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# The Almanian

March 29, 1994

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 21

## Provost applicants begin interviews

*Selection Committee narrows search  
from 110 applicants to seven finalists*

By Kristin Allen  
Editorial Assistant

After weeks of sorting through applications and resumes for the position of Alma College Provost, the Provost Selection Committee, consisting of students, administrators and faculty from all sectors of the college community, has narrowed its extensive search to seven highly qualified candidates, several of whom will be on campus throughout the next three weeks.

Three of the candidates—Dean Boal, President of Interlochen Center for the Arts; David J. Prior, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Northern Arizona University; and William Potter, Interim Provost and Dean of Academic Services at Alma—have already interviewed on campus, meeting with faculty and students.

The remaining candidates—Jeffrey L. Buller, Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences at Georgia Southern University; Paul J. Schwartz, Director of Academic Affairs at Pennsylvania State University; Nadine F. Jenkins, Executive Assistant to the Provost at the University of Texas at Arlington; and Leslie Ellen Brown, Associate Dean for Academic Services at the College of Arts and Architecture at the Pennsylvania State University—will be traveling to Alma over the remainder of Winter Term.

"The committee began with approximately 110 applications and carefully narrowed the search, conducting phone interviews with 18 of these applicants in order to better gain their acquaintance," said President Alan J. Stone. "I feel we have a good pool of candidates from which to choose."

The search for a new provost became necessary after the resignation of former Provost Ann Stuart near the completion of Fall Term 1993.

Before carefully examining each resume, the committee consolidated a set of criteria to determine the qualities they were looking for in a provost.

"Some committee members

feel more strongly about certain qualities than others. However, the committee represents different sectors of the campus, in order that differing opinions are represented," explained committee chair Eugene Deci, professor of physics.

According to Stone, the position of provost holds a tremendous amount of responsibility, signaling the second most important person in the school. In the capacity of vice president for academic affairs, the provost is responsible for authority over programs such as the overseas program, the library, and the computer center, in addition to promoting faculty relations and supervising course schedules.

Junior Dana Grant, student member of the committee, considers herself fortunate to be involved in the search.

"The search has been overwhelming in its time and work, yet a wonderful learning experience, as I've witnessed the progression of such a thorough search. As a business major, this experience will help me tremendously in the future."

Grant and sophomore Brent Oeschger have the responsibility of gathering interested students to meet with the candidates over lunch while on campus. This opportunity allows students to become acquainted with each candidate while letting the candidate interact with Alma's student body.

"The committee has dedicated a great deal of time and energy into making an extremely important decision for the institution," said Stone. "The new provost will ultimately help to define the future of the school, as he or she will carry out a large portion of our four-year plan."

The committee hopes to make a decision April 15; the newly hired Provost will begin work on or soon after July 1.

"I'd like to praise all of the committee members, including the students, for their hours and hours of conscientious work," said Deci. "The committee has functioned well due to the commitment of all members involved."

## Dancing At Lughnasa



*The Alma College Theatre completed their run of Dancing at Lughnasa last weekend. Photo by B. Oeschger.*

## Panel discusses campus media ethics

By Anne M. Buyze  
Staff Reporter

Freedom of expression: an issue that has been discussed since the primitive origins of speech and, although modern day languages have become more sophisticated, we are still debating its limits. Even in the Alma bubble, the gray area surrounding this topic has caused confusion. In order to decrease misunderstandings on the Alma College campus, a forum was held last Tuesday night in order to discuss ethics in campus media.

The forum consisted of moderator Nicholas Dixon, philosophy professor and department chair, and seven panelists: Karen Roeper, director of public relations; Michael Vickery, communication department chair; Burnet Davis, chair of the political science department; junior Nate Pawlicki, general manager of WQAC; and co-editors of *The Almanian*, seniors Ganesa Wegienka and Sara Groves.

After a brief introduction by Dixon which presented the benefits of freedom of expression and its legal limits, the panelists were asked to respond to the question, "In what circumstances, if any, and for what reasons, if any, should expression

be limited in college media?"

In answering, the panelists introduced a variety of views ranging from self-censorship to calling for campus media to follow the goals listed in the Alma College mission statement.

After expressing sentiments to censor media which degrades women, Roeper quoted Laura Billings from *Ms.* magazine, who said, "I share her frustrations of having to explain why humor directed at parts of the female anatomy is not found humorous or worthwhile by women."

In contrast, Davis said, "I think the best solution is not prior censorship institutional top down kind of control, but political action by students and by faculty and by members of the community who want to see things changed."

The idea for a forum was prompted by students and community members who expressed concern over the content, and what some people felt was degrading humor, exhibited during the WQAC "Brett and Brad Morning Show." After much debate in the communication committee, members felt the limits to freedom of expression were an important issue and that the entire campus community should discuss.

"Even though the forum was four months late, the initiative that people who were offended took to have it was impressive and well worth attending," said senior Mandy Leslie.

After the panel members addressed the question, the forum was then opened up for discussion and questions and comments from the audience. During the forum, which lasted approximately two hours, several students and faculty members engaged in a lively debate. Although the focus was on whether or not freedom of expression should be limited on college campuses, the panel discussed a variety of other topics, including who should censor college media and if campus media should be used to represent the college as a whole.

"Basically, I think the issue was whether or not a college is allowed to regulate media simply because it is a private institute or does the First Amendment hold true. I feel the First Amendment has to hold true if we claim to be an institute of higher learning," said sophomore Tim Nester.

In addition to the various issues discussed, many people aired complaints and helped inform the students about ethics in the campus media.



# TKE-AΕΔ capture Greek Week title

By Christopher Wiederman  
Business Manager

After a week of hard work, the team of Tau Kappa Epsilon and Alpha Xi Delta pulled ahead of the pack to claim the Golden Greek Cup award at the end of Greek Week. Although the competitive spirit throughout the week was strong, even those who didn't win came away with great memories from the week of fun.

Perhaps the biggest winner of the week was Habitat for Humanity. Collecting over 4,800 returnable bottles and cans, the Greek community showed its competitive and philanthropic spirit. Individually, the team of Sigma Chi and Gamma Phi Beta collected the most with nearly 2,800 cans and bottles.

Proceeds from the change drive, led by the team of Alpha Gamma Delta and Sigma Alpha Epsilon, also went towards charity. Total contributions from the can drive and change drive amounted to about \$800. Habitat for Humanity will use the funds to build and repair housing for the needy in the community.

"This is a great starting point," said sophomore Drew Pike. "We will take the experiences from this week and use it to help us improve. Greek Week will evolve into something bigger and greater every year."

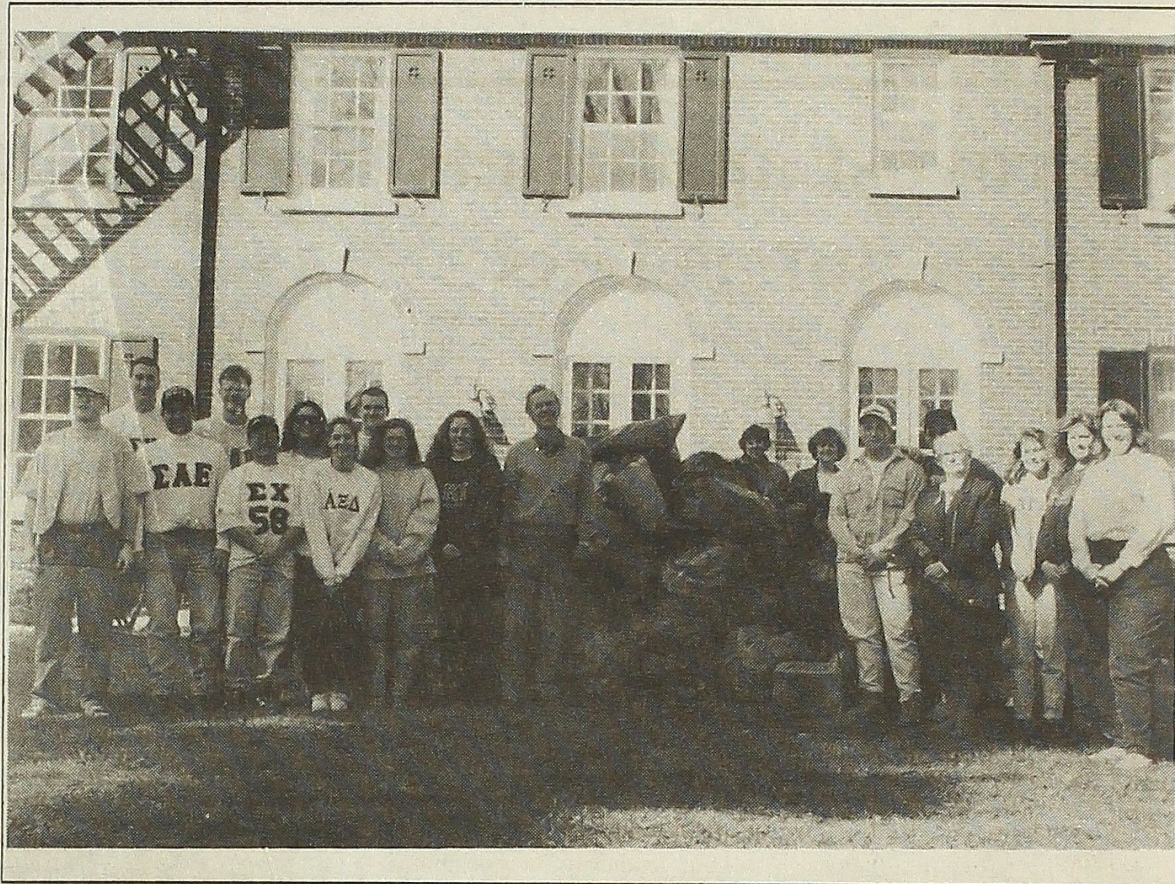
The week began with Sunday

night's award ceremony which drew a record crowd, nearly filling the Heritage Center Concert Hall. Each chapter president awarded individuals for their scholarship and personal contributions to their groups. Tami O'Bryant and Aaron Howald were named Outstanding Greek Woman and Man of the Year, respectively. Receiving Chapter of Distinction awards were Alpha Gamma Delta and Alpha Xi Delta sororities, with Gamma Phi Beta and Tau Kappa Epsilon each receiving honorable mentions. At the conclusion of the evening, Eugene Pattison, advisor to the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, was given special recognition by Tau Kappa Epsilon for his hard work and dedication over the years.

Keynote speaker T.J. Schmitz delivered a humorous and motivating speech prior to the passing out of the awards. His motivational words paid off as this year's Greek Week had the most participation of any in recent memory.

"This year's planning committee's focus was to make this year's Greek Week a phenomenon," said Greek Week co-chairperson Sean Lynott, "and we feel that we have succeeded."

Interacting with the Alma community proved an important and rewarding aspect of Greek Week. Thursday's blood drive sponsored



Members of the Greek Week planning committee gathered to deliver the \$800 donation the Greek community raised for the all-Greek philanthropy--Habitat for Humanity. Photo by B. Oeschger.

by the Inter-Fraternity and Panhellenic Councils was an overwhelming success with 164 units collected. With the help of Greek and non-Greeks alike, the drive surpassed its goal of 150 units.

Balls were rolling, pins were fly-

ing, and people were cheering to cap off Greek Week at the Highlandaur Friday night. The final event, a Bowl-a-thon, took place Friday, at which the Alpha Xi Delta and Tau Kappa Epsilon team took first place, knocking them into to

the front in the overall standings.

"I'm glad that this year's Greek Week focussed on philanthropy; it feels great to know that we have worked together to help others and had fun in the process," said senior Liberty Reiter.

## Wilcox exhausts its free condom supply

By Ganesa Wegienka  
Editor-in-Chief

Abstinence is the best way to protect yourself from AIDS and the HIV virus, as well as eliminating the chance of unwanted pregnancy. For some people, this solution is not feasible. For these individuals, the next best way to protect themselves from sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and to reduce the chance of pregnancy is using a condom.

