

Barlow trophy
nominees named.

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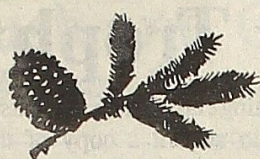
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The Almanian

March 24, 1992

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 21

Scots win NCAA title

Women's basketball team beats the odds in last playoff game

By Barb McCarty
Staff Writer

And then there was one...

From the moment they beat Luther, the Scots knew that this game was going to be more than just another game in the tournament. Besides the fact that it was for the national championship, it seemed the Moravian players were out for blood. Friday night they were chanting, "We want Alma! We want Alma!" Fine, so now they had us; what did they plan to do with us?

Moravian College was bursting with confidence, everything was going their way: home-court advantage, plus a 43-game winning streak at home and two Division I transfers on the team. They even dared to boast that Alma wasn't going to get more than 40 points. How wrong they were.

The Scots had someone on their side, though. The Alma College parents made a pact with the Luther parents, players and fans: "We'll cheer for you, you cheer for us." Done. Luther won the consolation game and stayed to make some much appreciated noise for the Scots. As the radio announcer said, "What they lack in numbers, the Alma crowd makes up for in noise."

Alma's Katie Mans won the tip, but the Scots didn't produce a basket. The Greyhounds' first basket, however, was quickly answered by a Kelly Jaster three-pointer and the Scots were off. Alma was down the entire first half, but always right at the heels of the Greyhounds. Junior Collen Wruble made her presence known in the first half at the free throw line. She was fouled five times and made all ten of her shots

from the line. Jaster, sophomore Tara Sherman, and senior co-captain Amy Elbers were all two for two from the line as well. By the end of the game, the Scots had gone 30 for 32 from the free throw line for a record-percentage of 94.

Both Alma and Moravian played physical games, getting into foul trouble early. The score see-sawed; with 2:35 to go, they were down 38-32. With 2:09 remaining, Wruble was fouled and made free throws nine and 10 to put the Scots within four, but with 1:36 left, a three-pointer gave the Greyhounds a nine point lead. A LaBeau rebound and basket pulled the Scots to within five, but she fouled with :32 seconds to go in the half. With

LaBeau's foul, all five starters, as well as Elbers, had two fouls, and Jaster had three. The half ended on an Alma steal and LaBeau basket; Moravian led 43-40.

Again, Moravian should have seen this as a bad omen.

Alma has

ended every first half of each game of this tournament down by a few points. As men's head basketball coach Bob Eldridge said, "Alma fans were hoping *not* to be up at the half."

"It's a very physical game, no question," said Eldridge at half-time.

The announcer called Alma "a very strong second half team" with a history of coming back after being down by a few at the half.

Alma began the second half in zone defense. After a pair of quick baskets from both teams, Elbers tied it up at 45 with a three-pointer. Then on an assist from LaBeau, Wruble put the Scots up by two. Mans picked up her third foul and sat down while the Greyhounds tied it up at 47. Wruble also picked up her third foul at the outset of the half and the two teams continued to

answer each other's baskets until Moravian went ahead on a three-pointer, 52-49.

The Greyhounds were a very vocal team, but their complaints were useless as LaBeau sank two on a contested Moravian foul to tie it at 53. Jaster then picked up her fourth foul and took a seat while junior Julie Long took her place. After Sherman picked up her third and Moravian started a full court press, Long grabbed an offensive rebound and put it in to bring the score to 59-57, Moravian.

Alma and Moravian traded steals and Sherman picked up a quick fourth foul and got to take a rest. A Moravian three-pointer widened the gap to five and Alma called time-out with 9:25 remaining and trailing 62-57. The Scots came out strong with a LaBeau lay-up, two big defensive rebounds from Elbers, and a three-pointer from LaBeau that tied the score at 62.

Wruble picked up her fourth foul

but Moravian missed the free throws and Wruble grabbed the rebound. Mans was fouled on the subsequent shot and sank her two to give the Scots the lead 64-62, but a Greyhound three-pointer quieted the small Alma crowd for a moment. At one point, all the starters with the exception of LaBeau had four fouls. As a result, the Greyhounds were getting a lot of offensive and defensive rebounds and second chances under their own basket, but they were not producing.

LaBeau's two free throws with 3:45 to go tied it up at 67 and Moravian was forced to call a time-out with 3:39 to go. Mans picked up her fourth foul with less than three minutes remaining and both free throws dropped, but LaBeau tied it up at 69 with a quick basket. Then Mans rebounded and passed to LaBeau who gave it right back to Mans for an easy basket to put the Scots up 71-69. Sherman was sent to the line and sank both her shots

to increase the lead to four, but then fouled out with 1:58 remaining. Moravian sank the free throws. Alma turned the ball over but Moravian missed the three-pointer.

Mans put one in from a Wruble pass to put the Scots up by four, but a Moravian tip-in brought the score to 75-73 with :41 seconds remaining. LaBeau then went to Mans again for two with :22 seconds to go. Jaster took a permanent seat for her five fouls at the fifteen second mark and Moravian sank two free throws to make the score 77-75. Wruble was fouled and sent to the line for one and one, sinking both to bring the score to 79-75, and that's the way it stood when the buzzer sounded.

The victory puts Alma's women's basketball team on the map. As the announcer said, "We're going to bring home a trophy because we are number one in the nation! Against all odds." We already knew that.



Team members and fans rush to form a huddle in celebration of the women basketball team's NCAA championship win against Moravian on Saturday, March 21, 1992. Photo by M. Wassa.

Braunreiter, Cubba and Lovasz vie for Barlow Trophy

By Julie Boltman
Staff Writer

Once again the final three Barlow Trophy nominees have been selected and revealed. This year's nominees for the Barlow Trophy, Alma's most prestigious award for graduating seniors, are Sarah Braunreiter, Louis Cubba and Kris Lovasz.

Braunreiter is a biochemistry major from Jackson, Mich. She is currently awaiting acceptance into

medical school. Her campus activities include the Alma Symphony Orchestra, track and cross-country, FCA, Chemistry Club, Newberry Hall Council and membership in Phi Beta Kappa and Gamma Delta Alpha honor societies.

The nomination came as a surprise to Braunreiter. "I knew there were a lot of really good people [who were eligible for the award]," she said. "I had no idea I'd be one of the three." She also expressed "mixed feelings. I feel a little guilty. There are a lot of deserving people, but this is a really great honor."

Cubba, from Utica, Mich., is majoring in biochemistry and Spanish. This spring he will graduate

with a Bachelor of Arts degree, as well as a Bachelor of Science. Next year, Cubba plans to enter the University of Michigan's M.D./Ph.D. program.

His activities include: *Pine River Anthology* editor, Student Congress President, Kiltie Marching Band and participating in a high school leadership seminar and Gulf War panel discussion.

Cubba agreed with Braunreiter's comments. "I feel really honored, but there are so many excellent candidates. There are many who were not nominated who have done much for the campus. I'm not different from any of them."

Finally, Kris Lovasz is a chemis-

try major and biology minor from Dearborn, Mich. She plans to attend graduate school for a degree in chemistry. She has been active as managing editor of *The Almanian*, Orientation Committee co-chair, member of the Academic Standards committee, chemistry tutor and Chemistry Club member.

Lovasz said the nomination was "a surprise. I was really excited when I found out."

This award was established by Joel Barlow '29, and is based on scholarship and leadership, as well as significant contribution to the entire campus community. Barlow candidates are those students ranking in the top 10 percent of their

graduating class. These students are asked to submit a copy of their resume and a list of their activities to the Provost Office if they wish to be considered further. The candidates' advisors are also contacted to provide a recommendation for them.

The Barlow Trophy Nomination Committee, composed of two faculty representatives from each of three divisions and five student representatives from Student Congress, select the three nominees.

All faculty and Student Congress members vote by secret ballot to determine the winner. The recipient will be announced at Honors Convocation Thursday, April 9.

Housing sign-up begins Thursday, March 26

Carey and Bonbright go co-ed; Mitchell option overturned

By Stacie L. Herriman
News Editor

The annual, complicated housing sign-up begins Thursday, March 26, with room reservations for singles and designated double-singles.

"We have the most complicated housing process I've ever seen because so many choices are available," said Dean of Students James Kridler. "We could make it a lot simpler, but it would eliminate many choices."

"At most institutions you have to say whether or not you'll stay in your same room; we've changed that around. Now you have two to three options before having to stay in your room," he said. "You have the opportunity to try for the most popular options without jeopardizing where you currently live."

Living in the fraternity and sorority houses is the first such option, followed by living in singles or designated double-singles or moving to South Complex.

To further complicate matters this year, the College is providing students with three new housing options.

The first of these options is the conversion of the Plaxton House to the Women's Resource House. There is space for seven individu-

als who support women's issues and programming.

"We have a few more people interested [in living there], about nine to 10, than we have space for, so we will have to conduct interviews," said Kridler.

The two other big housing changes are in South Complex. Carey Hall will become co-ed instead of remaining all women. "The second floor will be all women while the first floor is all men like Nisbet and Brazell Halls," said Kridler. "Women returning from first floor will be given the opportunity to move upstairs."

Bonbright Hall will be co-ed by alternating suites. "We will try to minimize the impact on those left there. Out of 50 beds, seven to eight people might have to move," he said.

Kridler said, "We have talked about these last two options for the last five years." Student Affairs decided to go ahead with it this year for two reasons. First, it provides "one more living option within the system that is really not that different than what already exists," he said. Secondly, "it provides flexibility in South as some years more women than men may want to live there. Also, it gives me greater staffing flexibility here."

Furthermore, in order to alleviate the need for placing women in study lounges and Newberry basement in

the beginning of the year and then moving them later in the term, Student Affairs decided to create another quad of women in Bruske Hall. Dan Zettel's quad in First North Bruske will become female as "half or more on the quad are leaving or graduating creating the fewest number of displaced people," said Kridler. "Those displaced will be treated as displaced persons with the first opportunity to stay within Bruske in whatever space is available."

Another reason Student Affairs chose to make another quad in Bruske female is for the simple fact that "it is easier to deal with 16 rather than 63 beds—the number of beds on one floor of Mitchell Hall—to even the numbers out," explained Kridler.

He continued, "I hope the quad will take care of people living in expanded areas; those living there are always the last to pay their

housing deposit. We are only down 10-15 beds so this should alleviate the problem, but it depends on the incoming class."

In order to reserve a room, a student must: 1) pay a \$50 room reservation fee at the Cashier's Office in the Business Office in the Reid-Knox Building and 2) complete the left-hand portion of the room reservation card which is given to the student upon payment of his/her deposit and bring the entire card with him/her when reserving a room.

At the conclusion of Housing Sign-up and preregistration for the fall term, student's preregistration will be verified with the Registrar's Office. Students must be preregistered to retain their fall housing assignment.

Students who cannot attend the particular session when they would reserve a room may ask someone to represent them. That proxy must,

however, have in his/her possession the room reservation card of the person they are representing, as well as "a written statement specifying such representation," said Kridler.

The Student Affairs Office advises that students "have two or three housing options in mind prior to their participation in the housing sign-up process for next year." Questions should be directed to members of the Hall Director staff or Dorene Lewis in the Student Affairs Office (#7333).

Housing sign-up is as follows: March 26—singles and designated double-singles, those retaining rooms in South Complex and those displaced; March 30—students wanting to move to South Complex; March 31—students wishing to remain in their same room on North campus; and April 1—those students wishing to change residence halls.

Alma students tie for second place with Calvin in statewide math competition

By Theresa Miller
Staff Writer

Eleven students from the math department faced a three-hour test made up of non-routine mathematical problems as they recently competed in the Lower Michigan Mathematical Competition. This test marked the 16th annual gathering of mathematical minds.

