

The Almanian

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Issue 4

Municipal power battle in third year

By Staci Hill
News Editor

To date, Alma taxpayers have paid over \$230,000 in legal fees for court costs, lawyer fees, consulting fees and trips to other cities to research the issue.

In March of 1994 the city of Alma began a battle with Consumers Power for the rights to run its own utility company. Two and a half years later the battle continues.

Consumers Power has provided Alma and surrounding communities with their current supply of utilities for over 70 years. The company is not dependent on government support. On the other hand, a utility company run by the city of Alma would be.

According to Consumers Power, the new company would hinder economic growth, create unnecessary costs, and hurt the environment. To create the company, the government supervised utility would need to put up an additional 2,400 electrical poles, thereby cut-

ting down many more trees.

The city of Alma hopes to open the new company for business as soon as the issue is voted on and passed by the community. However, Consumers Power emphasizes the extensive training required for employees before they begin working at a utility company. Currently 96 people are employed by Consumers Power with over 1,500 years of experience, collectively. A minimum of four years training is necessary for line workers, while engineers undergo longer training.

Consumers Power has investigated the issue of creating more jobs for Alma citizens. The new company would require 12 people for full operation.

To date, Alma taxpayers have paid over \$230,000 in legal fees for court costs, lawyer fees, consulting fees and trips to other cities to research the issue. The citizens hope

to be reimbursed but they are unsure as to when the issue will be voted on. A petition to add the debate to the November ballot was signed by 870 people in the Alma area. However, the attempt failed.

The research conducted by Consumers Power is extensive. They discovered that there has not been a new utility company run by any city in half a century. The last successful attempt was made in 1944. Most of the major changes made to the utilities industry occurred between 1890 and 1920.

With this information many may ask why this battles rages on. The answer lies in the fact that various Alma businesses who use approximately 60% of the power in Alma support the city of Alma proposal.

Consumers Power argues that the community is satisfied with the services they provide. In an annual poll 81% of electric customers in

Alma rated Consumers Power as a good or excellent utility company. Recently the company won the top award from the National Safety Council for the 9th time in 11 years.

Consumers Powers continues to work with citizens to do what is needed. The employees are on call 24 hours a day, supplying extensive backup for communities including Clare, Saginaw, Midland, Flint, and Gladwin.

In addition, the company cites their continual involvement with area groups such as The United Way, Fractured Follies, and the American Red Cross. At Halloween they are sponsoring their annual Haunted House at the Alma Middle School.

Although much investigation has gone into this issue, support for either side still stands. Hopefully a resolution will be reached in the near future.

EPIC plans events

By Staci Hill
News Editor

A group that was little known on the Alma College campus two years ago is taking great strides for the 1996-97 school year.

EPIC, a group committed to enhancing the culture of the campus through activities in the arts, has made plans to revive interest and involvement in the arts at Alma. The members state that they are capable of doing great things on Alma's campus and intend to begin planning this year.

According to EPIC member Maria Toscano, a junior English major,

We want to express the talent of the campus because we have a lot of talent here."

Toscano's inspiration for a Cultural Collage this January has sparked increased interest in EPIC this year.

Plans for the Cultural Collage include a collaboration of poetry readings, dance and musical performances, theatre and art displays. Members of EPIC are currently pre-planning this major campus event which they hope to hold in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts.

They want the event to focus on the student body by including cul-

tural aspects that students want to participate in and see.

Due to the diverse membership in EPIC, several different events have also been planned for the fall term. This past Friday the group welcomed new professors to the English department with an afternoon reception.

Many members are interested in poetry, so the students will hold open poetry readings throughout the year. The first one will be held on October 31 in the spirit of Halloween. Anyone interested in reading poetry or listening to the reading are welcome to attend the event.

Occasionally members will meet in groups to discuss their own creative writing. Toscano said that this was a great way for students to learn how to improve their poetry or prose, citing her own growth as a writer as an example.

EPIC is open to anyone on campus who is interested in the arts or cultural activities. Students involved enjoy music, literature and discussing a wide variety of cultural issues. The group meets every other Tuesday at 6 p.m. in SAC 104.

Questions may be directed to EPIC's advisor, Roseanne Hoefel, assistant professor of English, at x7201.



Sophomore Tony Falsetta is up to bat as junior Marc Stanley winds up for the pitch. Falsetta and Stanley are participating in a hall project, coordinated by second south Mitchell RA senior Derek Zell. Photo by D. Zell.

Keeping You Informed

Michigan State University's Department of Theatre begins their 60th anniversary season with the romantic tragedy "Romeo and Juliet." The classic play will run from September 26-29 and October 3-5 at the Wharton Center Festival Stage. Thursday-Saturday shows begin at 8 p.m. and the Sunday show begins at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for public and \$8 for students and seniors. Call

the Wharton Center Box Office at (517) 432-2000 or 1-800-WHARTON.

In November, the Department of Theatre will perform the Tony and Pulitzer Prize winning drama, "Angels in America Part I: Millennium Approaches" by playwright Tony Kushner. The show opens on Thursday, November 7 for seven performances. Tickets for the play may also be purchased by calling the Wharton Center Box Office.

The Village Bach Festival, in its eighteenth season, will be in Cass City and Caro on November 26, 29, 30, and December 1. Members of the Festival Orchestra, vocal and instrumental soloists, will rehearse and perform the music of J.S. Bach, other baroque, as well as romantic and modern composers, in the First Presbyterian churches of Cass City and Caro.

News

Inside:

- Date rape program, p. 2
- DeVuyst campaign, p. 3

Feature

- Concert review: Dave Matthews Band, p. 4
- Kiltie Band, p. 6

Sports

- New MIAA members? p. 7
- Football opens with win, p. 8

Opinion

- Is college tough enough? p. 10
- Letters to the Editors, p. 12

Parents find out what college life is all about

By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter

"My parents heard Liz in the shower and then my dad was yelling at her," laughed Ryan Jezdimir, a first-year student, when asked if anything strange happened to his parents today.

So it goes on Parent Day 1996 here at Alma College. RAs have spent long and tiring days and nights being sure their hall is in order, and everyone goes out of their way to exceed the traditional friendliness here at Alma. Parents were greeted with smiles and hellos with every step they took.

"Everybody is really nice to everybody else on this campus as it is, but it's put on even heavier on Parent Day. You're walking through Wal-Mart and people from the college are like 'Hi! How are you doing?'" said Suzanne Jacobs, commenting on the atmosphere of the day.

Other students felt that having

the other parents walking around was very eerie. "It kind of intimidated me," said Jenny Dulz. "I'm not used to all these people. I didn't do anything like I normally would. People would think I was crazy."

"I was working, and people came into the radio station," said Jeremiah Lee, a radio disc jockey at 90.9 WQAC, the college radio station. "They looked around and said 'I haven't heard of any of these bands. I asked parents to call in, so that I could find out how Parent Day was going, but nobody called. I was bummed.'"

The parents were treated to a meal, and then were shown around campus either by their children, or by a student tour guide.

"I really enjoyed being able to share this day with my parents. I got to show them around, show them what I was doing and stuff," said Mike Staton, another first-year student.

"Lindsay Dahm gave us a tour," said Elizabeth Siefert, comment-

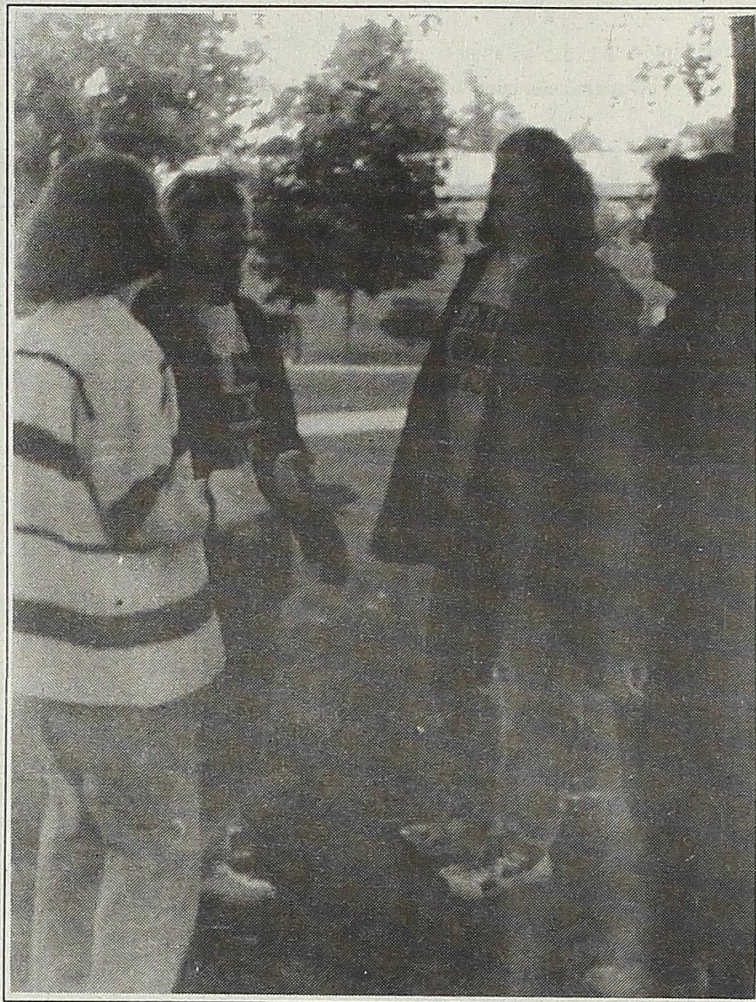
ing about when her and her parents were shown around the campus. "She told us what the Alma tartan was."