Until now, many students on campus went down to Wilcox Medical Center to pick up their condoms. They were free with no questions asked. There were no stares from the little old lady working at the drug store counter.

But the rumors you might have heard—that the Med Shed no longer has condoms—are true.

Wilcox Medical Center has no more condoms and they will not receive any more until the 1994-95 school year. William Clark, PA-C, director of health services at Wilcox Medical Center, recently distributed the last 700.

"I distributed the last 700 condoms during Wellness Week," Clark said. "There were programs—including several RA projects—in which I distributed condoms. Each condom is dispensed with information on the proper use and care for condoms."

At the beginning of Fall Term, Wilcox was stocked with 2,500

condoms, 500 were left over from the previous school year and 2,000 more Clark had ordered 2,000. Clark said the amount he orders depends on budget limitations and the quantity of quality condoms he can buy with his limited funds. Clark shops around for the best condoms he can obtain for the Alma College students. The brand that was available in Wilcox was the brand distributed by most college health centers in the US. The 2,000 condoms cost over \$250.

Although more condoms were dispensed this year than last year, Clark does not feel that this means that students are more sexually active than before. He attributes the increase in condom distribution to increased education.

But there are some big misconceptions as to why Wilcox provides free condoms to students.

"The reason why we distribute free condoms is for educational purposes. We want the students to learn the correct way to use a condom. They need to learn things like you shouldn't keep a condom in your wallet or in your back pocket," said Clark. "Part of the educational process is also learning to buy condoms for yourself."

What many students are concerned about is that without these free condoms, many people will have unprotected sex, thus increasing the chances of unwanted preg-

nancy and the transmission of STDs. Students may feel Wilcox should provide them with contraception and protection because it is a service that college students need. But they may not be aware of one important detail.

"The funds for the services provided by Wilcox Medical Center do not come from Alma College students. Not a penny is taken from student funds or fees," said Clark. "The money comes from an endowment donated by Dr. Wilcox and his wife."

Most of the free drugs that students receive from Wilcox are free samples that Wilcox receives from drug companies. Clark is concerned because the companies are reducing the number of free samples they distribute. In turn, the Alma student may have to pay for certain prescriptions or services in the future.

"Our goal is to help the students the best we can while remaining concerned about how they will be able to pay for the care they need," said Clark.

Some students may question how Wilcox can distribute free birth control pills, while the condom supply has run out. The pills that the women receive are free samples distributed by a pharmaceutical company, and those, too, have the possibility of running out. The goal of distributing the pill to women is that it may help them start out on the pill and

help them to a point where they are in a position to purchase their own pills.

Clark emphasized that at Wilcox, they want to help the students in whatever way they can to become educated about contraception and protection from STDs.

Clark also said that in the past there had been discussion at the administrative level about making condoms more easily available for purchase. The discussion included such suggestions as providing ma-

chines where a student could comfortably and discretely purchase a condom.

Students have the ability to make condoms more readily available for themselves. Ideas generated in places like Student Congress could improve the availability of condoms to the Alma College campus.

If Wilcox is unable to help you with your contraceptive needs, you can try Planned Parenthood in Mt. Pleasant or the Red Cross.

*The final two issues of The Almanian will be a 12page issue on 4/12 and a 4page issue on 4/19*

*Applications for all positions for the 1994-95 staff are now available on the door of The Almanian. Applications are Due Thursday April 7*



Mar. 29, 1994

# Illiteracy begins at home

*Service Learning speaker offers suggestions for improvement*

By Leslie Theisen  
Investigative Reporter

Students and faculty congregated in Dow Auditorium at 8 p.m. last Tuesday to hear Patricia Edwards talk about the role of teachers, family and community members in conquering illiteracy. Nationally recognized for her work in literacy, Edwards was the second speaker in a series sponsored by Alma College's Service Learning Program on "The American Family In Crisis."

A professor of education, Edwards currently teaches at Michigan State University where she earned a Kellogg Fellowship. Edwards is esteemed for founding the recently published program, Parents As Partners, which encourages parents to read to their children and make reading a positive experience. The program offers literacy tutoring to illiterate parents who want to read to their children.

Edwards began her presentation with a video which looked at the changes in families and schools over the past 50 years. The narrator pointed out how, "Virtually every group in America that has been networked around children has moved away in terms of time and function." The narrator also emphasized the necessity of "a stronger motivational and support system in our families and schools."

The main thrust of Edwards argument pushed for stronger commu-



Patricia Edwards. Photo by C. Thomas.

nity efforts to educate parents about the importance of literacy programs and reading at home.

"The problem starts at home," said Edwards about illiteracy. "In education, we have to find out more about our students; we have to understand and respect differences in the kids."

"The reading problem is a community problem. Schools are dealing with fragile families. If people in the community form connections among professional agencies and programs, we can build a network to fight the problem of illiteracy," said Edwards.

Senior Molly DeLind thought Edwards' addressed the issue from

a positive perspective.

"Edwards' enthusiasm lends itself to her message. Instead of giving up on illiterate individuals—writing them off as lazy or apathetic—Edwards shows you how to give people a chance to change their lives in an essential way—the chance to communicate with written words," said DeLind.

"I really enjoyed Edwards' talk. She addressed a lot of problems that are actually in our schools. I've worked at summer camps with sixth graders who can only read a couple words. Literacy is important to life and Edwards opens people's eyes to that fact," said senior George Murphy.

# Science societies offer year end programs

*Reed talks stars, others prepare Blowout*

By Kristen Miquel  
Staff Reporter

How hot is a star? Where is a star in space relative to the sun? These are just some of the questions Cameron Reed, associate professor of physics, addressed at his general lecture on astronomy on March 21.

The lecture, sponsored by Sigma Xi, the national scientific research society, was divided into two sections. The first section was devoted to general properties of stars, such as how old a star is or what types of chemical elements comprise a star. During the second half, Reed gave a brief discussion of his research at an observatory in Chile.

"I had to apply for time on a telescope," said Reed. "During the presentation, I mainly discussed the planning and preparing of my research."

The Alma and Central Club of Sigma Xi is comprised primarily of faculty and people associated with Alma College and Central Michigan University and currently has approximately 15 members. The society sponsors one national speaker every year, along with presenting a smaller lecture by one of its members. A banquet is also held in the spring.

"The banquet is where we do the most business," said Melissa Strait, associate professor of chemistry and

vice president for the Alma and Central Club of Sigma Xi. "We usually bring in a local person again to do the lecture at the banquet."

Currently the society is also trying to set up an outreach program. This program would be implemented into the public schools and give younger students access to the sciences.

Similar to this idea, Xi Epsilon Mu (the Chemistry Club), Beta Beta Beta (the Biology Club), and the Society of Physics Students are sponsoring a Science Blowout. The event, to occur on March 31 in Dow Science Center, will be an open house allowing people to see and participate in many different aspects of science. Reed will present a planetarium show, the physics department will display holograms, the chemistry department will have a demonstration show and the biology department will have displays set up.

The blowout, coordinated by the future generations division of Xi Epsilon Mu, the Chemistry Club, is a student originated project.

"We wanted to do something to show people what chemists do," said Strait. "It's also a good opportunity for people who don't know much about what we do to come experience things. Hopefully we'll have some hands on stuff, too."

The blowout is open to both the campus and the community and will run from 7-9 p.m. Admission is free.

# Faculty evaluations let students 'grade'

*Students' input affect everything from pay to tenure*

By Laura M. Paetz  
Staff Reporter

Every year, professors are required to be evaluated by their students in at least two of their classes. Most students believe that this form of evaluation lets their instructors know how they felt about their instructors' style of teaching and the class in general. However, according to Provost William Potter, these evaluations are important in determining other decisions concerning professors, including promotions, pay increases, and the granting of tenure.

"Of course the main purpose of these evaluations is getting feedback," said Potter, "but they are used for other purposes."

The evaluation questionnaire is comprised of a total of 31 statements relating to the quality of instruction and a comment section where students are able to discuss any other aspects of the course that have not already been covered. In addition, professors are given the opportunity to include five questions of their own about how students perceive them.

"The first twenty or twenty-five questions are sort of specific statements about the text books, the lec-

ture style, and so on," said political science professor Burnet Davis. "Those can be somewhat helpful in diagnostic work."

Davis gives the example that "if my evaluations come back and I score poorly on lecture style, and then in the written qualitative parts of the evaluation people write, 'talks in monotone,' 'is boring,' or 'I fall asleep in class,' the provost is apt to call me in and say 'Davis, you need to work on that.'"

In a way, students who fill out evaluations are grading instructors just as the instructors grade the students. The professors are given ratings, ranging from A to E, on "tests" such as accessibility, presentation of material, overall helpfulness, and course organization. These grades are then averaged into a "GPA." A "report card," or summary of these evaluations, is then made available to the professors.

"To protect the students and the instructors from bias, evaluations are given after the drop/add deadline and before the last week of classes—between the ninth and thirteenth weeks of class. The results of the evaluations are not revealed to the faculty member until after final grades are turned in," said Potter.

These evaluations are considered

confidential; however, according to Potter, "appropriate people are allowed to see them." For example, Potter, who is currently serving as interim provost, routinely reviews the evaluations, and department chairs, who would help faculty members develop more in areas in which they were not well rated, also have access to professors' evaluations. The Faculty Personnel Committee (FPC), of which Davis is chairperson, is also granted access to evaluations.

However, evaluations are not used only to determine if faculty members are performing less than adequately. As previously mentioned, they are also used as evidence of effectiveness when a professor is in contention for certain academic awards, such as the Faculty Barlow Award, or in the cases of promotion or pay increases. The FPC helps advise the provost in these matters.

Professor of biology Richard Bowker, who is a member of FPC, believes that this evaluation method is adequately effective in reaching its goal of providing general feelings about instructors. However, he also believes that no evaluation system is perfect.

"This system works okay...Most

importantly, it provides some official feedback to faculty members," said Bowker.

Contrary to some students' opinions, these evaluations are not just opportunities for instructors to find out how their students see them. According to Davis, they remain "a part of [professors'] performance evaluation that each of us has on file in the provost's office."

## Retraction

The editorial board of *The Almanian* wishes to apologize for the following errors in the story "Tenure granted to four new faculty" which appeared in the March 22, 1994 issue. First, there are three categories of criteria tenure candidates must meet—teaching, scholarship, and service. Grant writing, which falls under the service category, was mistakenly listed as a fourth. Also, the only administrators who review portfolios for tenure are the president and provost.

## Alma College Faculty and Staff

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## Beethoven's Ninth highlight of Midland Symphony production

By Laura M. Paetz  
Staff Reporter

On Saturday, Apr. 9, the Alma College Choir will join the Central Michigan University Choir and the Midland Symphony Orchestra in a concert at the Midland Center for the Arts. The featured selection of the evening will be Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, performed by the Alma College Choir and the choirs from three

about 100, so it will be a big chorus," he said. "Leon Gregorian, who is the director of the symphony at Michigan State University, is the conductor, so it's nice to be working with him."

Gregorian seems equally excited about the upcoming performance. In a recent news release publicizing the event, he remarked that "Beethoven always pushed composition to the limit. His Symphony Number Nine is monumen-

*"We think it is a real honor to be invited and we are pleased to get a chance to sing Beethoven again."*

--Wil Nichols

Alma College Choir Director

surrounding Presbyterian churches. Earlier this year, at the debut of the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts, the same program was performed.

Similar to Alma's performance, the Midland concert will incorporate the talents of four soloists, one of whom accompanied the Alma choir during their production of Beethoven's Ninth. Soprano soloist Glenda Anderson Kirkland, educated at the Julliard School and currently a professor of voice at Eastern Michigan University, will provide her talents for the second time with the choir.

