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Siblings Weekend offers exciting activities

By Laura M. Paetz
Staff Reporter

Last weekend, the Alma College Admissions Office and the Parent Board sponsored its annual "Little Siblings Weekend," inviting siblings, relatives and friends of Alma students to the campus to participate in several activities designed to demonstrate various aspects of college life.

The weekend began on Friday as students and their guests registered in the Tyler Van Dusen Campus Center Rotunda. Following registration, the College offered activities to occupy the remainder of the evening, including movies such as *Free Willy*, *Rookie of the Year* and *The Secret Garden*, which were shown in Bruske, Mitchell, and Gelston Residence Halls, and *Aladdin*, which was shown in Jones Auditorium by ACUB. In addition, younger siblings were able to participate in board games and relays in the Newberry Hall Lounge.

Violinist Meredith Arksey also provided entertainment for the big and little siblings on Friday evening. She performed at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts.

Activities started early on Saturday morning as students and their guests were invited to Gelston, Bruske, Mitchell, and Newberry Hall Lobbies to engage in a snack of juice and donuts while watching cartoons.

After brunch, siblings were

kept as busy as they were the previous evening. Events scheduled for the afternoon included a scavenger hunt and educational demonstrations given in various academic sessions.

Nine academic sessions were offered, each representing a different department of study at Alma. Sophomores Karen Heintz, Andrea Thibodeau, Traci Jarka and LeAndra Langdon presented a story telling program for younger siblings, while other programs, such as "Chalk on the Walk"—a brief instruction in chalk drawing led by art students Jody Brasseur and Tonya Bussema—and "Chemistry can be a BLAST," in which chemistry assistant professor Laura Vosejka and the Alma College Chemistry Club performed experiments that created lots of fire and loud noises, were geared towards all ages.

Specifically for older siblings were academic sessions in the fields of psychology, astronomy, music, Spanish, exercise and health science and the search for a college. Psychology professor Wally Beagley presented "Eye and Brain: Psychology of Visual Illusions," while physics professor Cameron Reed explained constellations, the sun and the stars in his presentation given in the planetarium. Assistant director of music Raymond Riley shed light on the subject of "Music and the MacIntosh Computer," and adjunct Spanish instructor Cesar Felix and Mayte Galvez helped siblings learn basic Spanish dialogue through conversations with each other in their session called "Conociendonos" (or "getting to

know each other"). Siblings could find out how physically fit they were by participating in a program led by associate professor of exercise and health science Doug Seelbach and students Tara Sherman and Meghan White, who administered a series of fitness tests to all who attended. Assistant director of admissions Tonya Davis instructed a group about the most important areas to explore when looking at colleges and the ways in which they relate to an individual's needs.

Following a "Mex Fest" dinner in Van Dusen, the Physical Education Center was open for siblings to play racquetball, basketball or go swimming. Saturday evening concluded with a dance and magic show, which took place in Jones Auditorium.

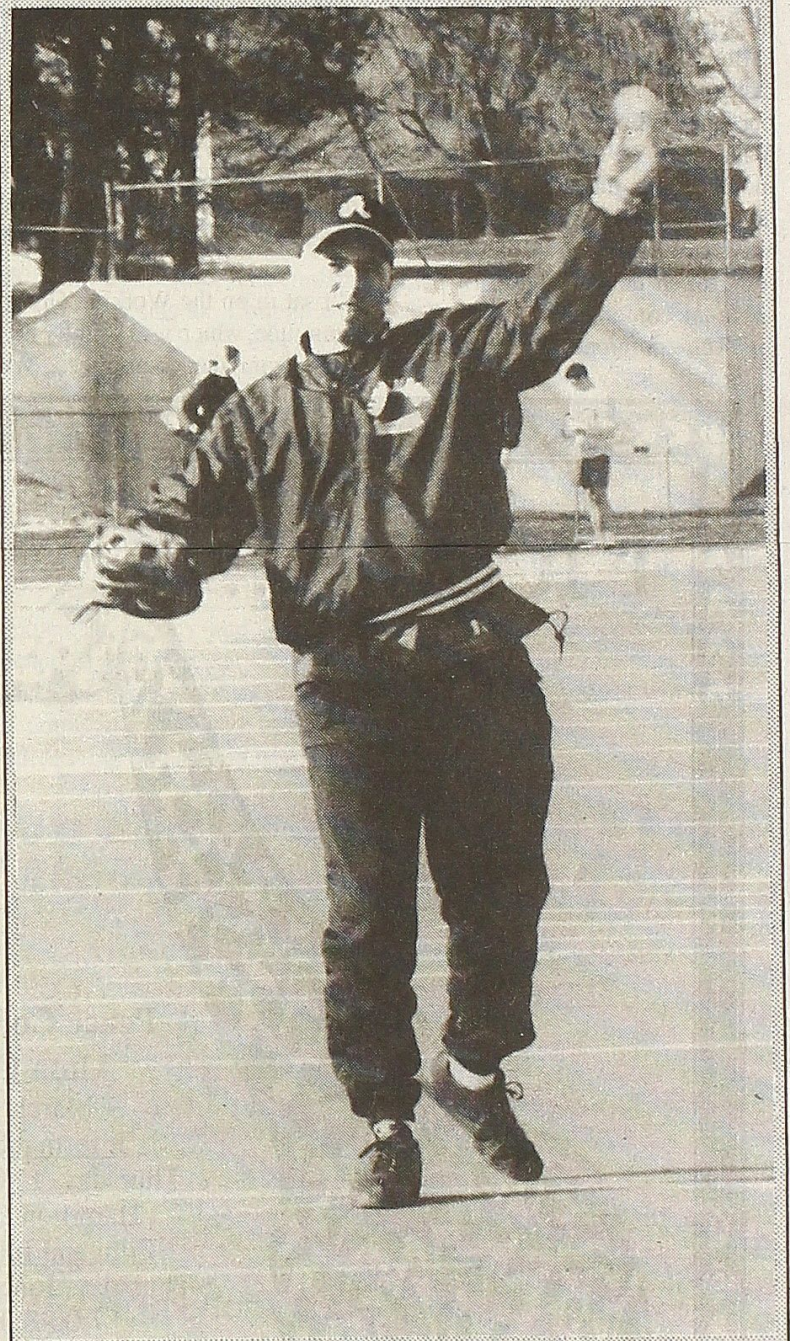
"This weekend does two things," said Carolyn Kaczynski, assistant director of admissions and coordinator of this year's Little Siblings Weekend. "It is a social program, and it exposes students' siblings to college life."

First-year student Enos Bacon had a good time with his younger brother last weekend.

"I thought it was cool," he said. "We just kind of hung out, we went to the magic show and to the dance. We had fun."

"My brother and I had a great time," said Monique Averill, also a first-year student. "Even though he's only a sophomore in high school, his experience here has got him thinking about his future after he graduates."

Spring is coming!



Sophomore Jason Proctor. Photo by A. Torrence.

Faculty selections made in seven departments

By Anne M. Buyze
Staff Reporter

Recently, seven new professors were hired for the 1994-1995 academic year. After a rigorous interviewing process, the top candidates were offered and accepted tenure track positions in several departments.

In the biology department, Dave Clark, who was working as an adjunct assistant professor, was hired as an assistant professor of biology.

Two years ago, the department completed a small scale national search in which Clark was hired as a sabbatical replacement. As the new tenure position was offered, it was decided that Clark was the person for the job.

"We had met both the letter and spirit of what the search is about and were happy with Dr. Clark. We were unanimous in that happiness," said Richard Bowker, biology department chair.

A similar situation arose in the psychology department when

Gwyneth Beagley was hired as an assistant professor. Beagley currently holds a part-time position, but had applied—along with others—for the full-time position. To make certain the search was fair, Wilbert McKeachia, an independent consultant, also reviewed the applications.

Beagley was unanimously agreed upon as the search committee's first choice because of her teaching style, research with undergraduates and national publications and presentations.

In the theater and dance department, Thomas Morris, another familiar face, was hired as assistant professor. Morris recently obtained his masters degree from the University of Michigan and, among other qualifications, has performed as the principal dancer in the Cincinnati Ballet and Ballet West.

Carol Fike, associate professor of dance and director of the Alma College Dance Company said, "It is lovely to have male energy—male presence in the dance department. As you know, most of us are female

so it's very nice to have a male counterpart."

Denise Johnson was hired as an assistant professor in the economics department. Johnson earned her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts and specializes in the economics of gender and race, international and mathematical economics and has expertise in environmental economics.

Because of her specific area of study, Johnson will add curriculum and programs of emphasis to the

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Model UN travels to St. Louis

By Cathy DeShano
News Editor

Each day Bosnian citizens suffer through gunfire, illnesses, and starvation as people worldwide watch in horror. In the United States, people die daily from drug overdoses as drug traffickers continue to import these deadly substances. As members of the Model United Nations class, Alma College students addressed such topics at the St. Louis Conference from Feb. 23 through Feb. 26. The team dominated the conference, finishing in the top five out of 75 teams representing about 50 schools.

Before attending the conference, class members broke into two teams, one representing Kenya and the other Venezuela. To thoroughly prepare members for the conference, students gave oral presentations to the class, wrote a paper, and had weekly tests. Such demanding work paid off at the conference.

"The conference was basically

based on preparation; the teams that were more prepared dominated the conference. We were one of the teams most prepared and were able to manipulate those that weren't. Teams came to us for information and we were able to sway them to vote our way," said senior Randy Thelen.

Students found the conference to closely resemble actual UN assemblies. Each of the 75 countries was represented on the Economics and Finance, Social and Humanitarian, Legal, Special Political, and Working Group committees while just 15 sat on the Security Council. Teams broke into their groups at 7 a.m. in the morning, then committees met from 8 to 11:30 a.m. During lunch, most committees continued to discuss the day's topics. Committees returned to their formal settings from 12:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. and then again from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

"I sat in on the Working Group committee, which was slightly different from the committees. We

were assigned to draft a convention on human rights. Because it wasn't mandatory that all delegations send someone, only 12 people sat on this committee," said Angie Doolittle, a junior. "At the end of the week we presented our treaty to the Economics and Social committees. They in turn presented it to the General Assembly."

Many students found challenging not only the rigorous schedule and preparation, but also the need to speak publicly and influence other committee members' decisions.

"I found a lot of the challenges had to do with getting enough information together before we ever got there. I also learned we needed to compromise when we got there and utilize our diplomatic skills," said junior Melissa VanDyk.

The class has begun preparing for its next conference in New York City from March 29 through April 3. During this conference, class members have joined together and will represent only Kenya.

Student Affairs selects new staff members

By Kristen Miquel
Staff Reporter

Maturity. Dependability. Enthusiasm. A good sense of humor. A good role model. These are just some of the characteristics that are looked for in a Resident Assistant.

"A Resident Assistant is a role model, a presence on their floor, a referral person, along with having to enforce the rules and regulations of the college," said Dean of Students James Kridler.

"I look for how people carry themselves, their creativity, how others feel about them and if they have a good sense of community and community development and know what that means," said Malorie Flemming, Gelston Hall Director.

Beyond this, all candidates were judged on their communication skills, their knowledge of the RA position and their ability to work in a group.

Thirteen women were selected to fill RA positions for the 1994-95 school year. Of the 13, Shana Case, Lara Nickson, and Elizabeth Hughes are currently juniors; Sarah Gabler, Shannon Cole, Annette Crum, Christi Bollenbacher, Melissa King, LeAndra Langdon, Catherine Stuckey and Kelley Sanborn are sophomores; and Kathryn Madigan and Jennifer Arnold are first-year students. Three alternate women were also selected: first-year student Rainy Inman and sophomores Christine Elder and Christine Ebert.

