the Lotto seems like a long shot for most, but we continue playing the games in hopes of a miracle.

If a person did win the money, and there have been some lucky ones, what would they do with it? It's not like all of us haven't day dreamed about the prospect of acquiring the money, but to actually have access to it would open a lot of doors. Life, financially, would be a little easier.

"I would probably pay off my visa, pay off my loans, and buy a new black sports car," said Lillian Korbus.

"I'd plan a one week trip to the

Gulf of Mexico where from the second I woke up to the second I went to sleep, I'd scuba dive," mused Amy White.

"I'd figure out who I would give it

"I'd pay off my student loans," continued Beals, "and buy a new house for my parents in Minnesota."

"First of all, I'd concentrate on getting rid of my student loans and

Door," said Jennifer Briggs.

"I'd probably save ninety percent of it initially," said Eric Richardson. "I wouldn't change my life; although the money would probably change mine."

"I wouldn't quit school," said White, "But I would build a house off campus with a huge aquarium."

Everyone questioned seem to have a hard time at first answering the question. What would you do if you won the Lotto?

The reasoning behind this probably stems from the amount of money that that we would acquire. Having such large funds offers a chance to do many of the things that we, right now, cannot do.

There are so many of them that it's hard to rank them in order. With a small sum of money, a lot of us would just pay our bills, but with a huge amount, the spending is limitless.

*It was a general consensus that people's first priority with the money would be to pay their tuition.*

to because I wouldn't spend it all by myself," said Joanna Beals.

It was a general consensus that people's first priority with the money would be to pay their tuition.

other bills," said Mary Jo Thomas. "Then, I would probably travel through Europe."

"I'd pay for my own education if I won the Lotto and go to the Plaid

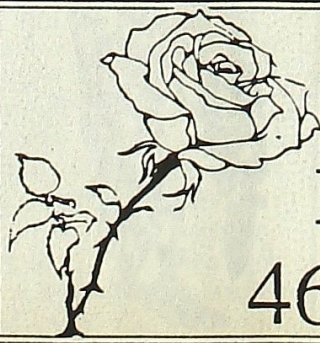
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# Classified

The Almanian  
Page 5  
April 3, 1990

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

**ON-CAMPUS EMPLOYMENT. SALARY PLUS FREE ROOM AND MOST BOARD!**  
Three positions for full-time, on-campus, summer employment: Conference Manager and two Assistant Conference Managers. Job requires staying on campus all summer including most weekends, but work hours vary. Organizational and interpersonal skills are a must. Ability to work with Word Perfect and Lotus are a plus! One position begins April 23, 1990 and the other positions begin after Spring Term. Interested students should pick up an application at the Personnel and Conference office in the Reid-Knox Building. Completed applications due April 6, 1990.

Hey! Wake up! Where were you! We put a coupon in last week's Almanian for a free movie. Get in here! USE this classified as a coupon or USE the password "BEAR" (name of Rick's sheepdog) to obtain your free movie. Hey! Profs and staff are welcome too! Thanks! See ya soon!

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Ode to Tom and E:  
Even though they were late, the sweatshirts are totally great.  
The red, black, and gray—really made our day.  
The polka dots were really clever, we'll love our sweatshirts and our brothers, forever!  
Euchre Queens of 218

**SUMMER DORM SUPERVISORS HOUSING PROVIDED**  
Students interested in living on campus this summer are invited to apply for the Summer Dorm Supervisor openings. Applications are available in the Personnel and Conference office in the Reid-Knox Building, and are due by April 6, 1990.

**ALL STUDENT GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS**  
The Admissions Office welcomes your participation in this year's EXPO program which will take place Saturday April 7. We will have a "Campus Fair" as the final event of the day. We would like as many campus organizations as possible represented. Call the Admissions Office (7139) for details. Call Mindy Sargent (7299) in Admissions if you have any questions about the ad. Thank you.

**Campus Photograph Position**—The Public Relations office is hiring a photographer for the 1990-91 school year. The successful applicant should possess above average technical skills. Sports, portrait or documentary photography skills are desirable. Macintosh skills a definite plus. Equipment is supplied by the PR Office. Apply in person before April 13 with references to Skip Traynor, Public Relations Office, Alumni House.

**Bartenders of 209**—The cast didn't do it! Your investigation is useless! I will never be discovered!  
The Slasher

**Alpha Gams**,  
Way to sweep Songfest! Congrats to all who sang (and a special thanks from all of us who didn't have to sing!) Happy 5 years to Zeta Nu. Hey seniors—pretty soon you'll be alumni coming ack to visit too. Pretty freaky but we now how anxious you are to get out of here. Hey Susan, how many more pieces of toilet paper left? Seniors—thanks for everything, including the memories. You are the reasons that many of us joined this group. We only hope we can continue on in your footsteps. And you guys are the only one who know what's going on during a backwards meeting. Haven't sat in the back for a while, have you? Nice job on the image program Chere! And great turnout for the Alpha Gams on Monday night, too. Now all we need is more representation at aerobics. Mon—Thurs at 5:00. Any-one interested? Hey women, have a great week!  
The Pub Crew

**Too Many Jobs—NOT ENOUGH NANNIES!!** Quality training for in-home child care—Delta College Nanny Program. Classes begin June 11. Call 517-686-9543 or 517-686-9417 for further information.