The concert will showcase other works in addition to the Ninth. Aaron Copland's "Quiet City," which attempts to portray an atmosphere of a city at rest, will provide an interesting introduction to Beethoven. Of this piece, Copland wrote that it is "a realistic fantasy concerning the night thoughts of many different kinds of people in a great city."

The piece is instrumental, featuring English horns and strings and "is a typical symphony concert opener," said Alma Choir Director Will Nichols. "Quiet City" is a very lush and beautiful opening piece."

Having never performed at the Midland Center for the Arts, Nichols expressed excitement about performing in such a large facility.

"We're taking about 90 singers and [the CMU choir] is taking

tal to coordinate, especially the fourth movement augmented by a large chorus and four soloists. It's a thrill to conduct because of its powerful message of peace and understanding."

Since the fall performance of the Ninth, the Alma choir has added 15 new members. According to Nichols, the choir will start this "message of peace and understanding" early this week.

Senior Sharilee Hines is looking forward to singing Beethoven's Ninth again: "It was really exciting to sing the first time, and it will be really great to sing it again in the springtime of the year."

Monique Averill, a first-year student, feels much the same: "Beethoven's Ninth is a very challenging and beautiful piece. It will be an honor to share our performance with the CMU choir and the Midland Symphony Orchestra."

"We think it is a real honor to be invited and we are pleased to get a chance to sing Beethoven again," remarked Nichols. "It's just a real adrenaline kick and we're proud to be thought of highly enough to be invited."

Tickets for this event can be purchased one hour before the concert or by calling the Midland Center for the Arts Box Office. The cost is \$18 for adults, \$16 for senior citizens, and \$14 for students.

## Quiz bowl competition 'shafted'

By Kristen Miquel  
Staff Reporter

And the College Bowl winner is...*Shaft*.

For the past three weeks, 10 teams have been competing in College Bowl, a *Jeopardy*-like competition sponsored by the Alma College Union Board (ACUB). College Bowl tests students' knowledge in areas such as literature, history, math, science and art.

"We've been holding College Bowl for a while," said sophomore Julie Johnston, ACUB's special events chair. "It's a chance for students to be involved with academics. We do Mock Rock and Song Fest where students can compete, but this is a whole new arena. It's not trivia. Questions are based on all different disciplines and are really difficult. Many teams pick one person who is really strong in math and another who is really strong in history and so on. College Bowl is for students and teams who are well rounded. It's a chance for people to show off their academic skills and provides a balance within student activities."

Teams consisted of four or five members; four competed at any

given time, with one standing by as an alternate.

This year's teams competed in a single-elimination format. Games were held Tuesday and Thursday evenings, with teams notified a few

*"I can rent the movie Shaft a lot with \$20."*

--Junior Tom

Schweinhart,

Shaft team member

days in advance of their competition.

The competitions were split into two 10-minute halves with a 10-minute break. Teams rang in to answer toss-up questions; if answered correctly, the team then received additional bonus questions. Incorrectly answered toss-up questions resulted in a five-point penalty. ACUB members kept score and moderated.

"The winner of a round went onto the next round of play," said Johnston. "The overall winner of College Bowl won \$100. Second place received a gift certificate for

Pizza Sams."

*Shaft*, named after a classic 1971 detective drama which won an Oscar for its soundtrack, consisted of five members: seniors Rob Douglas, Bill Johnston (captain) and Ganesa Wegienka, junior Tom Schweinhart and sophomore Anne Tobian.

"*Shaft* prevailed," said Wegienka in reference to the team's message on the ACUB message board in Joe's Place. "We had a lot of fun burying the opposition. *Shaft* is a great group to play with. I wish that I had known about College Bowl sooner."

"*Shaft* has become our trademark now. Over Christmas we bought the movie and memorized the whole thing," said senior Rob Douglas. "I thought Quiz Bowl was okay overall. Sometimes the rules got mixed up, though. I think they were different every time we played, but it worked out okay."

"This was the first time I've ever participated in Quiz Bowl, but I watched it last year," said Schweinhart. "I can rent the movie *Shaft* a lot with \$20."

Second place went to Box of Rocks, which consisted of seniors Randy Thelen, Aaron Howald, Chad Briscoe and Chris Hufnagel.

## Schindler's List sweeps Oscars

By Jessica VanSlooten  
Freelance Writer

If you happened to be flipping through television channels Monday, March 21, you probably glimpsed a portion of the 66th annual Academy Awards. Hollywood's glamour and glitz gathered for the presentation of the prestigious Oscar. The world watched and waited for the discovery of who would reign as victor of the motion picture world.

*Schindler's List*, predicted to garner many awards, fulfilled its reputation, receiving seven of the coveted trophies, including best picture. Steven Spielberg, a long overlooked candidate, was finally recognized as best director for *Schindler's List*. The movie also triumphed in the categories of adapted screenplay, art direction, cinematography, editing, and original score.

Sophomore Kristin Swihart said, "I was very excited when my favorite modern composer, John Williams, won best musical score for *Schindler's List*."

As for the individual actors and actresses, the competition was tough. However, Tom Hanks took the honor as best actor for his performance in *Philadelphia*, and Holly Hunter won best actress for her mute character in *The Piano*.

The categories of best supporting actor and actress also showed a supreme display of talent. Tommy Lee Jones was chosen for his performance in *The Fugitive*, and Anna Paquin was awarded for her role in *The Piano*.

The evenings festivities were presided over by actress/comedian Whoopi Goldberg. Her humorous transitions contained references to the stars of real life American Drama, Tonya Harding, Heidi Fleiss, the Menendez brothers, Lorena Bobbitt, and others.

Junior Sheri Tulloch enjoyed Goldberg's presence as host.

"She did a good job of keeping things light but also maintained the dignity of the ceremony."

Most of the award recipients were not a surprise, according to most

critics predictions. *Schindler's List* was highly regarded by the Academy due to its unique presentation of an important historical tragedy, the Holocaust.

First-year student Chele Pippin felt that *Schindler's List* appropriately handled a tough subject.

"People don't generally like to see movies about that time period because they focus on the bad aspects, but this one is different, it is positive," said Pippin.

Even if you missed the Academy Awards, you can still take in one of the Oscar winning films. And do not overlook the nominees that did not win.

Senior Heather May recommended *The Remains of the Day*, nominated for Best Picture.

"It was an excellent movie. The ending wasn't like the fairy tale I wanted, but it was the way it had to be to maintain the integrity of the film."

Other Best Picture nominees were *The Piano*, *The Fugitive*, and *In the Name of the Father*.

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Mar. 29, 1994

## Students experience altered consciousness

By Brooke Hansen  
Feature Editor

"Healing begins with respect for the Great Spirit and the Great Spirit is the life that is in all things—all the creatures and the plants and even the rocks and minerals. All things have their own will and their own way and their own purpose. This is what is to be respected."

The connection and respect for the universe that Shaman Rolling Thunder spoke of was experienced by students and community members who attended last Thursday's Shamanic Journey mini-workshop given by psychologist and shamanic counselor Jenny Trier. Trier has received her bachelors and masters degrees from the Institute in Culture and Creation Spirituality and is a psychologist with training in the C.G. Jung approach to dream analysis. She has also studied with the Foundation for Shamanic Studies.

The workshop, which took place in the Heather room, lasted three hours and was intended as an introduction to core shamanics, the basic methods used by shamans (healers or "seers") to enter other subconscious realities.

"Shamanism is an ancient human method for personal learning that has been used for tens of thousands of years," wrote Trier in a description of Shamanism included in a pamphlet distributed to people who attended the event.

The workshop began with the 25 participants joining hands to form a circle and continued with Trier's initiation of the four directions. Trier then anointed each person's place in the circle as their own sacred space.

Participants were asked to bring a scarf, small pillow and a mat to lie on. They used these "tools" in their journeys. The participants first travelled to the Middle World (a location that they were familiar with and felt comfortable in), the Lower World (a non-ordinary reality associated with healing and protection, where people search for their ally in the animal kingdom—their Power Animal) and the Upper World (also a non-ordinary reality linked with guidance and wisdom where attendants discovered their Teacher).

In order to journey to each of these altered states of consciousness, lights were turned off and participants were asked to lie down on their mats, certain that they were both warm and comfortable, close their eyes and cover them with their scarf and concentrate, letting their spirit guide them.

Trier employed drumming, the most commonly-used technique for trance-mechanism, to induce these altered states of consciousness. After the Middle World journey, Trier explained to her audience that the drumming style she utilized was between 7-7.5 cycle beats per second, the exact vibrations of the earth, and the altered reality the participants entered is known as Alpha Theta. The travels were intended to "facilitate a spiritual way to bring balance to mind, body and spirit, and develop a natural healing potential for self, others and the earth," as fliers around campus promoted.

"This program helps you realize that when a butterfly flits its wings in one part of the world, it affects the weather in another," said Shirley Bechill, who studied with Trier at the Institute in Culture and Creations Spirituality in Oakland, California last year and received her masters in the program there.

Bechill is also a Reiki master, the Japanese term for "universal life force energy," an energy that "has an intelligence, a life of it own."

"I felt one with the universe. The exercises demonstrated the power of one's mind," said sophomore Daniel Tisch.

The workshop was organized through the efforts of Gina Petonito, assistant professor of sociology; Verne Bechill, professor of sociology, and his wife Shirley Bechill. The idea to bring a shaman to the campus sprung up through Petonito's interests in demonstrating alternative methods of care-giving, one of the focuses of her medical sociology class. Petonito's knowledge of the camaraderie between Bechill and Trier, her connection to the Alma community (Trier, who grew up near St. John's, is the sister-in-law of Jacob J. DeYoung, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry) and the help of the Bechills made Trier's visit possible. Trier also conducted a seminar in Petonito's class.

"The basic reasoning behind the workshops was for people to get exposed to alternative, non-Western ways of thought. It was a way of bringing different ways of thought to the class," said Petonito. "Shamanics is about realizing that link between the body and mind. The mind will help the body heal itself."

Bechill agreed: "It gives one the opportunity to participate in our own healing, that is the only way healing takes place. You can get medicines to aid in your healing but essentially, we are the ones who heal ourselves."

## ACUB, OC choose 94-95 committee members

By Christine Ebert  
Freelance Writer

While walking through the Tyler-Van Dusen building during the week following break, students may have noticed nicely dressed, nervous individuals sitting in the hallways. These students were waiting to be interviewed for ACUB (Alma College Union Board) and/or OC (Orientation Committee) positions.

OC members fill an important role by welcoming first-year students during Preterm and helping acclimate them to Alma College. There are a total of twenty OCs with four alternates. Sixty-five people interviewed for these positions, including the 93-94 OC members wishing to return next year.

Being an OC one year does not guarantee a position for the next, although all past OCs are returning, along with 10 new members.

In the interviews, candidates needed to be creative and show an ability to think on their feet.

"It was a hard decision and there were a lot of great candidates, but we are very happy with the committee we have chosen," said junior Mary Kay Ecken.

"There were at least twenty more people that we could have chosen, but there were only so many spots open," said Ecken.

The OCs for next year are: Keel Amundsen, Brian Corrigan, Sean Corrigan, Jen Cosbey, Jason Darrow, Mary Lou Ecken, Gina Ecken, Ken Fenchel, Geoff Fortunato, Misty Gross, Kim Kocon, Leslie Ojala, Brian Palmer, Laura Rice, Jill Stube, Kari Tousain, Kelsey Tyner, Tiffany Vogel, Derek Zell, and Stephanie Zientek. Co-chairs are Mary Kay Ecken and Jason Gray.

The Union Board organizes campus-wide events of interest to all students. In addition to showing movies throughout the year, ACUB also sponsors College Bowl, and all-campus parties such as the All Nighter and Irish Pub.

"The goal in picking the Board is to get a variety of students," said Associate Dean of Students Linda Harleston, ACUB's advisor.

This is done so that the Union Board can design projects that will appeal to a wide variety of students.

