The Almanian

Tuesday, September 11, 1990

Alma College, Alma Michigan, 48801

First year students survive preterm

By Stacie Herriman **Assistant News Editor**

Approximately 300 students completed preterm 1990. The theme, designed to correlate the various academic seminars, was "Envisioning The Future: Self, Society, Planet." The program ran from Saturday, Aug. 25 through Monday, Sept. 3. Cochairs Jeff Sevener, junior, and Kris Lovasz, junior, headed the Orientation Committee of 20 volunteer students.

Preterm 1990 included many changes from previous years. An increased number of mandatory activities, required discussions with faculty, and a focus on environmental and global issues marked significant changes.

Three discussions were required. The first, "Diversity at Alma College," focused on issues of racism and diversity on campus and across the country. Other topics included "Dead Poet's Society" and "Sex, Lies, and A Videotape," which was "an exploration of attitudes and behaviors related to alcohol use and misuse." The required cultural event, "The Storytellers," incorporated various tales and musical instruments from round the world.

Colon Lewis, first year tudent, said, "(the discussions vere) enlightening in that they rovided an opportunity to ntermix with different cultures. urthermore, I got to hear a wide

variety of opinions which taught me to respect and accept other's views and opinions."

Even though students had to attend an increased number of mandatory activities, they did partake in the traditional preterm events; Traditions Dinner, the required academic seminar, placement testing, computer workshops, Common Hour: "Liberal Arts from A to Z," and Night at the Races.

Some first year students believed that participating in all preterm activities left little time for students to study, sleep, or eat. Lewis said, "It was too long and time-consuming. I felt like I needed a break before I started real classes, and we shouldn't have to go on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday."

Reggie Reed, first year student, echoed Lewis' comments. "You didn't have time to rest; you were too busy doing other (required) activities."

Despite the lack of free time, most students seemed to enjoy . the 1990 preterm, although many believe it did not prepare them for real college life.

"I like the concept of preterm, but it's actually very different from what life at Alma College is really like. I guess if I had to do it over again I would - it helped me to adjust. Next time though I'd be sure to pick an easier class," said Amy Peraino, a first year student.

Ann Stuart, former Dean of arts and Sciences at East troudsburg University, Penn-

rovost and ice president or academic ffairs at Alma college on July , 1990. Stuart ucceeded tonald Kapp; oseph Walser erved as terim provost Juring winter and spring terms, 1990.

Stuart, who received her doctorate in English from Southern Illinois Univer-

sity, was also granted full professorship. Stuart served as a high school teacher before receiving her master's degree as well as fulfilling academic and administrative

duties at the University of Evansville, Indiana for 26 years. Stuart acted as Dean at East Stroudsburg from July 1989 until her appointment at Alma.

Stuart is the first woman to be appointed vice president and

member of the executive staff at Alma College. President Alan J. Stone said, "Dr. Stuart was an overwhelming choice. Everybody on the search committee was behind her as the first choice. I am particularly pleased that we found such a capable woman. Alma needs a woman who is a vice president." "I am de-

lighted with the opportunity Alma has offered me. I'm pleased that the support for my appointment was given in such a wonderful way," Stuart said.

File Photo



By Heather Laird **News Editor**

Opening convocation, Sept. 6, served primarily as a dedication ceremony for the new Ronald O. Kapp Science Laboratory Center. The 27,000 square foot facility is named in memory of former Provost Ronald Kapp. It is part of the Alma College's drive to support sciences and performing arts. An open house, with student-guided tours, followed the ceremony.

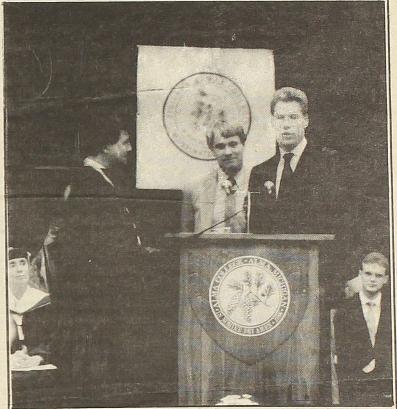
Convocation speakers included Provost Ann Stuart; Michael P. Doyle, Semmes Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Trinity College, Texas; President Alan J. Stone; Lisa M. Kapp; James R. Hutchison, chemistry department chairperson; Troy A. Thompson, representative of the student body; Edward R. Garrison, professor of math and science at Navajo Community College in New Mexico; James E. King, director of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pennsylvania; and Richard K. Douglass, director of program health administration at Eastern Michigan University.