**Alpha Xi Delta:**  
It has been a fantastic four years! I am going to miss all of you after graduation. Thanks for all the special memories and remember...I love all of you—you're the greatest friends I've got!!!  
LDV

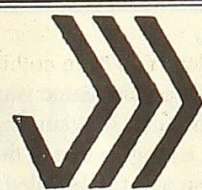
**ΣAE—**  
Hope everyone had a good time on Sunday! Ranger, Congrats on being a stud! X, Where's the gut? Bol, How's the ground feeling? The boat of boats?? Not with Horschak on the swim! Grady, keep the snoring down! Jimbo, the batting line-up grows. Deano, Congrats to being so athletic. Opie, make sure to check with Garno before making any plans about your life. Bullwinkle, the running tab is about to be collected. Pay the price. Horschak, are you next in line behind him? Merkin, Did Betsy leave you for dead? Must be the burgers made you pass out! Buzz, Rope around the ankle not long enough to feel the tug of love?? Poot, any women in bathrobes show up demanding attention lately? Maybe you should make sure the mug is always handy! Tweetie, good face plant for you! Spearo, is the 4WD all set for the next adventure? Gspot, has the van moved yet? At least you are a little closer to home than the last time. Dingle, better get a new deck out and try again. Snapper, under 60 days 'til Snappette is a happy camper again! Everyone get ready for a big E bash next weekend. Thanks guys for a hell of a year! Keep the spirit alive! ΦΑ to you all!!!  
Lingus

**Alpha Xi—**  
What an awesome Mardi Gras!!! Everyone did a great job on decorations and food!! A good time was had by all!! Monshi-thanks for being Mardi Gras King-Shannon, we're glad you were able to make him feel more comfortable! Gina nice date for you! Thanks to those MSU men for showing us their boxers!! Carie-how does that camera work in the dark? Sueder-we can't believe you came home-alone!! Jenny G-nice pajamas...Deller maybe you should find some!!! Treeter-1st prize in the date stealing contest!! Once again, strapless dresses were really popular! Congrats to everyone on staying out of trouble! Fire up for trash pick up week!!  
TFJ  
P.S. Good bye and good luck to all the seniors!

**Sigs I**  
Fawn, I heard you made it back to ST. JOSEPH by the skin of your teeth. Rez—number 1 contender for Buster Douglas. Munz, I'm sorry to hear that Pee Wee Herman's playhouse was cancelled Saturday. So, I guess you were thrown out on your second steal against the Alma Peters. Ray, Thad, Gibby and Os, glad to see you again! "Jailbait Jim goes to Junior

High" gets thumbs down from Siskel & E-bo. Fire-crotch is an appropriate name now, since so named is following in the Devil's footsteps. Trigger, the other Tower wants to know what you think about the poll tax in London? LG could you Kareless about having a date for formal? Stoli's haircut is now on permanent record, viewing hours from 9 to 5. Congratulations Digger, you wildcat or pussy cat what ever the case maybe. Turtle, are you going into dentistry? I've heard you've been practicing tongue palpations. Missy, your rent is due by the 15th. Karl, you are lame! Mungo, we don't want to hear any more rock bass stories, how about a tuna story? Dickie congratulations on your graduation from Optifast, hopefully college will go as well. Koko, I hear Scarecrow caught you hanging out at Photomat. Hits, I thought your ticket was to London not to Mt. Pleasant. Scoot & Munz good luck scouring the state for a formal date. Paulie, Michael and Sludge how's the married life? Good job Gumby & LG! Great job fumacs and all others that made contributions to house improvements! Nice pants, Os! Farewell from the Crow's Nest.

**Z**  
P.S. Divot, did you take out your Hogan clubs to play around?



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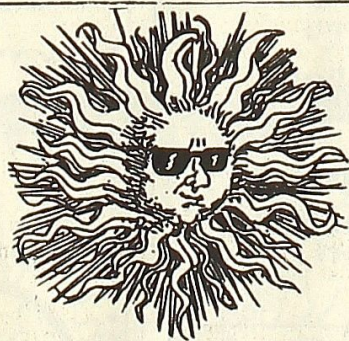
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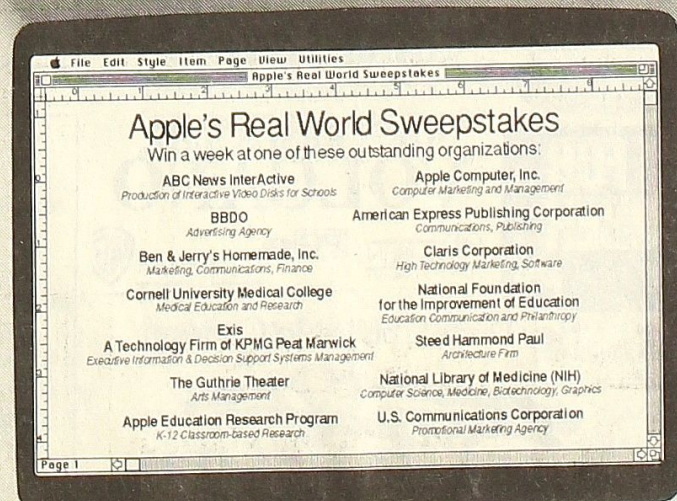
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## Track team takes second at hunington

Tia J. Brandel  
Staff Writer

Both the Women's and Men's track teams did very well at Saturday's Hunington Relays. The Women's team took second place overall, behind Grand Valley State University. The Men's team took fourth place overall.

Said Assistant Coach Emerson Green, "People did what was asked of them and they did it very well. I was very happy with the day!"

Coach Jim Cole concurred with Green. "We're proud of the outcome. Both the men and the women did an outstanding job."

The day started out with a bang as Alma grabbed first, second, and third in the Men's 5000 meter run then came right back and stole first, second, third, and fourth in the Women's 5000 meter run.