Many students took their parents to the football game to cheer on the Scots as they triumphed over Elmhurst, and some came just to see their son or daughter play in the Kiltie Marching Band during half-time.

"It was fun," said first-year student Kathy Reed. "I'm in the marching band, and I loved it. The game was cool."

"Even though we weren't here a lot, we did stay and watch the band, and they were really good," said Kelly Martell.

The thing which surprised many people on campus, and caused a few moans and groans, was seeing so many students up early on a Saturday. "I work at switch in the morning, and usually nobody's up at 10:30 on Saturday, but today everybody was up," said sophomore Ryan Wilson.



Hundreds of parents visited their sons and daughters during Alma's annual Parent Day event. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

Brown University grads present date rape program

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

It is a fact that 55% of men who rape have sex again with their victims, and 84% of college men who rape thought what they did was not rape.

The Anti-Sexual Abuse Project educated audience members about date/acquaintance rape on Tuesday night at the Heritage Center. The group consisted of seven 1996 Brown University graduates who are on a four month cross-country tour.

The group presented a short play

entitled "When a Kiss is Not Just a Kiss." The scene portrayed a group of college students who got together one evening, got drunk, and in the end one girl was raped. However, the lines were blurred in this situation. She did not come out and say "no." But he did not specifically ask if she wanted to have sex, either. In fact, he thought that she wanted to. The group blurred the lines to generate discussion.

After the play was over, the ac-

tors stayed in character so that audience members could ask them

relationship. people need to realize is that not everyone is able to say no, whether it be because of intoxication or some emotional block. Therefore, partners need to be very aware of both the verbal and physical communication that occurs.

Forty-two percent of college women who are raped tell no one. The group emphasized what one should do if someone

however because they have just been forced into doing something they did not want to do. Keep the person talking, and try to get them to see a trained counselor. Also, let the victim know that you believe them. Keep away from victim blaming. Victims need to realize that it's not their fault. The only one to blame is the perpetrator.

Overall, the audience interacted well with the presenters. Some great points were brought up. Junior Joanne Howd thought that the presentation was "really informative. I liked that the audience was so responsive."

When a kiss is not just a kiss...

questions. The rapist expressed a belief that the victim was willing and hoped they would develop a

tells them that they have been raped. Get the victim to the hospital if they'll go. Do not force them to

Homecoming Court announced

19

King nominees :

Loren Baidas
Jason Cotton
Craig Fritts
Alex Gierhart
Greg Maxson

Queen nominees:

Rachel Abbey
Annie DeLind
Dawn DiPonio
Megan Graham
Michelle Murphy

96

College Republicans practice politics at a higher level

By Valerie Simmons
Freelance Writer

The Alma College Republicans will be climbing to new heights Sunday, October 13 as they go skydiving in Tecumseh, Michigan.

The organization is taking a break from campaigning for Robert Dole, Ronna Romney, and other Republican candidates and look forward to relaxing as they sail through the sky.

Groups of three students will soar in each plane and will jump solo from 3200 feet. First time jumpers will go through over five hours of lessons before jumping.

Junior Sherri Brogan is very excited about her first jump and stated, "I can't wait to go. I think it will be an exhilarating rush, falling through the sky with only some rope and a sheet to stop me from eating pavement."

The cost for first time jumpers is

\$125 for the lessons and the first jump and \$30 for each subsequent jump. The cost for experienced jumpers is \$30 for each jump.

Students will be skydiving with Skydive Tecumseh. When asked why this company was chosen, senior Alma Republican Jason Dew replied, "it is the cheapest place."

John Sheele was quick to add that it is also "the most reputable place in Michigan."

Dew went on to say that Skydive Tecumseh uses the best equipment that can be purchased for students and that students always use this special gear on their first jump. Also, the most serious injury ever attained by a jumper was a broken leg. An injury that serious has happened only once in the 30 years the company has been in business.

The 21 skydivers who have already signed up are going to meet at 6:15 a.m. to caravan down to Tecumseh. The trips down and back

should each take about two hours and the students will be jumping most of the day. They plan to return around six in the evening.

There are still some openings and all interested students should contact Jason Dew by Tuesday, October 1. A \$50 deposit is due no later than Wednesday.

The Alma Republicans now have 40 members and meet regularly to discuss campaign strategies and entertain speakers. They also held a free concert on campus Saturday, September 28 and hope to sponsor more before the year is out.

The organization is looking forward to November 2 when all of the College Republicans in the state will attend a tailgate party at the University of Michigan vs. Michigan State University game. Though this trip will be fun, it will also serve a purpose as the College Republicans will be passing out literature while they tailgate.



Alma High School seniors Heather Gott and Beth Hall ride in Friday's Homecoming parade. Jill Benson was eventually crowned Homecoming Queen at the football game. File photo.

Alma High defeated at homecoming

By Mitzi Janukaitis
Freelance Writer

While Alma College is celebrating Homecoming this week with various activities, the local high school celebrated their own last week. The theme of the week's activities was "Let the Games Begin."

Throughout the week each class participated in different dress up days. Monday was Pajama Day and Tuesday was Favorite Team Day, when students dressed up in apparel supporting their favorite sports teams. Wednesday brought to the students of Alma High School, Red, White, and Blue Day, and Thursday was Toga Day. Drawing Homecoming week to a close was the traditional Orange and Black Day, where the Alma High School Panthers showed their spirit by wearing the school's colors.

Throughout Homecoming week, there were also many activities for

the high school students to participate in during the evenings. These activities included a powder puff football game last Wednesday night followed by a bonfire/ pep rally. Friday night marked the traditional parade, which consisted of floats designed by each class and other school organizations, and the Homecoming football game. The floats were designed to reflect the sport of football and the theme of Homecoming. Each float was judged on originality and overall appearance. The winners of this year's float contest were the seniors, who received a cash prize for all their hard work. Also during the parade, the middle school and high school bands marched, along with the Alma College Kiltie Marching Band.

During half time of the football game the Homecoming Queen, Jill Benson was announced. The other members of this year's court were Marisol Diaz, Heather Gott, Beth

Hall, Michelle Rockafellow, and Jennie Rojas. Allison Shaver, a first-year Alma College student and a member of the 1995 Homecoming court at Alma High School said, "It was nice to see so much support for this year's court members."

The Alma High School Panthers fought hard in their homecoming game but ended up losing in a close one against Ionia, 18 to 21. Friday night's events concluded with a mixer at 9:30 p.m. and the annual Homecoming dance Saturday night at 8 p.m.

Look for many Homecoming activities to be happening this week around Alma College. On Friday there will be a pep rally and bonfire at 8:30 p.m. at the soccer field. Saturday's events will begin with the Homecoming Parade at 11 a.m., the Football game at 1:30 p.m., and concluding with the Homecoming dance, in Van Dusen from 10 p.m. until 1 a.m.

Phi Mu Alpha, Red Cross: Out for blood

By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, in cooperation with the American Red Cross of Gratiot County, is sponsoring its third annual blood drive on Thursday, October 3.

Students have been signing up to give blood for the past week during the dinner period in Hamilton Commons. Also the tables are decorated with cards promoting the upcoming drive.

The blood drive will be in Jones Auditorium from 11 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on Thursday. Registration will take place in the Rotunda of Tyler-Van Dusen and will also begin at 11 a.m.

"We don't require that students sign up beforehand to give blood, but we like them to," said Brian Martin, spokesperson for Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. "It gives us a chance to schedule when we should have more people to help, and to schedule breaks when we don't expect as many people."

Martin also explained why the fraternity was sponsoring the blood drive. He explained that Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia sponsors one philanthropic event each month, and this was voted to be the event for September. In the past the fraternity has sponsored food and can drives, raised money for the soup kitchen at the Presbyterian Church, donated clothes to local charities, and worked with the Habitat for Humanity project. Also they sing at the Masonic Home and perform holiday carols at the Schnepps Retirement Home.