Nine men were selected to fill next year's RA vacancies. They are junior Scott Collins, sophomores Aaron Brock, Jim Jacobs, Brent Oeschger, Stephen

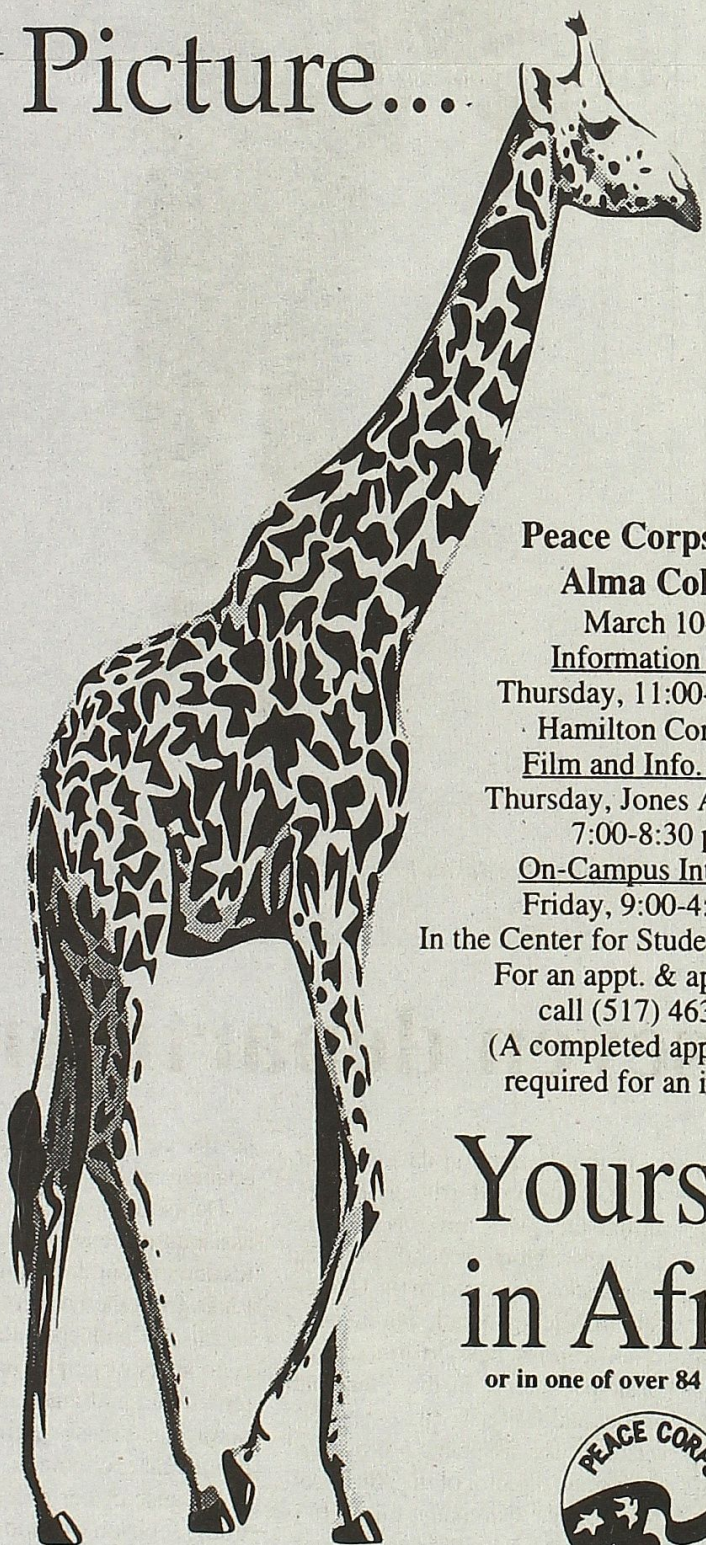
Sobieski, Lyle Simmons and Bradley Tate. Two first-year students—Kevin Tunks and Chris Deming—were also selected. Junior Craig Wood and first-year students Steve Vance and Bill Sanders were chosen as alternates.

"We had 86 or 87 students pick up applications and there was a cut based on GPA and completed application," Kridler said. "We interviewed 68 students—45 women and 23 men—for 22 jobs during the second round. In between the two was a group experience exercise where we gave case study situations and asked the group to discuss what they would do if confronted with that situation."

Every RA and alternate is required to go through a 14-day fall training program which begins the week before Preterm and continues throughout Preterm. This training consists of basic counseling, confrontation skills, first aid and CPR, and role-playing situations. Training also addresses the issues of differences that students encounter on the Alma College campus—gender, racial and ethnic differences, as well as varying economic status and lifestyles. Beyond this, there are other training sessions throughout the year and there are many team building exercises, retreats and programs.

Resident Assistants have a variety of duties to fulfill. These vary from administrative—checking rooms, writing room condition reports and turning in work orders—to being available to advise and counsel students on academic, personal, social, and financial matters.

Picture...



Peace Corps Visits Alma College

March 10-11

Information Table

Thursday, 11:00-1:30 p.m.

Hamilton Commons

Film and Info. Session

Thursday, Jones Auditorium

7:00-8:30 p.m.

On-Campus Interviews

Friday, 9:00-4:30 p.m.

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Faculty *continued from page 1*

environmental studies and women's studies programs.

To provide more courses in the areas of 19th century literature and fiction writing, Randi Davenport was hired as an assistant professor of English. Davenport earned a Ph.D. from Syracuse University, has taught at Hobart and William Smith College in New York state, and is negotiating the publishing of *Imperial Mother: Victoria, Empire, Subjectivity*.

English department chair Ute Stargardt said, "She has such a captivating personality that you sort of feel like you're in the presence of somebody who is really energetic and full of life and vitality and she is that."

Joanne Gilbert was hired in the communication department to develop the interpersonal and small group communications

program as well as contribute to mass communications. She earned her Ph.D. from the University of Texas, has taught at several universities, was received strongly by the students of Alma and has performed in many comedy clubs around the country.

"She is very much interested in the role of humor in society, particularly as a way of marginalizing women," said Michael Vickery, communication department chair.

Another University of Texas graduate, Anna Gemrich, filled the final position located in the foreign language department. Before receiving her Ph.D., Gemrich obtained her master at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and did undergraduate work at Kalamazoo College.

Mar. 15, 1994

Work-study programs suffer from lack of funds

By Sara Groves
Editor-in-Chief

Work study. To most students, these words mean little more than a few hours of work per week performing menial tasks such as filing, answering phones, or working at switch.

However, when the work study program was first implemented as a form of financial aid by the United States government, it was designed to do much more. According to *The Federal Student Financial Aid Handbook*, work study was originally designed to give students practical experience in their area of study. And, even as late as the 1992-93 edition of this handbook, work study, due to the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended, must "to the maximum extent practical, be related to the student's educational program or vocational goals."

"The natural evolution of work study has been a move from a program that tries to get students to have opportunities within their chosen career field or in community service to being one more way to staff the college," said Ed Lorenz, chairperson of the Community Service Learning (CSL) Program at Alma College. "This hasn't been illegal; it's been simply a shift in priorities."

Recently, however, the federal government implemented a law which will begin to bring work study back to its original purpose of further complementing a students'

studies. The law states that 5 percent of total federal money designated for work study programs be used for Community Service Learning jobs. Previously, only two tenths of a percent (0.2 percent) of all student earnings were related to Community Service Learning. According to the 1992-93 *Federal Student Financial Aid Handbook*, the CSL Program was "designed to develop, improve, or expand community services for low-income persons, or to solve particular problems related to the needs of low-income persons."

Alma College, in accordance with federal law, implemented a CSL Program into its work study budget. Approximately a dozen students worked throughout the summer in areas such as Metro Detroit, Saginaw, Flint, and Kalamazoo performing community service related activities.

"Last year, we had (students) working in halfway houses and women's shelters all over the state," said Tom Freeland, director of financial aid.

"There are a lot of community needs," said Lorenz. "And the idea behind this Community Service Learning under work study is that students who need income can still do something good for their community because they can do the work study job out in the community."

However, with all of the plusses of the newly implemented CSL Program, there is a downfall.

Although the demand for work study has been on the rise across the nation, the federal government simply does not have the funds to increase work study programs. Both student enrollment and student need have increased steadily at colleges and universities throughout the United States; however, the amount of work study granted at these institutions has leveled off.

"Demand level is going up and funding level is staying the same," said Freeland.

The result is that many colleges and universities are running out of work study funds midway through the school year, leaving students jobless and penniless.

"Don't get me wrong—(The CSL Program) is a very worthy goal," said Freeland. "However, we had virtually no increase in the work study pool, but yet we were told we have to spend 5 percent of (the work study money) elsewhere. (The CSL Program) is an extra drain on the work study fund."

"We spend so much over the summer in this 5 percent allocation for off-campus programs. We spent about \$36,000 during the Fall Term, leaving only about \$24,000 left for the rest of the year," said Vice President for Finance Jon Groteluschen. "If we spent at the same rate as we did last year, we're going to run out (of work study funds) about two-thirds into the winter term."

Under the work study program, the federal government supplies 70 percent of the student's wages while the college pays the remaining 30

percent out of the appropriate departmental budgets. When work study funds are depleted, the college must pick up the remaining 70 percent, resulting in 100 percent of the students wages being paid by the college. Alma College departmental budgets are not set for this kind of use.

"The thing that is difficult for all departments to realize is that they think, and every department thinks, that their students do the most valuable work. They think, and every department thinks, that they have to have more students with more hours," said Freeland. "But the thing is, the dollars just aren't there; there's only so much in the account and then when it's gone, it's gone."

Because work study money is anticipated to run out near the end of winter term, departments are already cutting back student hours as well as working students.

"Toward the end of the year, there will be some students for whom there will be no more work study available which means the College will have to pay the whole shot," said Alma College Controller John Johnston. "Therefore, if the department has enough budget to cover the students' hours, then they won't lose their jobs."

Until very recently, Alma College never used all of its work study funds. The College was able to take its unexpended money and use it to supplement, if necessary, the following years' funds. However, all of the unexpended money has been used, leaving no backing support.

"We have always had a policy of carrying over 10 percent (of the work study funds). At the beginning of the year, we would take out 10 percent and save it, almost like a savings account, and then every year, we'd have that 10 percent cushion," said Freeland. "But then the last couple of years, we've completely eaten away at that 10 percent cushion, and we just don't have that anymore."

Again, this is not a matter of fund allocation, but rather a matter of student financial need and an increased number of students.

"Enrollments are rising so we have more students here and more students are eligible (for work study.) But our allocation permit has not been going up at all," said Groteluschen. "We simply have more people eligible for work study money than what we have resources for."

Although the Community Service Learning Program subtracts 5 percent of available funding for on-campus employment, that 5 percent is still available to any student eligible for work study and interested in participating in the CSL Program.

"The principle of work study is primarily a program of financial aid but also (it is a program) where the jobs would be related to student careers and to community service," said Lorenz. "The 5 percent of work study money used for CSL would, in a sense, not impact work study funding."

Choir takes to the interstate road with 'Unplugged' tour

By Leslie Theisen
Investigative Reporter

For most people, break meant a time to rest, catch up on homework or head south for some sunshine. For 38 Alma College students, however, it meant something different.

The Alma College Mixed Choir spent winter break on its annual bus tour, *The Alma College Choir "Unplugged" Tour*. The choir entertained audiences in seven cities: Battle Creek; Aurora and Pekin, Illinois; South Bend, Indiana; Lima, Ohio; New Wilmington, Pennsylvania; Newark, New York; and Toronto, Ontario.

Will Nichols, associate professor of music and director of the choir, was pleased with the overall outcome of the trip.

"The acoustical performances at the First Presbyterian Church in Battle Creek and at Westminster in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania were incredibly beautiful," he said. "Being stuck on a bus in Aurora, Illinois and overhearing the kids' conversations were also interesting

highlights of the tour.

"I like to see the students have fun after they've worked hard at performing. Having 24 hours to spend in Toronto at the end of the tour was nice. Some of the students saw *Phantom of the Opera* and some of them saw *Crazy For You*. Doing karaoke with the students was a good time, too."

While on tour, the students stayed in the homes of families who were members of the Presbyterian congregations at which the group performed. Although the College did help the students with most of the funding for the trip, members of the choir raised \$3,000 to help cover their meal expenses and accommodations in Toronto.

Choir members expressed positive feelings on the tour's success. "The choir's sound has improved; I thought we performed very well on tour," said junior Erin Emery.

"When I looked into the audience at our New Wilmington performance and saw an elderly woman smiling throughout the entire show, it really made me feel proud to be in the choir," she said.

"I've Been Working on The Railroad" evoked a great deal of response from most of our audiences. They really liked that song and we had fun performing it," Emery continued.

According to junior Tom Schweinhart, the best parts of the tour were on the road.