"From that point on," said Green, "We had established ourselves at the meet. Everyone wanted to know who that Alma team was and where they came from. It was great way to start a great day for us."

The Alma teams set meet records in both the Women's Distance Medley Relay (Colleen Wruble, Tupper Lysaght, Beth Bergdolt, Amy Wolfgang) and the Men's Distance Medley Relay (Todd Kulawiak, Jay Burmeister, Chris Jonas, Bill Arnold). The women also set a meet record in the 4X800 Meter Relay (Kerry Radcliff, Bergdolt, Connie Gulzinski, Wolfgang).

The track teams have only two home meets this season, but they are against the MIAA's strongest opponents. Sat., April 14 the teams will run against Hope and Wed., April 25 they will take on Calvin. Complete results for Saturday's meet:

<b>WOMEN</b>		
5000m	1 Sarah Braunrieter	
	2 Michele Snyder	
	3 Janet Reinowski	
	4 Kelly Chura	
Shuttle	Jill Pope, Karris True	
Hurdle	Julie White, Theresa	
Relay	Wood	
Distance	1 Wruble, Wolfgang,	

Medley	Lysaght, Bergdolt
4X800	1 Radcliff, Bergdolt, Gulczynski, Wolfgang
Sprint	Wood, Laura Atkinson,
Medley	Radcliff, Michelle Soper
4X100	6 Amanda Paul, Charlotte Sanders, Atkinson, Joelle Ayer
4X200	5 Ayer, Sanders, Kerry Nielson, Atkinson
High Jump	1 Pope, Paul, True
Long Jump	Wruble, Pope, Julie
White	
Disc	2 Ann Marie Baker, Kim, DeeDee Grant
Javalin	2 Julie Long, Nicki Smith, Pope
<b>MEN</b>	
5000m	1 Mike Holik
	2 Matt Chouvanec
	3 Mike Pope
Distance	1 Kulaviak, Burmeister, Medley Jonas, Arnold
4X1600	2 Pope, Steve Cassar, Holik, Bill Huddleston
4X800	2 Arnold, Chovanec, Cassar, Huddleston
Sprint	6 Chris Mansur, Rob Hulverson, Dave Schmitt, Paul Desrosiers
Medley	
4X100	5 Mansur, Hulverson, Jay VanDusen, JC Clarkston
4X400	1 Schmitt, Jonas, Burmeister, Kulaviak
Disc	Aaron Fletcher, Larry Gregory, Wade Hanna
Javalin	Fletcher, VanDusen, Hulverson
Shot	5 Gregory, Clarkston, Hanna

## Women's tennis defeats Northwood

By Carrie Roth  
Staff Writer

The season got off to a slow start for the Alma College women's tennis team, coached by Deb Mapes. Their first matches were played in Florida against some tough division two schools, Eckard College, St. Leo College, and the University of Tampa. The team also played Hillsborough Community College.

Playing number one singles for the Lady Scots in Florida was sophomore, Adriana Rasche, number two was junior Mary Jeppesen, and number three was senior Karla Steinke. In doubles, number one was the team of Rasche and Jeppesen, and number two was Steinke and Tracie Ripper.

The Scots fell to Eckard College 2-7. The match was a tough one, but according to coach Mapes the lady Scots are, "a young team with more depth than in the past."

The team also fell to St. Leo, but both Jenny Olschefske and Carrie Roth pulled off victories beating their opponents 6-3, 6-2, and 6-2, 6-2, respectively. The doubles team of Roth and Blanchard also pulled out a win in three set 7-5, 4-6, and 7-6.

When the team faced the tough team of the University of Tampa, they again faced defeat, with the close score of 4-5. Jeppesen and

Roth were victorious in singles, and the teams of Ripper and Olschefske and Roth and Blanchard won their doubles matches.

The Scots were also defeated by Hillsborough, and though they returned to Michigan without a win, the trip was looked on as a positive experience. "The trip was a good experience for the team, it's the best we've played against the Florida teams," said Olschefske.

The Scots bounced back with a 6-3 win against last years N.A.I.A. Division champions, Northwood Institute.

In singles, Jeppesen had a tough match at the number one position and lost 6-1, 6-2.

Number two Rasche also lost, but number three Steinke overpowered her opponent and won 6-4, 6-3. Roth, Olschefske, and Ripper all defeated their singles opponents.

In doubles action, the number two and three doubles were victorious.

Though the season is still young, the Scots are looking forward to a lot of success. Coach Mapes said she foresees a good finish, with tough competition from Hope and Kalamazoo.

The women's tennis teams next match is on Tuesday April 3, at Olivet.



Carrie Roth at practice

Photo by Robin Roller

## Softball team suffers first defeat

By Shannon Nichols  
Sports Editor

The Alma College Women's softball team is off to a great start in their season. After arriving home from their Florida trip with a 8-0 record, the Scots continued their winning streak by defeating division two Northwood Institute by the scores of 9-2, 4-0 in a double header.

Treeter Johnson and Shannon Pingston were the two winning pitchers, and they were backed up by a tight defense.

The Scots travelled to Indiana to play in a tournament this past weekend, but due to the weather the team only managed to play one game. They defeated Concordia of Ann Arbor in the midst of pouring rain and cold conditions. Treeter Johnson was the winning pitcher,

defeating Concordia by a score of 6-3.

On the way home from the tournament the Scots stopped in Kalamazoo to play division two Ferris State University. The team was handed their first two losses in two very close games, 8-6 and 7-6 were the final scores.

The games were both hard fought games with both teams hitting very well. Laura Holmes and Stephanie

Bailey both hit well for the Scots.