Their goal for this blood drive is 125 pints. The fraternity missed their last year's goal of 250 pints by only 14 pints, and two years ago succeeded with their goal of 200 pints. They expect to do well this year due to the enormous student response.

The blood donated will be given to local blood banks and hospitals.

People interested in working at future blood drives are encouraged to call Brian Martin at 7662 or to contact Terry Freeland in the Student Affairs office.

DeVuyst campaign hits Alma College campus

By Dan Scripps
Co-Editor-In-Chief

On Monday, Sept. 23, 29 people joined the Alma College Republicans in VanDusen's Fireside Lounge for a presentation by Larry DeVuyst.

DeVuyst, an long-time area farmer and business owner, recently defeated six other people for the Republican nomination for the 93rd District seat in the Michigan House of Representatives. He also said that in order to speak at the College Republicans' meeting, he had to skip a meeting of the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners.

DeVuyst said that he was planning to retire when Gary Randall, who currently holds the position, announced his intention not to seek another term. It took very little time for DeVuyst to make up his mind to run, saying, "Life's been good to me," and that he wanted to give something back.

He prides himself on not having

any campaign promises to keep if he wins in November. He said, "I personally like the Engler administration," and that was what he campaigned on in the primary.

During the primary he took this message to anybody who would listen, wearing through his size 14

servative in financial areas as well as socially. "It's a proven fact that any time taxes get lowered more jobs seem to spring up," said DeVuyst.

DeVuyst said that much of his political philosophy comes from his experience in agriculture. He said, "We have less government intervention today than in any time since I started farming. What I want for agriculture is less government because I know it works."

In addition to his personal basis for running for office, DeVuyst also has a lot of experience in the politics as an appointee. He has chaired the Commission on Natural Resources the past five years,

was involved in the Federal Farm Credit Administration and spent six years on the Farm Credit Board of St. Paul, the last two as director. He also has been involved in a number of local activities.

DeVuyst will face Richard Ort, a Democrat from Freemont in the November 5 general election.

I believe in protecting the family; I believe in protecting the unborn.

• **Larry DeVuyst, State House of Representatives nominee**

shoes and spending \$61,000, including about \$40,000 in debt. He also took a strong position on family values to the voters. He said Monday, "I have very strong family values," and "I believe in protecting the family; I believe in protecting the unborn."

He also is a self-described con-

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Lubert brings new ideas

By Larissa VanderZee
Feature Editor

Howard Lubert describes himself as a scholar of political thought and philosophy, but not a politician. New to the Alma College community, Lubert holds a one year instructorship in the political science department. He is currently teaching two courses and plans to teach four next term.

Lubert comes to Alma from Duke University, where he has been working on his graduate studies for the past 8 years. In his final stages of completing his doctoral dissertation, he sought a teaching position that would give him ample classroom time, while enabling him to finish his Ph.D. work. Alma provided that. Lubert added, "It carries a lot more weight on a resume" to have taught full-time as a member of a college staff.

A permanent position in the life of academia is what Lubert hopes to find after completing his year here. He described the job market for professional scholars as a "supply and demand" situation. "The supply is up, but the demand is down."

When asked why he pursued a career in teaching at the college level he offered three reasons. Primarily, he has "always been interested in the discussion of ideas."

There is not much of a medium for this daily interaction outside of the academic setting. For his second reason he said, "If you can make it, the life of an academic is great," speaking of the lack of rigidity compared with other professions. And for the third reason he commented on the diversity of the human interaction, "you meet new people all the time—it keeps your brain

*You meet new people
all the time—it keeps
your brain fresh.*

•Howard Lubert
Political Science Dept.

fresh."

Lubert will in fact bring a freshness to the political science curriculum next term. He plans to teach an American Political Thought course, examining an array of diverse political thinkers of the past American centuries.

Having studied English as well at Rutgers, his undergraduate university, he has maintained an interest in literature, especially writings that "ask political questions." Channeling this interest, he has created a Literature, Politics, and American

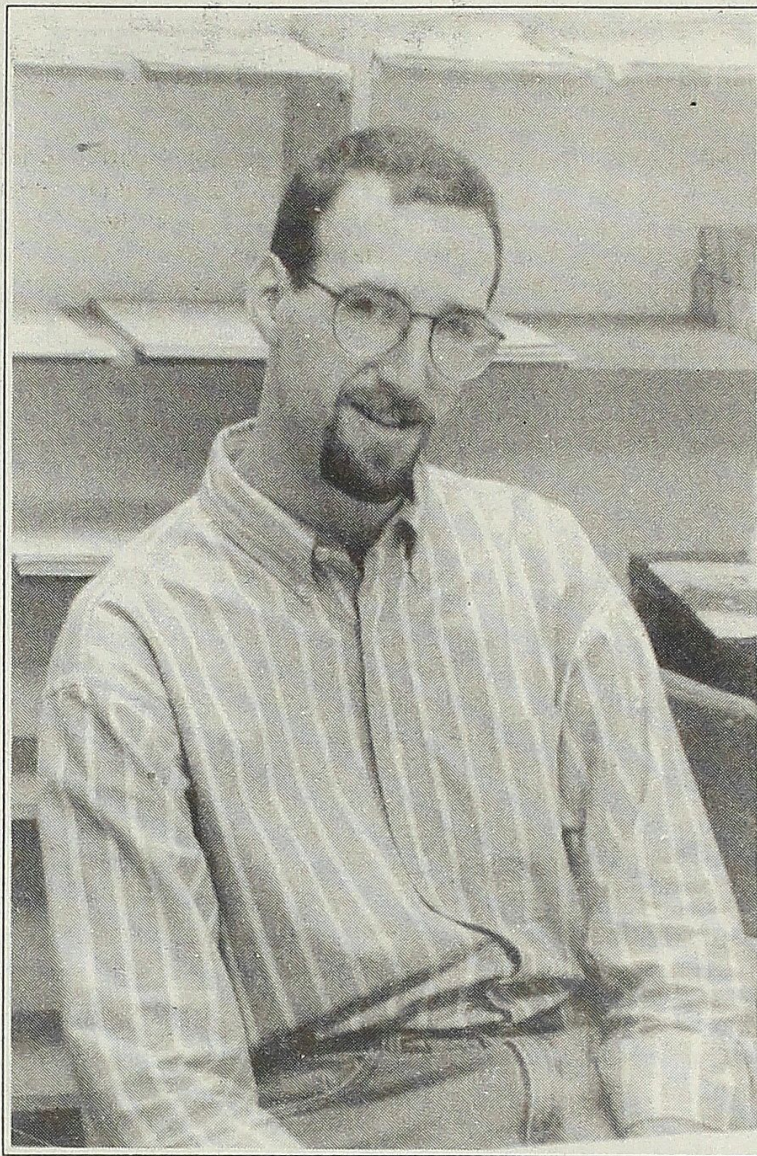
Democracy course. In this course Lubert will use works from Hawthorne, Chopin, Gilman, Twain, Douglas, and others to evaluate what it has meant to be an American. Lubert said he is "really interested in studying all facets of American life."

Quite different than most political science courses, the idea was well received by members of the political science department who have been receptive to Lubert's new ideas.

On a more personal level, when asked if he, one surrounded in political thought and theory, thought it possible to separate the personal and political, he said most definitely. "You have to make a concerted effort to divide a person from their political views or agenda."

Because Lubert does not take the name of a politician does not mean he does not possess political beliefs; however, he firmly believes in separating his personal beliefs from his time in the classroom. He claimed the students "should not be able to tell what my beliefs are. I am here to teach them how to think, not what to think."

When a student approaches him after an entire semester with the question, "What are your politics?" he knows he has succeeded.



Howard Lubert, instructor of political science, poses in his office for a picture. Lubert, who has been working on his graduate studies at Duke University, holds a one year instructorship at Alma and currently teaches two courses. Next term Lubert plans to teach a new course entitled American Political Thought. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.

Concert Review

Dave Mathews Band rocks Breslin Center

By Dan Scripps
Co-Editor-In-Chief,
Derek Boyer
Freelance Writer

As we pondered the greatness which was shown to us this past Friday, a little saying coined by our good friend and mentor Don Metcalf, director of the Alma College jazz band, came to mind: Insist on Live Music. Wow! Yes, Dave Mathews and his band of merry men *did* tear our faces off. In fact, within the first three minutes of playing, both of us had tears streaming down our cheeks. You may laugh at this, but there truly was not any other emotion which could adequately express our feelings. Vocals... perfect. Instrumentation... could not have been better.