Twelve people interviewed for the five open ACUB positions.

"I'm really excited," said Jen Victory, a returning member of ACUB. "I think that we have a good board and I think that we will have a great year."

The new Union Board members have already begun to participate and learn their new jobs. They worked to help organize and arrange Irish Pub. Early involvement is helpful for incoming members who will gradually take over their new positions.

ACUB is also open to any suggestions that students may have. Victory encouraged students to send comments and questions to the ACUB office, where they will be handled promptly.

The Union Board for next year consists of the following: President—Heather Heydenberg; Concert Chair—Jen Victory; Major Events Chair—Julie Johnston; Special Events & Recreation—Heather Dean; Cinema Coordinator—Sarah Barclay; Personal & Public Relations—Ray Kowalewski; Publicity—Ryan Kidd and Kathy Taylor; Technical Crew—Chris Hayes and Brian Martin.

## March Campus Paperback Bestsellers

Title	Author
1. <i>The Pelican Brief</i>	John Grisham
2. <i>The Far Side Gallery 4</i>	Gary Larson
3. <i>Ruby</i>	V.C. Andrews
4. <i>The Remains of the Day</i>	Kazuo Ishiguro
5. <i>Schindler's List</i>	Thomas Keneally
6. <i>The Chickens are Restless</i>	Gary Larson
7. <i>Care of the Soul</i>	Thomas Moore
8. <i>The Days Are Just Packed</i>	Bill Watterson
9. <i>Interview with the Vampire</i>	Anne Rice

## New &amp; Recommended Books

<i>The Talismans of Shannara</i>	Terry Brooks
<i>The Throat</i>	Peter Straub
<i>Tell me no Secrets</i>	Joy Fielding

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## Music Review

## Moonshake eclipses competition with debut album

By Chris Sienko  
Music Editor

I am writing this week's article as a public service, in case you should need it. There may come a time when someone may throw you into a locked room and play music at impossible volumes. It may sound like a cross between Led Zeppelin, Sonic Youth, Dinosaur Jr (in the old days), and heavy, Jamaican dub Reggae. They may then ask you, "Who plays this music? Tell us or we will kill you." If this happens to you, your answer is simple. Just say, "That's easy, it's Moonshake." Chances are, not too many other bands sound like this, so it's not likely you will mistake them for another band.

Moonshake's debut album, *Eva Luna* (Matador Records) is simply breathtaking and wildly creative. Although the band's stylistic debts run deep and large, they borrow from their forefathers with enough energy and self-consciousness to pull it off.

The drums on this album are

pure John Bonham (of Led Zeppelin, dummy). Imagine, if you will, a whole album of "When the Levee Breaks" on drums, and you get the idea. To make matters worse (or better, depending on how you feel about huge drums), the producer mixes this already crushing drum juggernaut to the front, making it louder than most of the vocals. This is okay, especially when it comes to the male singer (there are two of them, one male and one female), whose annoying vocal qualities mix the worst aspects of Johnny Rotten and Ozzy Osborne (i.e. chronic whining). The female singer has a much more palatable sing/speak style that approximates Kim Gordon from Sonic Youth.

Apart from the drums, the album is pretty sparse in terms of other instruments, which seems to consist of bass, guitar, and sampler. Nevertheless, each of these parts contributes plenty of noise to fill in the empty spaces. The bass is pure reggae, filling the songs with deep,

thick, rich lines that give the sound a much needed anchor, intertwining perfectly with the drums. The guitarist seems to have enlisted in the Sonic Youth school of guitar

turns this new piece of technology into an expressive, creative musical instrument, which is something I have heard few bands do.

The songwriting is not start-to-finish great by any stretch, but then again, this is a debut album, and it's very difficult to get 10s across the board the first time out of the starting gate. If they manage to repress some of their more annoying tendencies, and wait until they have an album's worth of monster songs instead of settling for filler, Moonshake is going to pummel the world.

**Pick of the Week**

Artist: Various Artists

Title: *The Cassette Mythos Audio Alchemy*

Label: Nonsequitur Records

In describing this tape, I must invoke the immortal words of my hero, rock reviewer extraordinaire Robert Christgau, who said, "Not only isn't it for everybody, it ain't for hardly nobody. I think it's a

hoot." This cassette is a document of the "Cassette Underground," a vast network of music, sound, and vocal artists who record their own music in their homes on cheap tape recorders, and send them out to various people in the network, who, in turn, dub more copies and send them out to their friends, etc. In this way, their music is distributed without the notice or supervision of the major label record companies. Artists on this album range from the almost-known veterans of the scene, like John Wiggins, Daniel Johnston, and MINOY, to the completely and utterly unknown, such as TENTATIVELY, a CONVENIENCE, and Phillip Perkins. The music ranges from avant garde timbre experiments, to honky-tonk piano music, to silly techno, to music made with transistor radios and turntables, and that's just the first side! Those with an open mind as to what music can be will find this tape to be the tastiest smorgasbord they have tasted in some time.

*Apart from the drums, the album is pretty sparse in terms of other instruments, which seems to consist of bass, guitar, and sampler.*

## Classifieds

**MS. APRIL FOOLS AC** sponsored by Student Congress on Tuesday, Mar. 29 at 8 p.m. in the Chapel. \$1 admission. All proceeds go to Women's Aid Shelter.

**ATTENTION ENGLISH MAJORS:** The Midland Foundation is seeking applicants for a \$1200 academic scholarship for the year 1994-95. To qualify for the award you must be a senior (94-95) majoring in a "literature-related field" and a Midland County resident with a B average in ALL courses through your junior year. Application deadline is Apr. 4. Pick up applications from Dr. Stargardt, AC 337, ext. 7224. Foreign Language majors also urged to apply.

**ALL STUDENT GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS:** Would you like to get a jump start on recruiting incoming first year students and transfers to your group? The Admissions Office welcomes your participation in this year's EXPO program taking place Sat., Apr 9. We will have a "Student Activities Fair" as the final event of the day and would like as many campus organizations as possible represented. Call Brenda Quillen or Mindy Sargent in the Admissions Office (#7139) to arrange involvement by your organization or for more details.

**ATTENTION EDUCATION STUDENTS:** The Michigan Test for Teacher Certification now has an informational brochure available which provides general information about the testing program to individuals who may be interested in the certification process or in pursuing a Michigan teaching certificate. Stop by the Education Department for a brochure.

**ATTENTION STUDENTS INTERESTED IN TEACHING IN ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL:** Registration materials for the Michigan Teacher Competency Testing Program are available in the Education Department. Registration for the Basic Skills and/or Subject Area tests must be postmarked PRIOR TO June 3, 1994 for the July 13, 1994 test date. Additional dates are available in 1994. **MICHIGAN TEST OBJECTIVES FOR THE BASIC SKILLS TESTS AND FOR EACH SUBJECT AREA TEST ARE AVAILABLE IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND ON RESERVE AT THE LIBRARY CIRCULATION DESK.** See Mrs. Farrier in AC 237 for registration materials or information about tests to be taken prior to recommendation for teacher certification. Deadlines and policies will be strictly enforced by the State Department of Education.

**ATTENTION ELEMENTARY EDUCATION MAJORS:** A senior comprehensive exam is required for Alma College graduation. To meet this requirement, Elementary Education majors should select ONE of the following options: 1) Elementary Education Test (required for certification in your teaching major), OR 2) National Teacher Examination (Specialty Area Exam in Elementary Education) OR 3) Graduate Record Examination (Advanced Test in Education). Elementary Education Test information about dates and registration is available in AC 237, NTE and GRE infor-

mation about test dates and registration is available in the Center for Student Development (lower level of Hamilton).

**ATTENTION EDUCATION STUDENTS:** Again this year, the U.S. Department of Education is continuing their funding for the Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship Program. You must have graduated in the top 10 percent of your high school class to be eligible. The maximum award is \$5000 each year. Stop by the Education Department for an application (Mrs. Farrier, AC 237). See Dr. Markham if you have questions. DEADLINE is Apr. 15.

**ATTENTION STUDENTS INTERESTED IN TEACHING:** If interested in Elementary Education, please contact Dr. Lynda Markham (AC 238; 7166) or Dr. Sue Root (AC 239; 7202). If interested in Secondary Education, please contact Dr. Anthony Rickard (AC 236; 7209).

**1993-94 RESEARCH WRITING CONTEST:** Prizes will be awarded for student research writing submitted for Alma College classes during the academic year 1993-94. Papers to be judged by quality, skills in synthesizing sources, methods of investigation, use of primary sources or data, and documentation consistent with the standard style sheet in the academic discipline for which the paper is submitted. Students in ALL academic disciplines are urged to enter, however, you may submit no more than two papers or more than one paper in an academic discipline or academic di-

vision of disciplines. Cash prizes will be awarded. Deadline is Apr. 15, 1994. Submit entries to the Provost Office in a manila envelope. Each writing should have a detachable title page and a signed verification from a faculty member whom it has been submitted to for a course at Alma College during the 1993-94 academic year. The student's name should appear on the title page but not in the text of the writing. Awards will be given after determination of winners has been made.

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Mar. 29, 1994

# Women's tennis captures early victory over Aquinas

By Tim Ketel  
Staff Reporter

It was a battle of skill and endurance, a chance for the Alma College women's tennis team to show what kind of power they pack in their swing. The Scots did just that last Saturday as they defeated Thomas Aquinas College in a home match.

Due to less-than-ideal weather, the game was played at the Midland tennis bubble at noon on Saturday, March 26. The Scots strutted their stuff with a 6-3 victory over non-conference Aquinas.

Due to the absence of number two singles player Jennifer Jourdan, the team members were forced to move up a spot—a situation that could be dangerous to some teams. These women took the bull by the racquet, undaunted, and filled their new positions expertly.

"We all had to pull together," said junior Jennifer McMaster. "We ended up playing even tougher."

The toughness they played with was reflected by their scores.

Number one singles Amy Ceaser and number two sophomore Sarah Gabler lost close matches. Both women played exceptionally well.

Senior Melanie Mayer took the number three spot to the victory. As a captain, Mayer has grand visions

of the team's future.

"Our team is going to be very tough this year," she said. "We're going to do very well."

Serving up a victory in the number four seat was first-year student Jill Wochrmann.

The victory for number five singles came from McMaster, who came out swinging and didn't leave until she had the win.

Senior Kim Kraii gave new meaning to the game of tennis with her hard-won victory over her opponent.

In doubles play, the team of Ceaser and Mayer had a very close loss in the number one position. More persistent than a pair of energizer bunnies, they kept going through three sets, finishing with a score of 5-7, 7-6, 7-6.