The competition is geared toward small colleges and MIAA schools. Alma has participated in all of the competitions. This year, however, brought the highest ranking results. Out of 21 schools, Alma's team of Phil Haar, Damen Peterson and David Yavenditti tied for second place with a Calvin College team. Before this, Alma's highest ranking team was from 1987 with a fifth place.

Chairperson of the math/computer science department Tim Sipka said, "Contests like this give the students a tremendous pat on the back. They

don't have many opportunities to be recognized, and events like this really put them in the spotlight."

Every year a different person writes the test. This year, Stan Wagon from McCallister College was the author. The test was held at Calvin College on Feb. 15. Alma had four teams of two or three people each. Each team was given a test, and they had three hours to complete it together. This "group-style" format is not usually used in competitive exams.

Dave Brown, senior participant, expressed his approval of the setup: "It was interesting because it was a new experience. Other group competitions I have been involved in require each person to work individually then tally the scores for a group total. This competition, though, really required cooperative learning and team work."

Sipka also commended the "collaborated work efforts" the competition evoked.

Although not a requirement, *Math 380: Problem-Solving* was highly recommended for the students. Nine

out of the 11 students who participated are in the class. According to Sipka, "The class is specially designed for solving non-routine problems like the ones presented in competitions such as these."

Other teams representing Alma were Brown, Jacqueline Roberts and Ganesa Wegeinka, who placed eighth; Mike Arndt, Stephen Herr and David Lorenz, who tied with Aquinas for 11th; and the team of Randy Keicher and Brian Ostrowski tied for 14th with Albion and Hope.

When asked what this said of the College's math department, Sipka explained it was not so much the department as the students: "The student must already have an interest in math, a gift for it, before they take the classes and compete in competitions such as this. Events like this just show how strong our math department's students are."

Arndt best explained the student's view of the test saying, "It was difficult, but it is gratifying and rewarding to see how we did in comparison with other schools."

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March 24, 1992

Bush and Clinton win Michigan primary Less than 20 percent of registered voters cast ballots

By Christopher Kukla
Staff Writer

This last Tuesday saw voters of the states of Michigan and Illinois cast their ballots to mark their preference for the Presidential nominees in the upcoming election in November. With the delegates for each party almost half decided, this primary gives an excellent idea for how the rest of the campaign trail will come out.

According to unofficial exit polls released in the *Detroit Free Press*, the Republican primary was not surprising with George Bush receiving 63 percent of the vote, Pat Buchanan ending up with 28 percent, David Duke scraping 3 percent and 6 percent of the voters uncommitted.

The Bush camp is confident that the campaign is no longer a day-to-day battle against Pat Buchanan, but rather a fight to convince the American public of Bush's leadership abilities. The Bush camp had also hoped that a defeat in Michigan would be an impetus for Buchanan to end his campaign, but Buchanan has vowed to stay in the race.

Buchanan has been unable to match his 37 percent showing in New Hampshire that began his campaign, and his low percentages in other key states has, for all intents and purposes, put the nomination cookie jar on the unreachable.

Faculty Forum

Personal experiences inspire surrealists Kahlo and Varo

By Kristine Lovasz
Managing Editor

The Faculty Forum on Friday, March 20, took a surreal twist as assistant professor of English Roseanne Hoefel read an article she had published in the October 1989 edition of *phoebe*, accompanied with slides of selected works by the surrealist artists of focus.

According to the *Webster's New World Dictionary*, surrealism is a modern movement in art and literature, in which an attempt is made to portray or interpret the workings of the unconscious mind as manifested in dreams. It is characterized by an irrational, noncontextual arrangement of material.

Hoefel's interest in surrealist art originated during a seminar in graduate school.

Hoefel said, "First, I will consider briefly how male artists of the movement channeled their disparate ideas regarding women; second, I will discuss women's images of themselves." She indicated that the male surrealist movement idolized the cult of the woman-child or "femme-enfant" and the myth of woman as muse rather than creative force in her own right. The male surrealists' images of women were distorted, dismembered and

top shelf.

It was, however, results on the Democratic side of the campaign that aroused much more attention, with the nomination more up for grabs. The picture became much clearer after the results were in Tuesday. Bill Clinton led the way with 49 percent of the vote, followed by Jerry Brown with 28 percent, Paul Tsongas with 17 percent and 4 percent of the voters uncommitted. Withdrawn candidates Tom Harkin and Bob Kerrey each received 1 percent of the vote.

The victory here and in Illinois has put Clinton in the driver's seat on the way to the Democratic National Convention, and a loss in both states for Tsongas has forced him to get off the bus. Tsongas has faced dwindling support after his win in New Hampshire and, seeing his chances for nomination disappearing, had no choice but to call it quits.

With the Democratic campaign now down to two candidates, the picture has brightened for Clinton. Clinton has succeeded in forming a coalition of blue-collar workers, middle-class citizens, and minorities that has helped him win key states and could help him swing votes in industrial states that in past elections have swung Republican.

Clinton won 73 percent of the black vote and the support of many black leaders, 49 percent of voters with a union worker in their household and 49 percent of voters who considered themselves to be blue-

collar. The results are indicative of the coalition that has propelled Clinton into the front of the pack, and that will, in all likelihood, win him the Democratic nomination.

Illinois results were similar to those in Michigan. For the Republicans, Bush led with 75 percent of the vote, and Buchanan trailing with 25 percent. Duke did not enter the primary in this state. The Democratic side saw Clinton lead with 54 percent of the vote, Tsongas next with 22 percent, Brown trailing with 13 percent and 6 percent of the voters uncommitted.

Both elections were marked by a low turn-out: less than 20 percent of registered voters in Michigan and Illinois cast ballots. Although actual election turn-out may be higher, candidates will still be facing a small pool of voters. Some effect can be seen in Michigan's new closed primary policy, which left many voters disgruntled and turned many potential voters away.

The closed primary system requires voters to register either as Republican or Democrat in order to vote in the primary. This was seen as an infringement of the rights of voters and was widely opposed. However, voter apathy tended to be the normal excuse for not casting a ballot, as in past elections. This will be the next hurdle for the front runners, for it will be a race to see who can pick up the swing votes after the nominations, and the candidates will have much campaigning to do.

dehumanized. The prevailing attitude was that of the dominator and the dominated.

The women of the surrealist movement, such as Frida Kahlo, Remedios Varo, Leonor Fini and Leonora Carrington, were able to contradict these dehumanizing images with images by women that faced the difficult and multifaceted quest for self-identity. Hoefel's presentation focused on two women artists in particular: Frida Kahlo and Remedios Varo.

Hoefel said that Kahlo was born in 1910 in Coyoacan, a suburb of Mexico City. She was the daughter of a German-Jewish immigrant photographer and a Mexican mother. She married Diego Rivera. In 1925, a near fatal bus accident injured her pelvis and spine, nearly crippled her, increasingly debilitated her, and led to over 50 operations and a lifetime of pain.

"Frida Kahlo's self-portraits provide a startling and challenging contrast to these works [of male surrealists]," said Hoefel. She indicated that Kahlo made her own life the source of her art. For example, Hoefel said, "The agonizing pain of her crushed spine and broken foot is most poignantly portrayed in *The Broken Column* (1944), which parades both her exquisite beauty and her overwhelming suffering and martyrdom as the rose among the thorns."

Hoefel said, "Kahlo was without doubt in tune with the fluid nature of woman's existence and imagination, and the relation of such fluidity to woman's ability to give birth to ideas, the imagination, love and life itself."

The other Latin American artist Hoefel discussed was Remedios Varo. Varo was born in Angles, Spain in 1913. The youngest of three children and the only girl, Varo was raised in a conservative Catholic family.

Hoefel said that Varo's art reflects her rebellion against the stifling group regimentation and her pursuit of beliefs in magic and her animistic faith in the power of objects and the connectedness between plant, animal, human and mechanical worlds. She said, "As with Kahlo, for Varo autobiographical details were the source for images and symbols in her work." However, "Varo's work recorded accounts of her dreams, invented games and magic formulas," whereas Kahlo's work centered around self-portraits. For example, Hoefel suggested, in *Solar Music* (1955) Varo brings light and vibration together as the sources of all creation.

To conclude, Hoefel said, "Quite clearly, the Surrealist Movement provided women artists an environment for multiple expressions of their inner realities."

Few students vote

By Cami Carson
Staff Writer

Only 12 percent of the Alma College student body participated in last Tuesday's Student Congress elections. This percentage is lower than the previous years. However, many students were unaware elections were taking place; they were not publicized nor announced during either lunch or dinner that day.

"The turnout was good compared to that of Central Michigan or Michigan State Universities where the number of ballots average about 5 percent," said Student Congress President David Woodruff. "There are even more locations to vote at the bigger campuses."

Student Congress held elections earlier this year than usual primarily to fill former Student Congress Treasurer Drew Walker's position. The absence of Walker put a heavy burden on Student Congress Executive Officers to take up his duties while handling their own. Another reason for the early election was to get the newly-appointed officers acquainted with their positions.

The only major problem with elections this year was lack of communication to the campus when and where voting would take place.

"The elections went well, but I was amazed in the low turnout for voting and the low number of petitions returned for elected offices," said Student Congress Vice-President Chris Kukla. "I am worried about the apathy forming on this campus."

A number of ballots were invalidated. This number totalled about 25 ballots, "but did not and would not have effected the outcome of the elections," said

Kukla.

The few number of write-in candidates did not make a difference in the election results either. However, at last Tuesday's Student Congress meeting, it was decided that write-in candidates will not be allowed in future elections. Each candidate must get the required number of signatures—twenty-five—on his or her petition to run for election.

The new Student Congress President, D. Aaron Howald, said he would like to do more for the campus: "I was president of my class [Class of '94], and didn't have enough power to really make some changes." He wants to adjust to his new position and then, hopefully, set up some kind of communication process between the students and Student Congress.

The new Student Congress officers are President D. Aaron Howald, Vice President Amy Hamman, Treasurer Randy Thelen and Secretary Kim Tobin.

The offices of the Class of 1995 Secretary, Class of 1994 Treasurer and Secretary, and the Class of 1993 Treasurer will be filled next fall when the first-year class officers are elected as no one returned petitions for these offices.

Class of 1995 officers are President Dana Grant, Vice President Kristin Kuhtic, Treasurer Amy Hoffman and Associate Trustee Lori K. Shemka.

The officers for the Class of 1994 are President Jennifer D. Smith, Vice President Greg Oke and Associate Trustee Noreen Lyall.

Finally, the Class of 1993 officers are President Dave Woodruff, Vice President Dhiann Kinsworthy, Secretary Tereas Kellogg and Associate Trustee Scott Schoessel.

Almanian

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Friday, March 27, 1992

Chittick heads Alma's Model UN team

By Tracey Antcliff
Staff Writer

From March 4 to March 7, Mahmood Monshipouri, assistant professor of political science, took a group of 10 students to St. Louis, Missouri to compete in the Model United Nations Competition. Approximately 700 students from 60 to 70 schools participated.

The group was headed by senior Nichole Chittick. Monshipouri commended her for her hard work: "She did a tremendous job in coordinating everything." He said that she had a large amount of responsibility and she was the most important person among him and the other students, consisting of: first-year students Nathaniel Cadwell and Bill

Trenkle; sophomores Julianne Thomas, Daniel Szczpka, Nicki Berlin, Kimberly Tobin and Monica Madden; junior Monica Tissue; and senior Phil Haar.