Garrison furnished a surprise for the ceremony. After finishing his prepared speech, he announced that he would perform a special dedication ceremony involving ritual application of corn pollen to the site. Corn pollen is a sacred symbol of life for the Navajo people. Garrison indicated that it would be especially appropriate as Kapp had been a nationally recognized pollen specialist.

The Kapp Science Laboratory Center contains ten classroom laboratories, six student research laboratories, and instrumental facilities.

New ventilation and hood systems are among the improvements over the old Dow Science Center facilities. "The hoods are hooked up directly to the air handling unit. Even when the hoods are off, there is continuous ventilation. The old hood system will be switched when Dow is renovated," explained Matthew O'Dell, one of the student guides present at the open house. The general chemistry laboratory has hoods for each work station, while the other laboratories will have hoods along one wall. "Improved air handling means exposure to fumes can be kept to a minimum," added Steven Wietstock, biochemistry chairperson.

The nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer, NMR, is one of the most significant additions to the present equip-



Stone accepts keys and plans for new facility.

Photo by J. Steffe

ment. The spectrometer, which cost \$220,000, operates at 300 MHz. This magnetic field strength will allow much better resolution than the 60 MHz of the old spectrometer.

"These are getting more common, but on the they are designed to do many types of analysis," said Wietstock. "Most schools would purchase standard equipment to do carbon and proton NMR." The larger NMR has the ability to analyze multiple nuclei, perform inverse detection, and may be used across the chemistry curriculum.

Laboratory facilities, with the exception of biochemistry facilities, are comparable in size to the old. Wietstock cites "looking to the future in designing space for the ability to grow into" the primary reason for the larger biochemistry area. Actual laboratory size will allow modest increases in students per laboratory section; however, current levels will be maintained as closely as possible to allow better student-professor interac-

More than 1,782 donors helped fund construction on the new facility; nearly a third of all donations came from a single source. The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation of Midland pledged \$3 million. President Alan J. Stone said, "(it) allowed us to go on and dream of this new facility and launch the present campaign." The forty trustees were responsible for more than \$3.2 million donations which included offices, laboratories and equipment funding.

James McIntyre, trustee, donated a student research laboratory. "It's a more direct student involvement, rather than a faculty office. I wanted something students could use,"

citizens made various gifts to the new facilities. Total Petroleum donated \$250,000 which was used for the analytical chemistry laboratory. Dow Chemical, USA funded the instrument lab with their gift of \$150,000. Dow Corning made a similar contribution for the general chemistry lab in the name of William C. Goggin, a former trustee as well as past president and chairman of Dow Corning. Similarly, several laboratories have been dedicated to the businesses which funded them. The W. M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles is responsible for the organic chemistry lab. The Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation of Midland and the Kellogg Company out of Battle Creek donated instrument laboratories. Two of the student research labs were funded by Ford Motor Company of Dearborn and the Herrick Foundation of Tecumsah while the laboratory equipment was sponsored by the McGregor Fund of Detroit.

Some individuals sponsored faculty offices. In honor of former Chemistry Department Chairman, Shiela H. Potter dedicated a faculty office. Genevieve E. Raker donated an office in memory of her husband, Paul, who was a mathematics professor at GMI. Alyce Erickson funded a student research laboratory in the name E. V. Erickson, a former trustee.

Ann Stuart appointed new provost, eplacing Ronald O. Kapp

y Heather Laird lews Editor

ylvania, officially took office as



Ann Stuart.

College helps community in simulated accident

By Maria Stephens Assistant Feature Editor

Imagine: you are a passenger in a van with five other Alma College students and two local townspeople on a cold Thursday morning in the middle of a snowstorm.

Heading towards campus from the physical plant, your vehicle slows down to wait for the approaching train to pass, when it suddenly hits a slick patch of ice and skids out into the path of a speeding train. . . .

Sound like your worst nightmare come true? For six Alma College students, enacting this scenario last Thursday morning, Sept. 5, was just a way of utilizing their dramatic talents to help the surrounding community improve its emergency relief services. This simulated accident was only a small part of a 12-county wide disaster drill also involving a toxic chemical spill, a simulated fire in Riverdale, numerous other local disasters, and an imaginary snowstorm.