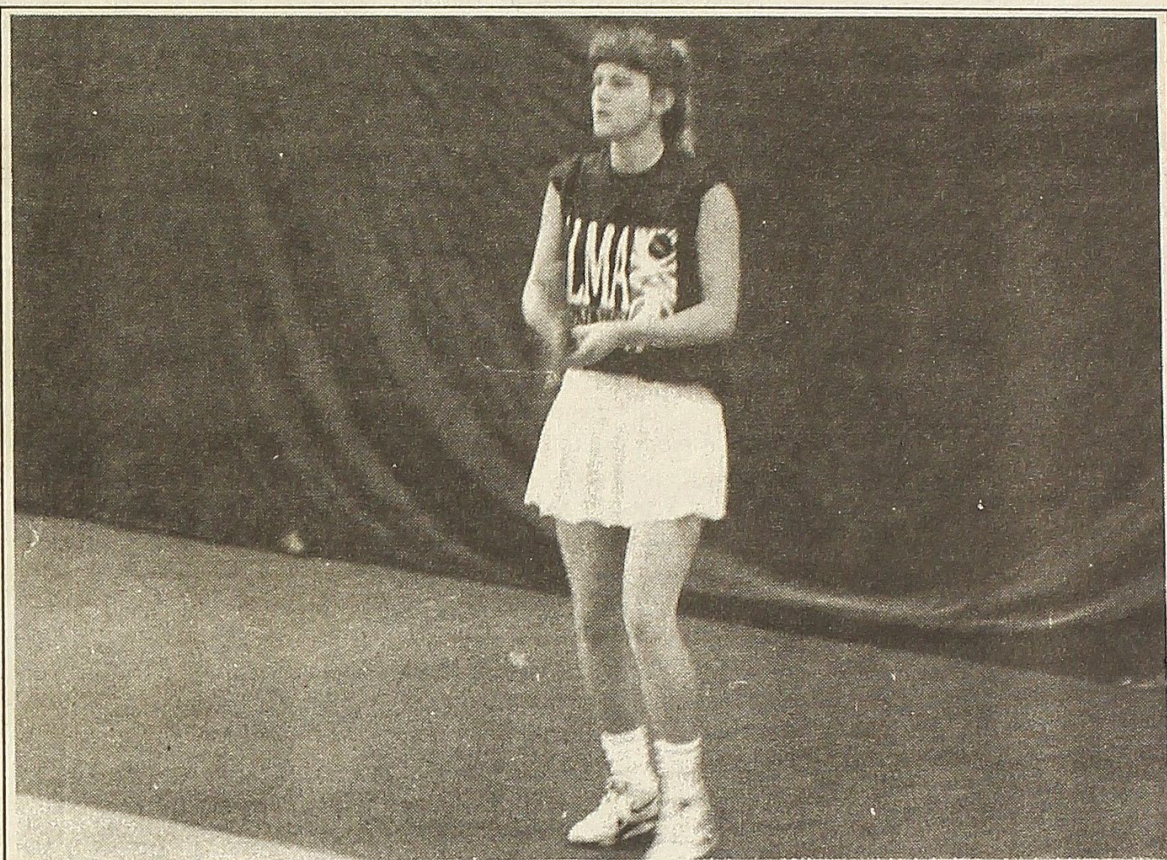
Wochrmann and Gabler took the number two doubles spot to new heights with their well-fought victory.

Finishing up the win, Kraii and McMaster found themselves reigning in the number three doubles position.

Emerging victorious, the team felt good about their win.

"We played really well," said Ceaser. "Even the ones we lost were very close."

According to Mayer, the win was



Senior Melanie Mayer won at number three singles to help the Scots beat Saginaw Valley State University last Saturday. File Photo.

not as easy as it looked.

"They were a tough team," said Mayer. "They hit hard, we just had to keep the ball in play."

Mayer continued, "A lot of players came back from behind. We had

a very good showing."

"Our performance gives me confidence for what's to come," said McMaster.

With a 4-2 record so far this season, the team is looking forward to

the remainder of the season.

"We have a really strong team this year," said coach Deb Mapes. "We have a lot more depth and strength than we did a year ago."

## Track succeeds down south

### Men place first, women third in Indiana

By Julianne Thomas  
Sports Editor

The men's and women's track teams came out running this week and never looked back. Both teams did well in both field and track events in competitions this week.

On Saturday, March 26, the teams braced themselves for competition at the Huntington Invitational in Huntington, Indiana. This was a relay meet, meaning that all scores were tallied together in relay format to come up with winners.

The men's team placed first, capturing two first place finishes and one second place finish on the track. The field events were strong, and the pole vaulters were remarkable.

"We only had two vaulters as opposed to three," explained senior captain Sean Toomer, "and they still came in second."

The distance runners rounded out the team, and together they managed to capture first.

The women's team also did well, placing third behind Grand Valley State and Huntington.

First place finishes were turned in by the shotput and discus relays. Senior Julie Glomson came in second in the 5,000 m, the shuttle hurdle relay came in third, and first-year student Kristi Kern finished first in the 400 m hurdles. Also placing first was the distance medley, with the sprint medley, 4 x 800 m and 4 x 400 m teams all finishing second.

"We were definitely a contender in every event," said senior Teri McDowell.

On Wednesday, March 23, the track teams travelled to Grand Valley to compete indoors. Again, the men finished first, and the women placed second.

Toomer had an outstanding performance in the 50 m. Senior Joel Reed also gave a strong performance in both the 400 m and the 50 m.

"Reed ran so well," said Toomer. "He was sort of nervous because the last time he ran he pulled his hamstring. This was a fantastic outing for him."

First-year student Rainy Inman had a strong performance for the women's team in shot put, and first-year student Lisa Wittenbach ran an outstanding 1,600 m.

"Wednesday was a good day for

us," said McDowell. "Grand Valley is a tough team. They are division II, and train indoors all winter long."

"Grand Valley has a very strong team," explained junior captain Mary Lou Ecken. "Both these meets gave us a very good idea of where our weaknesses are and what we still need to work on. The team work was fantastic at both competitions, though, and this season is very promising."

McDowell echoed Ecken's words.

"I was very satisfied with these meets. The teamwork was so strong with everyone pulling together. The unity was outstanding. There were people cheering for every event. We were a success, and we still had fun. That is what really matters. To do your best and still have a great time."

The next competition for the track team is at the Manchester Invitational, in Manchester, Indiana on April 2. Their first home meet will be the Alma invitational on April 9. The team looks forward to competing at home so they can have more fan support.



Senior Mark Church fared well for the Scots as they went 2-3 on the week. For the story on baseball, turn to page 9. Photo by A. Torrence.

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Mar. 29, 1994

## Baseball

## Scots open MIAA slate with 8-6 victory over Adrian

By Lisa Martin  
Freelance Writer

The Alma Scots finished up a long week of play by taking on the Adrian Bulldogs at their first MIAA conference match. The week began with the Scots travelling to Anderson, Indiana to play in a non-league game double header match-up.

The Scots played the Bulldogs first on Friday, March 25 and then played a double header against Adrian on Saturday. The Scots started their conference play with an 8-6 win. Unfortunately, they were unable to keep the winning streak going and lost both games on Saturday.

Friday's game began with Adrian coming up with six easy runs. Adrian was getting the hits and Alma was unable to field the ball. The defensive struggle is best exemplified by a first inning play. Adrian hit a fly ball to right field. Three Alma players went for the ball but the ball fell to the ground as all were unable to make the play. Alma's first time at the plate saw them score only one run.

Alma persevered, however, undaunted by poor play early on in the game. The fielding improved, and the Bulldogs were unable to score further. In the second inning, the Scots took control of the game. When the Scots got it together, they worked like a well oiled team. They were making the needed outs with some great pitching by senior Jason Robertson. The Scots were also swinging the bats and hitting the ball very well.

"Friday was an exciting game. Jason Robertson pitched a great game and everyone came up with key hits," stated senior Greg Gray.

Saturday saw new troubles as the Scots were beaten by the Bulldogs. The 8-6 Friday victory was forgotten as the team was unable to stop the Bulldogs from winning both games in the double header.

The first game on Saturday began with Adrian scoring four runs and

Alma was unable to score. Adrian clearly was the dominate team and they didn't let Alma forget it. Although the Scots held the Bulldogs to only four runs, the Alma hits never materialized into runs. The first game ended with a 4-0 loss for the Scots.

Senior Brent Neubecker stated "We had a good game on Friday. Saturday, we didn't play well. Offensively, we didn't do well either."

The second game on Saturday was a more exciting. The Bulldogs tried to continue dominating, and the Scots tried showing that they knew how to win.

It was a tough battle that was evident in an effort by Senior Captain Tim Bailey. Bailey went back to catch a fly ball and in a great effort he went over the back fence. He was a little bruised but got up and continued to play.

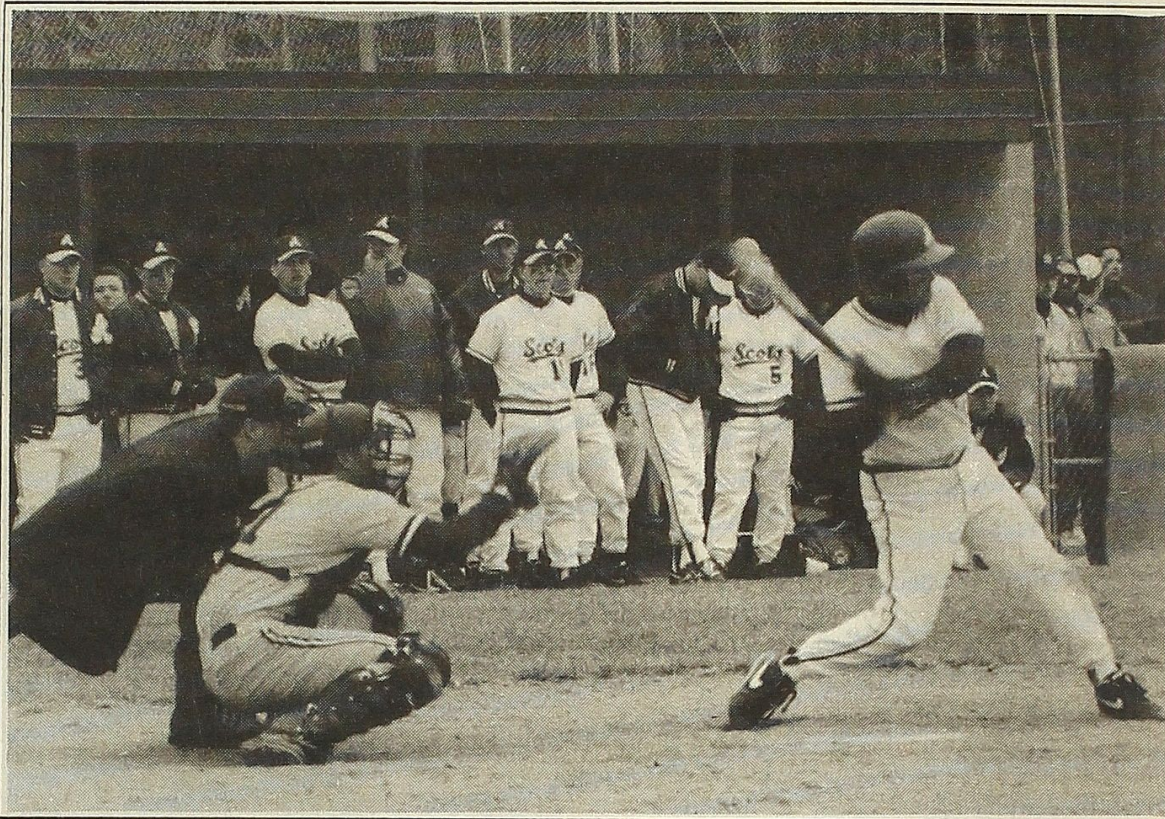
Adrian started off by scoring three runs and Alma was again unable to score. The Scots did not score until the bottom of the fifth inning. By the end of the sixth, the score was tied at four. Alma tried to stop the Bulldogs from scoring in the seventh, but Adrian managed to score two more. The final game ended with a score of 6-4.

"A couple hits put them up and we didn't come through in the seventh to win," said Gray.

Senior Brett Graham said, "It was disappointing. We were coming off the win and felt good. We came out on the second day and didn't do well. The first game we let up and then in the second game we tied and thought we could win but they hit two to win. When we hit the ball, we hit it directly to them."

The Scots are now standing at 1-2 in the league. It is still early in league play so anyone can walk away with the title.

"If we play like Fridays team, we should take it all. If Saturdays team shows up, we are going to



Senior Devin Lavengood played well for the Scots as they beat Adrian last week. The Scots also split a double header with Anderson of Ohio. Photo by A. Torrence.

have trouble," said Bailey.

Before the start of conference play, the Scots travelled to Anderson, Indiana to take on Anderson in a double header. The Scots split with Anderson.

The Scots came out in the first game and hit the ball extremely well. Seniors Neubecker and Devin Lavengood each had grand slam homers. Neubecker and Gray each had two -run homers.