The country which was to be represented was Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast). The students were to debate on a crisis situation given to them. "The group is to debate for-

mally on resolutions for the situations of the particular country," said Chittick. "Actually, everything got settled when we had to break for caucusing," which was informal and not controlled.

Chittick said that there was a lot to be learned through this: "There is a need for diplomacy to get anything done." She also added that

she "learned to see things through another point of view. It is different to look at things through African eyes instead of just America's."

"You adopt another country's feelings," said Berlin.

This competition is not just for political science majors, as some participants were chemistry and math majors. "It is good experience if you are interested in going into an international-related field," Berlin said.

Monshipouri said, "Out of my six years of advising this, this group was among the best. They had a chemistry I've never seen before. They had the expertise and ability to get along."

This group ended up with two honorable mentions, one of which went to Monshipouri for writing a crisis situation.

The Team:

Head delegate: Senior Nichole Chittick

Advisor: Mahmood Monshipouri, asst. professor of political science

Members: First-year

students Nathaniel Cadwell and Bill Trenkle; sophomores Julianne Thomas, Daniel Szczpka, Nicki Berlin, Kimberly Tobin and Monica Madden; junior Monica Tissue; and senior Phil Haar.

RA applicants subjected to a rigorous screening process

By Jane Brown
Staff Reporter

The position Resident Assistant (RA) is one many take for granted, and yet it takes dedication and a series of interviews to obtain. On March 9, those who applied for a position as an Alma College RA found out whether or not they would be hired by the College for the 1992-1993 school year.

This year there were 91 applicants and, since all could not be interviewed, only 71 were invited back for a meeting. In the end, 11 men and 15 women received positions. Two male and two female alternate RAs were accepted as well. These positions will only go into effect if, for some reason, presently hired RAs cannot fill their positions.

Applicants were subjected to a series of consultations and interviews. They are as follows:

1) One must first fill out an application citing such information as your educational requirements, time commitments, work related experiences and recommendations, including one from your current RA, a faculty member and a friend.

2) Applications will then be considered, and applicants will be sent a Status of Candidacy letter telling

them whether or not they will be invited back for the interview. At this time students can be ruled out on account of not having a 2.25 G.P.A. Once hired, dropping below a 2.25 could be reason for termination from the position held.

3) There is a group experience meeting held for students being considered for the position, in which RAs tell of their experiences and help the school evaluate the feedback that is received from the applicants.

4) Following this, the student will possibly be invited back for a preliminary interview consisting of questions from the Deans of Students, Hall Directors and current RAs.

5) In this last interview students who the evaluators are still not sure of are asked for an interview solely with the Deans of Students and the Hall Directors in which the student will be evaluated once again for their qualities that they could offer in the position of RA.

6) Finally, a letter will be sent to those who do and do not get hired, and a training session will be held for each of these students who will be appointed resident assistant for the following year.

RAs are hired for many reasons, but Dean of Students James Kridler said the College looks for those individuals who have "common

sense, maturity and can be role models for other students."

Kridler also said they look for "a great variety of people so that, if, for some reason, a particular hall or quad RA and one of his/her hallmates does not get along, the students will at least have the option of seeking help from another RA in the building who shares similar personality traits with them."

When filling out an application, some of the characteristics questioned are those dealing with maturity, perceptiveness, leadership, dependability and receptivity to feedback.

Along with having characteristics that would serve well as a model for other students to follow, certain expectations must be handled by each RA hired. They must, first and foremost, make their position as Resident Assistant a high priority, second only to academics. Of their other duties, there are the obligations of referring students who require help to the proper agencies on campus, as well as helping to advise their peers to the best of their abilities. RAs serve as a link from students to administration and help to generally provide a conducive atmosphere for studying and developing appropriate social behavior.

Specifically, each RA is expected to partake of certain responsibilities.

First, all rules must be enforced and adhered to by the student, as well as following certain guidelines of decorum set forth in the *Alma College Student Handbook*. Resident Assistants are also expected to perform certain administrative tasks, such as check-in and out, as well as staying on campus all weekends during the month except one and staying till the end of breaks and returning on the first days of term.

Once Resident Assistants have been hired, they then have the difficulty of the making the move to leader of their peers and, as Kridler said, "confronting people about policy violations such as alcohol and noise," a job which is not always pleasant, but necessary.

This year three new student assistant hall directors have been hired to take the places of Dan Zettel, Rick Lantz and Bob Norris, assistant hall directors for Bruske and South Complex residence halls, respectively. Students who will take the places of these graduating seniors are Dave Woodruff in Bruske and Scott Schoessel and Cathy Tloczynski in South Complex.

At the beginning of next year all new RAs will be sent through a training session encompassing 10 days where they will learn to deal with the trials and tribulations of being a RA.

Keeping you informed

ACUB announces its new staff for the 1992-93 academic year

The Alma College Union Board (ACUB) has selected its new staff for the 1992-93 academic year. Next year's Board is as follows: President—Andy Sutton; Concert Chair—Audrey Gillespie; Major Events—Dan Baker; Special Events—Nancy Devine; Cinema Coordinator—Karie Bergin; Personnel and Public Relations—Chad Briscoe; Alpha Sign Coordinator—Kerrie Kempermyr; Publicity—Erik Davidson and Amy Jeschawitz; and Technical Crew—Brett McDowell and Stacey Weinrick.

The Kresge Foundation awards Alma College \$500,000 challenge grant

The Trustees of the Kresge Foundation have approved a grant of \$500,000 toward the construction of Alma College's Heritage Performing Arts Center. The grant is made on a challenge basis to assist Alma in raising the balance required to complete the project's funding, according to information President Alan J. Stone received from Chairman of The Kresge Foundation Alfred H. Taylor, Jr. Payment of the grant depends upon the College raising, by July 1, 1993, the \$2,219,973 required to complete full funding.

Construction for the project, expected to cost \$6.7 million, will begin this spring. Ground has already been broken on the project. Completion is expected by fall 1993.

Trash Brats live up to name

This past weekend members of the band Trash Brats vandalized their rooms at the Comfort Inn after performing at the annual Alma College Union Board (ACUB) Irish Pub.

Owners of the Comfort Inn contacted ACUB adviser Linda Harleston, who went to survey the damage and take photos.

"It's not a matter of what they did, but what they used. There was nail polish all over the place and you can't get that up," said Harleston.

Harleston has no idea of how much the damage will cost, and spokepeople for the Comfort Inn were unavailable for comment.

Harleston is checking into the College's liability, but "anticipates no problems that they'll take responsibility for what they did." She is working through their agent trying to contact them about the incident.

Attention Graduating Seniors!

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Retraction

In last week's issue, the library was incorrectly identified as the Kehrl Library. It should

be either the Monteith Library or the Kehrl Building. We apologize for this mistake.

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Healthful Hints

National Nutrition Month inspires healthy changes

By Beverly Brown
Staff Writer

March is national nutrition month so put away the Doritos for a bit and listen up! Healthier eating does not become established overnight, but it is far from being an unreachable goal. Complex strategies to become healthier and to lose weight may work after much invested time and effort, but a few basic tips are all one needs to make a big difference in how one eats and feels. Here are some hints that I have found to work.

- 1) Try and eat five to six smaller meals per day rather than three big meals. It is easier on your body to metabolize smaller meals rather than three large amounts of food.
- 2) If it is difficult to eat smaller meals because of cafeteria atmosphere then at least eat your biggest meal earlier in the day (e.g. at lunch).

Many people often try not to eat too much all day and then by dinner, they are starving and eat a huge meal late in the day when they are least likely to be active. Eat your largest meal earlier when you are more active and your body needs the nutrients.

- 3) Snacking is not bad if it is with the right foods. Snacking prevents overeating at meals and it keeps one's metabolism going throughout the day. Ideas for healthy snacks include: air popped popcorn or microwave popcorn (the healthy way: put 1/4 cup of unpopped popcorn in a brown lunch bag and stick it in the microwave for two to three minutes). It's cheap, fat free, and three cups of popped popcorn is the equivalent of only one piece of bread. Pretzels, dried fruits, yogurt pretzels, frozen yogurt, cereals and veggies are also healthy snack alternatives.
- 4) If you are going to eat something bad for you, eat sugary foods (hard

candy, licorice, Tootsie Rolls or sherbet) instead of fatty foods (chips, french fries, ice cream). It takes over two times more energy to burn a gram of fat than a gram of sugar.

- 5) Do not neglect the amount of calories due to liquid intake. The calories from sugar pop or alcohol give the body an excess of carbohydrates that most likely will not be totally burned off and will turn to fat.
- 6) In addition to eating healthier, try to go on a short walk each day to get your metabolism going. Even a little exercise helps.

- 7) The key is moderation. Do not think you have to cut out all of your favorite foods, just try and limit yourself to smaller amounts when you do have them.

These are just a few hints towards healthy eating that will make a difference. Make small goals to achieve victory and eventually you will not even crave that Oreo.

Women's History Month

Sexual harassment spans gender barriers

By Sharonne O'Shea
Feature Editor

It seems as though every minority group has a month dedicated to enlightening the oblivious majority to the perils and plights facing that group. Women are no exception; March is National Women's History Month.

In comparison to some other schools throughout the nation, Alma College students take a different approach to the enlightenment process. Consider recent demonstrations (cited by the National Student News Service) outside a pornographic video store that opened near three women's colleges in Boston. Alternatively, Harvard University sports a "Harvard Anti-Sexist Men" organization which plans commemoration of the December 6 Montreal Massacre of 1989 in which all the female students in a technical school classroom were shot by a man who blamed feminists for his actions. Fortunately for Alma women, the men of the campus seem to be taking such recent actions as the Women's Studies program and development of the Women's Resource Center in much better stride. Additionally, *The Almanian* approach appears to be more constructive and educationally-oriented, capable of serving both men and women.

The recent development of men's organizations such as the "Harvard Anti-Sexist Men" illustrates the realization that such issues as sexual harassment, traditionally her-

alded as "women's issues," are not just problems for women.

Sophomore Erica Drews said she believes that it is detrimental to both parties, not just the one being discriminated against for harassment "limits options" available to the discriminator as well, whether it be a helpful employee or an enjoyable acquaintance. "A person's sex has nothing to do with their brain or their potential as a worker or human being."

Sophomore Beth Marshke indicated that males aren't always the ones discriminating either; "It can go the other way."

Why such a defeating attitude persists can be difficult to understand for it seems to give no benefit to either party. Senior Eric Addington said he believes that sexual harassment does "not have much to do with sex." The motivation for harassment is instead a "power-

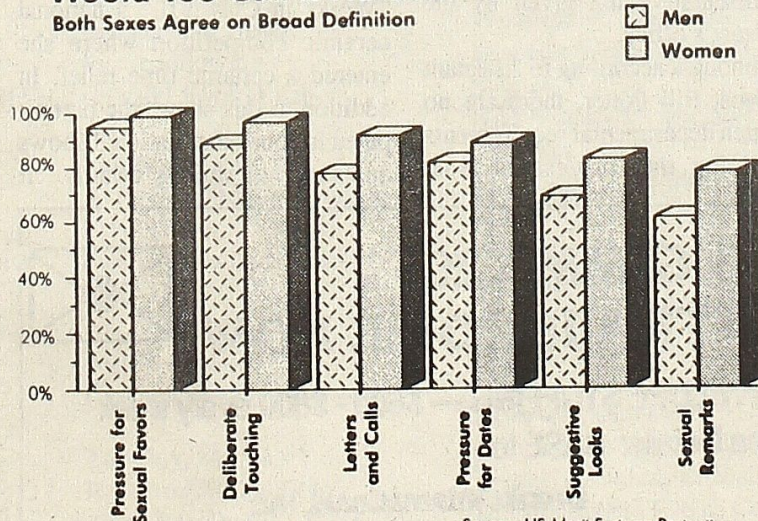
play by men, oneupsmanship."