Movie Review

Grisham's movie, *A Time to Kill*, offers more than entertainment

By Shonda T. Brown
Freelance Writer

From the best selling author of *The Firm* and *The Client*, John Grisham's first novel *A Time to Kill* came to the big screen this past summer. Starring familiar faces such as Sandra Bullock (*While You Were Sleeping*, *The Net*) and Samuel L. Jackson (*Die Hard III*), the film also introduced new comer Mathew Mach. It was produced by

We ask you, the reader, to join us on a journey and it begins with a man named Dave and a little band he formed with which to preach.

We don't use the term preach loosely. However, the event which was held Friday at MSU's Breslin Center was far closer to a worship ceremony than any run-of-the-mill rock concert.

First, a word should be said about Soul Coughing, the opening band. Their unique combination of funk and grunge with a few other musical twists thrown in for spice served as an adequate warm-up for the ceremony which was to follow.

OK, that's enough.

We had spent the week prior to the concert fasting ourselves from the music we were anxiously waiting to hear and feel. Also during

that time we had been debating which song Dave would choose as the first course, the song to break the fast. Despite our thoughts and predictions, Dave again turned us on our ear by pulling out a song written especially for the tour. It just goes to prove that you can never predict what Dave Mathews is going to do.

Following this opener, the band stepped into the light with a song entitled "Lie In Our Graves." And we were, as the song goes, "Blown Away." The combination of Dave's voice, the dense polyrhythms cranked out by the band's drummer, Carter Beauford, the eclectic violin of Boyd Tinsley and the jazzy sax playing of Leroi Moore set the stage for the tunes to come.

Dave followed with three more

tracks from his new album, *Crash*, two stepping their way into a twenty minute rendition and all-out jam to the tune "Jimi Thing."

From there it was a mixture of old and new, borrowed and blue. They started this section with a tune from their first album, *Remember Two Things*, then following with their radio hit "Too Much." It was now time for "Dancing Nancies (yes, Monica, 'Dancing Nancies')." "Orgasmic" doesn't even come close to adequately describing this blend. The band moved straight ahead into one of only two ballads on the night, "Crash Into Me," which again served to bring the two of us to tears. The tears continued as Dave covered Bob Dylan's "All Along the Watchtower," to which he added his own

unique feel to possibly the most covered song in the history of music.

Dave and his cohorts closed the show with an all-out jam on "Drive In Drive Out" which segued nicely to "Ants Marching." Ahhh...

Following a ten minute standing ovation of near-riot proportions, Dave marched back on stage and played solo for the crowd a tune possibly entitled "Rain On My Head" (we're not sure - it was a new one). The band joined him to end the tompkin stomping night with "Tripping Billies." Dave served Communion as the crowd ate, drank and, without a doubt, was as merry as could be.

This closed the ceremony with Pope Dave Mathews I, but his music continues....

Joel Schumacher and was an Arnon Milchan Production.

This is a movie that will keep its audience on the edge of their seats from beginning to end.

A Time To Kill is the compelling story of a father's vengeance of the brutal rape of his young daughter by two white males. The setting is in a small southern town where racism and the KKK were alive and well throughout this film.

The controversy in this film is

whether a man should be set free after killing two men in cold blood when the men had a good chance of getting off for the rape and attempted murder of his young daughter. Many people within the movie felt it wasn't justified due to the fact that he was a black man.

I, on the other hand, thought that regardless of race I could not condone his actions, but at the same time I saw why he took those

drastic measures as he did. In being

a father first, the immediate reaction to a child being hurt in such a gruesome manner would be a need for revenge. Passion and emotion would take over, altering the normal state of mind.

Samuel Jackson's character sought his own justice. He did not believe in the American judicial system. This aspect of the film questioned the extent of fairness when race entered the picture.

Another point raised was the is-

sue of crimes of passion. If one agrees that Jackson's character acted out of an altered state of reality, his actions can be understood. Due to that simple fact and that fact only, can I comprehend why he took those actions. But I do not think his actions were justified.

I would highly recommend this movie to anyone who wants to leave the theatre with something to contemplate.

Alma hosts area college night

By Missy Crossnoe
Freelance Writer

Alma College....everybody's heard of it right? Well, as we all know, that is unfortunately not the case. Alma, like many other colleges in Michigan, must reach out to be heard. And reaching out is just what Dan Axford, assistant director of admissions, and his staff accomplished on College Night '96.

To many high school students in Michigan, Alma College is not a familiar name. One of the best ways to promote Alma's name, and other institutions, is to host a college fair. This is exactly what College Night '96 was all about.

Every other year on a rotating basis, Alma College or Central Michigan University attracts high school students by hosting College Night. This is an opportunity to

invite other colleges from all over Michigan, and even a few out of state, to participate in promoting their schools' names.

Fifty institutions, including Albion, Adrian, G.M.I., Grand Valley State, Michigan State, Purdue, and the Airforce R.O.T.C. chose to participate this year in reaching out to students at College Night '96.

This year's College Night took place on Wednesday, September 25, from 7-9pm in the Physical Education Center. Many Alma College Ambassadors assisted Axford in coordinating this year's event. These ambassadors carried many responsibilities.

Students such as seniors Kathy Kasprzyk and Michelle Murphy, and junior Matt Wandrie helped run the program as well as the Alma College booth, along with Jim

Kridler, dean of students, and Mindy Sargent, associate director of student development. Other ambassadors helped by directing students around campus, watching

The different college representatives really seemed to enjoy their time here at Alma

•Beth Rosenow, '99

the various tables and booths and taking care of the many college representatives.

Sophomore Beth Rosenow stated "the different college representatives really seemed to enjoy their

time here at Alma. They were very appreciative to have been able to come here and promote their school name."

Besides the ambassadors, there were about twelve IFC members who helped the college representatives carry in their equipment and materials. Also, Axford stated that there were a few greatly appreciated Sigma Chi's who stayed around to help clean up after the event finished.

College Night '96 was advertised to twenty high schools extending from Alma, Ithaca, and Mt. Pleasant to as far as Gladwin, Beaverton and Bridgeport. Because of lack of promotion within the high schools, the student turnout was not as high as the admissions staff had hoped. Yet, the night resulted in the attendance of about four hundred students.

There was also a financial aid session located in Dow. This session was well attended by students and their parents.

All in all, College Night '96 was a wonderful opportunity for Alma College to reach out and promote its name. Axford and the admissions office, as well as the many other student volunteers, worked hard to help Alma reach students all over Michigan.

Axford stressed that College Night is extremely beneficial for high school students. He said, "students can begin to investigate opportunities in which they were not previously aware of, and gain further, future contact with the schools of their choice. This is exactly what Alma hoped its College Night would accomplish."

A guide to your drinking pleasure...

Alma community offers variety of bars

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

Cruising around town for the bar of your choice may be a tough one, so here's my guide to the area bars to help find the place "where everybody knows your name."

The Point Bar

Located at 703 Michigan Ave., this bar looks nice, quiet, and is well kept. The bar sells shots starting at \$1.50 and sells beer by the can. It can be best described as a blue collar bar, one that college students generally avoid.

The Pine Knot

Located at 324 N. State St., this bar is extremely small, having twelve bar stools and five tables. Nicknamed the PK and serving Busch and Miller on tap, pitchers run \$4.00 (\$3.00 after 7 p.m.), although one of the beers is typically out. Shots begin at \$1.75, but the Bloody Marys and Whiskey Sours

are excellent. Most patrons will play cricket on one of the two dart boards and an occasional game of pool. There is nothing extraordinary about the bar, besides Mo, the bartender. This raspy-voiced woman is worth the trip itself. As the second most frequented bar by college students, its charm is there.

D.G.'s Lounge

Located at 218 E. Superior St. this bar is a quieter version of the Pine Knot. The jukebox plays a few more country songs than at the PK, and tends not to get overly rowdy with patrons and music. D.G.'s is also much bigger than the PK. They feature karaoke nights and also serve food. This food is greasy, but cheap and have a wide selection of food. Pitchers cost \$5.00 but are bigger than those at the PK. Shots are as low as \$1.75.

The Highlander

Located at 7900 N. Alger Rd., this bar is Alma's nightclub. With

dancing and a bar playing popular music, this bar attracts the majority of college students. The d.j. plays a wide array of music — alternative, rap, classic rock, and popular hits like the Macarena. The most popular bar night for college students is Thursday night, the only night you pay a \$2.00 cover charge. Wednesday night is busy, but nothing like Thursday. A small pitcher of beer costs \$4.50 and shots begin at \$2.25. The bar presents specialty nights, like Sumo Wrestling.

Max and Emily's

Located at 319 N. State St. this coffeehouse sells deli style sandwiches, coffee, mochas, cheesecake, and beer. They hold the widest assortment of beer from Budweiser to Rolling Rock to One Eyed Jack. A bottle of beer runs about \$3.00 and the spacious atmosphere is nice for talking. In past school years, they have live music occasionally and plan on continuing it again.