"The loss made us realize that there are things we are going to have to work on if we are going to be the best," said Holmes. "It gave us good experience before entering the league, because it made us realize there are some very good teams out there."

The softball team faces their first league opponent on April 5, at Olivet.

## Baseball team wins league opener

By Ann Fuller  
Staff Writer

Due to cold weather and rain, the Alma Baseball team was only able to play one of their three scheduled games last week.

However, in the one game they did play, the Scots triumphed over

Adrian in the league opener.

The Scots crushed Adrian in the first game 10-0, using the five inning mercy rule. Senior Darby Wiler pitched an excellent game, giving up only one hit.

"I was just trying to make good pitches and good situations," said Wiler on his game. "The team got some good hits and that takes the

pressure off the pitcher."

The Scots played a very strong offensive and defensive game.

Tom Harris pitched an excellent second game as well, and the Scots were victors again 7-2.

"It (the win) makes us feel good about where we are headed," said Wiler.

His thoughts were echoed by

senior Mike Johnstone who said, "This is a good start for the Scots."

The Scots next game was scheduled for April 1, against Saginaw Valley, but again due to the weather the game was rescheduled. It will be played on April 4, at Saginaw Valley.

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# Gilchrist recalls best and worst times at Alma

By Jennifer Gilchrist  
Staff Writer

Generally, I think Alma was a pretty good time. There were some low points when I would work on my U of M transfer essay, but all in all, life was fairly jovial. Looking over the past four years, I tried to come up with my highest and lowest points. I found that my worst time sprung to mind at a far quicker pace. This occured when Tupper Lysaght generously handpicked Miles, an obnoxious shifty-eyed character, to be my blind date for Homecoming my junior year.

But enough about me. Here's what

some other Alma seniors had to say for themselves:

Andy Lewis, without missing a beat, states his best memory as that of winning the MIAA football championship—a best which is shared by Aidan Lysaght. Lewis' worst is remembered as his first exams freshman year—a worst which is also Bob Orr's. However, the TKEs did prove some originality when Lysaght admitted his worst experience was receiving grades after pledging his freshman year. Orr reached a natural high at the AxiD Christmas Dance his junior year with his date Laura Holmes in a

colorful pink dress (Holmes' dress, not Orr's).

Playing volleyball her senior year was the greatest time spent by Tia Brandel. Her worst time occurred while wearing a miniskirt. She slipped on spilled water in Saga and soon afterwards found herself flat on her back, flashing the Sigs her underwear.

Paul Getzan reveals that his best memory was of his social expansion in Spring Flora. His worst moments were suffered singing in tights for a spring term opera which was being viewed by his concerned father.

Looking to the future, Sarah

Mankowski thinks the twenty-first of April will reach the best-of-all-times status. Her worst hours were spent during her five exams last term.

The night he ran out ΣAE was Carl Grant's moment in the sun. His least cherished day was his twentieth birthday which he spent in self-induced ill health.

Kelly Long cited her second term freshman year—the whole blur—as her best of times. The worst night for Long was Mardi Gras of that same year because she says, "I had no date and no fun."

And last but not least, Jason Pasko

remembers his happiest Alma memory as the time he and five of his friends drove five hours at five a.m. to take a leak off the Mackinaw Bridge. His worst time was the first six weeks his freshman year spent as a social outcast. He describes the situation as "Hated by many, loved by none."

One note I made while conducting this quiz was that all the Alma seniors available for comment, other than myself, found that thinking of their fondest memories was easier than remembering their moments of misery. This says a lot for Alma College and not much for Miles.

# TUPPER TALK

*Injuries could be beneficial*

By Tupper Lysaght  
Assistant Opinion Editor

Due to a recent injury, I have had more time for self-reflection within my schedule. At first consideration, the concept of being injured is most unappealing and actually made me quite depressed and a bit gloomy. Nevertheless, I decided to attempt to take another perspective view of the situation to search for positive connotations of injury.

For arguments sake, I would like to avoid the subject of life threatening injuries, and primarily focus on "not to serious" injuries with medium pain magnitude, which presently describes my injury.

The first thing I noticed about the injured is the great deal of attention they receive. People tend to be extra courteous and sensitive toward you, which can leave you with warm sensations. The concern of others for the handicapped, is both compassionate and fulfilling itself. Many people have gone out of their way to provide me with the most comfort possible and I'd like to take this moment to thank them.

Another outlook of such a situation is the self-realization of one's mortality. Those that have yet to experience on injury may view themselves as immortal beings unscathed by the world of accident and injuries. Clearly these people need to be injured so they can fully conceptualize their humanhood. Recognition of one's mortality is the critical understanding one must have about the process of life. My sprained ankle has allowed me to feel more human than ever.

Since my injury has prevented me from successfully getting around, I've had more time to do my homework. At times I do find myself staring at the adjacent wall, but the majority of my time I feel the need to be productive because "stand-up" physical options are not available to me at present. This is the perfect time for me to mentally flourish, to sharpen my cognitive resources and absorb information like a sponge. Since finals are just around the corner, maybe my injury was a blessing in disguise. Even when your physically down you can still be mentally up.

Injury would be appealing to many because it's kind of like resorting back to your childhood. I think Freud would agree that most people essentially don't want to grow up and want to be babied and taken care of by others. Well, I do feel like a child because people have been waiting on me, talking to me with soften tones, checking on me periodically throughout the day and even buying me treats. When I was physically healthy, I was treated like an independent agent who was perfectly capable of taking care of myself. If your looking for a vacation from adulthood, I recommend a good injury.