Drews explained that harassment is "a way to control people rooted in insecurity." Cleighton Carson, sophomore, summed up the seemingly purposeless actions of sexual harassment as being "like racism. There is no use for it. Why should you criticize a black or a woman? Everyone's a person. Sex shouldn't hold you back."

Sexual harassment is an issue of gender perception which requires both men and women to evaluate their standards and impressions. The Clarence Thomas hearings served as incentive for many to make such a self-evaluation. However, Marshke explained just how grey an area sexual harassment remains in our society: "It [sexual harassment] is just something considered offensive in a sexual way by the other party whether verbally or physically. It's hard to define."

Would You Call It Harassment?

Both Sexes Agree on Broad Definition



Source: US Merit Systems Protection Board 1991 Survey of 8,523 Federal Employees

Loyal fans follow women's basketball progress



(From left) Sophomores Todd Campbell and Mike Pennie, junior Mark Wassa, sophomore Reggie Reed and junior Scott Jakovac (lying) supported the Alma College women's basketball team by traveling to Adrian, Milwaukee and Pennsylvania to attend every tournament game. Trip times ranged from two hours (to Adrian) to 12 or 14 (to Pennsylvania). Other fans also made the trek to cheer the women's team to victory, placing themselves among the die-hard fan following. Photo by M. Stargardi.

SURVEY

College sexual activity trends

By Sara J. Groves
Staff Reporter

This anonymous survey was designed by *The Almanian* staff to examine the trends in sexual activities of Alma College students. The results will be published in an forthcoming edition of *The Almanian*. Please take a few minutes to fill this out and return to one of the staff members in Hamilton Commons. Thanks!

1. male female 2. greek non-greek 3. fr so jr sr

4. Have you ever been tested for AIDS? YES NO

5. Do you feel as if maybe you should be tested for AIDS? YES NO

6. Do you know someone with the AIDS virus? YES NO

7. Do you have sex regularly without birth control? YES NO

8. Do you have sex using condoms to prevent the passing of STDs (sexually transmitted diseases) despite the fact you may use other

- forms of birth control? YES NO

6. Have you ever had sex with someone you just met or barely knew? YES NO If so, do you do this regularly? YES NO

7. Approximately how many different people have you had sex with in the past year? 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 over 10

8. Are you currently involved in a monogamous relationship? YES NO

9. Are you infected with any sexually transmitted diseases? YES NO If so, do you tell potential sex partners about this? YES NO

10. Do you feel as if you are informed on the subject of sexually transmitted diseases? YES NO

11. Who do you think should take primary responsibility for birth control? MALE FEMALE

12. What do you think of the new female condom? THINK IT'S GOOD THINK IT'S BAD DON'T KNOW



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Clifton charms College

By William J. Johnston
Copy Editor

For the second time in as many weeks, Alma College found itself graced with the presence of a world-famous author as black poet and writer Lucille Clifton stayed for a week-long visit as part of the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writing Fellowship Program.

Clifton spent her week engaging with students, faculty and community members in a variety of activities ranging from meals and workshops to interviews and readings.

English professor William Palmer, in charge of Clifton's itinerary for the week, helped plan a schedule for her with the assistance of a planning committee composed of faculty members and students. Committee members were: English professors Carol Bender and Roseanne Hoefel; education professors Simphiwe Hlatshwayo and Lynda Markham; religious studies professor Joe Walser; Chaplain Jesse Perry; Charlotte Schmidtke of the public relations office; seniors Louis Cubba, Erin Fenner, Heather Jelley, Karen McDonald and Cathy Swender; and sophomores William Johnston and Jennifer Toomer.

nifer Toomer.

Clifton began her week with a reception Sunday night at the Clack Art Center where she met a variety of students and faculty members.

Clifton's activities during the rest of the week reflected both her numerous talents and her concerns and areas of interest. She had dinners with members of the United Coalition of Students and those interested in women's issues. In addition, throughout the week she had meals with various faculty members, and on Thursday had an informal lunch with a few staff members of *The Almanian*, *The Pine River Anthology* and *The Ves-pine*.

"She was very intelligent and easy to get along with," said junior J.C. Clarkson, who attended the UCS dinner at the Embers. "She was someone you felt you could tell your life story to. She enlightened our whole campus for a week."

Clifton also helped out with a group of English students who are conducting poetry workshops with senior citizens at the Masonic Home and the Senior Center. Clifton had an informal lunch with these students (Karen McDonald, Cathy Swender, Sara Groves, Stephanie Mortensen, Rebecca Murray, Barb McCarty and Jill Johnson) and then

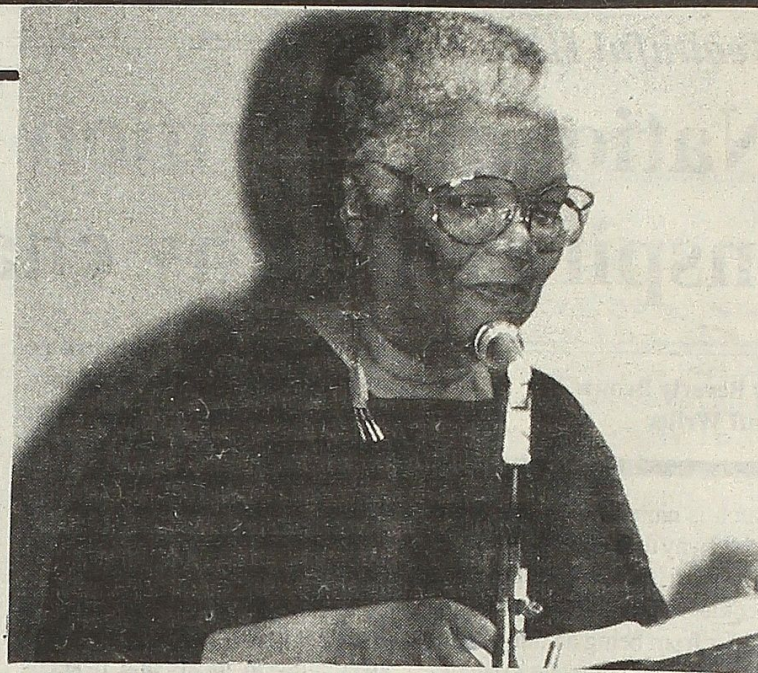
conducted a reading where both her poetry and that of the seniors was read and shared.

Clifton visited a variety of classes. She spoke to members of the 100-level English courses, the poetry class, Freshman Honors Seminar and both sections of Children's Literature. She also spoke with Roseanne Hoefel's Modern American Literature Class, and gave a surprise reading of her *Lucifer* and *Eden* poems to members of John Ottenhoff's English Renaissance class, who are currently reading *Paradise Lost*.

Clifton conducted a poetry workshop with 15 students on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The students each selected a poem and read it, and then Clifton and the other members of the workshop offered helpful criticism.

Finally, Clifton conducted a campus-wide reading of her poetry Wednesday night in the chapel, where she explained that "I never know what I'm going to read until I get up here."

"She made us all feel really comfortable [at the poetry workshop]," said Swender, who saw a good deal of Clifton during the week. "She made each one of us feel our poems were really special. My favorite part was at the end,



Lucille Clifton, renowned poet and author, is scheduled to return in May. Photo by M. Stargardt.

when we joined hands and each said a word. It emphasized the community in our group. It was a nice way to get close."

"I loved her," said first-year student Melissa VanDyk. "She was really cool and laid back. She answered questions about her poetry [when she spoke to the writing classes]. It was a nice way to understand why a poet does what she does."

"It was great," said senior Joanna Beals. "She's so vibrant. I learned a lot from her going over my poem and from everyone else's, too." As for the women's issues dinner, Beals said, "We ate real food and she did

a reading afterward and it was wonderful. It was nice to be around all those people."

"She was a very honest person, very real," said Cubba. "I wish there was a better word for it. She wasn't trying to make a profound statement about life. She was just living it. Sometimes that's the most profound statement one can make."

Now that this week is concluded, the College must gear up at some point for her return visit in May, when one of the things she hopes to do is get back together with some members of the poetry workshop and see how their work has progressed.

Retractions

In the March 10, 1992 issue of *The Almanian* a photograph was mistakenly identified as Nancy Buffenbarger of the sociology department.

In the March 17, 1992 issue of *The Almanian* a second photograph was mistakenly identified as Assistant Registrar William Potter. In actuality, the picture was of economics professor James Mueller. Additionally, the

accompanying article on the African Fellows auction incorrectly cited the funds raised as \$25,000. At printing, the funds were \$2,500. As of March 18, 1992 the total was raised to \$3,300 with donations still being accepted according to the Provost's Office. *The Almanian* extends our sincere apologies for these errors.

Ever-broadening horizons:

Alma College faculty continue research

By Theresa Miller
Staff Writer

Correcting tests. Reading papers. Critiquing assignments. These are the first things that come to mind when describing the duties of a professor. The professors of Alma College, however, have been busy with some assignments of their own. In a three week special feature, beginning this edition with the fine arts (dance, music, theater and art), we will recognize a selection of professors who have currently been published, given speeches or participated in a show designed to depict their talents according to a representative list given by the Provost's office.

Although, according to Assistant Provost Bill Potter, there are no written departmental requirements outlining that professors must

publish a certain amount of work per time period, the professors of each department are highly encouraged to continue to be active in their field. As art professor Carrie Parks-Kirby commented, "An artist must continue performing as an artist." By doing this, she explained, she keeps up on the current shows and can better teach her students about deadlines and commitments because she deals with them too. "I know first hand about deadlines. Shows have deadlines and galleries do too. By experiencing these first hand, I can better convince my students they must take them seriously."

This past academic year has brought Parks much recognition. She received a first place award in "Works in Clay VII," a national ceramic competition where she entered a ceramic time relief. In addition to this show, she participated in four other national shows and received various awards. "It

matters a lot that I'm an artist as well as a teacher; I'm not just teaching the theoretical things, but the real-life aspect."

Another member of the art department, Art Curtis, was represented by works in the Mid-Michigan exhibition. Interestingly, one of his students, Kristina Edgerly, also exhibited some of her work. Edgerly commented, "Our work is very different, but it was an honor to have my work displayed at such a large exhibition along with my professor. I saw that my work has definitely grown here at Alma College."

Brian Whitfield, also a visiting art instructor, recently received a grant of \$5,000 from the Basil H. Alkazzi Foundations of the Royal College of Art in London. He plans to use the grant to set up his own studio.

Music at Alma has received its share of kudos as well. Professor Will Nichols and the members of the choir participated in the worship service of the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven on February 2, 1992. The Kiltie band, under the direction of Doug Scripps, recently finished a tour covering the Chicago area.

By participating in these shows and receiving such honors, Alma College students and professors benefit from the current world of fine arts.

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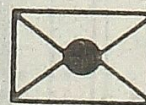
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March 24, 1992

Vespine showcases diverse talents

By Jane Brown
Staff Reporter

Members of *The Vespine*, one of Alma College's two literary publications, are starting to finalize their work on the 1992 edition. *The Vespine*, a magazine which compiles the art, poetry and short stories of Alma College students, is staffed by 10 students who choose the articles and lay out the editions.

Works for *The Vespine* are sent in and chosen based on the merits of the work as creative pieces of literature or art. The goal of the staff, as stated in its plan, is to choose works which will be "thought-provoking, diverse, untraditional, political, sexual, psychological and timely." The staff members are headed by co-editors Kerrie Kemperman and Eric Shaw, assisted by Erin Fenner, Sara Groves, Shannon Garrett, Amy Hough, Traci Anderson and Rachel Pierson. Ice Washburn and Ganesa Wegienka are responsible for the layout of the submissions.