The Alma College community was able to play a small but significant role in this drill through the actions of freshmen Kendra Parks, Daacon Schiller,

Edward Fletcher, sophomore Jim Sherman, junior Karen Mc Donald, seniors Nick Roster and Julia Boldt, Theater Technical Director Mark Mc Daniels, and also amatuer short wave radio hobbyist Dr. John Gibson.

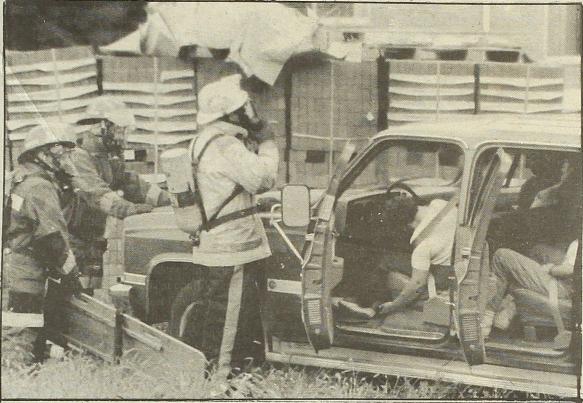
To prepare for the enactment of the accident, the drama students had to report for make-up call at 6 a.m. Trained professionals including McDaniels, who also works for Gratiot Community Hospital, artfully modelled gashes, bruises, blisters, bleeding, and one compound fracture onto the actors' bodies.

Boldt, a senior and a pretend victom who suffered a wide gash on her head and other minor injuries, described the make-up application as "fascinating," and especially noted the compound fracture constructed from a turkey bone and wax molded onto Nick Roster's upper arm.

"It looked very realistic," she remarked with a grimace.

For other students involved, the experience was memorable because they took an inside look at the emergency operations of the paramedics, firemen, and hospital workers in the instance of such a disaster.

"It was interesting to go



Alma emergency services aid student "victim"

through all the motions of going through the emergency room and seeing what they actually do," remarked Roster. For him, the experience was to some extent unsettling because the hospital personnel, "didn't seem to know what they were doing."

Jim Sherman played a different role in the drill, impersonating phone calls from doctors, concerned relatives and others to add further realism to the hospital situation.

Physics Professor Dr. John Gibson participated in the drill by aiding communication efforts through his skills in amateur short wave radio.

"Short wave radio isn't just a hobby, it's a public service," he stated, adding that the drill was a valuable experience for the association of short wave radio hobbyists to which he belongs.

By J. Steffe

Parks felt the same satisfaction from using her talents to serve the community.

"I enjoy working with theater, and if it has a purpose behind it that just makes it all the more fun," she stated.

First year students share impressions of Alma

By Maria Stephens Assistant Feature Editor

The first few weeks of the college experience are typically filled with feelings of fear, apprehension, excitement, and an overwhelming sense of wonder. To more experienced college students who may be prone to forget the feelings of these first exciting and insecure weeks, the first-year students who are presently experiencing these emotions can lend an outside view of the Alma experience just two weeks into their college lives.

"The thing that strikes me is that everyone is very friendly,"

said freshman Kelly Marino from Warren, MI, on her impressions of Alma. "You just walk down the sidewalk and someone smiles and says hello to you."

This comment on the friendliness of the college community was echoed by several members of the class of 1994.

"I love Alma," stated Vinnie Thaxton from Traverse City. "Within a week's time, I moved into a totally new environment, and I never could have felt more comfortable than I do at Alma."

Many freshmen noted the small size of the college as one of the advantages Alma has over larger institutions.

"You feel safe, you know where everything is; everything is close," stated Kerri Rosevear from Petoskey. "I like the small school— you get more attention, you don't get lost in the crowd, that kind of thing."

Holly Markiecki of Wyandotte agrees: "It feels like home—cause there aren't thousands and thousands of people. You're not just a number, you're a name, a person."

Some students can see a negative aspect to the smallness, however.

"It could be a little bigger.." admitted Tony Catonia of

Detroit, adding that there might be more to do at a larger campus.

Lisa Teremi of Parchment feels the college is "far too conservative, politically and socially."

Lisa Brinn of Clarkston was most surprised by the extent of the Greek system.

"You just don't notice it when you come to look at the campus," she said, adding, however, that rivalries between groups didn't seem to be out of control.