It is true that my injury has made things difficult and inconvenient for me, however, it has also allowed me to become more popular. If you like to be the center of attention, and I know a lot of you do (even if you cannot admit it), or to be pitied, sympathized with, or to think more, or resort back to your childhood, then injury is for you and is recommended wholeheartedly. Be an injured person.

Also, I'd like to have a party for the injured in my room (252 Gelston) next Saturday. If you have an injury feel free to come over and we can compare our handicaps or restrictions and enjoy refreshments together.

# Kapp remembered through student reflection

By Todd Merrifield

In memory of Dr. Ronald Kapp:

Today is my birthday. I am twenty-one years old. And I can think of no better gift than the great fortune I have in being able to stand before you now, to tell you about a great friend of mine.

I was a senior in high school when I first met Dr. Kapp. I was headed for the Armed Forces, thinking college was out of the question, but my father told me of a school here in Michigan that would be perfect for me. So I joined him on a business meeting at Alma College, worried that I'd be flooded with overanxious admissions officers. But to my pleasant surprise, I was greeted by only one man. The provost of the college. Dr. Kapp and I spent two days together walking about the campus, speaking with professors chatting about my future. He read my manuscript, and later sent it on to the English department. He asked me to fill out an application, and sent it to the admissions office, even though acceptance had been closed for a month. He even called me, on occasion, at my home, to see how I was. I entered the Alma College student body in the fall of 1987 due to the love and care of Dr. Kapp toward a hopeful student.

In my freshman year, Dr. Kapp

and I had lunch together once in a while. He was sincere in wanting to know how my life was at Alma. I had troubles from time to time, as well all do, and he was sure to let me now that he was there to help. On many occasions, he said to me, "Todd, I'm up to bat for you." And he was. He made sure that problems were worked out, that disagreements were settled. He did it all with a smile on his face, even at the most trying moments. He's been up to bat for all of us a thousand times. His record is perfect.

At the beginning of this year, I felt the strong grip of burn-out and seriously considered leaving Alma for awhile to get out and experience a little bit of life outside the college environment. This immediately brought concern from my father, but even more so from Dr. Kapp. He set up an appointment to speak with me about my decisions. Unfortunately, the appointment was cancelled. Dr. Kapp was in the hospital. I continued on with my studies, trudging through the daily routine, grabbing at any information about Dr. Kapp. After Thanksgiving, I saw him on campus a time or two, and a wave of relief flooded over me. Then I learned of the severity of the situation. Dr. Kapp had been given a very short time to live. There was no cure. No preventative measures.

And one day, as I walked

through the Dow Science Building, I unexpectedly bumped into Dr. Kapp as he was hurrying out of the building. Immediately, he took my hand in both of his, and shook it vigorously. "How are you, Todd? You hanging in there? Good. Good. I'm glad to see you're sticking it out." Before I could say anything, he was gone. His long strides, the flap of his overcoat, the door closing behind him. And that was the last I saw of the man.

That encounter was only a month ago, and he'd had sunshine in his eyes. He had a kick to his step that spoke of the up-coming spring. A spring he'd never see. I am astounded by the strength of the man. I am envious of his courage and dedication. I begin my twenty-second year today, praying to God, thanking him for the opportunity to experience the loving kindness that man is capable of.

With the loss of Dr. Kapp, Alma College loses a portion of its sparkle for me. But one look at his accomplishments makes it shine all the brighter. He thrilled in the discovery of life. He wanted the same for all of us.

Even now, I believe he's up to bat for us. I think we should hang in there, and stick it out. And someday he'll shake our hands again, wink and smile, and welcome us again into a new life.

## PASSING OVER

By Shelia Potters

*Our last winter together is past;  
We have come safely together thus far.  
I stand at the edge of the greening meadow  
For I've crossed the valley of the shadow.*

*Your hand, Beloved, stretches out to me,  
Our fingertips touch; would that  
We could continue together.  
Always we must obey the higher calling;  
Now I must proceed...it is my time.*

*The trees by the stream over yon  
With the hills beyond are beckoning;  
I will feel your spirit with me as I go.  
Always remember that this quiet pool  
Will quench this dreadful thirst  
For I drink of the living water.  
Like the honey-locust growing in shelter  
With its fruit in season, I have lived  
And loved my work, with family near me.*

*I leave my cloak with you; its purple  
Will warm you in winters to come.  
I leave by the path winter took,  
And now with fingers parting  
Dear One, another hand extends*

*In my direction warm and inviting.*

# Candidates make statements before election

**Eric "Bugman" Richardson**  
Candidate for President,  
Class of 1992

...high school student council experience, 3 years...Interfraternal Council experience, 1 year...works well with fellow officers...highly visible and a good listener...who better to represent your voice and complaints in Student Congress?

**Tim Sambaer**  
Candidate for Vice-President,  
Class of 1992

I am ready to accept the challenges of the vice-presidency of the class of 1992. In this capacity, I plant to implement some change in student government procedures; especially communication. I want to increase student awareness and limit apathy.

**Kim Kaczmarek**  
Candidate for President,  
Class of 1992

As the current President of the class of '92, I feel that I have done a good job with: 1) homecoming float 2) sophomore sequence and 3) class T-shirt sales. In all of these, I feel I have shown a lot of hard work and dedication getting things done for

our class. So this Wednesday I would appreciate your vote to reelect me as your class president. You won't be disappointed!

**Julee Ann Leipprandt**  
Candidate for President,  
Class of 1993

During high school, I was Sophomore Class President, Secretary and Treasurer of National Honor Society, and UMYF President. My goals include raising money, getting my classmates involved, and making friends. I will listen to suggestions and make sure our responsibilities are completed.