This year, according to Kemperman, the staff is encountering a limited number of problems. While submissions are higher than last year, Kemperman said that she hoped that they would have more submissions, but that the submissions this year definitely had qual-

ity: "There are a lot of people out there with creative, innovative and controversial ideas who should not fear coming forward with their works in future years. We are an alternative to the *Pine River Anthology*."

The publication tries to emphasize quality and the works it hopes to attract are those which incorporate universal ideas that can have significance for all of the College community. *The Vespine* limits entries to two per person in order to give readers more exposure to the breadth of the talent found on campus.

The Vespine was founded eight years ago, and has been printed every year but 1989. It is supported by a \$900 budget which goes for the printing and setup of the publication. Although three years ago the magazine was published with ads in it, the past three years the staff has decided they would rather just have the artistic expressions of the students contained within the magazine.

The staff anticipates release of *The Vespine* in the last week of the winter term, with about 500 to 600 copies being available. Kemperman feels that, with many creative and innovative ideas contained in the magazine, it should be great this year.

Dark of the Moon highlights acting ability

By William J. Johnston
Copy Editor

"A witch boy from the mountain came, a-pinin' to be human. For he had seen the fairest gal, a gal named Barbara Allen."

So goes the opening line of "The Ballad of Barbara Allen," and so goes the plot of the Alma College Theater Department's winter production, *Dark of the Moon*.

The complicated plot involves witch-boy John's (Ty Parent) quest to become human in order to marry the woman he loves, Barbara Allen (Karen McDonald).

In order to become human, John agrees to return to his witch form if Barbara is unfaithful to him any time during the following year.

At first, John finds his human life easy as he relies on his powers to defeat his rival, Marvin Huggins (Dan Baker). However, as the year progresses, he finds his powers fading, and the strain of being human begins to take its toll. Marvin bests John in a fight in the woods, and then embarrasses: "You gotta hit those logs with long, broad strokes. Only one way to chop wood 'lowed Marvin Huggins showed ya how Choppin ain't no conjur magic."

Later, Barbara gives birth to a horribly disfigured child. The townspeople, thinking it a witch-child, burn him and accuse John of being a witch.

As the play nears its climax, the audience sees the townspeople at a revival meeting in the church, led by Preacher Hagler (Scott Bouldrey). Convinced Barbara that she has married a witch, the townspeople gather around to watch Marvin rape her in order to drive John off.

Because this action is seen as "unfaithful," John returns to witch form, and Barbara loses her life because of a bet made by other witches. The play ends in an ironic twist: John, during the marriage ceremony, promised to love Barbara "till death do us part." And indeed, this proves true; following Barbara's death, John quickly forgets his year in the world of humans, and rushes off to fly with his eagle in the moonlit sky.

Although both lead characters gave compelling performances, the excellent acting by the supporting cast members helped carry the show. Bouldrey's preacher nearly had the audience standing up and confessing their sins during the revival, while Baker did a wonderful job as the slighted and jealous lover

of Barbara. Scott Schoessel and Jim Sherman both delighted the audience with their funny characters. And the entire cast did a remarkable job in speaking in a hillbilly dialect.

One of the more disturbing things about the play came during the rape scene, as much of the audience laughed. As junior Heather Blaessing said while watching the play, "There's no such thing as a funny rape."

However, Sherman tried to offer insight into that reaction: "During the revival scene, you have so many funny things happen, and all of the sudden the rape comes on and shocks you, and you don't really know how to react."

"The whole point," said McDonald, "is that people are using organized religion to justify their own insecurities and fears. They don't like him [John] because he's different. They use this religion because they're afraid of him. They rape me because they want to get rid of the witch boy. In the meantime, they throw out all sense of their morals and beliefs."

Dark of the Moon, with its mystical aura, departed from the traditional mold of the plays the theater department puts on. The cast did an excellent job considering the dramatic, as opposed to comedic, tone of the work.

Pine River Anthology provides forum for college creativity

By Jane Brown
Staff Reporter

For decades Alma College has been printing a literary magazine, *The Pine River Anthology*, composed of the works of Alma students in the areas of poetry, art and prose. On April 2, the staff of the *Pine River* is hoping to have the manuscripts returned from the printer and handed out as celebrations of some of the works of the Alma College campus. A tentatively planned poetry reading on that same

day will also be held by the authors of the present *Pine River Anthology*.

This year the *Anthology* had approximately 22 members on staff with Louis Cubba as Editor in Chief, and Kristina Edgerly, Joanna Beals, Susan Kroeg, Eric Richardson, Heather Jelley, and Kay Mathers comprising the remainder of the editorial board. English professor Carol Bender and art professor Carrie Parks-Kirby served as this year's faculty advisors. The *Anthology* receives funds from both the English department and Stu-

dent Congress.

Cubba said the staff was amazed at the huge amount of support it received this year from the college community in the form of submissions to the *Anthology*. He estimated there were approximately 250 poetry entries. "Unfortunately for all the good poetry, it could not all go into the *Anthology*. I feel that in future, if funding were possible, it would be great to have two publications—one in the winter and one in the spring—in order to give more opportunity to people to be published," he said. He went on to

say this year the publication preparations ran remarkably smoothly and the only difficulties that occurred were those that dealt with having to eliminate many works of art.

The staff members look for works which they feel have particular merit in originality and design. Cubba said that for students to be able to write for a school creative publication such as the *Anthology*, a great opportunity is offered to expand their own horizons as well as their peers with their beliefs and opinions on a great variety of ideas.

This year nine works of prose and 18 poetry submissions made it into the magazine. Though these numbers seem small, Cubba said he feels it is important for students not to be dissuaded from submitting their entries in future, as not only do the submissions offer many options for the staff board to choose from, but also makes the possibility of variety more obtainable for the magazine. Diversity in the publication is hoped for as each year rolls around, and Cubba said he is sure this year the *Pine River Anthology* will be a success.

EVENTS CALENDAR

March 24-30

On Campus

Thursday, March 26

Craig Peterson, Director of Chapter Sciences, National IFC
Dow 116, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, March 27

Community vs. Greek Basketball Game
Cappart Gymnasium, 6:30 p.m.

Kiltie Band Concert
Dunning Memorial Chapel, 8 p.m.

All-Greek BYOB Party
Van Dusen, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 28

Greek Olympics with Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Picnic following
Chapel Lawn, 11 a.m.

Sunday, March 29

Alma Symphony Orchestra Concert
Dunning Memorial Chapel, 4 p.m.

ACUB Songfest
Dunning Memorial Chapel

Tuesday, March 31

Red Cross Blood Drive
Tyler-Van Dusen, 11 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Midland

Wednesday, March 25

Educator Workshop: "All Systems Go"
NASA materials available to educators

Midland Center for the Arts, Hall of Ideas
1801 W. St. Andrews, 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

East Lansing

Saturday, March 28

"The Wonderful World of Horses"—Lipizzaner Stallions
Breslin Student Events Center, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Ann Arbor

Tuesday, March 24

L7
Blind Pig
208 S. First St., 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 25

Matthew Sweet with Insane Jane
Blind Pig
208 S. First St., 9:30 p.m.

Detroit

Thursday, March 27

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Women's Basketball

Scots win nail-biter

By Barb McCarty
Staff Writer

And then there were two.

The Alma College women's basketball team made it to the National Championship game as a result of Friday night's extremely close 81-80 game at Moravian College in Pennsylvania against Luther College of Iowa.

The first half saw some outstanding offense from junior co-captain Lauri LaBeau with 14 points, followed by sophomore Kelly Jaster with 8. The rest of the Scot's first half offense was spread out evenly among the team.

The two teams were evenly matched with strong perimeter shooting from the Scots, countered by Luther's good inside game. The score stayed frustratingly close throughout the half. With 7:06 left in the half and the Scots down by three, senior co-captain Amy Elbers sank a three-pointer to tie it up at 23. With 5:47 to go, LaBeau put the Scots up by one, 27-26, but a Luther time-out and subsequent seven point scoring run caused the Scot lead to be short lived.

At the two minute mark, Luther had its biggest lead of the game at 37-30. A basket by junior Colleen Wruble and a foul that sent her to the free-throw line brought the Scots to within four. Luther then proceeded to turn the ball back over to the Scots and a basket from first-year student Andrea Balliet from a Wruble pass closed the gap even more. At the buzzer the score stood at 37-35, Luther.

Half-time proved eventful. Men's head basketball coach Bob Eldridge talked to the radio announcer

and described the game as "a game of runs" and "very physical." He thought that Alma was "rushing their shots a little" and also commented on the slippery floor and dreary gym. For the second half he predicted that Alma would try "to pick up the tempo and go to a zone press." The key for the Scots coming into the second half, he said, was that, "We're deeper than they are."

The second half finally started after the rim at Alma's end was completely replaced. The entire rim had to be removed and the replacement rim ended up being noticeably bent forward; just another obstacle for the Scots to play through.

Luther started the second half with possession but produced nothing and Mans tied it up at 37 to start the half for the Scots. Alma then took the lead on a LaBeau three pointer followed by one from Jaster to put the Scots up by four, 43-39. LaBeau then had a three on none lay-up and came right back with another basket and made her shot from the line for 8 quick points of her own and a 48-41 Scots lead.

Alma did a good job of denying Luther the inside shot and they ended up missing a good number from the perimeter. Alma, however, was getting inside beautifully. Near the 13 minute mark, Wruble made a shot then stole the ball and got it to Jaster for a three pointer to put the Scots up 55-43, their biggest lead of the game. Luther took a time-out with 13:11 to go, probably to discuss the fact that the Scots had out-scored them 20-6 so far in the second half.

Luther came out strong and pulled to within two, 55-53 with 9:37 to go. Mans then picked up her fourth foul with 9:26 remaining and had to

take a seat. Then with the score at 61-55, Alma, the Scots took a time-out and Luther returned with tenacious defense. Luther then pulled to within one and with 4:47 to go, the score stood 64-63.

After a Mans basket that put the Scots up again by one, she picked up her fifth foul and had to sit the rest of the game. Luther missed its free throw and Wruble grabbed the rebound. Down at the Scots' end, Elbers then grabbed a big rebound of her own and put it back in, getting fouled in the process. With less than a minute to go, Elbers made her free throw to put the Scots up 69-65.

After a Wruble basket and a steal by LaBeau that produced an Elbers three pointer, the Scots took a commanding 74-67 lead. Luther called a time-out and came back with a three pointer that made the score 76-74, still Alma's lead. Elbers was then fouled and sunk her free throws to bring the score to 78-74. LaBeau was then clocked under the Luther basket and made her first free throw. Jaster was fouled on the rebound but missed both her shots. With 19 seconds to go, Luther sunk a three pointer to make the score 79-77. First-year student Amy Doucette was then fouled but missed the free throw and Wruble grabbed the rebound. She was fouled and made both shots to make the score 81-77. Luther then sank a three-pointer with one second left to make the final score 81-80. Regardless, it was the Scots who were celebrating. On to the national championship game Saturday night against Moravian College, at Moravian.

Runners prepare for league meets

Indoor track meet helps athletes shape up for spring

By Tom Graybill
Staff Writer

The Alma College track teams competed against Grand Valley State University, Spring Arbor College, and Adrian College, at Spring Arbor in their second meet of the season. The meet was indoors and was not really considered serious competition by the participating teams and was not attended by the complete men's and women's teams. Senior Jay VanDuzen explained some of the lack of participation of Alma runners, "Not everyone wanted to compete because the track is very short. Steve Hicks broke his foot there two years ago so many people worry about running there."