"It's the greatest thing in the world when 40 people can get along every second of the week, even living on a cramped bus," he said.

"My favorite moment of the tour was when Will Nichols and his Shaftettes sang the *Shaft* theme song for the video camera," he continued.

Junior Phil Allmen was happy with the amount of time the choir members spent together.

"I got to know people better; I was surprised at how much we bonded and stayed together on the trip," he said.

For junior Chris Wiederman, the homestays added an element of excitement to the tour.

"Staying at homes was neat because we met a lot of nice families and generous people along the way."

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Heritage Center speaker to discuss 'The Glass Ceiling'

By Anne M. Buyze
Staff Reporter

Children for centuries have heard the fairy tale of Cinderella and her glass slipper. Tonight at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center, Alice Tepper Marlin plans to discuss the glass ceiling; unlike Cinderella, women have found no fairy tale.

Tepper Marlin works in the heart of the corporate world and deals with issues of discrimination daily. As founder and president of the Council on Economic Priorities (CEP), she and her staff serve as watchdogs which rate corporations on their social responsibility and good environmental publications.

In order to provide consumers with easy access to the information they have found, *Shopping for a Better World: A quick and Easy Guide to Socially Responsible Supermarket Shopping* has been published. Because the book has a large audience, many companies who have received bad marks from the group have altered their policies in order to retain business.

Through the information gained when evaluating companies policies, Tepper Marlin is qualified to provide information concerning the environment in which women will be working. Not only can she report on the situation of other women, but she has also faced the effects of the "glass ceiling."

In 1969 when the CEP was founded, Tepper Marlin spent the first year searching for a man to run the organization which was born from her idea.

In "Woman of the Year: Alice Tepper Marlin," an article appearing in the June 25, 1990 issue of *Adweek*, she explained her desire to have a male run

CEP saying, "partly because it was 1969 and I thought companies would pay more attention to a man, and partly because I was young and uncredentialed."

After having no luck finding a suitable male candidate, she decided to run the organization herself and has since been continually increasing her success. Tepper Marlin has produced several publications, been profiled in *People*, *New York Times*, and *Vogue* and has been *Mademoiselle's* Outstanding Woman of the Year in 1970 and has received *Adweek's* 1990 Women of the Year Award.

Tepper Marlin, who is co-sponsored by the Co-curricular Affairs Committee and the Women's Issues Advisory Board, will discuss the effects of the glass ceiling—an issue that largely impacts women, but also influences the lives of men.

"I think certainly the young men at Alma now are going to enter a marketplace that's been altered significantly by the entry of more women into work and will be working with women and should be aware of the problems that women run into," said James Mueller, member of the Co-curricular Affairs Committee and coordinator of the speaker series.

Awareness is the first step to combating these problems and minimizing their effects. This idea goes hand in hand with the goals of the Alma College Women's Week in which Tepper Marlin will act as a keynote speaker.

Co-coordinator of Women's Week, Julie McKinstry said, "Her subject is very important for men and women today and I think the campus can learn a lot from her talk."

Beginning this weekend, Alma College Theatre, (ACT) presents Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughnasa*, winner of the Olivier and Tony awards. Setting his play in Ireland in 1936, Friel weaves an unforgettable tale of the five unmarried Muindy sisters and three of the men in their lives. The Mundy household teems with a lust for life as the

sisters talk, fight, cry, shout, laugh and most of all, dance to tell their tale.

Dancing at Lughnasa will be presented at the Heritage Center Fri., the 18th, Sat., the 19th, Fri. the 25th and Sat. the 26th. All performances at 8 p.m. Contact the Heritage Center Box Office at 7304 to reserve tickets.

Poetry reading honors women

By Laura M. Paetz
Staff Reporter

In honor of National Women's Day, Epic, Alma College's English Club, in conjunction with the Women's Issues Advisory Board (WIAB), sponsored a celebratory poetry reading. The reading took place on Tuesday, March 8, at 9 p.m. in the MacCurdy Women's Resource Center.

The small group of students and faculty that made up the audience volunteered to share original poems or poems by admired authors. As the evening progressed, the poetry reading seemed to celebrate different cultures in a addition to the works of women. Poems by Chinese, Australian Aboriginal and French authors were read, informing the audience about the feelings of women of different nationalities and time periods.

Before she read a series of Australian Aboriginal poems, assistant professor of English Linda Rashidi introduced each work with a brief history about the authors and their culture. Rashidi mentioned that the act of writing down their poetry is a relatively new concept to the natives of Australia. Traditionally, the lines were passed down by reciting them orally which enabled the listener to capture the beauty of the words as the orator expressed them. Consequently, the job of Aboriginal poets has become

"more difficult in that they are forced to back away from their original history," stated Rashidi.

Additionally, one of the main themes of Aboriginal poetry is the passion they feel about their land and the feeling of being one with the land. This concept is especially prevalent in the poem *Spiritual Song of the Aborigine*, written by Hyllus Maris. Ironically, it was the atomic testing done on the land of the Aborigines in the 1950's and '60's that caused the cancer that eventually killed Maris.

Korean exchange student Jee-un Lee enlightened the group with her reading of a poem by Afghanistani poet Rabiah Balkhi. Balkhi was a poet in medieval times, a period when women were hardly educated, much less literate enough to express themselves through writing poetry. Her talent was looked down upon because of her gender and she was persecuted by many. However, Balkhi pursued her writing and was deemed such an outcast by the king—who was also her brother—that he murdered her.

Lucille Clifton's writing was also among those works shared on Tuesday evening. As some may remember, Clifton visited Alma many times in 1993. English Professor Roscane Hoefel reminded the group of her talents by reading *Miss*

Rosie.

Also read by Hoefel was a selection of poems by Chinese authors, including *Lament of Hsi-Chun* by Hsi-Chun and *A Farewell to a Southern Melody* by Ling Chung.

Throughout the evening, a number of students impressed their audience with poetry of their own. Sophomore Leonard Handy read two original poems, entitled *Just Imagine* and *What Is*.

"I have written poetry throughout my senior year of high school and continued it in college," said Handy. "In an English class here I was required to write a lot of poetry, and it has just grown from there."

Towards the end of the evening, Floyd Dunn joined the reading after giving a presentation about AIDS and HIV in Van Dusen Commons. Dunn, who has been living with HIV since 1983, is a pharmacy technician and director for Project Survival in Detroit, which allows Dunn to help others deal with the disease. Dunn read a poem by Nikki Giovanni, who was a women's activist in the 1960's.

"The poetry reading was a great way to give voice to women's voices and to celebrate that there have been so many women poets who are still alive and writing today," said Hoefel.

Women's Week sets goal of celebration

By Brooke Hansen
Feature Editor

"Only those who dare truly live."

A committee of individuals chose these words of Ruth P. Friedman as the theme for this year's second annual Women's Week, a week organized especially by and for Alma students in celebration of March's Women's History Month.

March 14-18 are the dates scheduled for this year's celebration.

Originally, Women's Week was conceived through the formation of WIAB (the Women's Issues Advisory Board) one year ago. WIAB perceived that activities needed to be arranged in celebration of Women's History Month and the group decided to concentrate their efforts primarily on Women's Week.

Senior Lisa Knowles, who coordinated last year's Women's Week has also worked as a co-coordinator for this year's event.

"I was so enthralled with last year's program 'What is a Feminist?' that I was inspired to work on the program again this year. A lot of problems with equality stem from a lack of education. I feel driven to take action to educate people about women's issues. I hope Women's Week gains continued support."

Planning for this year's activity began at the close of last semester when student committees were formed. Upon returning from break, these students met periodically. In their meetings they discussed ideas for events to be held throughout the week. As a result of their confer-

ences, they decided upon Friedman's theme.

"At the first meeting after winter break, about fifteen students and some faculty got together and chose from about twenty different quotes. The selection process was simple because Friedman's words really summed up the ideals behind Women's History Month," said sophomore Julie McKinstry, who

"I've been very pleased with the large turnout of workers and their dedication to the project. A great deal of people have put a great amount of time and effort into this to make it a beneficial, educational experience,"

*--Sophomore
Julie McKinstry.*

is a member of WIAB and is co-coordinating events this year.

"I've been very pleased with the large turnout of workers and their dedication to the project. A great deal of people have put a great amount of time and effort into this to make it a beneficial, educational experience," said McKinstry.

"Everyone involved in Women's Week has been working extremely hard. The whole group is excited and we are hoping for reasonable

participation and support from the campus community," said senior WIAB member Bethany Marshke.

Another outcome of the group meetings was the agenda prepared for the upcoming week.

The week commences Monday, with a program entitled "Views on the ERA: Past & Present" which takes place in the Heritage Center at 8 p.m. Co-Cur speaker Alice Tepper Marlin presents "The Effects of the Glass Ceiling" at the Heritage Center on Tuesday night at 8 p.m. A panel discussion of women leaders of Michigan occurs Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Van Dusen. A "Celebration of Women" luncheon is offered in Van Dusen from 12-1:30 p.m. Thursday afternoon. Price for the luncheon costs \$7 for adults and \$2 plus a board exchange for students. Attendance can be specified by contacting Co-Coordinator Ginna Holmes at 463-7356. Women's Week comes to a close Friday with an informal gathering at Max & Emily's at 8 p.m. where live entertainers will be performing.

"I'm especially looking forward to Wednesday's panel," said Holmes. "Four women leaders from different areas in Michigan will discuss some of the current issues facing women today. These women are strong activists who have experienced basically everything, in respect to women's rights. They will also speak about how women can become activists. It is every woman's responsibility to be active on women's issues."

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Mar. 15, 1994

Heritage Center hosts Greek Week supports Habitat for Humanity famed brass quintet

By Tim Ketel
Staff Reporter

Interested in expanding your musical horizons? Want to hear a group of excellent musicians performing together live at Alma College? Take a break from your busy schedule tomorrow night and come see the Western Brass Quintet perform in the Heritage Center Concert Hall.

The Western Brass Quintet was founded in 1966 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. They have an established and excellent reputation. They have toured the People's Republic of China, had two recordings on the CRI Label, performed at Carnegie Hall, and have done many other performances, including concerts at more than 80 American universities and colleges.

"The Western Brass gave unremitting evidence of their individual talents and ensemble training; chords were precisely weighted and registered, instrumental blends were sensitively arranged, and there was rarely a tentatively attacked or released note," the New York Times said of the quintet.

The Western Brass Quintet is made up of five brass players, all of them professors at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. There are two trumpet players, one French horn, one trombone, and one tuba.

The first trumpet player is Stephen G. Jones, Professor of Music. He received musical degrees from Ohio State University, Wichita State University, and the University of Michigan. Jones has been a featured soloist for the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, the Santa Fe Chamber Symphony, and many others. He currently serves as President of the International Trumpet Guild.

Scott W. Thornburg, Assistant Professor of Music, holds the other trumpet position. A graduate of the University of Miami, he received the Master of Music degree from the Julliard School. Thornburg has been Principal Trumpet with several groups, including the New York City Symphony, and the Philharmonic Virtuosi. For four years, he toured the U.S. and Canada with the trumpet and organ duo "Toccatas and Flourishes."

The group's French Horn player is Paul Austin, Assistant Professor of Music, who is on a one-year appointment at Western, replacing

a professor who is on sabbatical leave. Austin has extensive experience as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player. He is currently on leave from the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra and the Richmond Symphony.

The trombonist is Steve Wolfenbarger, Associate Professor of Music. He has music degrees from Evangel College and the University of North Texas. Wolfenbarger has been Principal Trombone of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra and has performed in the trombone sections of the Springfield and Dallas Symphony Orchestras. He hosted and organized the 1990 International Trombone Workshop which was held at Western.

Lastly, the ensemble's tuba player is Robert Whaley, Professor of Music. Whaley is the Director of the University Symphony Orchestra at Western. He has appeared in numerous solo and chamber performances, including a solo recital in New York City's Carnegie Hall. Whaley holds the Tuba position in the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. In 1990, Whaley was the first recipient of the College of Fine Arts Teaching Excellence Award, and was one of three WMU faculty members nominated for the National University Teacher of the Year Award.

The program for the Quintet's performance tomorrow night will include several famous pieces of music.

They will be starting out their program with "Concerto" by Vivaldi/Bach. David Sampson's striking "Distant Voices" will be next on the program. They will then perform "Trois Chanson" by Claude Debussy, who is often regarded as the "great gateway to modern music." Stanley Weiner's "Suite for Brass Quintet" will be next, followed by the great Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story Suite."