**Dave Woodruff**  
Candidate for Associate Trustee  
Class of 1993

As an active participant in High School government I gained valuable experience that would be beneficial as a representative of my peers to the Board of Trustees. I have continued my active involvement with associations on campus, specifically Alma Ambassadors and as a new member of the Orientation Committee, and hope to serve the Class of 1993 by representing you to the Board.

**Rick Lantz**  
Candidate for Associate Trustee,  
Class of 1992

As the Board passes new policy decisions, I feel the need for quality student representation. Because of my experience in Student Congress and campus administrative positions, I am confident in my ability to provide the class of '92 with a strong voice.

**Tom Maloney**  
Candidate for Associate Trustee  
Class of 1992

Associate Trustee.....Does it Matter?

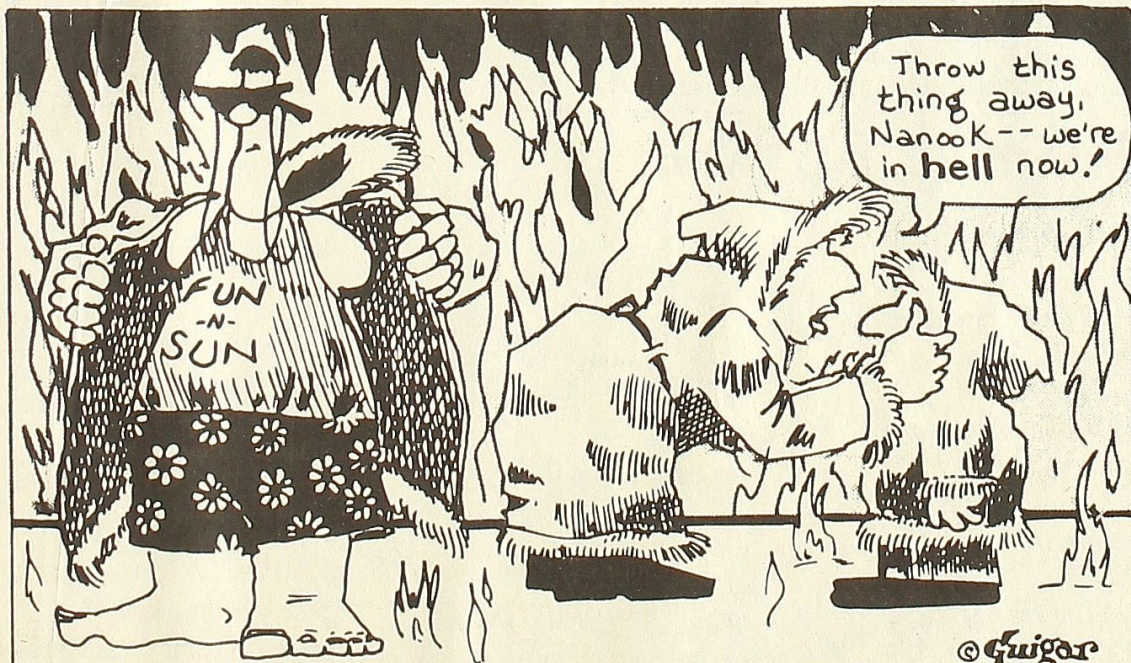
It is your voice to the college's highest governing authority, the Trustees. Your concerns, views, and ideas are important. To communicate them is important.

**Scott Schoessel**  
Candidate for Associate Trustee  
Class of 1993

My active participation in high school government—as class president—has provided me with a strong foundation of leadership and communication. This experience will help me represent the interests of the class of 1993 to the Board of Trustees.

Guigar

by Brad Guigar



When eskimoes go to hell.



## Burchill pleased with progress

By Elizabeth Burchill  
Editor in Chief

The end of the 1989-90 school year is now upon the Alma College campus and with it comes this last issue of *The Almanian*. Many changes have, indeed, occurred within the pages of the paper since September and the editorial staff would now like to take this opportunity and point out some of these changes that make *The Almanian* what it is today and what it will be next year.

Upon returning to campus last September, the new staff had to first learn how to thoroughly operate the new *Macintosh IIcx* word perfect computer system before any editions of *The Almanian* could even be thought of. This took both time and patience on the part of each editor, but each individual came through the rather testy training courses with flying colors. Next came learning how to lay the actual stories out on the computer and Layout Editor Jim Reis tried a succession of different layout styles including changes in headlines, banners, and classifieds until finally settling upon the layout format used today.

These steps, however, only involved the visual image of *The Almanian*. The real substance of any newspaper are the meaty, hard-hitting articles and so attention was turned not to the number of stories written, but to the caliber of the articles, and this was probably most evident on the *Opinion* pages. In years past, the *Opinion* page was usually limited to campus polls and articles written almost exclusively by regular

columnists. This year, however, saw the introduction of some actual controversy, as well as scintillating new views which sparked seemingly great and genuine interest among the campus community. *Opinion* editor Karen McDonald presided over a staff of writers who consistently produced thoughtful, intelligent opinions and Karen herself should likewise be recognized for her strong and decisive opinion stories. In addition, the new faculty column also generated much discussion among readers and *The Almanian* would like to thank all those professors who contributed to the enhancement of this page through the expression of their individual views.

On the flip side of the seriousness was Tupper Lysaght's entertaining "Tupper Talk," a weekly article reflecting Tupper's unique observance of the world around her. When students had enough of reading about abortion, diversity, or even racism, "Tupper Talk" was always waiting on the next page to brighten up the day with a laugh. Similarly, movie reviews were also incorporated on the *Opinion* page this year to balance out the controversy and make the *Opinion* section a well-read part of the paper.