Individually, the women's team had six first-place and five second-place finishes. Junior Julie White

led the team placing firsts in the triple jump (34'7"), long jump (16'10") and second in the 50 meter hurdle (7.7). Seniors Kerry Radcliffe (5:26) and Michelle Snyder (5:38) topped the mile run. Sophomore Helen Greene placed first in the 50 meter run (6.1) and second in the 300 (39.2). Senior Janet Reinowski won the two mile run (11:53.8). In other field events Junior Amanda Paul won the high jump (5'4") and junior Kim Vennard was second in shot put (37'5").

"We've been running in the pool to keep in shape. We can't work out in the gym because of baseball, softball and basketball. It will be nice to have warm weather so we can go outside," said White.

The men's team fared almost as well, having five first place finishes and six second place finishes. Senior Bill Huddleston won the one mile (4:40). Junior Mark Lauzon (2:04.09) and first-year

student Adam Burhans (2:06.06) topped the 800. Mike Holik (9:47.6) placed first in the two mile run. First-year student Kevin Sutton (6'0") was second in high jump. Sophomore Martin Mazanec (47'8") and junior J.C. Clarkson (47'8") took first and second in the shot put, respectively. Junior Jim Demarest (39'10") and senior Jay VanDuzen (39'7") topped the triple jump and there were second place finishes in the four lap relay (1:17) and mile relay (3:40).

Head coach Dan Gibson said, "Overall we didn't do real well, but only 35 out of 65 people were there. We were pleased with the performances of the people who went. [First-year student] Kevin Sutton jumped well, but is working on his form."

The Scots will begin MIAA competition on April 1 at Adrian College.

SPORTS STATS

Women's Basketball National Championship Final 3-20-92

Alma (79)							
FG	3PT	TP	RB				
LaBeau	7	1	6-23	3	Elbers	0	1
Sherman	1	0	4-6	12	Mans	8	0
Wruble	2	0	12-16	1	Jaster	0	1
Long	1	0	0-2	1	Balliet	1	0

Moravian (75)

National Championship Semifinal 3-21-92

Alma (81)							
FG	3PT	TP	RB				
Doucette	1	0	0-2	1	Elbers	1	3
LaBeau	7	3	5-28	4	Mans	3	0
Sherman	0	0	0-0	3	Jaster	1	5
Wruble	3	0	6-12	8	Balliet	1	0

Luther (80)

Women's Tennis

3-19-92

Single

Alma	Winner	
1. Jourdan	Alma	6-2 6-3
2. Rasche	Alma	6-3 6-4
3. Ceaser	Alma	7-5 6-3
4. Mayer	Alma	6-1 6-2
5. Roth	Alma	6-1 6-2
6. Shaw	Alma	6-1 6-1

Doubles

1. Jourdan/Mayer	Alma	6-4 6-3
2. Rasche/Ceaser	Northwood	5-7 6-0 2-6
3. Roth/Gray	Alma	6-2 6-2

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-Spring Concours 1991-

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- All entries must be original and unpublished. Poems previously printed in student publications are acceptable.
- All entries must be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the page only. Each poem must be on a separate sheet and must bear, in the upper left-hand corner, the NAME and ADDRESS of the student as well as the COLLEGE attended. Put name and address on envelope also! (Alumni Welcome!)
- There are no restrictions on form or theme. Length of poems up to fourteen lines. Each poem must have a separate title. (Avoid "Untitled!") Small black and white illustrations welcome.
- The judges' decision will be final. No info by phone!
- Entrants should keep a copy of all entries as they cannot be returned. Prize winners and all authors awarded publication will receive a gold-seal certificate ten days after the deadline. I.P. will retain one-time publication rights for accepted poems. Foreign language poems welcome.
- There is an initial \$3 registration fee for the first entry and a fee of one dollar for each additional poem.
- All entries must be postmarked not later than the above deadline and fees be paid, cash, check or money order, to:

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March 24, 1992

Danca tests waters of national competition

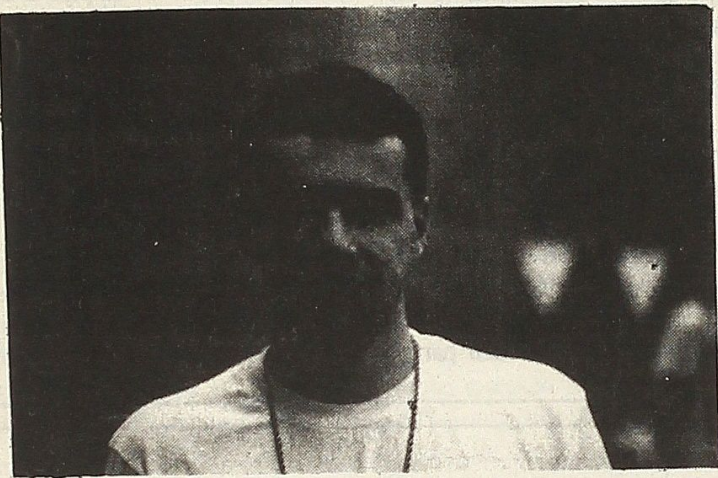
By Jason Ricks
Sports Editor

First-year student Radu Danca became the first Alma College diver to qualify for Nationals in several years as he earned 22nd and 25th places in the one- and three-meter diving competitions at the NCAA Division III national meet.

Danca finished 22nd out of 26

especially for Danca. He dove for two years when he was 10 years old and won second place in the Romanian Junior Nationals. He then took an eight-year hiatus and only started diving again a year ago, last fall when he came to Alma. "Coach told me I would make nationals next year, if not this year...that I had the potential," said Danca.

Danca is very optimistic for next season. Since 10 of the divers



First year student Radu Danca. Photo by C. Horan

competitors in the one meter and would have placed higher, but his last dive was a failed attempt and received a score of zero that was averaged in with the rest of his scores. He speculated that had his last dive been successful, he may have placed near 16.

Qualifying for nationals in itself is quite an accomplishment,

who placed above him are currently seniors, there will be 10 spots open and he hopes to finish at least in the top 16, if not the top eight. He is confident he can achieve this because one of the reasons he scored so low this year is that his dives were not as difficult as the top divers' dives. He plans to return next season with a new list of dives.

Basketball fans help team celebrate

By Barb McCarty
Staff Writer

A big Sunday afternoon welcome-home awaited the victorious Alma College women's basketball team. They came home to a campus that, if it had the material to do it, would carpet the team's way from the Lansing airport to here. From every residence hall and just about any individual room both Friday and Saturday nights, AM static, and that excitable announcer from the big M could be heard. This is a campus that loves its basketball team, and the team has delivered more than anyone ever dared to dream.

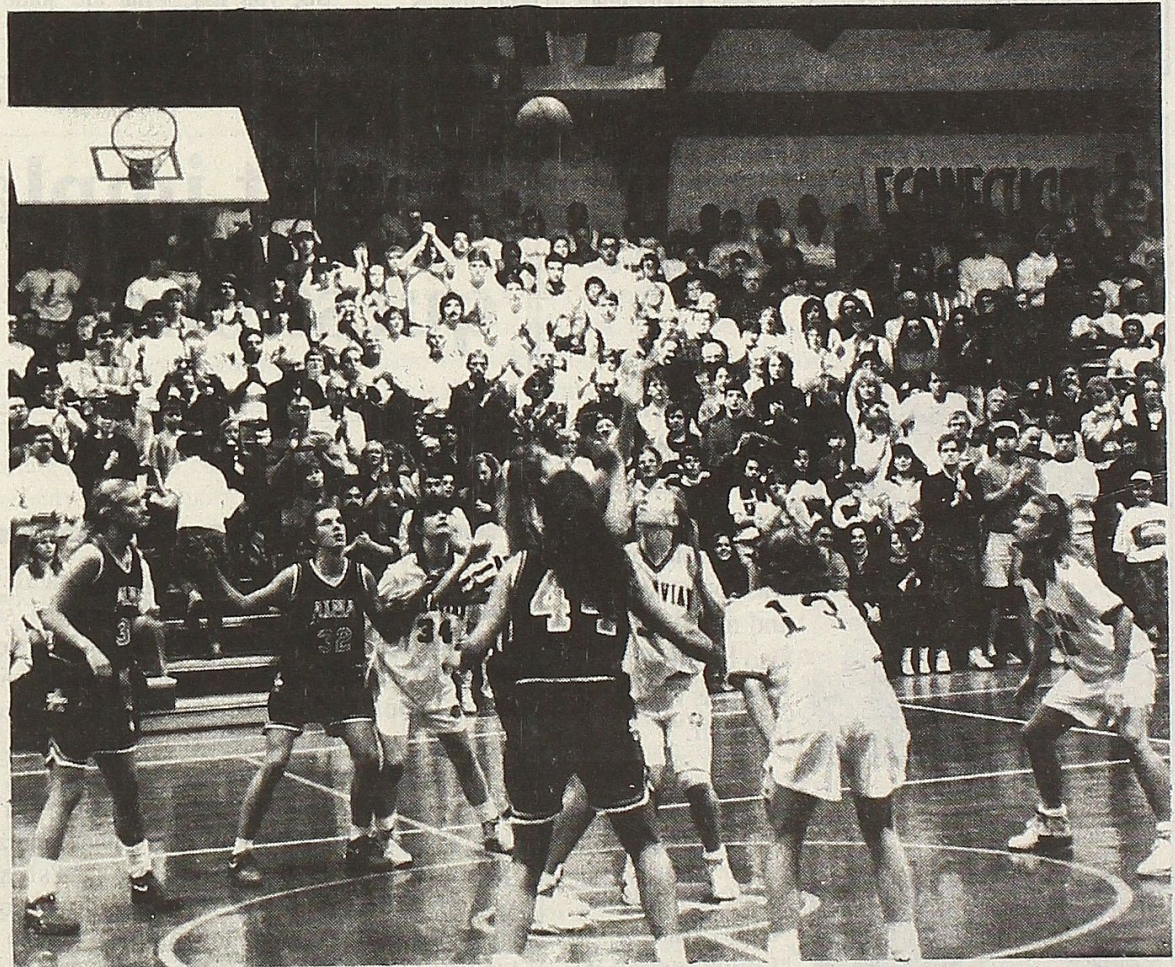
A couple of cars actually made the snowy drive to the airport to greet the National Championship team right when they got off the plane, but the real noise started from the Total Refinery an on into town. As Frank the bus driver and the Alma College bus carrying the women's basketball team rolled through town behind the police escort, an ecstatic line of horn honking students pouring in from where they had been waiting on the side streets tagged along behind.

A National Championship is not only a new experience for all the players involved but also for the Alma College campus as a whole. As the bus pulled into the P.E. center parking lot, the women were greeted by a crowd of cheering,

car-less students and faculty waiting for their arrival.

Sunday night at dinner in Hamilton Commons, there was a celebration ceremony for the team. President Alan Stone was on hand to congratulate the team and various members of the team and coaching staff spoke and thanked the fans for all their support.

Congratulations to the coaching staff and players for this first National Basketball Championship for Alma College. And congratulations to the rest of the campus as a whole seeing as the team has earned themselves and us some pretty hefty bragging rights for the next few years. But most importantly, congratulations to the women who brought the trophy home.



The Alma College Women's basketball team has received strong support from the first jump ball of the season. Photo by M. Wassa

Women's tennis

Scots easily defeat Northwood

By Tim Spedoske
Staff Writer

The women's tennis team opened up its season last Thursday against Northwood. The team travelled to Midland and came back with a big victory.