"The Western Brass Quintet is first class, a superb group," said Douglas Scripps, Professor of Music at Alma.

The performance will be in the Concert Hall of the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts, and will take place at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16.

Admission is \$5 for adults, and free for students with tickets. Tickets can be ordered from the Heritage Center Box Office at 463-7304.

By Chris Wiederman
Business Manager

"Greek Week gives us the rare opportunity to come together as a community and celebrate something we share in common: brotherhood and sisterhood. It is also our chance to seize the spotlight and let our campus and community know what being Greek is really about," said junior Sean Lynott, co-chairperson of the Greek Week Committee.

"It's All Greek To Us" is the theme of Greek Week '94, which runs from March 20-25. The annual celebration of brotherhood and sisterhood is filled with

activities, charities and fun. The goal of the week is to increase participation—participation which will be rewarded through a point system. A travelling trophy will be awarded to the outstanding team.

This year sororities and fraternities were paired at random during Runouts.

"Matching up the fraternities and sororities is a great way to have people meet who may not otherwise," said senior Liberty Reiter, co-chairperson of Greek Week.

Each team will participate in a plethora of events such as the Can Drive and the Greek Olympic

events.

Kicking off the week's festivities will be the Greek Award Ceremony held Sunday, March 20. T.J. Schmitz, executive vice president of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, will be the keynote speaker for the event. Well known for his enthusiasm and keen insight, he is sure to be a motivating speaker. At the

"Matching up the fraternities and sororities is a great way to have people meet who may not otherwise,"

*--Liberty Reiter,
co-chairperson of Greek Week.*

presentation of the Greek Awards following Schmitz's address, each fraternity and sorority will recognize outstanding members. Among these honors are Greek Man/Woman of the Year awards.

A special emphasis has been placed on philanthropy for this year's Greek Week. As in years past, a blood drive in cooperation with the Red Cross will take place. The drive happens Thursday, March 24. Greek Week also includes a community can and bottle drive and a change drive located in Hamilton commons. All proceeds will benefit Habitat for Humanity

International. Habitat for Humanity International is a non-profit organization which constructs homes for underprivileged persons all over the world.

"Although Habitat for Humanity is not one of our personal charities," said Lynott, "it's great to have a common philanthropy and help the community at the same time."

Capping off the busy week will be a night of bowling at the Highlandaur. A mini Bowl-a-Thon gives the four teams a final opportunity to earn points. At the conclusion of the evening, all of the week's points

are tallied and the winning team is declared. The winners will receive the Greek Week cup.

In years past, enthusiasm for Greek Week at Alma has been rather tepid. But, as Reiter put it, "Block Bash has helped get people pumped up for Greek Week. Greek unity seems to be at an all-time high at Alma."

By keeping the week simple, yet at the same time providing high-profile events, the planning committee has tried to make Greek Week a campus phenomenon.

English students enact Milton epic

By Leslie Theisen
Investigative Reporter

"Milton, a name to resound for ages," writes Tennyson in *Milton*, in which he pays tribute to one of the greatest writers of all time—John Milton. English professor John Ottenhoff and about 12 students from his Renaissance Literature course (English 353) met in the basement of Dunning Memorial Chapel Saturday at 9 a.m. to resound the first eight books of Milton's most famous work, *Paradise Lost*.

Ottenhoff and his students took turns reading the roles of Milton's "characters": God, Adam, Eve, the angels, and the ever popular Satan. Reading the epic aloud facilitates a better understanding of and appreciation for Milton's rather tedious masterpiece.

"Reading in the chapel certainly made for an appropriate setting. I'm glad we got together to do this because it's a new way to approach the literature. Instead of just reading the poem one book at a time, we got an overview of a good portion of the text. This will make it a little easier to understand when we talk about the reading in class," said senior Scott Phillion.

"I was surprised that half our class turned out for the reading at 9 a.m. on a weekend, and most of us stayed throughout the whole thing. It's nice of Dr. Ottenhoff to devote extra time to helping us become familiar with the language and the themes of *Paradise Lost*," said junior Tom

Schweinhart.

"Overall, I think group reading made it easier to comprehend the messages of the epic; matching voices to the words on the page helps a lot. I like Satan—he is one bad mother; Milton depicts a powerful Satan against the rather boring God," said Schweinhart.

According to junior Andrea Campbell, gathering at the chapel

made a great difference in how she looked at *Paradise Lost*. "I have never read any of Milton's work, so bringing the language to life made it less intimidating and more real for me," she said.

"I think we all owe Dr. Ottenhoff gratitude for doing this. And we owe ourselves a pat on the back for participating in the reading," said Campbell.

Applications for all executive WQAC positions will be available on the WQAC door in Tyler/VanDusen, Tuesday, March 15 and are due back March 21 by 5 p.m. Applicants will be contacted by the General Manager about interviews. For more information call WQAC at 7301.



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Music department gets pianos on loan

By Jessica VanSlooten
Freelance Writer

If you've walked into Eddy Music Center recently, you may have noticed new additions in the building: brand new Kawai pianos. Alma College received these 27 new pianos on March 3 and 4 through an innovative program with Kawai America Corporation.

Working with local dealers, Kawai supplies pianos to schools through an institutional loan program. The institution receives free use of the pianos for one year, in exchange for sponsoring an on-site sale.

Not only does such a program benefit the college, it also benefits the local dealer, Arnolt Williams Music in Detroit, who reduces its inventory and prominently displays its instruments.

"It's terrific. They win, we win, everyone wins," said Douglas Scripps, professor of music.

Hopefully, the program will be successful this year; if so, it could continue indefinitely. After the sale of pianos each year, the college will again receive new instruments. Other

area institutions which have successfully participated in this program include Wayne State University and Interlochen Arts Academy.

The sale of the Kawai instruments will most likely occur in the summer. Kawai will publicize the sale throughout the Midwest. Alma alumni will also be targeted in the sale campaign. Because the pianos will be used by the college for one year, the prices will be discounted. With much care on the music students part, the wear will be negligible and the buyers will be purchasing a quality instrument at a reduced price.

Most of the 27 new pianos are located in Eddy Music Center and the Heritage Center, including one in the new dance studio. A new Kawai is also located in the Chapel. Seven of the instruments are grand pianos, three are verticals, and 17 are electric keyboards. The electric pianos are used mainly for class piano, taught by Scott Messing, associate professor of music.

According to first-year student Megan Brunelle, a member of Messing's class, the new keyboards are "high-tech and much

better quality than the old pianos, and they sound much nicer too."

This program opportunity is very timely, since the piano inventory was about 50 years old and in desperate need of repair. While the Kawais have replaced the old pianos, four of the old pianos have likewise replaced the pianos in Newberry, Mitchell, Bruske, and Gelston halls.

The music department faculty and students are very excited about the wonderful additions.

"They are a superb addition to the campus and students will love playing them," said Messing.

Junior Sheri Tulloch agreed and said, "I think it is really great to be able to go into any of the practice rooms and have a first class piano to practice or teach on. Also, the new piano in the Chapel is really nice for choir practice."

Raymond Riley, chair of the music department, is very pleased with the prospects of the program. "I just can't stress how thrilled I am about this. It gives me a great sense of pride to walk through the department and show prospective students the pianos. They really say a lot about our music department."

Music Review

Camper VanBeethoven cleans house

By Chris Sienko
Music Editor

Just when you were ready to finally let go of the ghost of Camper Van Beethoven for good, and accept Cracker as a suitable replacement, along comes yet another "Rarities" album. As you CVB fans know, any Camper is good Camper, and this newest rarities album, *Camper Vantiquities* (I.R.S. Records) is truly a superior batch of songs.

Camper Van Beethoven have spent ten years creating some of the best (and funniest) music the underground has to offer, playing ethnic music like it was rock and roll, rock and roll like it was the end of the world, and not taking themselves too seriously in the process. They were one of those bands that you just KNEW had to be going somewhere. They were just too damn good to keep bottled up. Regrettably, with the dual exceptions of "Take the Skinheads Bowling" (An early college radio classic) and "Pictures of Matchstick Men" (A 120 Minutes-era classic), Camper was, for the most part, bottled up. Already, the band Cracker, which is ex-Camper Van Beethoven lead singer David Lowry's new band, is getting many times more airplay than Camper got when they were at their highest point. Camper was one of those bands that got away, destined to drift into obscurity. Perhaps this "new" disc will change all that.

Camper Vantiquities collects 16 tracks, coming from any number of different sources, such as limited edition flexi-discs from magazines, bootlegs from concerts, recordings done in band member's homes, and the occasional track that just did not fit onto the current album that band was making. As with most odds and ends albums, track quality can vary widely. One unifying factor on this album is the consistently good sound quality. Even songs that were said to be "Recorded on Four Track in David's basement," don't sound overly muffled or tinny.

As for the songs themselves, there are good tunes, great tunes, and tunes that make you wonder what kept them off the band's regular albums. "Seven Languages" is a trippy, organ and wah-wah drenched song with great, silly lyrics like, "I would come to visit you, but I can't find my car keys, and I can't remember where you live." "Axe Murderer Song" ponders why movie killers only attack nubile young women while they are in the

bath and lovers parked out on lover's lane, with a musical backing of an acoustic guitar and bass drum. Camper also has a penchant (and a flair) for instrumentals, which are abundant on this album. "(We Workers do not Understand) Modern Art," is a slightly oriental sounding tune using such typical Camper instrumentation as mandolin and violin. (Camper's multi-instrumentalist Jonathan Segal played violin on most songs, giving Camper a perfect gimmick, as well as a distinctive sound.) "We Eat your Children," a tune written about the same time as "We are the World," is by far the best instrumental this group has ever written. It is accomplished, polished, catchy as chicken pox, and just plain fun.

Camper also makes excellent use of other people's material, such as their covers of Ringo Starr's "Photograph," the Kinks' "I'm not like Everybody Else," Hank Williams Sr.'s "Six More Miles to the Graveyard," and Country Joe and the Fish's "Porpoise Mouth." The band has a knack for finding songs that sound like them to begin with, and playing them with verve and respect for the originals.

The highly useful liner notes seem devoid of the crazy humor that permeated all of the previous Camper discs. The band's previous rarities mini album, *Vampire Can Mating Oven* (Which is reprised on this disc), had fantastically funny info on each song (most of which was not true). On the upside, all of the info in these liner notes is real, and helps you to figure out where this stuff came from. It is a shame, though, to see a band be sucked so dry of its joy and energy when the fame it expects and deserves does not come. (Can we say Fishbone?)

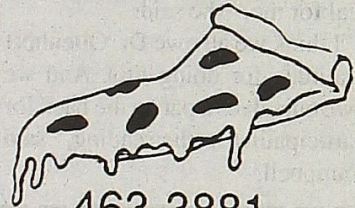
For those of you who are already fans, this is a worthy addition to the band's canon, and for the uninitiated, this might be one of the best places to hop in.

Pick of the Week

Artist: The Flamin' Groovies
Album: *Groovies Greatest Grooves*
Label: Sire Records

Okay, so the Flamin' Groovies sound a whole heck of a lot like just about every other 60s rock and roll band (i.e. early Beatles, Stones, Byrds, etc.). Don't expect too much from them, and prepare to party hard. Songs like "Shake Some Action," "Teenage Head," and "Slow Death," are as good, if not better, than most of the mop top imitators of the British Invasion, not to mention a party just waiting to happen. So find it, get it, and shake it.

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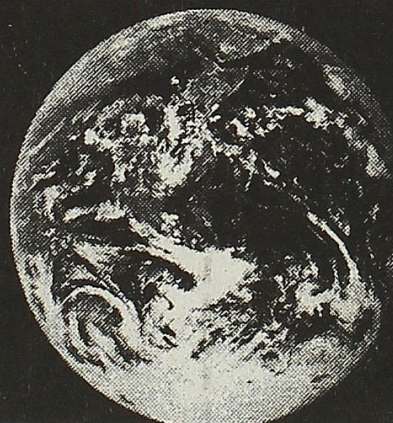
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Mar. 15, 1994

Women's basketball earns MIAA title, NCAA berth

By Alexandra Orr
Freelance Writer

When the Alma College women's varsity basketball team was picked to finish second behind Calvin in the MIAA preseason coaches pick, no one expected the Scots to go as far as they did, especially after the disappointing loss to the Calvin Knights during the final league game of the season on Saturday, Feb. 19.