Gray said "That was the first time of the season that our bats broke out and we scored a lot of runs. Everyone contributed to the win."

Sophomore Scott Moffatt made a nice play with an over the head catch. The Scots scored five runs in the last inning to take the lead and win with the final score of 14-11.

Anderson walked Moffatt which forced in a run and kept the bases loaded. Neubecker then followed with his grand slam to end the game.

"This game was emotional. We

had to fight back and it drew a lot out of us," stated senior Mark Church.

Bailey said, "Friday proved how capable we are. We had a strong offensive and defense. This is the team we should be."

Defensively, the Scots were still having problems. The Scots had three errors. Of eleven runs scored by Anderson only six were earned.

Graham said "We hit the ball well. We didn't field that well. The pitchers gave a strong performance."

The second game of the day was a disappointing shut out with Anderson winning 9-0. Offensively, the Scots didn't swing well. The Anderson pitcher dominated the game. Alma was only able to get two hits off of him. One was an infield scratch hit and the other was a single to right field.

Church came in for relief of Neubecker and pitched well, giv-

ing up only one hit. The Scots were just unable to get it together after playing a tough first game.

"We ran into a tough pitcher. We just left too many runner on base," stated Gray.

Neubecker said "We didn't hit well. We kind of gave up for this game. It was an emotional drain. They were a tough team. We should have done better."

After this past week of play, the Scots are now standing at 3-10 overall. Their next game begins today at 4 p.m. They will host Saginaw Valley State University. The Scots also compete against Kalamazoo during Easter weekend.

"Things will be all right. We just have to get things going. We need one break to get us going," said Neubecker.

## Softballers capture doubleheader over GVSU

By Alexandra Orr  
Freelance Writer

After a three week hiatus, the Alma College softball team got back into the swing of things this week with a double header against Grand Valley State University on Friday, March 25.

After playing exceptionally well in Fort Myers, Fla. over midterm break (their record was 7-2), the Scots were anxious about competing against GVSU.

Senior Rachel Butler said, "We were a little nervous at first, when we got on the field, but once we relaxed, we played as well as we did in Florida."

The Scots were victorious, capturing both wins with scores of 2-1 and 6-0. After hurting her knee in Florida, junior Julie Hoffman claimed the pitcher's mound for the first game. For the second game junior Beth Aulerich took over as pitcher.

Head coach Denny Griffin said, "It felt good to play again. I thought the pitching staff did extremely well. We had some timely hits. All in all I felt the team played pretty well."

Sophomore Bonnie Palmer commented, "Although we made some mistakes, our defense was our strongest asset. Whenever Grand Valley would have the bases loaded, we would shut them

down."

Junior Deborah Quackenbush agreed, "We played very solidly against Grand Valley. Defense was our key. We really stood tough when we needed to."

The Scots are preparing for a busy week ahead. Tuesday, March 29, the Scots will host Northwood Institute. League play begins Thursday, March 31 with the Scots hosting Hope College's Flying Dutch. Friday and Saturday, April 1-2, the Alma College Invitational will take place. Albion College, Lake Superior State University, Adrian College, and Northwood Institute will participate with the Scots in the tournament. The Scots will the tournament by playing against

Northwood Institute.

Quackenbush said, "Next week is going to be very exciting. We are hoping that the weather will permit us to play against Northwood on Tuesday. They are going to be a solid team to beat. If the weather holds out, it will be to our advantage to have played another team before league play begins against Hope. They are going to be one of the toughest teams in the league. Playing on our home field for the Invitational is definitely a bonus in our favor."

Griffin said, "We are not worried about our upcoming games. The women know their abilities. We are confident that we will continue to play well. Last year we made some

poor decisions, and it cost us some games. This year we have made some good decisions that have earned us our victories."

Butler agreed, "We are definitely hopeful about the games coming up. We have the attitude—You have to beat us! This year our team is strong. It is definitely to our advantage that we lost only one starter, and almost everyone else returned."

Palmer said, "As a team we are hopeful that we will go far this season. Everyone is contributing. Even when someone is pulled off the bench, you can depend on them to do their best."

The Scots will enter next week's games with an overall record of 8-2.



Mar. 29, 1994

# Danca falls short of expectations at Nationals

By Tim Ketel  
Staff Reporter

Picture yourself on a narrow fiberglass board, suspended three meters above a still body of water, in an over-crowded natatorium, every eye on you. A hush fills the building, and you balance, every muscle in your body tense, waiting... You let everything go, flying into the air, around and around, and you slice through the water with barely a splash. As you swim toward the surface of the pool, you can already hear the thunderous applause. Alma junior Radu Danca knows this feeling all too well.

Danca, a varsity diver, has been a member of the Alma College swimming and diving team three years and each year, he has qualified for the National Championships.

This year at the Nationals Meet, Danca placed 33rd in the three-meter competition and 31st in the one-meter. Last year he had placed 15th and 18th.

Danca was not especially pleased with his performance at the meet.

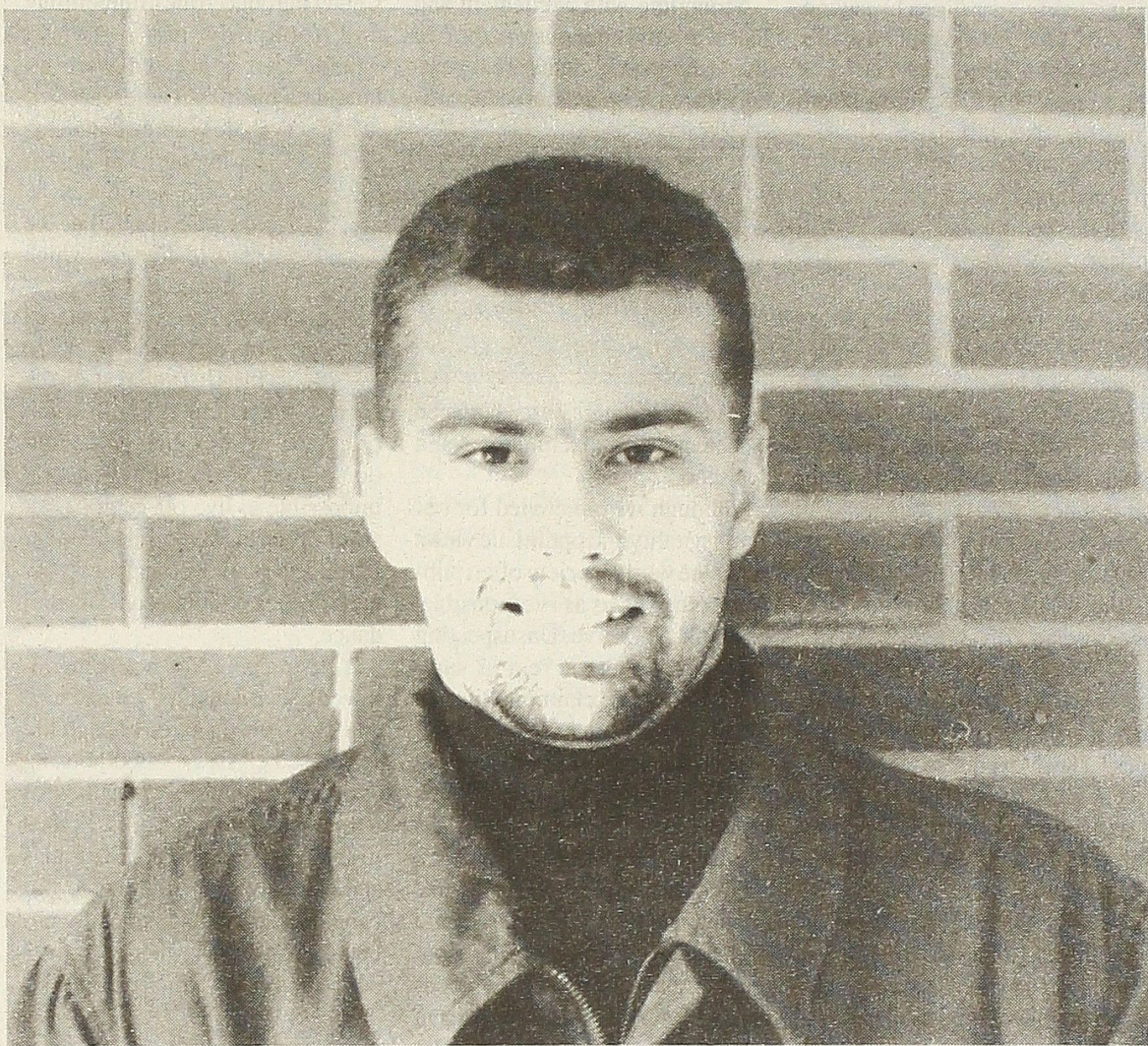
"It was one of my worst meets ever."

Head coach Greg Baadte knows that Danca's ranking is not representative of his skill.

"He was diving one of the most difficult series of dives out of anyone in the country."

Danca, who has been diving since he was eight years old, thanks his mother for getting him started. "I started in a public pool, and she said I should get into a club. I did, and I liked it."

Coming to Alma College, Danca had dreams of improving at his div-



Junior Radu Danca. Photo by A. Crum.

ing. In his first year here, he fulfilled those dreams.

"I had my most improvement my freshman year," says Danca. "Since then, I just haven't improved as much as I have wanted to."

Danca certainly has improved since he arrived here.

"He's seen much improvement this year," says Baadte. "There is

no comparison to his freshman year."

As a member of the team, Danca has proven himself invaluable. He has easily earned the respect and admiration of his teammates.

"Radu is one of the finest divers I have ever seen," said sophomore Marc Richardson. "He is always upbeat during meets — a great

leader on the pool deck."

"He's well-respected on the team," said Baadte, "he works hard, and everyone knows he works hard. An athlete like him does not come along very often."

Sophomore Brett Martin agrees with Baadte.

"He trains hard, and has a lot of self-discipline."

Regardless of how hard others think he is working, Danca thinks it's just not enough.

"Next year I'm going to try harder than this year — maybe it will pay off."

The talented twenty-one year old is not only respected on the diving board, but on the side of the pool.

"He's been a very good team player," said Baadte. "He's always cheering for others, and seems to get along well with everyone."

"He's always cheering in everybody's face," said Richardson, "and he never expects anything in return."

Danca enjoys the competition, but his favorite part of the team seems to be their annual Florida training trip.

"It's a lot of hard training, and I get to spend a lot of time getting to know the team."

Away from the pool, Danca has a love for mountain biking.

Looking toward the future, Danca would like to go to graduate school for physical or occupational therapy.

He admits that his college career has changed him, both as a person and as an athlete.

"It has made me more aware of the important things in life. I've learned the importance of good health and good relationships, and the importance of going into a field of work that you will enjoy."

Looking past this year's National meet, Danca sees a bright future ahead of him.

"I've noticed throughout the years that whenever I have a disappointment, I always come back and try harder. Hopefully that's going to happen next year."

## Thibault caputres All-America honors

By Tricia Rose  
Freelance Writer

Dana Thibault—All-America and Alma College swimmer, wife, mother of two and full-time Alma College student. Many members of the swim team seem convinced she is Wonder Woman.

In high school, Thibault won the fifty-yard freestyle and the one-hundred-yard freestyle events at the Class A Championships to gain honors as an All-State and All-American honorable mention swimmer. Because of these achievements, Thibault was named "Class A Swimmer of the Year" during her senior year.

She received a full scholarship from Michigan State University because of her swimming honors, and she decided to accept it. She struggled, though, finding that the pool was not someplace she wanted to be. She had spent the summer not training, and could not seem to find concrete goals to

work for. Thibault decided to quit both swimming and school at MSU and get a full-time job as a nursing attendant. Shortly after, she returned to school at Lansing Community College.

In 1991, Thibault married Willy Thibault and they had two boys while Thibault was still swimming. She went into labor with her second child in the middle of a swimming practice.