Most students are impressed with both the physical facilities and the academic opportunities.

"The school is very clean; it's

very pretty," commented Alison Larson of Fort Collins, CO.

"The academic challenges ahead of me are adequate, definitely," stated Jake Carney of Elk Rapids.

Rachel Pierson of Clarkston agrees. "It's a lot better than high school—a better educational experience," she said.

Most freshmen also commented on their new-found independence.

"I love it here, cause I'm not with my parents," laughed Alison Kohler of Suttons Bay. "I get to be independent—at home you have to listen to Mom and Dad's beck and call."

Union Board All Nighter promises new surprises

By Hazel Ponce Ramos Feature Editor

Appropriately nicknamed, "fun fun fun," by the Union Board, the All Nighter promises to juice up the entire campus community with a carnival of games and prizes, entertainment, and food specials at Joe's Place. The affair is expected to take off on Friday, Sept 14.

The Union Board will present Lizz Winstead, one of America's foremost comic entertainers. She has been saluted for her wicked humor and creative wit in such celebrated sitcoms as "MTV Half Hour Comedy Hour, "Comic Strip Live," and "HBO Women of the Night Special." The native Bostonian has also worked with such prominent comedians as Jay Leno, Jerry Seinfield, and Richard Lewis.

The comic hour is scheduled to begin promptly at 8 p.m. in the Jones Auditorium.

Those who would prefer to continue the bout of contagious laughter may join the Three Stooges in the Jones Auditorium. The Union Board will host several movies after the gig.

The evening's agenda also

calls for a night of sensational prizes for the winners of each game. Many of the activities include: Fooseball in the Gamerdom, Win, Lose, or Draw in Fireside, and caricature in the Courtyard.

In addition to these, the Union Board will also set up a song booth

"People can go into the booth and sing," Major Events Chairperson Erika Soderholm revealed. "They pay a dollar for the tape."

Joe's Place is also actively participating in the event. It will

relive the memories of the Fonz and his gang as the diner is transformed into the splendor of the 1950's. The "cast" will serve specials no one would dare to miss!

The grand finale is Alma College's simulated version of Remote Control.

"Anybody who wants to be a contestant must drop their names in hats," Soderholm disclosed.
"Then, we'll pick a freshman or sophomore, a junior, and a senior."

The show is scheduled to air at approximately 11 p.m and continue well into the night.



Soderholm and Davidson finish ACUB promotion

By A. Mull

Lady Scots hopeful for strong season

Shannon Nichols
Sports Editor

School has started and the athletes who compete in fall sports have begun their push to be the best in the M.I.A.A.. The Alma College volleyball team is no different. While most students were still at home working, the women's volleyball team was spending six hours in the gym every day working hard to prepare for both their preseason and regular season competition.

The Lady Scots lost only one starter to last years graduating class and has many experienced players returning at both the varsity and junior varsity levels. Laura Holmes and Shannon Nichols comprise the complete list of seniors this year, and they will be leading the team as cocaptains.

One of the new and promising faces on the varsity level is first year student, Marianne Scheub. Scheub, a hitter from Grand Rapids, Ohio, is expected to assist the team by stepping into the lineup immediately.

Another new face is that of Assistant Coach Gary Stanglewicz. Stanglewicz is the highschool volleyball coach for St. Louis and will act as Coach Chiodini's assistant and as coach to the junior varsity team.

While Calvin College is being favored in the league, the Alma Scots have confidence in their ability to win. That confidence was put to the test this past weekend when the Lady Scots traveled to Chicago to compete in the Elmhurst Tournament; however, the real test will be the league opener against Kalamazoo on Tuesday, Sept. 11.



Lisle Sorenson concentrating on her form

By M. Stargardt

Lady Harrier's look to experience

By Shannon Nichols Sports Editor

The women's cross country team is back this year to prove that last year's season was not a true reflection of its abilities. The team finished a disappointing third last year at both the league and regional championships. Much of the talent that led the 1988 team to a regional championship is still with the team and that talent is what Coach Charles Gray is counting on to take the lady harriers to victory this season.

One of the biggest losses is the graduation of three year leader

Amy Wolfgang, but there are still some remaining runners that Gray is very positive about. Among those runners are Sarah Braunreiter, Janet Reinowski, Michelle Snyder, and Lori Chura.