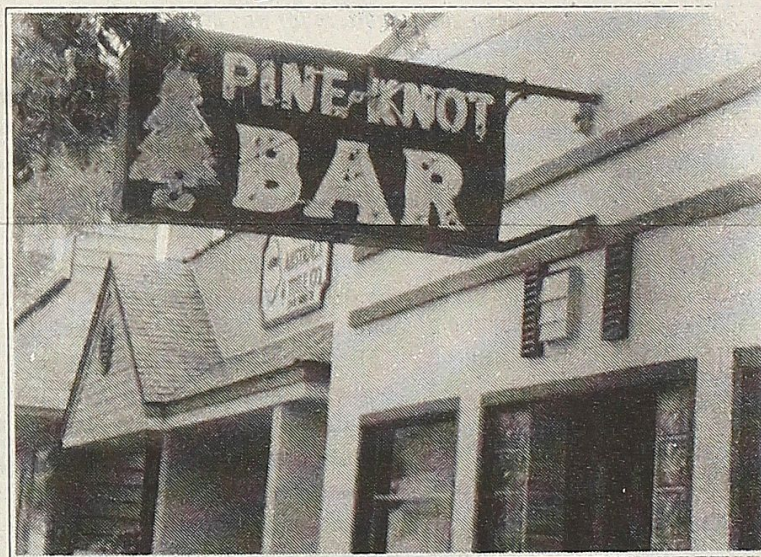


Photo by Phil Allmen

Riverdale Tavern

Located at 6681 N. Lumberjack Rd. this bar is only on the list because of its food. While it has a full bar with many premium liquor brands, shots begin at \$2.00, and pitchers are \$4.00. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday the kitchen is

open. This tavern serves the best bar fish and bar chicken around. The average wait for a table on these nights is over 30 minutes. But for a place to eat "just" fish or chicken and have a few drinks, this is the place to go.

The Duck offers more music than just alternative rock

by Shonda T. Brown
Freelance Writer

From hip hop to pop; rap to rock; alternative to country; to whatever type of music preference the students have, 90.9 WQAC plays it. WQAC, better known to Alma students as the "Duck," has a variety of different music in which young people can listen to at any given time.

WQAC began three years ago with only a small group of students. Donald Sharp, a senior at Alma College now, was a part of the group who started the programs.

"Myself and another student [Chad Jenkins, an Alma student] were the first ones to have an R&B and rap show," said Sharp.

Sharp's first show was called Funky 4-U and then later changed to Hip Hop Business and Mad Cap

Adventures. The goal of their show was to bring a broader range of rap and R&B to the campus.

"I wanted to show people that not all rap is negative and degrading. There are a lot of positive messages within rap songs and that's the type of rap that I played on my shows mainly," said Sharp.

Trevor Francisco, a sophomore at Alma, is the urban music director. He and fellow sophomore Jason Paetz have taken the positions of the R&B and Rap show hosts at the Duck. Francisco, better known as D.J. CK1, shares in Sharp's ideal goal of campus music diversity. Through his show, which airs Thursdays 10-12 p.m., he hopes to break down the negative stereotypes that some people might have about rap being bad and always negative.

"I want students to get some type

of insight on rap and R&B and see that it has positive attributes as well," commented Francisco.

There are a few goals which Francisco wishes to achieve as a D.J. for WQAC.

I wanted to show people that not all rap is negative and degrading...

•Donald Sharp, '97

"I want to get some new stylists at the radio station so that I can mix better" said Francisco (the process in which there is a conglomeration of urban music from R&B, to rap, to hip hop, to jazz all fused together in a relative way).

Though it is mainly a music station, intellectual shows can also be found if one tunes in at the right times. Senior Sakina Hill's show airs Sunday from 3 to 4 p.m. Hill's show, the S.C.O.T.S (which stands for Short Conversations on Technology & Science), is a show where soft music of all styles can be heard while discussions of all types are happening. It is filled with trivia questions where the lucky winner can win prizes.

"One of the major goals I have for my show is to provide a lively talk program which reaches out to both Alma College students and the surrounding community to provide a clear and entertaining picture of what is new in science and technology and its impact upon society," said Hill.

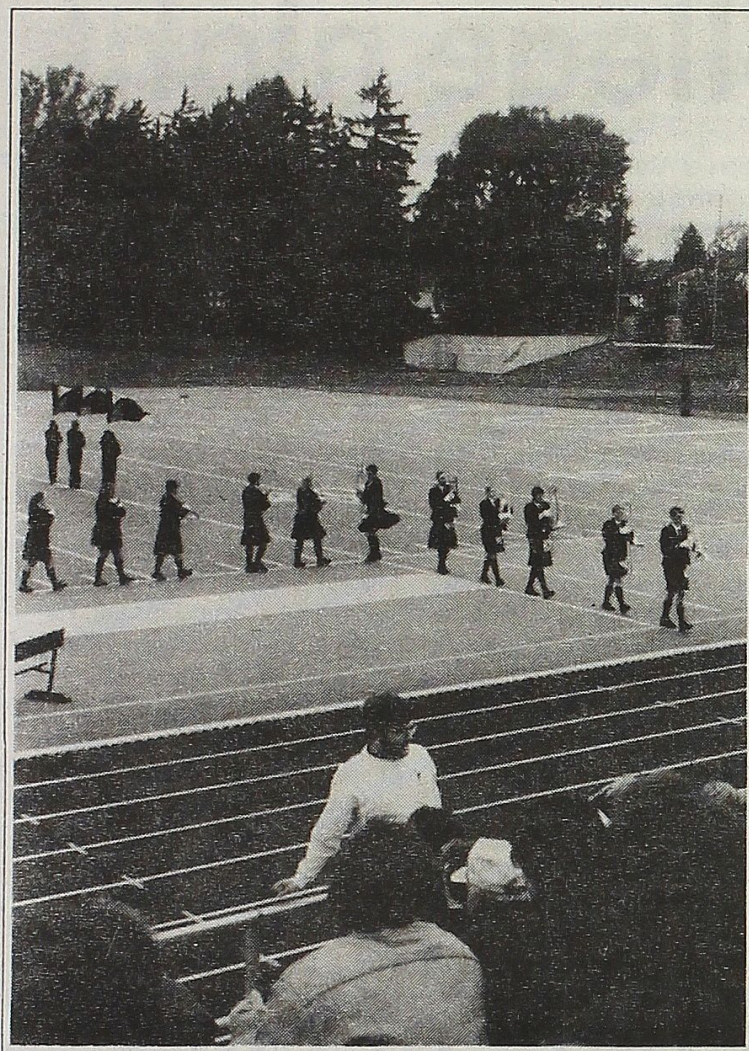
Hill's show features guests such as Rico Steverson, from Wayne

State University, who spoke about black holes and Morgan Allen from St. Mary's elementary school who talked of becoming a botanist. Some future guests will include Thomas Diets, a Biochemists from MSU, Alma chemistry's chairperson Melissa Strait and Cameron Reed, associate professor of physics.

In keeping with more diversity Kisha Reid, also a senior at Alma who is a D.J. and the general manager, felt reggae was being seriously downplayed.

"There was a time when all the reggae that was being played on the radio was of the singer Bob Marley, and I wanted to show that there was a variety of reggae singers other than just Bob Marley."

Although the Duck claims to be the "home of modern rock," many other diverse types of music float along the sound waves.



The Kiltie band marches off the field after Saturday's halftime show. The band has been preparing since preterm for this marching season. File photo.

Band continues success

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

The Alma College Kiltie Marching Band, led by director Kevin Smith, is now entering its 74th year, continuing its True Scot tradition.

The band, which has 107 members, is one of the symbols of dedication on this campus.

Members practice on average about seven hours of practice per week, plus performances. Those in the percussion section average about 12.

This includes practicing in the pouring rain.

"That is one of the best parts (of band)," said senior Tom Burzyck, the band's manager, "everyone is miserable together."

"People give up a lot of time; it is a lot of work," added senior Josh Lincoln.

For all their work, members get only one credit for the class, and many students do not even receive scholarships for their musical efforts.

"There is a lot of pride in this band," said Burzyck, "we work our butts off."

Band members come back to

Alma over Labor Day weekend every year for Band Camp. This training period consists of about 20 hours of work within two days. This also gives returning members a chance to meet the first-year students.

People give up a lot of time; it is a lot of work.

•Josh Lincoln,
'96

The band practices together four times a week, and sectionals practice together additional time during the week.

The most notable change, according to Burzyck is, "We are better. Every year, it (the band) gets better."

"In the past five years, I have seen a lot of bands come through, and this band has the most potential, because of the hard work of the band staff, the directors, and the

great group of first-year students," agreed Lincoln.

This coincides with one of the major responsibilities of band members: "To make a real effort to learn and improve daily," said Lincoln.

Changes in the making for a couple years down the road include new kilts, with the officially recognized Alma College Tartan, rather than the current McPherson Tartan.