In the first round of the MIAA Tournament the Scots hosted the Olivet Comets on Feb. 22. The Scots took an early lead over Olivet, but the Comets diminished the difference and at the sound of the buzzer at halftime the Scots were leading by just one point with a score of 29-28. With the onset of the second half the Scots came back rejuvenated. Regaining their strong advantage. The Scots defeated Olivet with a final score of 75-56.

With this victory the Scots were promoted to the second round of the tournament. On Feb. 24 Alma competed against the Albion Britons. The Britons entered Cappaert Gymnasium with a desire to win. They forced the Scots to work for every point they scored. At halftime the Scots held a 13 point lead over the Britons. The Scots returned for the second half with their internal drive to win. They defeated Albion with a score of 69-49, earning the opportunity to meet the Calvin Knights in the MIAA tournament finals.

During the Albion-Alma game, senior Katie Mans became Alma's all time leading scorer in women's basketball. Mans entered the game needing ten points to defeat the former record of 1474 set in 1985 by Sue Spagnuolo. Mans scored 14 points during the first half and eight more during the second half of the game.

On Saturday, Feb. 26, the Scots travelled to Calvin to reclaim their dignity. Mans led the Scots by scor-

ing 30 points against the Knights. Despite their efforts to overpower the Scots, the Knights had to succumb to defeat with a final score of 68-59. This outstanding win earned the women an automatic bid into the NCAA Division III tournament.

Alma joined 39 other teams selected for the tournament, making its sixth appearance in the event. For the first round the Scots had to travel to Franklin College in Indiana on March 3.

During the first half the Scots easily gained a 14 point lead, with the aid of first-year student Jaami McClellan, who scored 12 points and Mans, who scored ten. With the second half the Scots only improved. The finished the game with a 74-59 victory. Mans was the leading scorer for the second consecutive game with 30 points.

With Franklin behind them, the Scots then travelled to the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, the Great Lakes Region's top-ranked team, for the second round of the NCAA tournament. At the end of the first half Alma was leading Wisconsin-Oshkosh by one point, but they lost their advantage during the second half. Oshkosh took the victory with a final score of 63-59. Leading scorers for the Scots were McClellan and Mans, both with 17 points, followed by junior Amy Doucette, who added 16 points to Alma's score.

Junior Jaime McCallister said, "We really wanted to beat Oshkosh. It was a very close game. If it had been a minute longer, we might have won. We played very well, but emotionally it was hard to lose."

Mans agreed, "It was a disappointing loss. I am sad to see the season end, but overall I am very pleased with how the season went. I am really glad I got to know the younger players. We all got along very well. I think I am going to miss them more than the actual sport."

Sophomore Michelle Meissner said, "Overall I think we surprised a lot of teams in the league. No one expected us to do as well as we did. It was a disappointing loss, but we have time to improve for next season."

Head Coach Charles Goffnett, while reflecting on the season, said, "It was a very enjoyable season. The work ethic and team chemistry was excellent. Katie Mans offered inspirational leadership to the team. I am pleased for her, being that this was her final season, that we went as far as we did. She was looked up to and relied upon. We are grateful to her. I also saw a lot of improvement in the returning players. Amy Doucette and Michele VanDamme had incredible seasons. We had a

well balanced team with our strong inside and outside players. I also think that the first-year players did an exceptional job. Overall we had a terrific season."

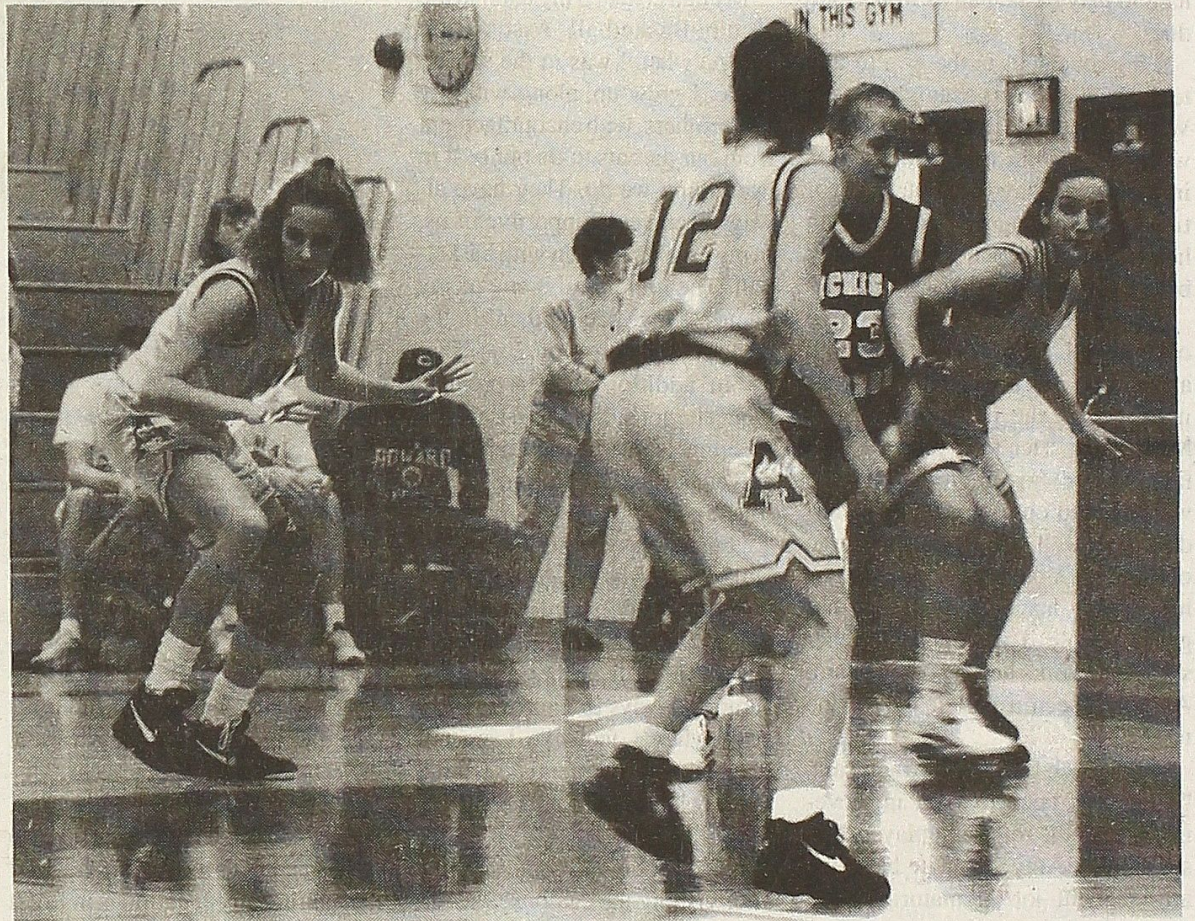
Several of the Scots earned recognition for their exceptional efforts. Mans was named Most Valuable Player in the MIAA, as well as being ranked first in individual scoring and overall field goal shooting. Junior Michele VanDamme was honored as the highest 3-point field goal shooter. Junior Amy Doucette tied for fourth place for most steals. First-year students Melissa VanDamme and Jaami McClellan were also praised for their individual scoring efforts.

With this season completed the Scots are already looking forward

to the fall. With the exception of Mans, all the players have the opportunity to return next season.

McClellan commented, "I am really happy with how we did. We had a pretty young team, with a lot of our returning players quitting the team early in the season. We got a lot of experience, which will help us later on."

Goffnett summed it up best, "We are going to probably reflect on the season for about a week, and then get back into practicing. Some of the players are already coming back in and practicing on their own. The team was very goal oriented. They gave up a lot of extra time to work on improving. They are definitely self-motivators. We are already looking forward to next season."



The Alma College women's basketball team finished the 1993-94 season as the MIAA champions.
File Photo.

Tough season closes for men's basketball

By Lisa Martin
Freelance Writer

On Feb. 26, the Scots of Alma took on the Flying Dutchmen of Hope in their first round game of the MIAA tournament. This should have been a chance for the team to forget their past troubles and to earn themselves some respect in the MIAA. It was their final chance to take everything they had learned all year and earn a victory for the team.

The Scots entered the game with a 5-18 overall record. But this would not be the night the Scots had wanted or worked for. The Scots travelled to Hope with a positive attitude, but they were unable to convert that attitude into success.

In the first half, the Scots came out shooting a mere 24% and that only slightly improved to 36% in the second half. Overall the Scots shot only 31%, but they were able

to hold the Dutchmen to only 43% overall shooting. The Scots made the Dutchmen work for every basket but were unable to convert their offense and stay in the game. Alma became frustrated and then they rushed and failed to set up their shots.

The Scots also had to deal with a lot of mental mistakes and turnovers. They were also having major difficulties when they had possession of the ball and making the baskets that would have kept them in the game.

Junior Todd Blomquist summed the game up in one word: "Terrible!"

"We couldn't throw a basketball in the ocean from five feet away," said Head Coach Bob Eldridge about the shooting.

Although this game didn't demonstrate the skills of the Scots, the men played hard and with great in-

tensity. The final score was 81-47.

This game marked the end of a disappointing season for the Scots.

"We couldn't throw a basketball in the ocean from five feet away,"

*-- Head Coach
Bob Eldridge*

Their overall record will stand at 5-19. Despite the disappointment, the team has many triumphs to remember as well.

Blomquist was named on the second MIAA team as well as being the second highest scorer in the MIAA. He was also a league leader in overall field goal shooting and rebounding. Junior Matt Lotterman was the best rebounder in the league averaging 8.5 rebounds per game in league play. Lotterman was also named MIAA Honorable mention as well as a league leader in free throw shooting. Senior Colon Lewis was a leader in individual scoring, free-throw shooting, and assists. Senior Reggie Reed was a MIAA leader in individual scoring and three point field goal shooting.

The start of the season saw seven sophomores on varsity — most had no experience on the varsity squad. They stepped up and met the challenge of varsity play. There was also the return of the players from last year. Throughout the entire season, no matter how they did, the

team stayed together and were there for each other.

"It was a bad season. We were able to get through the season because everyone got along so well," said sophomore Chris Stacey.

Looking to next year, Coach Eldridge said, "I have good news and bad news. The bad news is that everyone is back. The good news — everybody is back!"

The Scots are losing only two players to graduation — Reggie Reed and Colon Lewis. Their leadership and experience will be missed.

The team is already back in the gym and getting ready for next season. The extensive range of returning players combined with players from the junior-varsity team promise to be a winning combination. Going into next season, the Scots will have a lot of luck going with them after a year when they had an opportunity to build so much depth.

Mar. 15, 1994

Point guard has positive outlook for future

By Alexandra Orr
Freelance Writer

With the completion of this year's basketball season, junior Amy Doucette is already focusing her sights on the future.

"We had a great season this year. We had many young players on the team and they contributed a lot. The entire team improved tremendously and we got along well together. I am sad to see the season over, but I have high hopes for next year. It will be difficult to replace Katie Mans, but if we all improve over the summer, our team has the potential to do extremely well next season."

Looking over the past three years, Doucette admits that she has worked hard to play basketball as well as she does.

"Improvement is the key to any team. I am a perfect example of this. When I joined the team I was blessed with speed, but my shooting was inconsistent. I have dedicated a lot of time to improving my shot and with help from my coaches, it is finally beginning to pay off."

Senior Katie Mans agreed. "The one thing I think of when I think about Amy is how much she has improved in the past three years," Mans said. "Her first year she was fast, but her shooting was poor. She worked hard on it; this year she has done very well. She has taken charge of the team. You can always count on her to play her best. Watching her guard people, I am amazed at her skill. She works her opponents hard. Amy has been a real spark for the team."

Head coach Charles Goffnet said, "There has been marked improvement in all the returning players this season, but Amy Doucette has done an excellent job at maturing as a player, both offensively and defensively. As a point guard you have to lead the team, and Amy did excep-

tionally."

First-year teammate Jaami McClellan commented, "Amy Doucette has more energy than anyone I know. She has helped lift this team up this season. At practices when we would get run down, Amy would get us excited about the game and we would work harder."