After a five-and-a-half year break from competitive swimming, Thibault decided it was time to make her comeback. With the support of her husband and children, she chose Alma as the place to do it. Bill Copland, an assistant coach at Alma, had suggested Alma College to her while he was coaching Dana at the Delphinus Swim Club in Lansing.

Upon arrival at Alma, Thibault was held in awe by the female swimmers. The team was amazed that Thibault was able to balance an academic career with swimming, marriage and children.

"My goals this year were to beat

my high school times," said Thibault. "I did in the one-hundred freestyle, but was six-hundredths short in the fifty."

This is quite an impressive feat, considering her six year break.

Thibault mastered her events at the MIAA conference championships, winning both the fifty and the hundred. She broke nine school records this year. Four were individual events: the fifty, one-hundred and two-hundred freestyle, and the 100-yard butterfly. She was also part of five school-record breaking relays.

During the MIAA meet, Thibault also qualified for the NCAA Division III National meet in the fifty and 100-meter freestyle events.

At the National meet, Thibault placed seventh in the one-hundred yard freestyle with a final time of 53.40. She also placed seventh in the fifty freestyle with a final time of 0:24.28, and twenty-fifth in the one-hundred yard butterfly with a time of 1:01.24.

Thibault was alone at Nationals, the sole representative of Alma Col-

lege. She single-handedly scored the team twenty-three points, which placed Alma at the twenty-sixth spot in the country.

The members of the swim team not only love to watch Thibault swim, but they love her attitude also.

"She is a strong influence on the Alma College swim team," said sophomore Marc Richardson, "if she smiled any more her face would crack."

Thibault is excited about next year's season and has already set her goals for it. She wants to place in the top six at Nationals, and keep her grades up. She will spend the off-season concentrating on weights and strengthening her legs.

Dana is a fun person to have around, but knows when she has to put the hard work in.

The head swimming coach Greg Baadte has quite a bit of respect for Thibault.

"She is a very talented swimmer who shows a lot of class both in and out of the water."

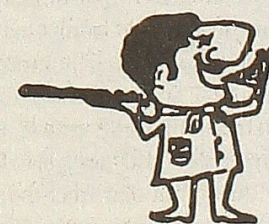
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## College students faced with inconsistent societal treatment

By Kristin Allen  
Editorial Assistant

A recent, rather distraughtful episode forced me to openly question my role in society—my role as one of many college students faced with disrespectful treatment by the world in which we strive to succeed.

Upon entering a chic Italian restaurant inside Detroit's fabulous Renaissance Center, myself and seven peers, all travelling as representatives of Alma College on a Kiltie Band tour, were faced with everything but the royal treatment which polite, paying customers might expect from such a classy establishment.

After enduring condescending stares from the hostess, we took our seats, only to be greeted by our waiter who promptly removed our wine glasses, uttering, "I can see you won't be needing these" under his breath. What astonishment clouded his expression when one bold member of our dismayed group informed Mr. Waiter that we were, in fact, of legal age to drink wine, let alone possess the now-removed glasses. However, the waiter continued

his patronizing attitude, attempting to justify his actions by saying we were going to a symphony with a "group of college students."

Now, how he discovered our destination for the evening and who crowned him authority of our actions as college students is still beyond our explanation. His next return to our table became his last, as he hastily took our orders and rudely informed one of us that if she only wanted a salad, she would have to remove herself to the lounge.

Not wanting to tolerate this humiliation any longer, the eight of us left the restaurant, while pondering the cause of Mr. Waiter's harshness. Was it the high-class atmosphere of the restaurant or the less than reasonable price of the entrees? These explanations seemed unbelievable, as we were all dressed to perfection, complete with cash and credit cards to furnish our meals.

So why the disrespect? After weighing the alternatives, I justly concluded his reactions stemmed from our all-encompassing label as

"college students."

Struggling with excitement and fear to discover our place in the real world, college students are repeatedly faced with inconsistent atti-

*Although we are envied for our youth, vitality and optimistic views about the world, society often publicly perceives us as irresponsible, irrational and naive.*

tudes forming a grey area between the boundaries of childhood and adulthood.

Although we are envied for our youth, vitality and optimistic views about the world, society often publicly perceives us as irresponsible, irrational and naive. Unsuspecting landlords hesitate to rent us summer apartments, claiming our age group as a precursor for recklessness. Our driving skills are even in question, as we are unable to feasibly rent a car without "adult" supervision.

What these people fail to realize is that we, as a whole age group, are no less responsible and no more ignorant than the rest of the population. For example, an elevator in

the aforementioned Renaissance Center introduced me to three drunk and foolhardy men whom I wouldn't have guessed were attending a business conference.

This same cloudy, often hypocritical view of our age group can be likewise applied at the very institution which nurtures our college label. Although fostered by decisions made in the best interest of the school, Alma hinders our freedom of choice by imposing co-habitation policies and making it nearly impossible to live off-campus, instead requiring us to reside under the supervision of Resident Assistants during our four years of attendance.

Yet strangely, for not being allowed to live as adults, we are faced daily with the rejection of adult life via closed classes, closed housing assignments and strict penalties for not paying our phone bills. Forced to abide by a handbook full of rules and regulations pertaining to our behavior, safety and general well-being, we wonder where our freedoms begin and our restrictions end.

Not that I am questioning the nature of these policies. We are prohibited to choose off-campus residence because Alma is a residential school which prides itself in a certain closeness not present on larger campuses. While this is an important factor in the adjustments we must make as we move from high school to college, where is the transition from college to the real world of land lords, rent and utility bills; a world of decision-making without the convenience of calling the physical plant when a light bulb burns out? Where are our increasing freedoms from day one to graduation?

Social attitudes about the naivety of college students stem from such hypocrisy, for while we long to begin our real-world experience, we are nonetheless bound by college policies which will not allow this growth. As college students, we have hopes and dreams, worries and fears. We are faced with deadlines and with the pressure to succeed. We are completely aware of and engaged in the "adult world." So when do we get to be treated as members?

## Ethics in campus media forum leaves issues unresolved

By Tammi Johnson  
Freelance Writer

Last Tuesday [March 22], the Alma College Communications Committee sponsored a forum to answer questions concerning media ethics. The forum addressed issues and incidents that were of controversy last term here at the College. My question that remains after the forum is, where was this Community Forum four months ago when the controversy was heated? I mean, that is what this issue is all about, is it not—the "WQAC incident."

No one seemed to want to mention the incident that brought us all to the forum. But regardless of whether or not this was supposed to be an attack on the WQAC "Brett and Brad Show," the show is what raised the question of "Ethics in Campus Media" in the first place.

Basically, there were no ethics in sight when "Brett and Brad" ridiculed homosexuals and degraded women. They were permitted to enlighten us with their humorous (?) insight. They exercised their right to freedom of expression. But just how free should they get to be?

Obviously, not that free: the offensive material has been eliminated from their morning show, and with good reason. Those of us who fell victim to their jokes are protected against such injustice. So why don't I feel protected? Why don't I feel justice has been done?

I think this stems from the solutions offered at the forum by Kim Kraai, Student Congress President,

and Nate Pawlicki, General Manager of WQAC. They gave us promises of self-policing to prevent incidents like this in the future, and they told us, "We just have to look at this as a learning experience."

A learning experience? Well, I don't know about you, but I feel better. And I'm sure the homosexuals who were ridiculed during and as a result of this show feel adequately compensated. Along with the women who may have felt victim to degradation or even violence ("beat the Beaver...").

Actually, I feel cheated. What we've been told is basically that "it happened, it's over, so let's just put it behind us. We're telling you it won't happen again. Isn't that good enough?"

Not for me. Not when I heard the opinions of many who cannot seem to understand why what "Brett and Brad" said was so wrong. One person in the audience wondered why it is okay for males to be the subject of jokes, but when women are the butt of jokes, it is unacceptable. What they are overlooking is the subject matter. We can handle some good-natured humor about our habits or bodily functions. I mean PMS can be a pretty funny thing. But "Brett and Brad" overstepped the line. Their Beaver routine presented abuse and oppression as something to laugh about, i.e. "If the Beaver tries to rise up...Beat the Beaver."

When violence plagues women in our society and we still fight for the equality we deserve, I fail to see how this can be even remotely amusing. And what's worse, this

may have given someone the idea to hold a woman back, and to use force to do this. Their words reinforced the acceptability of such acts. This is not humorous, it is dangerous.

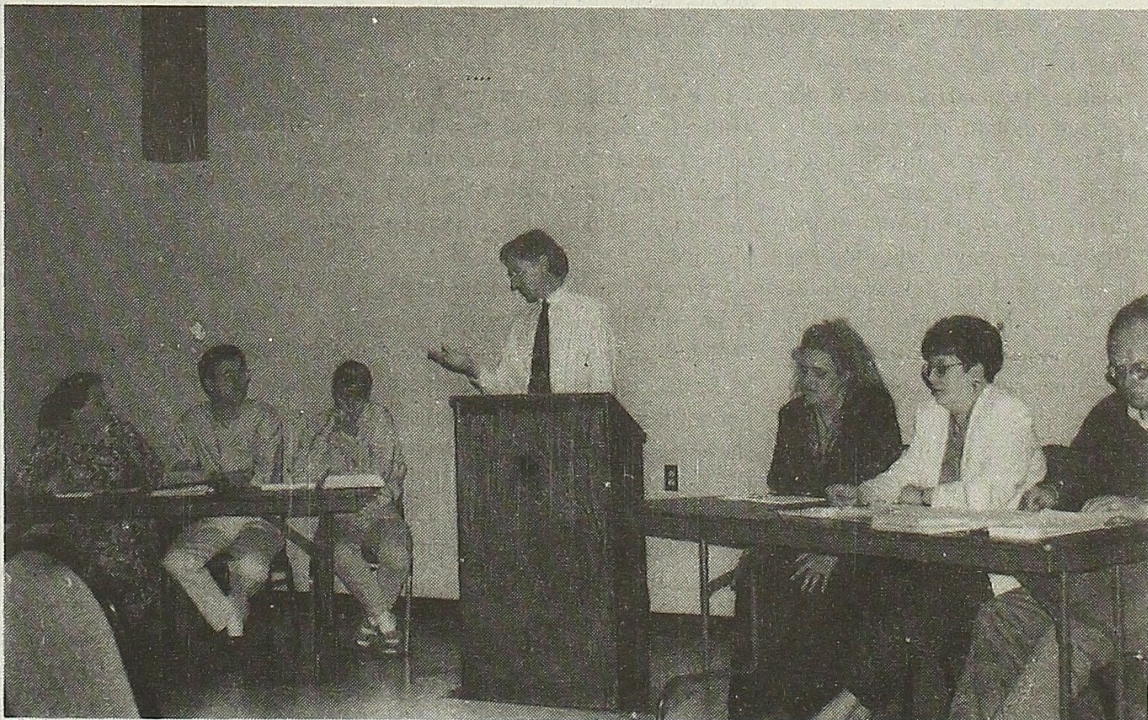
Finally, one comment showed me just what effect Brett and Brad really had. Someone from the audience felt that these stereotypes presented in the controversial WQAC incident are real, they are out there. And because of this, these stereotypes should be expressed so people can learn how to deal with them.

Deal with them? We should not be encouraged to deal with stereotypes, because they are just that, stereotypes. They are false representations of what is real. We should combat this attitude. Our duty is not to learn how to deal with stereotypes, but how to change them.

"Brett and Brad's" freedom of expression was praised at the forum. People felt it sparked some extremely good discussions within groups on campus. Very simply, I think this is a sad statement about Alma College. It is sad if degradation and ridicule must generate

heated discussion on this campus. And it is sad that "Brett and Brad" are praised for this.

Every day, many of us women fight to be strong; and "Brett and Brad" gave us the opportunity to become even stronger. Only it seems to some we are the enemy—the forces fighting against freedom of expression. But that is wrong. We are the forces who value freedom of expression, but also value the right to be treated with the respect that any straight, white male would be treated with on this campus.