Singling out the opinion pages, however, does not merit ignoring the other pages, for all the sections this year went through similar changes and have, in the opinion of the staff, improved since last fall. The news pages churned out a better caliber of news stories, with wider coverage to include news from outside the

"Alma bubble." Many sensitive stories were handled with complete professionalism and *The Almanian* would especially like to commend Managing Editor Amy Reis' superb handling of the death of Alma's beloved Dr. Kapp. In a like manner follows the *Feature* pages which introduced a newer, beefed up entertainment section as well as reviews on the different restaurants around the Alma area, while *Sports* saw consistent coverage of Alma's different teams and events, as well as highlighting a new student athlete each week.

None of these additions could have been possible, however, if not for the excellent organization and seriousness of the staff members. While morale sometimes needed boosting, creativity and professionalism never did among the editors and so *The Almanian* would like to now thank each editor for a great year and make it know what a super job each and every one of you did.

So here's to Kris Lovasz, Tupper Lysaght, Jim Ries, Jen Remenak, Rick Warmbold, Sara Rowland, Karen Pawlowicz, Shannon Nichols, Scott Alexander, Stuart Tannehill, Jeff Dunnigan, Kathy Darnell, Andy Wheeler, Dave Engleman, Kirsten Rummel, Karen McDonald, and Robin Crumbacher for a great year. Special thanks also goes to advisors Eugene Pattison and John Ottenhoff, both of whom were indispensable to the production of the paper.

Once again, thanks to the editors, writers, and photographers for making this year one of the most successful yet.

## Society fails education

By Scott Bouldrey  
Staff Writer

One beneficial thing about living off campus is the opportunity to watch the news without paying for a paper or making that long trek down three flights of stairs hoping that the television would not be in use. This is also a curse, because now I can see what's going on in the world. The most recent curse? The condition of several nearby school districts.

Buena Vista's school district is currently making \$400,000 in cut backs and the Flint school district is making six million in cutbacks along with pink slips for twenty-six teachers and the elimination of the community education program. The dichotomy here is the incredible push in all types of media for improved education for our children. Flint requested a six mill increase to cover their losses this year. It failed. Buena Vista School District did not even attempt a millage increase, they have not had an increase in ten years. When I was a senior in high school, my school ran out of its surplus funds and asked for its first millage increase in fifteen years. A millage that passed by four votes. These statistics all support one point.

Our society complains about its education system, but is unwilling to pay for its improvement.

As a prospective teacher, I find it tiresome and frightening that some day I could come under scrutiny for my teaching methods. Most of our teachers do the best with what they have and rarely are appreciated by anyone, students and parents alike. Their wages are low compared to what some one would pay anyone else to "babysit" and feed their child eight hours a day. The supplies are shoddy and old, textbooks are outdated, and the buildings are rundown.

What kind of person is it that will attack a teacher or the state of education in America while standing at the polls all ready to vote "no" on the requested millage increase? I find it amazing that so many people can complain about so much, yet do so little to improve the situation. When do we stop? When will we start fixing what's wrong instead of complain about it?

It's time to stop our complaining and do something. If one cannot afford a millage increase, then perhaps a donation of time will help. If one can afford the millage increase, then pay for it. If things do not improve, our education and its

quality will continue to deteriorate, the teacher supply will drop, along with the quality of educators, our supplies will run out, and our textbooks will become so out-dated that we will be teaching our children 1969 discoveries in the year 2000. Our competitiveness with other world economic power (for example Japan) will continue to decrease, while our national debt increases.

In a world of increasing competition, we, as a country, complain far more than we fix what we're complaining about. If our educational system cannot afford to run, then we cannot afford to teach everybody. Education will no longer be universal, but available only to the wealthy. Unless we are willing to pay for or transformation of governmental funds, then the future will not be bright for America's youth. When does the change become a national change? When every individual in the system makes an individual change. When we stop pointing fingers. When we start fixing that which needs fixing. Repairing ourselves through the education of our children, that's the future. The business of America is no longer business, it's education.

## Stargardt responds to pro-choice view

By Michael Stargardt  
Staff Writer

This article is in response to "Buchanan demands understanding of abortion issue," which appeared in the March 27 issue of *The Almanian*.

In our society, a woman with an unplanned pregnancy is confronted with much more than "inconvenience". She faces many adversities; financial and social, at work, at school, and at home. The misperception often held is that the fault lay with the woman, and in fact she is the one who must change in order to be accepted. The pregnant woman is, in fact, discriminated against to the point where she really has no choice. Frederica Mathewes-Green, a former "pro-choice" activist, writes, "It is a cruel joke to call this a woman's 'choice.' We may choose to sacrifice our life and career plans, or choose to undergo humiliating invasive surgery and sacrifice our offspring. How fortunate we are—we have a choice!"

Perhaps it's time to amend the slogan: "Abortion: a woman's right to capitulate." Who is "imposing restrictions?" Is it the government as Buchanan suggests? It appears to be society itself, due in part to inflexible school situations; a lack of freedom from the stigma; poor access to prenatal and obstetric care; little attention given to adoptive alternatives; and employment difficulties. Many women, in particular those on welfare are pressured in their "choice" after listening to how much we resent our tax dollars going to feed their children. Could there come a time

when women are *forced* to have abortions? Margaret Sanger, founder of Planned Parenthood, said, "The most merciful thing that a large family does to one of its infants is to kill it." An argument commonly used by "pro-choice" activists is that the potential of the fetus is negligible. What if the same terms used to describe the potential life in the womb were applied to women? "It's so small," "It's unwanted," "It might be disabled," "It might be abused." Unfortunately, too often women are considered small, unwanted, disabled, or abused. Can we really say these factors-society's labels-erase one's personhood?