Doucette, who is pursuing a double major in art and exercise and health science, is interested in a career in occupational or recreational therapy. Additionally, she has considered coaching basketball. Under the guidance of her father, Dennis Doucette, she began playing basketball at a very young age.

"My dad coached my team in the Youth Basketball Association (YBA) when I was in the second grade. I grew up, along with my two brothers, with encouragement from our parents to do our best in everything we do. They have always been very supportive of us, in my case it has been with basketball. They rarely miss any of my games. I love seeing them in the stands cheering me on."

In addition to her parents, Doucette considers Lauri LaBeau, a former student and basketball player here at Alma, one of her role models.

"Lauri helped lead the basketball team to the NCAA Championships in 1992, my first year on the varsity basketball team. I learned a lot from her about the game and ways to improve. Even now, when I feel like I am not playing to my potential, I think about what made Lauri so effective."

Doucette chose to come to Alma after visiting the campus. She felt she would not only be able to play basketball, but pursue outside interests, such as exercising and in-



Junior Amy Doucette. Photo by L. Christensen.

line skating, as well.

"I liked the appearance of the college, but more importantly, I liked the relaxing atmosphere here. Unlike many colleges I considered, Alma encouraged me to participate in sports, but they also emphasized that getting an education is my first priority. Alma doesn't apply pressure on athletes like larger universities do. It makes playing sports more

enjoyable."

In retrospect Doucette recalls her favorite moments in her basketball career here at Alma.

"Winning the National Championship was one of the greatest moments of my life. The combination of players on our team at the time was unbreakable. That season was an incredible mixture of luck and skill. As far as this past season

goes, defeating Calvin during the MIAA tournament was amazing. After losing our final league game to them, we stepped on that court refusing to leave until we had won. Overall we played extremely well. We frustrated them, dominated the court, and proved we were the superior team. I am already looking forward to next season."

Softball players come out swinging

By Alexandra Orr
Freelance Writer

Coming back from a successful preseason practice in Fort Myers, Florida, the Alma College softball team is getting geared up for the season.

During the recent midterm break, the Scots travelled to Florida to compete against several other colleges while preparing for the upcoming season. The Scots had a record of 7-2, losing only to University of Villanova and Ohio Northern University, whom they defeated later in the week. The Scots also defeated Northwood and Adrian, who won the MIAA championships last year.

Senior co-captain Christine Snyder said, "Florida was great. We were a little shaky at first, but as the week went on our plays became smoother. It was a very good learning experi-

ence for us."

Senior Rachel Butler agreed, "We did really well there. We tried changing players' positions to see what will work the best. We did a superb job, and I felt we really came together as a team."

Denny Griffin has been coaching softball since 1989. This is his fourth year as head coach for the team. This season he has recruited two new assistant coaches, James Farnum and Phil Hansen.

The team looks well rounded this season with several returning players. In addition to Snyder and Butler, seniors Julie Kirchoff, a catcher, who is also a co-captain of the team, and Lisa Knowles, who is an outfielder, have returned for another season. Several juniors and sophomores have also returned from last year. Among the fourteen returning players, eight are returning starters.

In addition to the strong returning players, the Scots are looking forward to sharing the field with 11 newcomers to the team. Good things are expected from first-year students Shannon Domrase, Andrea Hill, and Kelly Ervans.

Coach Hansen said, "It looks like our strengths this season will be our pitching and our defense in general. We made very few mistakes during our Florida games. We will need to be working on base running, but mainly we just need some fine tuning to our plays."

Returning junior Holly Barnett said, "As far as our strengths go, we lost only one starter from last year. We seem to have a well-bonded team. We seem to be playing with more depth, we feel more comfortable on the field. Defensively and offensively we seem to be doing very well. Now we need to improve on all the important little things."

Snyder said, "This year, as compared to last, we seem to have a more defined team. We seem to be strong both physically and mentally. Regardless of what our record shows at the end of the season, the

bottom line is that we are here to have fun."

The Scots will be playing Grand Valley State University in Allendale on March 25. They will then host Northwood Institute on March 29.

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Sports Stats

MIAA Women's Basketball Report - FINAL

	LEAGUE		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Alma	10	2	21	6
Calvin	10	2	18	7
Albion	7	5	11	14
Hope	6	6	13	12
Kalamazoo	6	6	13	12
Adrian	3	9	8	17
Olivet	0	12	3	22

Individual Scoring - Overall

1. Katie Mans, Alma, Sr	18.3
2. Kelly Lewis, Albion, Sr	17.2
3. Pam Wubben, Calvin, Sr	16.7
4. Nicki Mannes, Hope, Jr	16.0
5. Kristen Carlson, Hope, Jr	15.1
6. Sara Musser, Kalamazoo, So	13.8
11. Jaami McClellan, Alma, Fr	10.6
14. Melissa Van Damme, Fr	10.2
15. Michelle Van Damme, Jr	10.1

Individual Scoring - League

1. Katie Mans, Alma, Sr	17.1
2. Kelly Lewis, Albion, Sr	16.6
3. Pam Wubben, Calvin, Sr	15.8
4. Nicki Mannes, Hope, Jr	14.8
5. Kristin Carlson, Hope, Jr	14.1
9. Michelle VanDamme, Alma, Jr	12.8
11. Melissa Van Damme, Alma, Fr	12.6
13. Jaami McClellan, Alma, Fr	12.2

Overall Field Goal Shooting - League

1. Katie Mans, Alma, Sr	
2. Melissa VanDamme, Alma, Fr	
3. Pam Wubben, Calvin, Sr.	
4. Darcey Durr, Albion	
5. Jaami McClellan, Alma, Fr	
6. Michelle Van Damme, Alma, Jr	

Assists - League

1. Molly Giesen, Olivet, Sr	
2. Christie Cleland, Albion, So	
3. Marcy Hiner, Adrian, Jr	
3. Amy Doucette, Alma, Jr	
4. Michelle Van Damme,Alma, Jr	
8. Katie Mans, Alma, Sr	

MIAA Men's Basketball Report - FINAL

	LEAGUE		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
Calvin	11	1	20	7
Kazoo	8	4	20	7
Albion	7	5	16	10
Hope	7	5	16	10
Olivet	6	6	12	12
Alma	2	10	5	19
Adrian	1	11	3	22

Individual Scoring - Overall Average

1. Chirs Knoester, Calvin, Sr	20.9
2. Todd Blomquist, Alma, Jr	20.0
3. Duane Bosma, Hope, So	18.0
5. Jeremy Cole, Kalamazoo, So	16.8
6. Jon Njus, Kalamazoo, Sr	16.3
8. Colon Lewis, Alma, Sr	14.5

Rebounds - Overall

1. Troy Droste, Olivet, Sr	9.1
2. Matt Lotterman, Alma, Jr	8.3
3. Jeff VanderWiere, Kalamazoo, Sr	8.1
4. Brian Zawierucha, Adrian, So	7.3
5. Phil Crum, Albion, Sr	7.1
7. Chad Reagh, Alma, Jr	6.0
8. Todd Blomquist, Alma, Jr	5.8

Individual Scoring - League

1. Chris Knoester, Calvin, Sr	18.8
2. Todd Blomquist, Alma, Jr	17.6
3. Jon Njus, Kalamazoo, Sr	15.8
4. Duane Bosma, Hope, So	15.6
5. Darrin Weber, Olivet, Sr	14.8
5. Marcus Wourman, Albion, Sr	14.8
14. Colon Lewis, Alma, Sr	11.0
16. Reggie Reed, Alma, Sr	10.4

Rebounds - League

1. Matt Lotterman, Alma, Jr	8.5
2. Jeff VanderWiere, Kalamazoo, Sr	8.4
3. Troy Droste, Olivet, Sr	8.0
4. Phil Crum, Albion, Sr.	7.6
5. Duane Bosma, Hope, So	6.3
8. Chad Reagh, Alma, Jr	5.6
9. Todd Blomquist, Alma, Jr	5.5

Positive attitudes for baseball season

By Lisa Martin
Freelance Writer

After finishing third in the MIAA last season, the Alma baseball team is looking forward to the 1994 season and they have great expectations.

During the recent winter break, the baseball team travelled to Florida from Feb. 27 to March 4 giving the Scots a chance to get out of the gym and onto the field. This was also an opportunity for the coaching staff to see everyone play and to figure out a potential lineup.

"It was definitely a positive experience for everyone, especially the guys that had no experience," said junior Ryan Kimbirauskas.

The Florida workout also pointed to some of the trouble areas that the Scots need to work on. This opportunity gave them a chance to make some significant changes in order to improve.

Senior and co-captain Tim Bailey said, "Florida was our wake up call and also an educational process."

Early in the Florida trip, the pitching was weak, but it improved as the week went on. The Scots were also having trouble on offense as their hitting was lacking. These combined misfortunes resulted in a 1-6 record for the Scots.

"Defensively we did an adequate job. Offensively we didn't hit the ball well," said Coach Bill Klenk.

The players are ready to meet the trouble areas head on. The Scots plan to pull together, work hard, and have a great season. This week the Scots have been working hard to get together and

improve. They are ready for this season and ready to improve on the third place finish that they had last year.

Junior Scott Collins said, "In Florida, we got a feel for the season. We should have a good season and the team will step forward to meet the challenge."

Coming into this season, the Scots had to replace the right side of the field because the team lost these players to graduation. Florida helped them to do just that and the coaching staff now has a lineup and a solid support for the team as the Scots head into their future games.

"We are adapting well to losing the seniors, but it has been hard on the pitchers to get used to a new catcher," stated Bailey.

This should be a very competitive season. The MIAA should be strong; everyone has returning players with even more experience.

Senior and co-captain Devin Lavengood said, "We have a good attitude going into the season. We should do well in the conference."

Even though the baseball team is starting off with a 1-6 record, their attitude is good and the team is moving in a positive direction. The losses seem to inspire the players to work harder to obtain their goal of finishing higher in the final standings. The key this season will be keeping a positive attitude and working hard to improve their weak spots.

The teams' next two games are away and out of state. On Sunday, March 13, they travelled to Columbus Ohio and took on Capital. The next game is the following Sunday, March 20, when they will face Anderson in Ohio.

Tennis team sets up for winning season

By Tim Ketel
Staff Reporter

The snow is melting. The sun is shining. The birds are chirping and the tennis balls are flying. Yes, spring is almost here and the men's and women's tennis teams are already into their seasons and practicing hard.

Both teams have already taken trips to Florida and have played some important matches.

The men's tennis team played five matches in Orlando, winning three and losing two. They defeated Kings College, St. Francis, and St. Leo, but lost to Michigan Tech and St. Cloud State.

The women came home from Florida 2-2. They defeated St. Leo and Michigan Tech, and lost to Weber and Augustana.

For those among us who are ten-

nis-ignorant, here are a few quick details about college tennis. There are six singles positions, and three doubles teams positions. Players are allowed to play both a singles and a doubles spot, unlike high school tennis. Alma has a men's and a women's tennis team, but they each only have a varsity squad. Eight to ten people normally do all the playing, while the rest just play when the other team has extras. The men's and women's teams are totally independent of one another, and do not share coaches or matches.

The men's tennis team is coached by Brian Zimmermann, who also coaches football at Alma. The women's team is coached by Deb Mapes, the Women's Athletic Director and women's varsity soccer coach.

The men's team is starting the year strong, led by four senior varsity players. Dustin Snell, Matt

Zayko, Matt LaJune and Cliff Hodgman are all four-year letter winners and are expected to help the team to a good finish this year.

Newcomers Nathan Lounds and Brian Balding join veteran player sophomore Chris Stacey in rounding off this year's current varsity team.

The team is hoping to battle Calvin for second place in the league this year, and then is aiming for Kalamazoo.

"Kalamazoo has been the dominant force in the league for 58 years," explained Coach Zimmermann. "They are the team to beat."

The men are off to a good start with a winning record, and hope to get even better through the year.

"I'm pleased with where things are at this point in the season," said Zimmermann.

The women's team also has the

strength of four unifying seniors. Jennifer Jourdan and Melanie Mayer take up the lead as captains, followed by Amy Caesar and Kim Kraai.

Filling up the rest of the varsity squad are sophomores Sarah Gabler and Jody Miller. They are joined by first-year students Jill Wochrmann and Samantha Jacobs.