Another change will be that this year during the Albion game the band will share a half-time with visiting team's band, adding to the variety.

The band plans on continuing a tradition that has come to be known as "True Scot," because it follows the example of traditional Scots back in the Highlands of Scotland. True Scot is a tradition of wearing only the kilt, with nothing underneath.

The band will perform their music in parades this year, including Alma College's homecoming parade, Alma High School's homecoming parade, at all home football games, and will also give a concert on Saturday, November 16.

Communication club seeks underclassmen members

By Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

Communication surrounds us every minute of our lives. It occurs in class, in socializing, in watching a movie or television, in the way we act and in the things we do. And now there's one more way to communicate—by joining Alma College's newest club, the Communication Club.

Not just for communication majors or minors, this club invites anyone with ideas or interest to join. One hope is to eventually encourage membership into Lambda Pi Eta, the communication honorary on campus. Another goal is just to have a good time and get many people involved.

Unlike Lambda Pi Eta, there are

no requirements for joining the communication club. "You don't have to be a communication major or minor, just interested," said Jody Pieprzak, co-organizer of the club.

Joanne Gilbert, club advisor and assistant professor of communication, commented that "unlike Lambda Pi Eta, which is a communication honorary that has certain academic criteria that must be met for membership, and which usually applies only to juniors or seniors ... the communication club is a social and service organization open to all interested students—communication majors, potential majors, or others."

"In fact," Gilbert continued, "the communication club really needs

to be first and second year students because that's how a club survives."

Underclass students are encouraged to run for office and play an

You don't have to be a communication major or minor, just interested.

•Jody Pieprzak
Co-organizer

active role in this young club. At this time, every office is available and exact duties of the officers still being decided.

Lora Bingham, the other co-or-

ganizer of the club, commented that this club "is a really great opportunity for the communication department to have an organization that works for the students. It's what we've always wanted ... but never had."

Approximately 12 students showed up to the first meeting, held Wednesday, September 25, where activities and purposes of the club were discussed.

The club hopes to help sponsor some campus events, hold fundraisers to be able to support such events, set up a web page describing the club and activities, and hopefully invite speakers to campus. More potential activities are still being discussed.

One campus event the group plans on assisting with is helping

other campus organizations in raising the funds to bring a section of the AIDS quilt to campus next fall.

The club plans to meet approximately once a month. The point is not to form something that will take up a lot of everyone's time, but something that people can get involved in without making a huge time commitment.

A more creative name is being sought and a prize for the winning idea will be awarded at the club's next meeting. Officers will also be elected.

Anyone interested is invited to attend the club's second meeting, scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 2 in Swanson Academic Center, Room 108.

Chemistry club hopes to increase involvement, membership

By Tiffany Hodge
Freelance Writer

The campus of Alma College provides many opportunities for students to become involved in academic life. Various honorary societies enrich students' field of profession and encourage community and campus involvement.

Chi Epsilon Mu, the chemistry honorary society, is one such organization that provides a positive affect on the academic standards of our campus.

The society offers community involvement through various events, one being their Science Blowout Day at local elementary schools. This event encourages young children to become scientists of their own by setting up various displays and experiments

in the elementary school. This is organized by Chi Epsilon Mu's special division known as Future Generations, headed by senior Brian Nielsen, which targets the young students in our community.

Members also enthusiastically involve the campus in their love for chemistry by celebrating Mole Day. All chemistry rookies, even those who have taken only one class in high school, should be familiar with the common exponential numeral known as the mole: 6.02×10^{23} . For every element there are 6.02×10^{23}

atoms per mole.

The society will pay respect to Avagadro (he discovered the atom count) on October 23 from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m. A display will be set up in the lobby of Dow for those interested.

The society will pay respect to Avagadro (he discovered the atom count) on October 23 from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m.

Claiming approximately 60 members, the society looks forward to receiving new initiates this year.

Senior Lokman Sung, the vice-president of Chi Epsilon Mu, noted that all students are invited to become a member of the chemistry club. One need not be a chemistry major, or even minor. The only

prerequisite is an interest in chemistry.

However, to be in the honorary society, one must be a chemistry major, have a 3.5 G.P.A. within the chemistry field, and have at least three chemistry classes.

Meetings are held every Thursday evening at 9:00 pm in Dow, running approximately 15-30 minutes. After the usual business meetings, members such as senior Dave Bartley, president of Chi Epsilon Mu, and others usually provide an interesting experiment for a little chemical entertainment. It could range from mixing chemical reactions to timing Rossini's William Tell overture.

Chi Epsilon Mu offers a mixture of campus involvement, community involvement, academic discussion, and fun.

Anyone interested in being a freelance writer should call The Almanian office (x7161).

Two schools seek admission to MIAA

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

Last week President Alan Stone chaired a committee to inspect St. Mary's College as part of the formal process in reviewing an institution requesting admission into the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

"St. Mary's has been looking at various conferences over the last few years," said Stone. "The MIAA is their first choice."

St. Mary's is an all-women's catholic college in Notre Dame, Indiana with 1400 students enrolled. The college currently plays many of the teams in the MIAA, although they do not have women's golf or cross country.

Those visiting the college received the information on athletics, financial aid, and academics prior to visiting.

"We were all impressed with the college's presentation," Stone said.

St. Mary's Director of Athletics, Jan Travis, led the group around the campus.

"I have been investigating the different conferences in the area

since I have arrived here [at St. Mary's]," said Travis. "The MIAA is definitely our first choice."

St. Mary's is also looking at the Indiana Conference.

Travis said St. Mary's fits with the institutions within the MIAA extremely well and offered two main points to support her claim — an excellent academic reputation and an excellent academic fit for student athletes, regarding lost class time in traveling to games.

Currently Alma College is the most distant school. If St. Mary's joins the conference, the two schools would travel about four hours for matches.

One drawback to St. Mary's is their lack of facilities, namely no swimming pool or track, said Stone.

St. Mary's can make arrangements with Notre Dame to use their facilities.

Another school expressing interest in joining the MIAA is Defiance College, located on the Michigan/Ohio border.

Another team visited Defiance to inspect the school.

Defiance is a co-ed college with 700 students affiliated with the United Church of Christ.

The MIAA could accept or reject both colleges, or only let in one.

"I am really impressed with St. Mary's program," said Stone. "I do have to question the academics at Defiance."

The average high school grade point averages for Defiance and Alma are 2.7 and 3.5, respectively.

There is always some pressure to

allow schools with a football team to enter, added Stone.

Defiance's football team will meet Alma this weekend at the Homecoming game.

"There are advantages to joining a conference," said Stone. "Conference teams set up their athletic schedules then go to independent schools to fill the schedule."

If either college joins, then the conference will have its first out of state member.

"The MIAA is the oldest conference in America," said Stone. "We will not change the name, but we will maintain the quality of the MIAA institutions."

The presidents of the MIAA schools will vote on the colleges and will announce their decision on November 20. Any new additions to the MIAA will not go into effect on the calendars until Fall 1998, because athletic schedules have already been set.

"I really do not know if either school will be added," said Stone. "I will have a better feel when I hear back from the other presidents."

Volleyball falls to conference powerhouse

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

Despite playing well early, the Alma volleyball team was defeated 3 games to 1 by conference powerhouse Hope College on Friday. The team started out well, dropping a close first game 15-12. The Scots rallied in the second game, winning 15-13 and tying the match at one game apiece. Hope came back though and dominated the next two games, winning both by a score of 15-2 and ending the match.

Alma's new head coach Penny Cook liked what she saw out of the Scots on Friday despite the loss, "I think we played very well the first two games, we passed well and played pretty aggressive defense and the blocking at the net was pretty good as well."

The Scots, however, broke down in the third and fourth games. "I

was disappointed with our play in games three and four and I'm not real sure what really happened," said Cook. The Scots lost the momentum after game two and were never able to gain the upper hand again. There were lessons to be learned from the match.

"This match showed the girls that they can keep up with a team like Hope. Overall I think they played fairly well and I think that it bodes well for what is coming in the future for us," said Cook.

Leading the team in the loss to Hope were sophomore Ellen Bradbury with 9 blocks, sophomore Jatell Driver with 28 assists, sophomore Kristin Randolph with 9 kills and junior Amy Pickleman with 14 digs.

While the future looks good, the past is looking anything but bad. This past Tuesday the Scots defeated Adrian in four games. "We

were very pleased with how we played," Cook remarked. Outstanding performances were turned in by Randolph and junior Lori Swenson. Bradbury and Driver also had impressive games. Driver had 56 assists while Randolph had 27 kills and Bradbury led the team in blocking. "We just played very aggressive ball and it was very fun to watch," said Cook.