At first singles, sophomore Jennifer Jourdan led the way winning 6-2, 6-3. In the other singles action, senior Adriana Rasche won 6-3, 6-4 and sophomore Amy Ceaser won 7-5, 6-3. Other singles winners include sophomore Melanie Mayer (6-2, 6-1), junior Carrie Roth (6-1, 6-2), first-year student Jenn McMaster (6-1, 6-1), and junior Emily Shaw (6-1, 6-1). The undefeated performance in the singles was nearly matched in the doubles competition. Winning for the Scots were the teams of Jourdan and Mayer (6-4, 6-3) and Roth and senior Jill Gray (6-2, 6-2). Rasche and

Ceaser lost a hard fought battle, taking their opponent to three sets (5-7, 6-0, 2-6). "It was a tough match and we played pretty well. In the second set, we were more aggressive at the net, but we fell back in the third," said Ceaser.

Although it is very early in the season, the team is looking forward to much success and this first match is a positive sign of things to come. "It went okay for the first match but we have a way to go. I feel that we could have played better. We outplayed them and got a win on the road, which is always important," said coach Deb Mapes.

"Everyone played really well. They were all hard matches, but the Florida trip prepared us to play," said Ceaser.

"It is always hard starting out but we should do pretty well this year," said Jourdan.

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March 24, 1992

Lifting the Kilt by Sara Groves

Public displays of affection are sickening

SLURP! SLURP! SLURP! What is that annoying noise you ask? Is it someone eating an ice cream cone? Is it someone getting rid of a lollipop? Oh no...it could not be such a joyful noise as that. The slurp, slurp, slurp you sometimes hear is known as P.D.A.; a.k.a. public displays of affection.

Maybe it's just me, but I can't stand couples who must fondle one another 24 hours a day. It truly disgusts me to be working steadily along on a paper in the library and then look up to see someone "slopping spit" at the next table. They could at least be considerate enough to go to the stacks.

There are all sorts of P.D.A. that really bother me. It's not just kissing. Oh no. It goes way beyond that. I really hate it when couples stick their hands in one another's

pockets—any pockets. I do not find it cute at all when couples walk down the street with their hands in each other's back pockets.

I also hate body part fondling. Some body parts are worse than others, (I'm not going to mention which parts. I'll just assume you

state the obvious. As my friends in couples stand and stroke one another's body parts, I always feel rushed to say what I have to say so they can continue on with their business.

Other public displays of affection that are out of the question, at

Hand holding. That's right. There's only one. And that's only O.K. if you don't do it all of the time. Couples who won't let go of one another's hands to let somebody pass through them have a definite problem.

Now, because of my uptightness about public displays of affection, some people may think I have a problem. I don't at all. I'm all for couples affecting one another. I just don't want to see material for the next *Debbie Does Dallas* in the library, in the computer room, on the way to class, at parties, etc.

One reason I don't want to see this, besides the fact that it makes me physically ill, is because I hate watching other people having fun and being happy when I am not.

Couples who are fondling one another in public have obviously been part of a couple for a long time, while I have not been part of

a couple for a long time.

These public display affecting folk are nothing but a bad reminder that I am a loser at the game of love. They are like the songs which are on every time you turn on the radio... "Everything I Do," "When A Man Loves A Woman," "To Be With You," and the list unfortunately goes on.

Not that I would be touching somebody's monkey in public, mind you, even if I was part of a couple. But, it would be nice to have that option.

So, you P.D.A.-ing couples out there (and you know who you are) be kind to those of us who are lonesome players in the card game of love. Take your kissing, fondling, stroking, etc., etc. someplace else. But do it alone. Well, not alone. You know what I mean.

Not that I would be touching somebody's monkey in public, mind you, even if I was part of a couple. But, it would be nice to have that option.

know.) Thigh fondling, back fondling, chest fondling, and forearm fondling gross me out, besides the other fondling that is over-obvious.

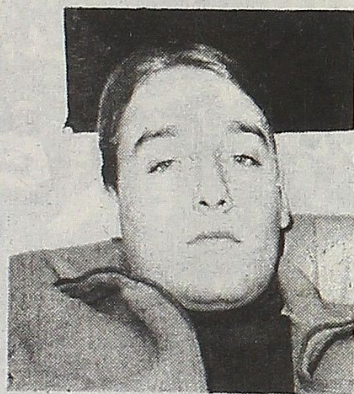
Fondling in general is bad because it only leads to other things, and once again, I'm not going to

least in my book, are nibbling, squeezing, biting, stroking, wrestling, pinching, and giving each other knowing looks, just to name a few.

So, you ask, what are some P.D.A.'s which aren't offensive?

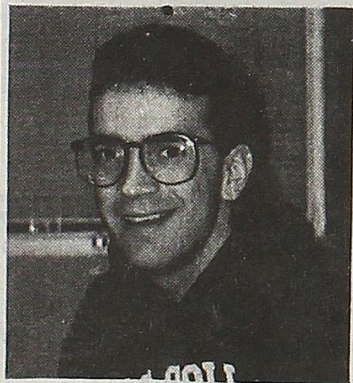
Campus Comment

Q: Do you think that ACUB's Irish Pub was a success?



**Matt Cairns,
Class of '95**

"It was a success because everybody came, but it was too restrained and monitored. I also heard that Pub was better last year."



**Mike Dureich,
Class of '92**

"I think overall it was successful; having two bands was a bonus. I would have liked to see a different promotion other than free beer as the main attraction."



**Tammy Thomson,
Class of '95**

"I really liked Rhythm Corps, but I wish it was more of a dance instead of a concert."

Photos by B. Haara

Breast implants raise questions of social expectations

By Erin Fenner
Staff Writer

This past weekend, Dow Corning Corporation announced that it would quit manufacturing silicone breast implants until further research can be done on the health risks the implants might cause. Currently, about 1.6 million American women have silicone implants, but with the recent controversy surrounding their propensity for leakage, many women are opting for other types of implants, like saline, or for no implants at all. Most people agree that a moratorium on silicone implants will benefit women's health.

There is a vocal minority, however, that opposes the moratorium, claiming that it denies women the right to make their own decisions. By imposing restrictions on implants, even women who have had mastectomies due to breast cancer could not choose to have reconstructive surgery. Under the moratorium, women's rights would be violated, perhaps in the same way that a ban on cigarettes or alcohol would violate the rights of both women and men: cigarettes and alcohol are bad for us, but does that mean the government has the right to take those things away?

I would argue that the answer to that question is no. Cigarettes and alcohol are clearly labeled as detrimental to our health. Social opposition toward smoking and drinking has focused on the health and safety hazards that those activities pose, from second-hand smoke to drunk-driving. Most doctors emphasize that staying away from cigarettes and alcohol will improve our chances for a long, healthy life. In short, anyone who hasn't been living in a cave for the past thirty years knows the risks of smoking and drinking, and we participate in these activities based on an informed opinion.

Unfortunately, with breast implants, this is not so. Apparently, Dow Corning knew they leaked or had the potential to do so, but they still sold the implants. Apparently, some doctors knew about the health risks as well, but they still inserted the implants.

Apparently, the women who received the implants did *not* know about any of these dangers. They were never informed. In fact, some women were blatantly lied to when their physicians assured them that the implants were perfectly safe. When the women reported abnormalities such as shifting or unnaturally hard breasts, the doctors told them not to worry, those things were normal.

Most of the women (80 percent) who receive implants do so for cosmetic reasons. Many are flat-chested and get the implants because they will make the women look "better," or "more like a woman." In a perfect society, I would criticize these women as vain, or suffering from a low self-esteem. Especially now, knowing the health risks, why would any woman want to mutilate her body in order to look "normal?"

However, as we all know, this is not a perfect society. Unfortunately, both men and women project an attitude that small-breasts are something that women should be ashamed of, a deformity that should be corrected.

Think about it. How often do we women lament our less-than-adequate chests? How often do we wish we could really fill out a bikini or a strapless dress?

According to many studies, many men actually prefer average-sized or small-breasted women to big-breasted women. Why don't we ever hear about these men? When was the last time that a flat-chested woman appeared on the cover of the *Sports Illustrated* Swimsuit Issue? Or for that matter, on the cover of *Vogue* or *Cosmopolitan*?

Why are big-breasted women called "full-figured?" Does that mean that I'm only half-figured? Am I somehow inadequate due to my breast size? Can we really blame women for being unhappy with their bodies when society places more of an emphasis on beauty than intelligence, kindness, or in this case, health?

Ideally, women should not have to worry about how big their breasts are. Ideally, women should not have to worry that having a mastectomy may decrease their sexual worth. Ideally, doctors and manufacturers would have enough respect for their patients' health that they would inform them of the hazards and risks of surgery.

As you can see, this issue raises many questions. However, I think it is safe to say that in order to make their own decisions about what is best, women need to be aware of the facts. Read the paper, talk to a physician, and above all, don't let self-esteem get in the way of your safety.

Library budget cut is a travesty

By Kristine Lovasz
Managing Editor

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

In last week's edition of *The Almanian*, I wrote a news article which explained the \$20,000 cut in the library book budget. Never before has it been so difficult to write a news story without editorializing. Personally, I am outraged by this reduction in library spending. It is inconsistent with the basic philosophies of education and emphasis of study at Alma College.

The Library Task Force Discussion Paper (LTFDP) articulates support of this point well. "Our faculty is committed to 'Writing Across the Curriculum' and there is increased emphasis at Alma on student research. In addition, the College continues to add new fields of study (International Business, Biochemistry, Computer Science, Exercise and Health Sciences, Communication, Women's Stud-

ies). The College should continue to emphasize the maintenance of a strong local collection of currently published books and journals in order to support this more rigorous and broadly-based curriculum." However, with decreasing funds, this goal cannot be achieved.

According to the LTFDP, out of the 13 libraries studied, Alma's library ranked twelfth in dollars per student, and ninth in number of periodicals. The comparative study included 12 categories for evaluation; the highest score received by our library was 8.5—only once.

Furthermore, our library falls below the Great Lakes College Association's mean. According to the LTFDP, out of the 13 libraries studied, Alma's library ranked twelfth in dollars per student, and ninth in number of periodicals. The comparative study included 12 categories for evaluation; the highest score received by our library was 8.5—only once. These figures

shout, "More money must be allocated to the library. Compromises must be made elsewhere." In response, our library received a \$20,000 cut this year.

To achieve the fundamental goals of higher education, an institution must place the needs of the library

near the top of the list of priorities. The LTFDP said, "A college library therefore serves as a kind of laboratory in which undergraduates can learn to do serious academic research." As a chemistry major, I ordered approximately 85% of the journal articles required to facilitate my research project through inter-library loans. Biological journals necessary for seminar

and research courses are scarce. Current political science periodicals with a European focus are difficult to find in our library. Across the board, a senior writing a thesis must resort to loans and not to our own library shelves. Reality is that current books and periodicals, equipment needed in this "laboratory," are frequently mail-order.

The problem remains—money. Peter Dollard, library director, said, "The [Alma College] budget was cut instead of running at a deficit. It was cut all over the place." Now, I understand that the entire country is in the midst of a recession, and institutions of higher education are feeling the affects. However, to cut something as important as library spending is misguided. If our own budget cannot financially support the needs of the library, large amounts of effort should be spent researching and applying for available grants. The College should hire a full-time employee for this specific purpose. Another solution

would be to add another course to the broadening curriculum: grant writing. The course would serve a dual purpose. The College would have a team of students and faculty continually working on actual grant proposals, and thus generating more funding. Students, in turn, would learn a practical, valuable, and marketable skill. The course would benefit students from all academic sectors.