(From left) The Almanian Editor Ganesa Wegienka, WQAC General Manager Nate Pawlicki, Student Congress President Kim Kraai, moderator Nick Dixon, The Almanian Editor Sara Groves, Director of Public Relations Karen Roeper and professor of communication Michael Vickery were panelists last Tuesday in the Campus Forum on Ethics in the Campus Media. Photo by K. Horak.



Mar. 29, 1994

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Congratulations to Sara Groves for a well-researched article about the Federal College Work-Study Program (*The Almanian*, Mar. 15, 1994). As the administrative officer of the College in charge of monitoring this and other Federal Title IV aid programs, discussions such as this are of interest to me. However, I would like to clarify some mistaken impressions that may have resulted from the article and offer other reactions for the sake of accuracy and understanding.

To say that Work-Study "was originally designed to give students practical experience in their area of study," is misleading since it indicates that the program should be something like a job "co-op" program. This, combined with the comment by Dr. Lorenz that, "The natural evolution of Work-Study had been a move from a program that tries to get students to have opportunities within their chosen career field...to being one more way to staff the college," further serves to give that incorrect impression.

It should be made clear that THE purpose of Work-Study, and all other Title IV programs, is to aid needy students (as defined by the Federal aid formula). This college and all other colleges participating in Work-Study must, first and foremost, provide as many job opportunities for students as possible. Then, within that effort, provide to the maximum extent possible jobs that will complement each recipient's program or career goals.

The overriding intent of the program from its inception has been for colleges to provide as many job opportunities as possible with "career-relevant" positions being ONE of the goals and not THE goal. To quote the law as contained in Title IV, Subpart A under Purpose and Provisions, "The College Work-Study Program provides part-time employment to students attending institutions of higher education who need the earnings to help meet their costs of post-secondary education." Therefore, there has not been a "natural evolution" of the purpose of Work-Study from its original design or its priorities.

Congressional intent, odd as it may seem, had been very logical with regard to the purpose of Work-Study. If limited to providing career-relevant jobs, there would be few jobs available to students on campuses. Again, Work-Study was never intended to be the provider of internship or co-op type experiences.

For that matter, what is a "practical" or "career-relevant" job? An argument could be made that ANY job is practical experience

and/or career-relevant. Should we say that the only jobs to be provided under Work-Study are jobs in the student's major field of study?

Further, if a student works for their academic major department, should they only do "career-relevant" work (a history major ONLY doing historical research, for example)? What would be the definition of that type of work?

Congress intended and mandated that colleges provide as many jobs as possible under the program and that an equivalent number of jobs be provided from the college's OWN resources. The law encourages colleges to hire students to work for the institution in virtually any capacity including food service, maintenance, security, etc. In other words, the goal is the more jobs the better and we MUST NOT limit opportunities for employment to only positions that support educational program and career goals.

As mentioned in the article, another mandate has been given to colleges to use five percent of their Work-Study allocation for the worthy goal of providing community service jobs. Career relevant or not, this is an initiative that I fully support and Dr. Lorenz and the Service Learning Program have placed students in some very worthwhile jobs.

However, although Lorenz points out that this new requirement does not impact the Work-Study funding level, it is incorrect to assume that it does not have an impact. The impact is very clear and that is we are required to spend five percent of our scarce Work-Study funds in a new area.

Finally, I would like to point out that students gain from any work experience. Working for Admissions, the Medical Center, the Education Department, the History Department, Registrar's Office, Student Affairs Office, the Biology Department, the Library, the Chemistry Department, Food Service or the Physical Education Center all help to teach students skills and values regarding responsibility. In my opinion, students leaving college with those skills and values have gone a long way toward accomplishing their educational and career goals.

Lorenz has it right when he said, "The principle of Work-Study is primarily a program of financial aid..." It is that and more, since it provides students with a chance to work, earn and learn no matter what job they happen to have.

Tom Freeland  
Director of Financial Aid

Dear Editor,

I was quite disturbed by Brandon Miller's March 22 article entitled, "Women must refuse subservient roles; fight double standards." The entire column was a mere rehashing of today's ever-prevalent radical feminism.

I have heard it all before: that women continue to be subservient because of an evil society dominated by white men; that "Jane" only plays with dolls and "John" only plays with trucks; that women who remain home with their children are "settling for less." It's nothing new, and Mr. Miller's regurgitation of trendy politically correct catch-phrases was far from enlightening. If anything, the ideas stated in his article severely limit women's right to choose.

Miller helpfully pointed out that women should avoid "traditional" jobs such as secretarial work, nursing or—heaven forbid—staying at home to raise children. He expressed "concern" that women today are "just fulfilling traditional roles."

Is this in lieu of finding a "real" job, I ask? Is raising a household of children—which requires performing manual labor, time-management, creativity, chauffeuring and counseling—not a "real" job? Why do we tell women that they shouldn't stay at home or become secretaries or flight attendants if they want to, merely because this perpetuates stereotypes? Has anyone ever told a man that he shouldn't become the president of his company because this is a "traditional" role for men and perpetuates male stereotypes?

Why does it bother Mr. Miller so much to see the "big bad football or basketball players" out on the field, while the girls support their team as cheerleaders? Would he rather the females do away with their second X chromosome in order to gain the height, weight and upper-body strength required to compete with 200 pound male line-backers? Has anyone ever told a man that he should stop playing football, shrink a foot or so, and join the pom pon squad in order to further equality between the sexes?

When we expect a woman to give up her ideas of motherhood and other goals in life deemed "unworthy" by the radical left, we take away her freedom to choose what she wants to do with her life. When we perceive a woman who doesn't participate in "manly" sports, such as football, as "not good enough," we take away her sense of self-worth. And when we tell a woman that she is capable of anything, yet don't allow her to fulfill "traditional" roles that are considered "subservient," we are upholding a double standard that interferes with freedom in the United States of America.

Becky Shelley  
Class of '96

Dear Editor,

I am writing in reference to the Student Congress and class officer elections [March 16 and 17]. I was appalled by the unprofessional manner in which the elections were conducted. The casting of votes

occurred in a place where voters could be easily influenced [Hamilton Commons]. People spoke as they voted. People, in an effort to write on something hard, had to fill the ballot out on the tables where the workers were. The voters had no privacy. Because of how the table was set up, the people who worked at the table did not always notice when someone voted, giving that person the ability to vote more than once. The ballots were placed in an open box where people could have easily removed or added some ballots. Plus, people noticed that some campaigning occurred at the table, including a person whose name appeared on the ballot working at the table. Although this person may not have verbally encouraged people to vote for them, their mere presence may have been influential. I feel this person, in an effort to keep the race fair, should have had the integrity to avoid the election table except for the purpose of voting. If these things had occurred at a public election, many people would have objected.

It does not seem that it would have been difficult to move the elections to a more appropriate place where it was quiet and where people could spread out to vote. I think a closed ballot box is a must to keep everyone honest. People who are running in the election should not be working at the table. Voting does not take much time and neither would the steps to ensure a fair election.

Melinda Westheimer  
Class of 1997

Dear Editors,

As a member of a Greek organization promoting involvement, individuality and support, I am proud to say, "I'm Greek."

Greek Week was advertised as a

"rare opportunity to come together as a community and celebrate something we all 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."

This mission statement sounds wonderful. However, being Greek is **not** about yelling in cafeterias—our mental capacities go much further. Being Greek is **not** about slurping from baby bottles—we are eating solids now.

Being Greek is about helping the community, supporting philanthropies, encouraging campus and community involvement, promoting self-esteem, fostering sisterhood and brotherhood, and perfecting leadership skills.

Greek Week did raise nearly \$800 for Habitat for Humanity and that accomplishment should be recognized and admired. After all the yelling though, this fact was overshadowed.

Greek Week should not be a time to exclude members of our campus community. It should be a time to work together as students who are willing to share ideas, accept differences and work toward a common goal. A trophy at the end of the week should not be the ultimate goal. The satisfaction of knowing each organization worked efficiently together should be a sufficient reward.

Although the logic and rationale behind Greek Week is excellent, this past week has done very little to promote positive images concerning the Greek community. In fact, it has intensified inter-fraternity and inter-sorority tensions. Pitting one sorority and fraternity against another succeeds only in increasing rivalry and furthering stereotypes. Greeks need to work together if they expect to gain and/or maintain respect.

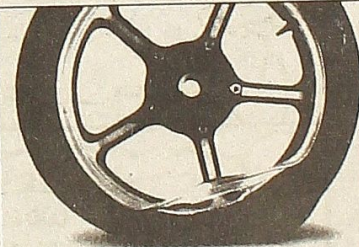
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Mar. 29, 1994

Staff Editorial

## Wilcox Medical Center deserves recognition

For some Alma College students, we are facing the harsh realities of the "real world" before our time. One of the biggest problems facing people today is the lack of proper health care and health insurance. There are people our age in America who do not have the luxury of being able to see a doctor or receive emergency medical treatment.

As students of Alma College, we are fortunate to have the Wilcox Medical Center as a feature of our campus. Whether a simple cold or a major sporting accident, the "Med-Shed" is the center for all of the College's health inquiries—and at no cost to the students.

The Wilcox Medical Center operates from an endowment that provides funding for every service offered at the Center. This endowment is a separate budget from the College and allows the Center to operate as a separate institution within Alma College. It allows for the expert services of Dr. Bill Clark and his assistants Denise Bouchey and Julie Thompson. The endowment also funds the various medica-

tions, contraceptions and examination equipment that is available to students.

While students often complain that the Med-Shed is never open when one really needs its services (like after 5 p.m. or on the week-ends), most don't realize the time and energy that the staff put into the Center every weekday. Everyone at the Center is working hard from open until close to answer every question, bandage every bruise and quiet every cough. No question is too silly and no request is too embarrassing. Especially when it comes to sexual health issues. Dr. Clark donates large amounts of his free time to campus organizations who wish to discuss STDs, to students who have personal questions and troubles, and to panels and forums explaining the AIDS epidemic.

Aside from the volunteered time, the staff at the Center provides guidance on contraception, offers gynecological services and free physicals, and can prescribe any medication that is not already available at the Center.

Perhaps the best feature of the Medical

Center is the cost to students. Students take advantage every day of the free samples, from cold tablets to birth control pills, that are available at the Center. Because of wise planning and careful budgeting, the Center is able to provide students with the best medicine at the cheapest cost, or even for free. When free samples are not available or have run out, the Center guides you to the best prescriptions on the market, whether you have insurance or not.

Everyone on this campus has been sick at one time or another, and everyone has or will use the services of the Center. It is time that the Wilcox Medical Center receives the praise and gratitude that they deserve. Next time you have a cough that won't quit or a sprain that cripples your walk, or even a question on how to use a condom—the Med-Shed has all the answers.

## The Almanian

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### *The Almanian*

### Letter Policy

All Letters to the Editor must meet the following standards for publication: signed, include the author's phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published on a first come, first served basis, up to three per week. We reserve the right to condense for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. Address letters to: The Editorial Board, *The Almanian*, Newberry Hall, Alma College, Alma, MI 48801.

## LIFE IN HELL #700

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THERE'S NO WAY ON EARTH THIS IS GOING TO LEAD TO ANYTHING.

IS THIS PERSON REALLY WORTH THE TORTURE?

MAYBE THERE'LL BE AN INVISIBLE SIGNAL THAT THIS ISN'T A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME.

AS LONG AS I CAN MAINTAIN THIS UTTERLY PHONY, LIGHTWEIGHT, TRIVIAL CONVERSATION, I'LL GET THROUGH THIS THING.

NOTHING IS HAPPENING. I WANT TO GO HOME.

I'M NOT EVEN MILDLY ATTRACTED TO THIS PERSON.

IF I ONLY KNEW WHAT YOU WERE THINKING, THIS COULD BE SO EASY.