The Lady Scots not only have returning talent, they have also attained many first year students expected to contribute from the beginning. Gray expects them not only to step in immediately, but also to push the upperclassmen.

Cross Country opens its season Tuesday, Sept. 11, at Hope College.

Emily Shaw passes to a teammate

By M. Stargardt

Young squad exceds pre-season expectations

By Scott Rea Assistant Sports Editor

Looking at the roster one would never guess its record. The Alma College men's soccer team is 4-1 against a tough early season schedule. With 25 out of the 30 man squad being first or second year students, it appeared to most that this would be a building year for the Scots. But with wins against experienced teams such as Taylor University and Indiana-Wesland University, it appears that the young squad thinks differently. After only eight days of practice the men's soccer team faced Delta College

posting a 2-0 win. With that game barely in the record books, the squad faced Eastern Michigan University, a Division I program. After taking an early lead, the Scots could not keep it up in the stretch and lost 5-3. The Scots traveled to Nazareth bringing home a 2-1 win, but loosing sophomore David Lee to an injury. Hitting the road for the second time this past weekend, the Scots attended the Grand Rapids Baptist Kick-Off Classic. The team posted decisive wins against Taylor and Indiana-Wesland to win the tournament. Four of the Scots were named to the all-tournament squad,

including first year students Marty Schneble (GK), Dustin Snell (FB), Felix Papillion (FWD), and junior Karl Leas as the most valuable defender of the tournament.

Returning players are this years captains James Chinery and Karl Leas defending the backfield, Todd Albery and Mark Leibel in the midfield, and Keith Brodie at forward. The upperclassmen are hopeful for a third place finish above Albion and Hope.

Conference action starts at home this Wednesday against defending conference champion Kalamazoo.

Womens soccer over first year hurdle

By Shannon Nichols Sports Editor

Last year the women's soccer team had the task of overcoming the stigma of being one of the "New Kids on the Block," this year the experience is there. A large part of that experience lies in the hands of First Team All-League member Michelle Wemple and her teammates who received second team honors last year, Kathy Dunbar and Nancy McIntyre.

Last year was a year of

adjusting, of getting used to each other and to the game. Even Coach Mapes had to adjust to moving from a very successful and established field hockey team to a brand new program. Considering the newness of the program, the Lady Scots finished a respectable fourth in the league, ahead of all the other first year teams.

Only two starters are not returning to the team, and Mapes expects to see a lot of action from four or five freshmen this year. Mapes is looking to improve on offense and believes that the defense which came on strong at the end of last season is well established.

Assisting Mapes this season is senior Tim Peraino. Peraino, a former M.I.A.A. standout for Alma, will add his own experience to the team as Assistant Coach.

The women's soccer team will open their league season against Kalamazoo on Wednesday, Sept. 12 at Kalamazoo.

Kinne leads Scots to their first win

By Scott Rea Assistant Sports Editor

With coach Phil Brooks entering his second decade with Alma College, improvement on his career 90-79-0 record must be on his mind. With Alma's traditional high ranking offensive, the team should have no trouble scoring. But with four openings on the offensive line,

senior quarterback Steve Kinne could feel some pressure from the high ranking defences of Albion, Adrian, and Hope. Kinne will be depending heavily on All-MIAA running back Joe Joseph. To keep the opponents out of the end zone are eight returning starters.

The Scots started off their season with a 25-7 loss to a tough Northwood squad. This

weekend though, rallying behind Kinne, they managed to beat Marietta 21-19. The offensive line showed some problems; Kinne was often left to fend for himself under onslaught of Marietta's defence. Alma's defence, however, performed well pushing Marietta back forty yards in the fourth quarter.

This Saturday, Alma travels to Franklin, Indiana.

Editorial

Staff Editorial

Long Registration process is disruptive

On Tuesday, Sept. 4, Alma College students made their way to Van Dusen Commons to register for the fall term.

On Tuesday, Sept. 4, Alma College students also headed to the Swanson Academic Center, to the Dow Science Building, and to the other academic buildings to attend their first classes of the term.

The scheduling of these two events on the same day caused several logistical problems for many students. On Tuesday, students were required to complete the registration process prior to 4:30 p.m. The line in Van Dusen for registration was lengthy the entire day as the student body attempted to register. The line kept students waiting between 45 minutes to one hour both in the morning and in the afternoon.