In the end, with all idealism pushed aside, something must be done. As a student, I expected high caliber library facilities, and was disappointed. Our library is in a dire condition which cannot be left to deteriorate any further. It is time that the students, faculty, staff, administration and alumni stand firm behind the goals and recommendations proposed by the Library Task Force. Increased funding, expansion of the library, and a rise to the GLCA mean are goals that demand 100 percent support.

Letters to the Editor

Editorial uncalled for To the Editor,

I am writing this letter to express my disgust with your staff editorial entitled "Student representatives fail to fulfill duties." This editorial was uncalled for and demonstrates sloppy, sleazy journalism on your part.

Although nothing in your editorial can be called a blatant lie, you certainly did not tell the entire truth to your readers. What you conveniently neglected to include in your article was a statement of *The Almanian's* mission, namely to inform the student body of campus news. I don't know what you call news, but I consider the issues discussed during Student Congress meetings to qualify as news. I am deeply disappointed that you do not feel the same, since *The Almanian* has never had a weekly column dedicated to Student Congress news.

The editorial staff has committed a high crime by writing such an editorial. The editors of *The Almanian* have taken the blame that belongs on their shoulders and have tried to pass it off to Student Congress representatives. Apparently, *The Almanian* staff needs to be reminded that the Student Congress asked its editors to print the minutes from our meetings in your paper. As a matter of fact, Student Congress expressed this wish two times this year to your representative,

William J. Johnston. To be fair, Mr. Johnston brought the issue up at a Student Congress meeting earlier this year. It was at that time that Student Congress expressed their approval. I think former Treasurer Drew Walker expressed the sentiment of Student Congress best when he said that he was glad to hear the *The Almanian* had finally decided to inform the student body of the issues discussed at Student Congress. Mr. Walker informed your representative that Student Congress had asked that *The Almanian* preform this simple reporting task last year. Unfortunately, at that time *The Almanian* refused to publish the minutes. Mr. Walker stated that the Student Congress tried to put out a pamphlet last year because he believed that it was important to inform the students of the issues discussed by Student Congress. This attempt at a pamphlet newsletter failed because Student Congress neither had the funds nor the staff to accomplish such a goal.

To the detriment of the student body, your representative merely raised our hopes so that you could stomp them. *The Almanian* has yet to publish any for of Student Congress minutes this year. Your representative, when questioned, explained that the Student Congress Secretary does not get the official minutes in on time to meet *The Almanian's* publishing deadline. This excuse is bunk and you know it. If *The Almanian* waited for an official statement to come out regarding every article printed, your paper would be one page long. You send a representative to Student

Congress. I would assume that since your representative is also Copy Editor, that he is literate, has reporting skills, and can take notes like any good reporter. If *The Almanian* was truly interested in keeping students informed of issues confronting Student Congress, it would do so regardless of when the Secretary mails her minutes.

At our last meeting of Student Congress, I wished to express these sentiments to your representative to Student Congress. Unfortunately, I was unable to do so because he skipped the meeting and in violation of Student Congress rules, failed to send a proxy. You stated in your editorial that members of Student Congress and the various standing committees do not take their positions seriously. Instead, you say that we are only interested in building our resumes. Well I ask you, keeping in mind that you have failed to inform the students of campus news, that you have neglected to live up to your "decision" to print some form of Student Congress minutes, and that your representative skips Student Congress meetings, do you take your position seriously? I think not.

Bradley K. Shafer
Student Congress Rep. for
the Student Life Committee

Student representatives defended To the Editor,

I am writing in response to the staff editorial printed in the March 10, 1992 *Almanian*. Despite lacking research or any real examples, your article has brought forth some

general issues of representation on our campus. The purpose of this letter is twofold. First, it is to reassure the student body that under its current representation, its concerns are being voiced at the Board of Trustee meetings. Secondly, I hope to shed some light on some of the questions you have raised.

You most accurately described one of the responsibilities of an associate trustee: to "speak out should there be an issue that will directly concern the student body." Your article then goes on to charge that associate trustees, among other student representatives, do not "follow through with their responsibilities." How ironic it is that in your Feb. 18 issue, an article reporting news of the most recent Board meeting contains the very words of Scott Schoessel, the Junior Class Associate Trustee, used at the Board meeting in speaking out on behalf of the students. The Feb. 18 article also stated that Student Congress President Dave Woodruff gave a student report. During these reports, given at each meeting, an associate trustee speaks to the Board about issues facing Alma's students. These are only two examples of associate trustees offering the student point of view to Board members. In addition, associate trustees are best able to voice student concerns through their membership in the Student Life and Instruction and Faculty Committees of the Board. It is at the committee level that an overwhelming majority of the Board's work is done. Besides formal meetings, student members go as far as to utilize more informal settings such as breakfast, lunch, dinner, and reception gatherings to share with trustees the concerns of

the student body.

Your article also accuses student representatives of holding positions "to enhance their resumes" rather than to make "a positive effect on the campus." I find this allegation to be entirely unfounded. My personal motives for seeking the associate trustee position are for a deeper cause. I believe that my experiences here at Alma have given me the knowledge and contacts to understand the student point of view. This, coupled with confidence in my ability to express that point of view, are by basis for wanting the chance to join the Board. With complete confidence, I can say that other student members sought the position under the same or similar motives. I assure you that current associate trustees have not forgotten the real reasons for serving on the Board.

Finally, I wish to use this letter as a means to invite students to approach the associate trustees with any concerns. Current student representatives to the Board are: David Woodruff, 213 Mitchell, phone-7538; Scott Schoessel, 229 Mitchell, phone-7614; Reggie Reed, 227 Mitchell, phone-7817; and myself, 112 Bonbright, phone-7939. The next Board meeting is May 8. I strongly encourage students with a viewpoint or ideas that they wish to have expressed at this meeting to contact any of the associate trustees. Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your article.

Rick Lantz
Class of 1992

Staff Editorial

Staggered office lunches will better serve students

As a business, Alma College has an obligation to serve the students, its customers. Like any other business, the College is divided into different offices and departments. There is an admissions office, business office, controller's office, financial aid office, student affairs office, registrar's office, medical center, physical plant, bookstore, mail room, center for student development, copy center, switchboard and more.

One aspect of customer service is availability to customers. Students are busy people. Often, the only free time we have is around lunchtime. Mornings are tied up with classes while afternoons are spent in labs, classes, practicums, meetings, work and practices. And much to the inconvenience of students, most of the offices on campus are closed for lunch. It would be so easy to stop in to any one of the campus offices en route to or from lunch to take care of mail, financial-aid information, declaring majors, and whatever other busy-work students have. How many times have you been way down by physical plant or the mail room and decided to stop in and take care of something you have been meaning to do but never had time and you get to the office only to realize it's ten minutes past noon and the office is closed?

Students have obviously learned to deal with this system, but it would be more helpful and convenient to students if these offices were open all day during normal business hours. If a student has to attend to matters in the registrar's

office on Monday, he/she is likely to put it off until Thursday or Friday afternoon when she/he has time to stop by the office. This is inconvenient because business with the registrar's office and several other offices usually involves deadlines. The fact that the offices are closed during this popular free time makes students' schedules more hectic while trying to meet registration deadlines and leads to more stress on the student.

One solution we propose for this problem is for the staffs of the various offices and departments to stagger their lunches so the office is always staffed and does not have to close for lunch. It works at the bookstore and at main switch.

Is it too much to ask to take a lunch break at 12:30 instead of noon? Most offices can get by understaffed at least for one and a half hours. We realize that some offices are staffed by only one or two people at a time. Perhaps for these situations someone from a related office or a student employee can fill in for half an hour while the regular staff member(s) is at lunch; or perhaps, for these offices, lunchtime closure is the only alternative.

Alma College has an obligation to meet the needs of its customers and this is a simple way to help accomplish that.

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The Almanian Letter Policy

All Letters to the Editor must meet the following standards for publication: Letters must be signed and include the author's campus phone number and address, and must be pertinent to the Alma College community. Letters will be published on a first-come, first-serve basis, and will be limited to three per week. We reserve the right to condense letters for layout purposes. They must be received by 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. Address letters to: The Editorial Board; *The Almanian*; Newberry Hall; Alma College; Alma, MI 48801.

Campaign slander reveals immaturity

By Stacie L. Herriman
News Editor

The First Amendment protects citizen's freedom of speech and expression, among other personal civil liberties. However, it does not protect obscene or, in the case of private individuals who are not "public figures," defamatory speech.

Simply put, defamatory speech is libelous slander attacking the character, integrity and reputation of the person, not the person's particular words and/or actions. Such speech and "freedom of expression" is unwarranted and totally unfounded. Furthermore, use of it makes the attacker look stupid and uneducated while damaging and deeply hurting both the victim's reputation and feelings.

Why, you ask, am I writing on this particular topic? I am addressing an incident that occurred last Monday on the day of Student Congress elections. As you may or may not know, I was running for Student Congress President. I obtained and returned the required petition with 25 signatures to put me on the ballot. I, unlike most of my opponents, even campaigned for office by placing signs around campus and personally talking to individuals to let them know of my interest in the position and goals for the office if elected.

To make a long story short,

someone, from this campus, decided to run an alternate campaign for my election. The individual took it upon himself/herself to take one of my signs and alter it by cutting and pasting letters over certain parts and whitening out others, photocopying at least 20 of these "new" signs and then taping them in "advantageous locations" around campus sometime between late Sunday

Failure to confront me and let me know of and respond to their dislike shows a lack of guts, courage and self-esteem, an individual for whom I have and never will have any respect.

night and early Monday morning for all to see. Needless to say, the altered message was offensive and defamatory to my character and integrity, not to mention very upsetting and disturbing.

This was not what you wanted to wake up to, literally, on a Monday morning of all mornings. Luckily, regardless of what this sick individual thinks, my friends and acquaintances tore down these signs as they came across them before anyone really had a chance to see them and told me about them knowing that I did not and would not place or even authorize their placement around campus.

By now you are probably thinking I am writing this article simply because I lost the election and am

angry and upset about it. I am not upset in the least; the best candidate won according to our democratic process and voting system—something in which I take great personal pride and satisfaction that I am and can be a part of. The election is in the past, but what this individual did to me and my reputation will never be forgotten. It was childish and immature showing a lack of

expression in the only way they know how, regardless of its effectiveness.

I do respect this right, not the person who exercised it in this case, to freedom of expression and speech as long as it falls within the Supreme Court's accepted guidelines, which this particular incident surely does not. I have even relied on this "guaranteed" right myself at times. But this individual forfeited this right the moment he/she put up those signs attacking my character with no basis whatsoever. If this individual had known me or even met me, he/she would realize that I am not what was described on the signs and that I am, in fact, an outgoing, friendly individual who gets along with everyone.

Whoever made these signs could have pursued other more tactful avenues in taking out their aggression and hatred for me, such as personally confronting me. Failure to confront me and let me know of and respond to their dislike shows a lack of guts, courage and self-esteem, an individual for whom I have and never will have any respect. Furthermore, you would think that as a college student with more schooling than the average citizen, the individual would have more common sense and knowledge than to do what he/she did. Maybe this petty, sixth-grade act is their way of telling everyone that they can't cut it and don't belong here at Alma College, but I will never know as I don't know who did it and what their motives were for doing it.

sophistication and education, not to mention time which could have been better spent talking to me in person, rather than viciously attacking me behind my back.

Someone obviously went to a lot of time and trouble to make these signs for me, rather than just tearing them down or defacing them with a marker. It's almost expected that half of all signs put up or literature distributed will be torn down or thrown away because some people are ignorant to the system. They take out this frustration, stupidity and unwillingness to learn and change on the unsuspecting candidates who want to hold office and try to make things better for everyone. But that individual is plainly exercising their freedom of