The women open their season on the road Saturday with a match against Saginaw Valley State University.

The women's tennis team is not just a few good singles players.

"Our team is stronger this year in doubles," said Coach Mapes. "We're stronger all the way down the line."

"Our team is a lot deeper than in the past," explained Mayer. "We have a chance to do really well."

Looking ahead, the team is going to be fighting for a second-place finish this year, hoping to do well in their battle against Albion.

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Multiculturalist foes miss the point in their arguments

By Stephen C. Herrick
Freelance Writer

Well, once again, pseudo-journalism has reared its ignorant head in the *Almanian*, this time attacking multiculturalism [February 22 issue: "Multiculturalism is Un-American," by Emily Damstra]. Rather than spend the considerable amount of time it would take to point out all the errors, non-sequiturs and just plain falsehoods in this article, I will make note of the more glaring ones, and then rewrite the article from my own perspective.

The first is from the writer's own experience. She states she is second-generation Dutch, yet considers herself an "unhyphenated American to the core," and says that learning about her Dutch ancestry would make her feel like an outsider. I know a great deal about my ancestry, and it hasn't ever made me feel like an outsider.

Then Damstra, for no reason I can imagine, adds the sentence "It is sad that schools and liberal leaders do not encourage children who speak a different language to learn English."

Where did that come from? It would indeed be sad, if it were true, but as someone who is going into bilingual education, I can assure you that leaders and schools most certainly do encourage immigrant children to learn English.

Schools do more than any other single element of society to integrate immigrants into America (not "insulate" them, as Damstra states), and part of that, obviously, is teaching them English. Classes that are offered in other languages are for students who speak no English at all, in districts that feel students are better mainstreamed by learning subject matter concurrently with English, rather than learning English and then trying to take on subjects.

In the next column, Damstra writes that she did not need role models of the same race to succeed in school, implying that no one else should, either. She cites the Founding Fathers as an example, since they "had foreign ancestry, yet are considered thoroughly American."

I doubt that I am the first to point this out to Damstra, but, being Dutch, she is of the same race as the Founding Fathers. Their having "foreign ancestry" is not the same thing as having a different race. Her point is not taken.

At the top of the last column, Damstra states that the citizens of the U.S. have gotten along "beautifully" compared to those of former Yugoslavia. Perhaps they didn't teach about the Civil War at Damstra's high school. Perhaps she didn't hear about the KKK's lynchings, or the race riots in Watts, Detroit, Los Angeles and other places. Perhaps she's not aware of racism and sexism and homophobia. Perhaps she doesn't know that Yugoslavia was a very peaceful nation until just a few

years ago.

The last statement in this paragraph reports, bizarrely, that multiculturalism will doom America to ethnic warfare. Perhaps the author should have conducted some kind of research to make up for the gaps in her education before writing her article. Here is how I would have written it:

Multiculturalism, often derided by many conservatives with the vague but highly stigmatized term "politically correct," is something we've all heard a lot about lately.

These conservatives, who swell with pride in their "political incorrectness," fear that it will tear the United States apart at the seams by aggravating present racial and ethnic tensions.

The truth, however, is that multiculturalism seeks not to create differences, but to recognize them and cultivate respect for those that already exist.

The Winter 1994 issue of *Dissent* magazine contains a very good article

on multiculturalism, written by Joseph Raz, which describes the more important points of multiculturalism, as defined by a multiculturalist. Feel more than free to compare them to a conservative's definition of multiculturalism, if you can find one

[Damstra, for example, never offered one, so we don't know specifically what it is she opposes].

First: the children of all cultural groups should, if their parents desire, be educated in the culture of their own groups—but also should know at least some basic information about all other cultures in the nation. Notice that no one is forced to learn their own culture, as some people would have you believe, nor is anyone forced to be an expert in a culture in which they have no interest.

Second: the customs and practices of these cultures should be recognized and respected both in law and in practice. There is a paradox inherent here: should we respect practices that do not respect others? To put it another way, should we tolerate intolerance? No. If multiculturalism respected intolerance, it would have no rebuttal against the conservative intolerance of its very existence.

More importantly, as Raz puts it, "[Cultural groups'] moral claim to respect and prosperity rests entirely on their importance to the prosperity of individual human beings." So, when a culture oppresses its members, it ceases to claim the protection of multiculturalism. A culture is not as important as the people in it.

I will quote the third point verba-

tim: "It is important to break the link between poverty, under-education, and ethnicity. So long as certain ethnic groups are so overwhelmingly over-represented among poor, ill-educated, unskilled, and semiskilled workers, the possibility of cultivating respect for their cultural identity, even the possibility of self-respect, are greatly diminished."

If young children grow up seeing their own cultural group in poverty in the midst of plenty, and learning in school that their cultural group

tension between divergent cultures, and can accept that fact.

So, we know what multiculturalism means and I think most reasonable people can agree that "harmonious coexistence" is a worthy goal. So why do some people oppose multiculturalism? Mostly out of misconceptions. Many people read some kind of anti-American (or un-american) sentiment into it. They think that to be a multiculturalist, you must hate white male culture (if you listen between the lines, you will note that this is what being anti-American means to them).

On the contrary, all you have to do to be a multiculturalist is recognize white male culture as objectively as you can and realize that no one can make you be a part of it or force you to meet its standards against your will.

That means you don't have to gear your education towards climbing through the Old Boys corporate network, or speak in patriarchal terms if you don't want to, even at the risk of being called (gasp!) "politically correct."

And you are no less an American. We don't call America-bashing "multiculturalism." We call it "America-bashing," and we distinguish it from criticizing white male corporate culture.

There are other facets of multiculturalism that people don't or refuse to

understand. For example, it realizes that not every person can be immersed in the culture of their choice at every moment. If there is a single family of a given ethnicity in a town, it cannot be considered a culture unto itself.

A culture must be a stable, self-perpetuating community. A famous example is San Francisco's Chinatown. Detroit has several areas that are known as ethnic enclaves, including Greektown and Hamtramck. Some of them are still highly concentrated and some have dispersed.

Which leads to another aspect of multiculturalism: flexibility. By the very definition of a multicultural society, people from diverse backgrounds will have to come into contact with each other. This will inevitably cause changes in all cultures involved, which is just fine with multiculturalists and is, in fact, expected. After all, multiculturalism is not based on nostalgia nor on variety for its own sake.

As Raz writes, "It is not a policy of conserving or fossilizing cultures in their pristine state." Inherent in this flexibility is the guarantee that any person may leave the culture s/he was born into, at any time and for any reason.

If I wrote nothing else, that last sentence alone would counter all

the anti-multiculturalism arguments I've heard, including Damstra's very last sentence, "Forcing people to associate only with others 'of their own kind' is simply un-American." It sure is, and it doesn't have the first thing to do with multiculturalism.

So, if it is true that multiculturalism is so flexible and tolerant, why does it make conservatives so defensive? The problem is that many cultural groups feel their cultures are being assimilated (read: destroyed) against their will, perhaps even without their knowledge. They are never taught that there are alternatives to the homogeneous culture they are taught in school, or that the way they were brought up—perhaps speaking a different language at home or celebrating different holidays—is just as "good" as the way their friends were brought up.

These culture groups feel, with justification, that their cultures are being belittled and bashed—they aren't being tolerated. When they demand tolerance, white male conservatives whine that they are being bashed.

More than once, conservatives have told me that multiculturalism teaches children that they should hate America because it is racist and sexist (what they mean is that it is turning them against white male corporate culture).

My only answer is that it teaches them to see America as it really is and to recognize these and other vices wherever they see them, whether in America or elsewhere. If that means facing up to the racism and sexism we all know has existed throughout American history, then so be it.

I also hear conservatives say that immigrants should assimilate into "American culture." I ask, "Which one?"

The culture of small-town Maine is not the culture of rural Tennessee, which is not the culture of Manhattan, which is not the culture of Alma College, which is not the culture of the farms of Nebraska, which is not the culture of South-Central L.A., which is not the culture of the Louisiana bayou. No one would mistake one of these for another; they are too different.

How did they get that way? By the immigrants who moved to each respective place. They brought part of their "old" culture with them to their new homes.

Today, no one would mistake Maine for Britain, or Louisiana for France, because the immigrants changed while they were changing the environment, and now have a culture different from anything else. And there are many cultures in America, only a few of which I named above.

In other words, we are a multicultural society, whether people like it or not. It's the nature of our nation, even the very definition. Not only is multiculturalism American, it is America.



Mar. 15, 1994

Justice system lies above morality

By Bryant Martin
Freelance Writer

Recently, the Bobbitt trials have been discussed repeatedly in the *SOC 353: Sex and Gender Roles* class. Many interesting responses came up when I commented that Lorena Bobbitt should be punished for her actions against John Bobbitt.

The point I was trying to make was that both Lorena and John Bobbitt committed criminal acts which are declared wrong by any law in our land. This country considers abortion to be morally wrong, but every woman is given the choice to decide what is to be done to her body. This country also has to push and enforce the same rules for men. I support a woman's right to make the choice of what to do with her

Our justice system is trying to decide what's morally right instead of enforcing the law.

body, but John Bobbitt's decisions about his body were taken away from him.

The arguments I have heard in favor of Lorena Bobbitt's actions are: she acted in self defense; John Bobbitt had it coming to him; he deserved everything that he got. The most disturbing thing I heard was, "She took away the one thing that has been hurting her." I find this disturbing because, contrary to popular belief, men don't think with their penises. This man raped his wife; his penis didn't make him do that, but his mind did.

Rapists dehumanize, traumatize and permanently scar the women they prey on. This is a mental illness that should be treated while the person is doing time for the crime they committed.

When people talk about the Bobbitt case, all you hear about is the man's mutilated penis. The real issue is that he really didn't get everything he had coming to him. The man is a rapist who is not doing any time for the mental and physical torment he caused his wife. This is wrong and our justice system is trying to decide what's morally right instead of enforcing the law. This moral, rather than legal, system of justice has been recurrent in the Rodney King and Reginald Deny cases. Since the cops were sentenced lightly in the Rodney King case, they made the sentences light in the Reginald Deny case.

The truth is, two wrongs don't make a right. I don't feel that you can justify the beating of a man by any means; I also don't feel that there is any reason to justify the rape of another human.

I think that people who commit violent acts should be punished accordingly. When the law has been clearly defined, the only morality we need is justice.

Assertiveness and females: a growing combination

By Andrea Elkins
Freelance Writer

Almost a month has passed since the incident, but it still remains with me. I have recurring daydreams where I play out various scenarios—my version of what *should* have happened, perhaps. Unfortunately, I can't change the past; all I can do is learn from it, and take precautions to stand up for myself in the future.

The incident I am referring to happened, as I said, quite recently. I won't go into the details here, as they are not necessary to make my point. The brief synopsis is as follows: I objected to some unseemly, disruptive behavior by several young men from Alma College. My objection was seen as a personal attack by at least one of the young men, who proceeded to call me various offensive terms, including an offensive word about my supposed gender preference in sexual partners.

My reaction was initially one of shock. I suppose I have led a relatively sheltered life. I was raised in my family to have respect of and for people. I know that this attitude is not universal, but I have never encountered prejudices and ignorance so directly. Never before had pseudo-righteous anger been

directed toward me.

Shocked, I retreated immediately from the situation. But as soon as I had done so, my anger rose, and I wanted nothing more than to confront this young man and yell back at him. I was constrained by three things. First of all, I was aware that if the yelling match escalated, I was no match for the much larger man. Secondly, I regarded a few of the men in the crowd as friends, and was hurt and upset that they did not defend me. Finally, society has an unwritten rule that women do not fight back if they are abused.

This last reason is the brunt of my hurt and anger. I am told to be quiet, ignore the pain and hope that he learns better manners in the future. I won't dent that this has made me stronger, but at what cost to my self-esteem?

By not refuting his name-calling, I felt that I was encouraging his behavior, but there seemed to be no other avenues open to me. Docility is so ingrained in me that I accepted the insults rather than stand up for myself. I wanted to step out into the hall and play ball on his level, to make him feel as humiliated as I did. I wanted to salvage whatever self-esteem I had left after hearing those words,

and not hearing one of the others jump to my defense. But out of fear and conditioning, I did not.