Cook hopes to see some of that same kind of play in games to come. She feels that the team has a chance of beating their next opponent, Kalamazoo College. The Scots face the Hornets tonight at 6:30 at home. "I think it's realistic that we can

step up and beat Kalamazoo especially at home," said Cook.

If the Scots are able to defeat Kalamazoo tonight they will raise their record to 3-3 in conference play. Tonight's game marks the halfway point of conference play.

"It would be nice to be halfway at three and three, because then I feel that we can beat Albion for sure again and we hope to take Olivet again and Adrian again," said Cook.

Sophomore Ellen Bradbury goes up for a spike against Hope College. Bradbury led the team in blocking against the Flying Dutchmen. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.



MIAA Report

Overall Win/Loss records

Football (through 9-28)

	W	L	T
Adrian	1	2	0
Albion	3	0	0
Alma	1	2	0
Hope	1	3	0
K-zoo	0	3	0
Olivet	0	3	0

Women's Soccer (thru 9-28)

Adrian	0	7	0
Albion	2	4	0
Alma	1	9	1
Calvin	8	2	0
Hope	5	4	1
K-zoo	5	2	0
Olivet	4	5	0

Men's Soccer (through 9-28)

Adrian	2	6	0
Albion	5	4	1
Alma	3	5	1
Calvin	9	1	0
Hope	9	0	1
K-zoo	4	4	0
Olivet	0	6	2

Volleyball (through 9-28)

Adrian	8	7
Albion	6	8
Alma	5	11
Calvin	14	6
Hope	17	3
Kalamazoo	13	9
Olivet	6	13

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Football team wins big in home opener

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

With the roar of the home crowd pounding in their ears, the Alma College Football team triumphantly walked off the field Saturday.

Watching the first half of the game, however, coaches and spectators wondered if this was just going to be another one of those days.

"I was concerned in the first half," said head coach Jim Cole. "We have a lot of confidence in our players but we've been allowing some people to dictate some things to us, so we were concerned."

The game started well for the Scots. Sophomore Rick Brands' kickoff and a subsequent Elmhurst penalty pinned the Bluejays at their own six yard line. Four plays later the Bluejays were forced to punt, and Alma received the ball on the 50 yard line. Alma completed a first down on a 30 yard pass from senior Bill Nietzsche to sophomore Jason Hance. The Scots were unable to keep the drive alive though, and turned the ball over on downs on the Elmhurst 16 yard line.

The game then took a turn in Elmhurst's favor. The Bluejays coordinated a ten play drive, capping it off with an 11 yard touchdown run. After getting the ball on their own thirty the Scots tried to get their own drive started, but were stopped when a Nietzsche pass was intercepted on the Elmhurst 49 yard line and ran back to the Alma 36. The Bluejays quickly capitalized and four plays later put the ball into the end zone. The score stood at Elmhurst 14, Alma 0 with 4:35 to play in the first quarter.

The bad luck for the Scots continued when on their next drive a Nietzsche pass was again intercepted. Elmhurst took control of the ball on their own 45 yard line.

Alma's defense stepped up and three plays later an interception by senior Scott Menard returned possession to the Scots. This time Alma was able to control the field, moving 51 yards in 6 plays for a touchdown on an 11 yard pass from Nietzsche to junior Leonard Warren. Brands added the extra point bringing the score to Elmhurst 14 Alma 7 at the end of the first quarter.

At the start of the second quarter

Alma stalled a Elmhurst drive, forcing a punt. The Scots received the ball on their own 24 yard line. The Scots were again able to put together a 76 yard scoring drive in 14 plays. The touchdown again came from the Nietzsche/Warren connection. Brands' extra point attempt was good, tying the score at 14.

Late in the half Elmhurst again

We rallied after they went up by two touchdowns...

• Jim Cole
Head Football Coach

found the end zone with a 30 yard pass from quarterback Josh Carpenter to receiver Pete Martino. With only six seconds left in the half Alma was unable to respond, sending the teams to half-time with Elmhurst up 21 to 14.

Coach Cole commented on the first half, "We rallied after they went up by two touchdowns and kind of regrouped and then gave up that touchdown at the end of the

half."

The Scots' regrouping effort worked well, as they dominated the second half. Alma started the second half off with a scoring drive ending with a 2 yard run by junior Ray Dawood for a touchdown. The Scots never looked back as they sailed to a 45-21 victory.

Scoring for the Scots in the second half included a 6 yard run by sophomore Kyle Kartes, a 7 yard run by Dawood, a 20 yard field goal by Brands and a 42 yard pass from Nietzsche to Hance.

"One of the real keys was that when we got the ball first in the second half we came right down and answered with a touchdown.

If they were able to come out of the locker room and score one it could have been a different ball game," said Cole of the second half.

The Scots felt that they played a good game, improving on problems that had plagued them in previous contests.

"The biggest key was that our special teams didn't put our defense in bad field position," said Cole when asked about key im-

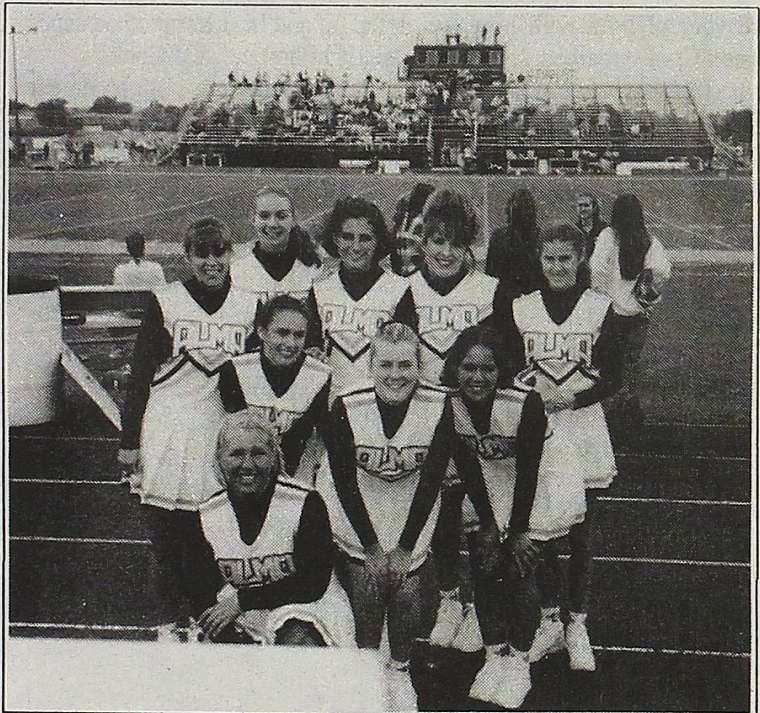
provements from last week. Cole also felt that the defense made some big stops when it was needed.

The Scots' offense continued to play well, racking up 608 total yards. Passing yardage provided 458 yards, while the remaining 150 yards were gained rushing.

"Obviously we've got to be excited about the offensive output and their ability to put points on the board and keep the ball and move up and down the field," said coach Cole about the offensive play.

Along with playing well this game, one Alma player has been recognized by the MIAA for excellent play last week. Quarterback Nietzsche was named offensive player of the week by the MIAA. Nietzsche broke the school records for passes completed and passing yardage in a single game with 43 completions for 484 yards. He also tied the school record for touchdown passes with five.

Nietzsche and the rest of the Scots will be in action again this Saturday at 1:30 for the Homecoming game against Defiance College.



The cheerleading squad takes a break to pose for a picture. Back row: Amy Jo Craig, Missy Crossnoe, Amy Tcholak, Karen Jones, Angie Thompson. Middle: Lonna Lutze, Amanda Schaefer, Martha Schaefer. Back: Lori Tulgestke. File photo.

Cheerleaders voice spirit

By Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

You may have heard their voices echo across campus in the afternoon or seen them supporting the Alma Scots at the weekend football games. If you have not already figured it out, they are the Alma College cheerleaders.

Although cheerleaders are often negatively stereotyped, Alma cheerleaders prove these assumptions invalid. Every woman on the team is involved in different activities on campus, several have made the Dean's List, and several hold part-time jobs off campus.

This year, the squad of ten women are practicing hard for two hours every week night. Occasionally they also initiate an extra practice on Friday night if a big game is

coming up or if they feel the work is needed. The women also travel to every away game with the team and are making two overnight trips in support of them as well.

Senior Lori Tulgestke is the lone four-year member of the team.

"I think it (cheerleading) is more physical than people think it is," Tulgestke said. "A lot of people have never come to our practices ... we do a lot of mounting (lifting people up in the air) which makes it more of a physical sport."

Other members include seniors Angie Thompson and Stephanie Withey, sophomores Missy Crossnoe, Karen Jones, Amanda Schaefer, and Martha Schaefer, as well as first-year students Amy Jo Craig, Lonna Lutze, and Amy Tcholak (Fraley). The team's advisor is Amy Brannan, an Alma

graduate.