When does life begin? According to Buchanan's article, the "human life at conception" argument is "rather weak and even unacceptable." I believe this question lies at the center of the abortion issue. From a biological standpoint we are taught that ancestors are united to their progeny by a material link, which is the molecular thread of DNA. Upon conception, when the male and female cells unite to form a zygote, a unique combination of DNA arises, one which *never* has been seen before. This structure becomes a new life form. In his life capsule, the amniotic bag, the early being is just as viable as an astronaut on the moon in a space-suit: refueling with vital fluids is required from the mother-ship. While this nurture is necessary for survival, it does not "make" the baby or become a part of it, in the same way that a space ship cannot produce an astronaut or become a part of him. Viability means "capable of living." The

unborn child, regardless of age, is capable of living if allowed to develop naturally in the womb. Legal viability, however, means "capable of living outside the womb (medically assisted)" and was a major consideration in the courts decision to legalize abortion. The question then arises: "When is the fetus viable?" As of now, legally viable babies (after 20 weeks of conception) are still unprotected. Using broad interpretations of the mother's health, the court allows abortion of any child until the day of its birth.

Buchanan says there are no options for a woman from the pro-life platform without mention of the adoption alternative, sexual responsibility, or abstinence. Reproductive rights begin with the acceptance of the consequences for sexual activity. Abortion should most definitely not be considered an alternative form of contraception. Unfortunately, it has become the case as evidenced in the large number of repeated abortions performed on many individuals.

According to Buchanan I suppose this article was written from the "conservative, narrow-minded, anti-abortionist" point of view. I think "narrow-minded" is a poor word choice considering that the "pro-choice" argument can be considered equally "narrow-minded." I hope that people understand and consider the options which are available to them before immediately accepting what appears the easy way to solve a dilemma. Until we begin to take responsibility for our actions, abortions will continue on at the rate of 4500 a day.

## Kaczmarek finds Student Congress ammendment ineffective

By Kim Kaczmarek  
Staff Writer

During the past few weeks, Student Congress has inadequately dealt with a very important concern. For the past three sessions of Congress, the majority of the meeting has focused significantly on one issue. This issue involves changes to Article IV, Section II of the Student Congress Constitution which deals with filling vacancies in the Executive Council offices (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary). In the current wording of Art. IV, every part of Section II which deals with an Executive Council Vacancy, requires either a 2/3 or 3/4 majority vote of the full voting membership of Student Congress to approve the Vice-President as the new President or to approve any presidential appointment to another Executive Council vacancy.

In the past three weeks, however, Student Congress (or more accurately, a majority of the voting membership present) has amended Article IV, Section II so that in place of every "2/3 or 3/4 majority vote of the full voting membership of Congress" the Constitution would now read, "2/3 or 3/4 majority vote of the voting membership present." In other words, any vacancy

including that of Student Congress President, can be filled by 2/3 or 3/4 of those members attending that meeting of Congress.

I would like to point out some facts that I feel are extremely relevant to this issue which I hope you will take into consideration on Wed., April 4, when the student body will vote on this amendment. First of all, in the most extreme case, if this amendment is passed, only 21 members of Congress would have to vote to approve the Vice-President or other Executive Council member to the presidency. (It is 21 because there are 55 voting members of Congress so, therefore, quorum would be 28 (50% + 1) and 3/4 of 28 = 21.) Approving someone to the presidency is a very important decision to be made by more than just 21 people

Additionally, 21 out of 55 does not allow for a fair representation of campus organizations in this decision. Yes, I know the argument that if an organization's representative chooses not to attend a meeting they are, in effect, giving up their representation in the vote. Could lack of attendance be the problem? In almost everyone's argument for this amendment they cited the issue of just faced by Congress this past year. As a result of the 3/4 majority

vote of the full voting membership of Congress needed to approve a presidential succession, Congress could never get an approval because we never had 3/4 of the full voting membership present so, subsequently, a general election for the presidency was held. To correct this attendance problem, Congress has now approved this amendment to make it EASIER to approve nominations to vacancies.

My main concern with this amendment and with Student Congress is that Congress is trying to deal with a problem that has been plaguing it all year, by passing this amendment. If anyone were to read the attendance policy in the Constitution you would find that it is actually a very good policy, but it has just never been enforced. So, therefore, representatives do not show up for meetings because they know that the attendance policy will not be put into effect. Amending the Constitution, however, is NOT going to resolve this attendance problem. Student Congress is entirely side-stepping this problem by taking an easy way out rather than directly dealing with the actual problem itself. As a result, I strongly urge you to vote No on this amendment tomorrow during elections at both lunch and dinner.

## CREATIVE CORNER

By Amy Hough  
Staff Writer

"From the Perspective of a Tree"

I am a blue spruce pine.  
I don't speak very often,  
But I think now is the time  
To raise my voice.

My brothers and sisters-  
they're dying.  
I blame no one-  
It's too late for that.

Those of my kind

Are becoming few.  
The axe and the acid over-  
power us-  
We have given in to you.

We have survived many a  
storm,  
Many a sun, many a wind,  
And even the worm,  
But now- so soon- is it already  
the end?

I hate to complain  
But we can't take much more.  
I speak on behalf of millions  
of trees-  
all sizes and colors, who just  
want to stay where they are.