Now I think, if I had gone back and confronted Mr. X, what would have been the outcome? I can only wonder if I might have made a fool out of myself, made a fool out of him or embarrassed

all of us by losing my self-control.

I suppose that I could have confronted him the next

morning. Indeed, many of my imagined scenarios consisted of myself doing just that. However, he would probably have forgotten about the incident by then. Instead I laid in bed and stewed for most of the remainder of the night. Obviously, this is still very much on my mind.

What is this double standard? Why does it exist? Why are females made to feel ashamed for standing up to ourselves? When males are assertive, they are called confident and told they will go places. When women are assertive, they are called pushy and told *where* to go.

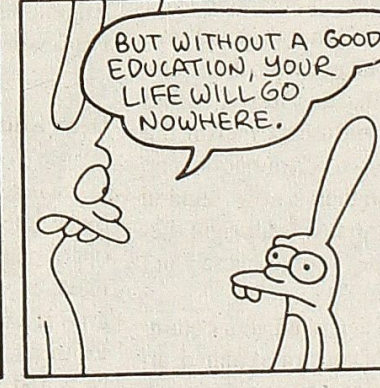
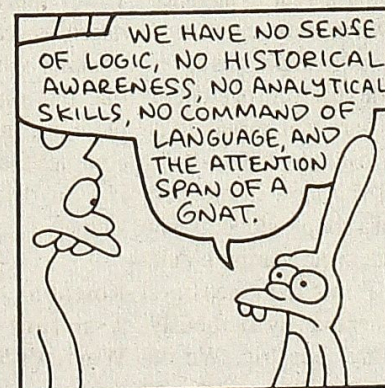
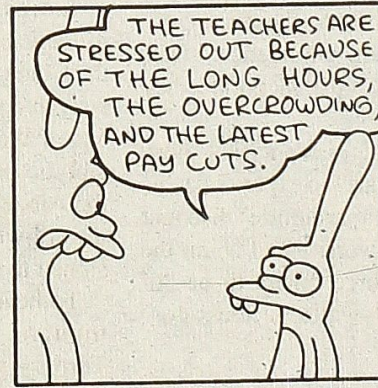
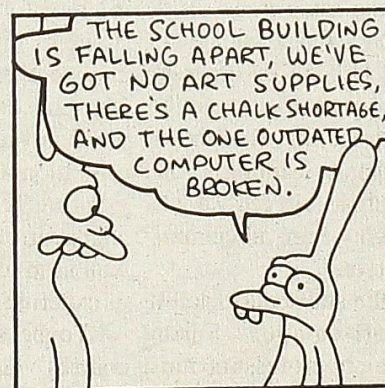
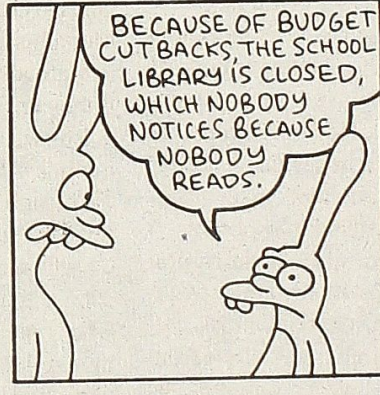
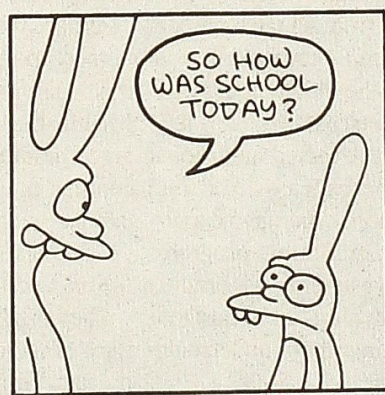
According to the out-moded ideals of society, women are supposed to be docile creatures. We are not supposed to be subject to the base instincts, such as anger, lust or greed. Well, I am! After

the confrontation, I was upset; I was just plain *mad*! But what could I do about it? There is no acceptable way for a woman to vent anger in today's society. I believe that this is one of the reasons so many women today are turning to affairs, exercise and dieting—these being some of the few avenues where a woman feels that she can attain control in her life. But the walls of society are made of brick, and only gradually can we chip away the mortar holding them together.

This double standard has plagued my mother for her entire professional life. A teacher, she has struggled for years to attain equal footing with the males in her profession. At the age of 45 she is still earning less than men in the same job, in the same district, with the same level of experience. She has earned both enmity and admiration for standing up for herself and her rights as a human being.

I have watched my mother. I know that I cannot change the world overnight. I can only be strong, have courage and pray (or is it vow?) that I will not be stunted in my personal and professional life by those who try to stare me down and expect me to give in. If you think that I'm going to be a wimp because of one tiny little chromosome, then think again.

LIFE IN HELL



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Mar. 15, 1994

Staff Editorial

Dare to explore Women's Week 1994

After lifetimes of struggle and centuries of invisibility, women have finally gained a place in history. In recognition of the previously unacknowledged roles women have played in the development of our society, the month of March has been designated by Congress as "Women's History Month."

The celebration culminates this week on the Alma College campus as we welcome "Alma College Women's Week 1994." The theme of the week's festivities incorporate Ruth P. Freedman's famous quote, "Only those who dare truly live," and each event reflects this theme.

"Taking a Closer Look at the ERA," a presentation of skits and discussion, examined the Equal Rights Amendment and the women who dared to create a document that would specifically include women in the constitutional statement "All men are created equal."

Tonight's speaker, Alice Tepper Marlin, will discuss "the glass ceiling," that unseen boundary which confines women to lower-level positions in the business world. This glass barrier has existed throughout history

and has kept many women from advancing to the tops of their professions.

Recently, though, women have found the weak points in this ceiling and shattered the notion that women are not capable of managing at an executive level. It required a lot of time and many tears, but a few brave women have broken the barrier so that the rest of us may have a chance to utilize the creative managerial power within ourselves. Marlin will highlight these achievements and offer further ideas on the needed deconstruction of the glass ceiling.

Wednesday's forum, "Women of Influence," will feature four Michigan activists who have faced barriers and overcome them through courage and dedication. They will share their successes and the enhanced quality of life they have gained from their experiences in the women's rights movement.

The "Celebration of Women Luncheon" on Thursday offers an atmosphere for students, staff and the community to dine together in an open atmosphere of diversity, strength and feminism. The idea behind a celebration luncheon is to remember and honor those women who have opened the doors, and continue to open more, for furthering female

advancement in education and profession.

The celebration closes (or rather, the week ends, for the celebration will last a lifetime) with an informal gathering at Max and Emily's including music and entertainment provided by "Second Opinion." The folk group will add a festive element to the evening with lively songs of sisterhood and unity.

The *Almanian* staff would like to encourage everyone to participate in this week's events. Women have too long been neglected by way of economic, cultural and social history. We are all too familiar with the pessimistic side of women's history; now is the time to celebrate in optimism.

The theme, "Only those who dare truly live," holds many interpretations. "Dare to celebrate feminism" is the message we would like to encourage. Feminism is no longer a dirty word, in fact it never was. Our mothers were brave enough to face the "rationale" against a women's movement, and they won. Continue to gain strength from their remembrance and dare to live a life of one's own and enhance freedom for everyone.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The editorial and opinion columns of February 23 prompt me to comment on Spring Term courses and on multiculturalism.

I particularly appreciated your suggesting a course in Michigan literature. I have frequently taught Midwestern Literature, including writings such as Ernest Hemingway's *In Our Time*, set in northwestern lower Michigan, and detective writer John Voelker's "U.P." reminiscences.

The course could include Julia Moore, "the sweet singer of Michigan," model for sentimental versifier Emmeline Grangerford in Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*. In my course, reaching past Michigan's borders, I often included Sherwood Anderson's *Winesburg, Ohio*, drawn from Clyde, Ohio, a village about four hours' drive from Alma. Two years running, the class toured from Monroe to southeastern Ohio, even stopping at Cedar Point.

I know parts of the course might not wash with everyone. Last year I was told that Hemingway was "incorrect" to blame his mother for his hang-ups. And that the African-American writers in Gwendolyn Brooks' *Jump Bad: A New Chicago Anthology*, who brought up such unpleasant things as lynchings, were "not truly midwestern," since they had emigrated to Chicago from the South. No matter that they moved to find better jobs and escape racism, but met greater discrimination and segregation than is now found in the South; that was all right, because these people were "not midwestern."

To take a leaf from your columnist Emily Damstra's canned, almost-plagerized piece on

multiculturalism, "any immigrant who went through the trouble of migrating to [the Midwest] should have the freedom to experience [the region's] unique culture." That ought to apply to internal migrants, too. It does not happen when we force minorities "to associate only with others 'of their kind'" in segregated housing. Given diverse heritages, segregation should have been considered un-American long before multiculturalism appeared. People who move from the Netherlands to Grand Rapids, or flee from Memphis to Alma or from Metairie to Marquette, might remember that, if they are capable of it.

But when our new assimilators include "Dutch" Reagan's (ex-?) Chicano Linda Chavez and an (ex-?) Irishman named O'Sullivan, whose ancestors were here a lot sooner than our columnist's, and who sometimes have learned to be more tolerant than she, may not be permitted by our wannabe-new-owners to "consider these sources." That is the new intolerance, I fear, that "full-pay" customers think they can buy.

Funny thing, isn't it, that those who immigrate "to experience this country's unique culture" discount its unique diversity and claim the "right" to force others to be "of their kind"—white, faceless conformity.

Eugene H. Pattison
Professor of English

Dear Editor,

I realize that it must be time for our Winter break because I've run out of patience for those who can't resist elevating whining to a fine art. I refer to the February 22 Staff Editorial, "Spring Term Requires New and Exciting Courses."

How reassuring that the staff is "sure that professors could come up with" other "creative twist[s] on course subjects," for this suggests that on some level they trust our judgement, imagination and expertise. You wouldn't know that if you stopped reading midway through the article, before which they chastise such efforts at innovation.

One of the primary objections, apparently, is "the hefty price tag." Curious given that most would claim an annual tuition, room, and board package of \$17,000 is not cheap. Curious, too, when one considers the "alternative learning environments" from which members of the *Almanian* staff itself have benefitted—the Philadelphia Center, study overseas, to name a few. Surely these exacted additional travel and other expenses. And from the praise those who have experienced such enriching programs share, the investment was certainly worth broadening their horizons and deepening their understandings.

Indeed, the same issue of the *Almanian* lauds the advantages of the Chicago Urban Life Program, conveniently omitting any reference to the "price tag" which inevitably accompanies learning beyond the Alma bubble, allegedly a goal toward which we are all commissioned to strive.

To hear the staff editors tell it, though, off-campus Spring Terms—which professors must begin planning a year in advance, especially when their intent is to "coupon-shop" to make it as accessible to a wide spectrum of students as possible—are tantamount to an elitist ploy to exclude students "who can't afford" it. How ironic, considering that a couple students who enrolled, e.g., in the Martha's Vineyard Spring Terms, requested travel by plane rather than by a tediously long (two-day) bus trip. We declined this suggestion, sustaining

our efforts to save students money and to make this an option for a more diverse array of students.

Others noted that once they subtracted from the travel and accommodations fee the amount for Alma College Spring Term room and board they would have to pay anyway, they were actually receiving the opportunity to spend a month at a creative writer's colony in a New England setting for less than they could travel to Florida for the week of Spring break. Obviously, they were willing to prioritize visiting the Emily Dickenson Homestead and archives in Amherst, among other rare opportunities.

Perhaps had the editors done a little homework, they would have realized this, and maybe even learned that Michigan-specific travel does not guarantee nominal fees. Duration of off-campus time and discipline-specific events' costs can incur justifiable "price tags" even here in Michigan, for one week alone.

They might also have realized, had they bothered to be "confused with the facts" in advance, that Spring Term is a time for professors to teach their strengths and specialties, for which they were, in part, hired. To my knowledge, no department has yet put a premium on hiring faculty with a concentration in "Michigan Studies."

Spring Term is also a time to pilot courses in evolving areas of study as well as to offer classes in their fields of expertise.

To be sure, "new and exciting courses" do not happen overnight. They require months of intense preparation, sweat, and, yes, tears—particularly when a dismissive editorial like this one carelessly erases such planning and reduces a multitude of complex factors to a whining damned-if-you-do-damned-if-you-don't swipe.

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The Almanian

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