As a result, many students

were tardy and even missed their first classes of the term. This put much of the campus in disarray as late students disrupted classrooms and absent students made it difficult for instructors to finalize their class lists. This in turn, disrupted the entire learning atmosphere for the Alma College campus.

The idea of scheduling registration and the first day of classes for the same date is not acceptable. There is no reason students should sacrifice their educational pursuits and place the campus into a greater state of disorder, simply to assure a timely registration process

Granted, registration must be the inaugural event of each term. However, by separating the school year and registration by one day, the problems that created chaos on this campus can easily be avoided in the future.

From the Editors

The Almanian welcomes student interest

By Karen McDonald Co-Editor-in-Chief

The media is a powerful thing. While it would be a bit naive to over-estimate the effectiveness or importance of a collegiate newspaper, one must never fold to the pressures of the masses and assume that one tiny voice cannot make a difference.

It is with this in mind that Kris Lovasz and I decided to dedicate our time and efforts to this particular tiny voice. The product of these efforts is evident in this year's staff. Throughout the upcoming academic year, it is their intention to develop an interesting college newspaper that reflects the needs of the Alma College student. The Almanian stands strong on its commitment to presenting accurate, objective content.

Aesthetically, The Almanian has gone through some obvious

changes. We have changed the size of the publication because we believe the tabloid size better suits this college community. Beginning next week, it will include 12 pages of news, feature, opinion and sports.

In the past, *The Almanian* has suffered from a number of unfortunate experiences that have inhibited its success. These experiences range from poor organization and bad equipment to a shortage of staff members. Despite the many setbacks however, it has managed to produce a publication consistently through the years. Furthermore, the most discouraging element to all of its misfortune lies not with the above mentioned, but rather its audience.

No publication can survive without active support and contribution from the community that it serves. It is our job to provide interesting, newsworthy subject matter. I can confidently predict that we are capable of making this happen. Yet, without interest from the Alma College community, not even our one tiny voice can make a difference.

With this, I offer only a few suggestions to Alma students, faculty and administration: Letters to the Editor are not only encouraged, they are vital to a successful paper. Put your mind to use and share your opinions with the rest of the college community. Secondly, The Almanian would like to encourage all students with an interest in writing or journalism to seek out the endless opportunities that this campus has to offer and contact one of our editors. We are continually looking for good writers to join our staff.

Finally, The Almanian would like to wish students and faculty alike good luck in the fall term. We look forward to a successful year.

Campus indifference to the world outside 'the bubble' is evident

By Michael Stargardt Assistant Opinion Editor

In recent surveys of
America's interest in news and
public affairs it has been shown
that the generation of Americans
under the age of 30 is both
uninformed and apathetic. Even
in colleges, there is a general
trend towards indifference
concerning anything outside of
the campus' limits. In a 1988
Christian Science Daily Monitor
survey of 50 students in 10
major universities, only three

could name books or authors that had "a significant impact" on their thinking. A recent *Times Mirror* study titled "The Age of Indifference" showed young Americans to be less knowledgeable about people and events than their elders for the first time since World War II. Young people were found reading fewer newspapers and watching less news programming. This past year only one third of those surveyed followed the biggest story of the decade: the revolu-

tions in Eastern Europe and the end of The Cold War.

Is this a U.S. undergraduate culture bereft of interest in transcendent ideas?

Alma College's campus has often been referred to as "The Bubble" by both students and faculty. This term implies that the students lead sheltered, secluded lives and ignore anything that has no direct effect on their existence. Unfortunately, it appears that this statement may indeed be

accurate.

When was the last time you read a newspaper for reasons other than to check your horoscope or to see who won the Tiger game? How long has it been since you watched a news broadcast for something other than the weather report? Which concerns you more; the state of events in Kuwait, or the state of events in Saga?

To establish a routine of indifference allows for routine manipulation by politicians, the

government, and whoever else wishes to take advantage of the ignorant. It is understood that college life is busy and great expectations are placed on every student. However, time should be taken to look outside of The Bubble. College is designed to help prepare you for the real world. It would be beneficial to look at this outside world now in order to better understand where we are and wish to be, and how we may effectively change that which we find intolerable.

The ALMANIAN Letter Policy

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

Address letters to;

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The weekly editorial which appears in The <u>ALMANIAN</u> reflects the opinions of the Editorial Board, which consists of the content Editors and Assistant Editors, as well as the Co-Editors In Chief.

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