The biggest challenge facing the team this year is inexperience. Five members have never cheered for a football game before and three have never cheered with the Alma squad.

"At first it was difficult to incorporate all the different styles, but we think we have now achieved a style that works for all of us," Tulgestke said.

A good support system is essential to both the cheerleading and football teams' spirits.

"We enjoy cheering to a crowd that participates so much more ... we encourage the students to come down to the game and cheer along with us," said Tulgestke, speaking for the team.

The team is heading strong into a new year, having received several compliments already.

Trainers gain valuable experience

By Kendra Seybert
Freelance Writer

When an Alma College athlete is injured, a student athletic trainer will be the one of the first to look at the injury.

Student trainers are involved in injury prevention, evaluation and rehabilitation. In addition, they are responsible for equipment management and each athlete's health and insurance information.

Most trainers are EHS majors and are hoping for careers in the fields of physical therapy or sports medicine. First year students can also be trainers; however, all trainers must have completed at least one term of observation in the training room.

Athletic trainers are active in their sports as soon as the players first set foot on the playing field. Trainers must be with the teams before and during practice, as well as at all games. They are responsible for treating anything as minor as a scrape to serious knee injuries or sprained ankles.

While the year started off with a large number of injuries it now seems to be calming down.

Being a trainer has its benefits. "It provides a good basis for hands-on learning and a professional manner with the athletes," said senior trainer Ian Schmidt.

This is Schmidt's fourth year as an athletic trainer and he hopes to be better prepared for graduate

school with the knowledge he has attained as a trainer.

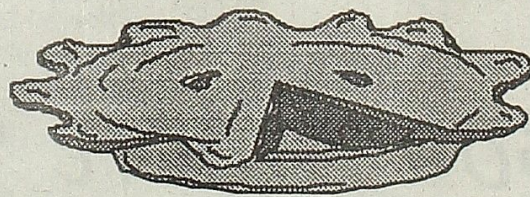
"I get a lot of hands-on experience working with the athletes and feel better prepared for graduate school," said India Lovett (97), on the benefits of being a trainer.

Third year trainer and senior Kelly Ervan agrees, "I feel like it helps me improve the skills that I learn in the classroom in a hands-on way."

The experience gained in working in the training room seems to be the best these athletic trainers know.

If someone is interested in being a trainer, he or she must speak with Director of Athletics Denny Griffin to establish an interest and to set up their season for observing.

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AND CHILI SALE**



To be held during the
Homecoming football game

Proceeds to benefit the
Physical Plant Scholarship Fund

Coaches corner

One on one with Coach Cole

Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

I recently had the pleasure of a personal interview with Alma's head football coach Jim Cole. I asked Cole about many things I felt our readers might find interesting. So without further explaining, I bring you pieces of this interview.

How did you get into coaching?

I always enjoyed sports but I had a coach in 8th grade named John Wilson, he was a tremendous influence and a wonderful man. So I said I want to be like him.

How long have you been coaching?

My first year of coaching was the fall of 1974.

Have you always coached at the college level?

I started at Central Michigan in '74 doing graduate work as a graduate assistant. Then I went to high school for seven years. I coached football first at Midland High as an assistant and then I went to Anchor Bay High School in Mt. Clemens as head coach.

What brought you to Alma?

In 1982, Coach Brooks, who was the head football coach at the time and a coach I had played for, had an opening for an entry-level position. My first year I coached football and baseball and then I took over as head women's track coach as well. Throughout the next fourteen years I had a variety of titles in football and track: I taught a variety of courses and took on a variety of other titles around. It's a parochial school basically, so you drive the bus and clean the garage, whatever needs to be done and that's made it a wonderful experience.

I almost went into food service. I worked SAGA or Marriott the whole time I was here and I almost went into that instead of coaching but my junior high coach and three of my high school coaches were a great influence on me. They paved a pretty solid path to follow but a tough path too, because they're so good.

How long have you been head coach here at Alma?

Since 1991, this is our sixth season and after an auspicious start we've done pretty well the last two years.

What's your educational background?

I went to school here. I graduated in 1974 with a degree in physical education and social science. Then I got my masters degree in Athletic Administration at Central Michigan University in 1975.

What's your football background?

I've played all my life. I played twelve years of organized football and then when I graduated from here I went right to Central and started coaching. I was always a quarterback all my life until I came here and Coach Stoltz made me a linebacker. I played linebacker as a freshman, defensive back as a sophomore, defensive end as a junior and finally I played quarterback my senior year. As it turned out it helped me to be a better coach because I've been in a lot of different situations.

My experience at Central was coaching defensive ends. In 1990, I took a leave of absence from here and coached at Central again. That was important for two reasons. One, they won the championship and we got to go out to California, and two it allowed me a different perspective going from division III to division I and allowed me to reinforce the fact that this is the style of football I want to deal with.

What other sports do you coach besides football?

I coached track up until this year. I'm not coaching track this year, I've taken on more of the academic advising, teaching extra courses and that sort of thing.

While you were at Anchor Bay did you teach as well as coach?

I taught health and physical education at both schools.

What courses will you teach?

I'll teach professional methods courses in education and also philosophy of coaching courses. I'll also keep my conditioning course because I like it.

Do you have a family?

I'm married and I live in town here. My wife's a teacher in the public schools here. We have three children 6, 4, and 3. My wife graduated from Alma.

Men's soccer team pulls off victory 3-2

By Mike Reed
Freelance Writer

The Alma College men's soccer team ended a tough losing streak with an important 3-2 victory over the Albion Britons on Saturday.

This win was greatly needed by the team and they responded accordingly.

Alma dominated the entire first half with steady ball control and aggressive offensive opportunities. The men maintained possession of the ball for most of the half, but fell behind 1-0 with 5 minutes remaining in the first half when the Britons scored on a header from a direct kick near midfield.

The Scots led 8-2 in shots at the half with several dangerous chances coming from strong crosses and four corner kick opportunities.

Alma came out fired up after half-time and Jeff Bateson quickly evened the score five minutes into the half when he received a beautiful lead pass and blasted it into the net past the Albion keeper.

Alma almost tied the score several times with great opportunities off corner kicks, which Albion's keeper was barely able to steer clear of the goal.

Then, after fifteen minutes of play in the second half, Bateson launched a rocket from 20 yards out which ricocheted off the post. The rebound was followed up by Matt Keller who sent the ball just over the goal.

Although the Scots kept up heavy pressure, Dan Kogut split the defense on a rare offensive surge for Albion and scored to return the lead to the Britons with 26 minutes left in the second half.

Finally, Alma's hard work paid off when Bateson tucked the ball into the back of the net with a header off of a free kick with 16 minutes remaining in the half to tie

the score.

Alma found the net once more with 13 minutes left to take the lead 3-2 when Ryan Soupal cut the ball back after dribbling into the corner and sent a cross to Tom Jewett, who redirected it past Albion's keeper.

Alma almost pulled ahead by two when Matt Keller sliced through Albion's defense and launched a shot, which was smothered by Albion's keeper.

The Scots maintained the lead with strong team defense, ball control and some key saves from keeper Jon Cullen.

The Alma men led the game in shots with 22 compared to Albion's

7. A good measure of the steady offensive pressure by the Scots is the number of corner kicks each team received: Alma had 9 while Albion had zero.

Alma improved their record to 3-4-2 while Albion dropped to 4-3-1.

About the much needed victory, junior co-captain Jeff Bateson said, "It was great to get the win off of our backs."

The men are now set to host Adrian (2-6) on Wednesday before traveling to Hope (8-0-1) on Saturday.

"Although Adrian can not be overlooked," Bateson remarked, "we're looking forward to playing Hope. It should be fun."



First-year student Matt Keller collides with an Albion player as he attempts to head the ball downfield. Alma won the game 3-2.

Photo by Aaron Mansfield.

Bowling offers chance for fun

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

Any hunter without bullets or arrows will tell you the best place to get a turkey is at the bowling alley.

Bowling three strikes in a row will get you the fowl and hopefully, the game. For two dollars a game and one dollar for shoes, you can head out to the 300 Bowl for some fun and excitement.

People go bowling for many reasons — practice, exercise, or to hang out with friends.

"It is not the actual game I like most, but sitting around with my friends and having fun," said junior Kendra Seybert. "It is a good way to relax and socialize."

For most this is the attraction to bowling.

"You do not have to be good at it to have fun, as long as you are with

friends," said junior Brian Deur.

Bowling is a game that can be played at any time of the day.

"I like a bowl in the early afternoon," said junior Nathan Fite.

Alma's bowling alley also houses a bar, restaurant, and pro shop. You can buy your very own custom-drilled bowling ball for as little as forty dollars up to one hundred. They also sell other bowling needs — talc, hand grips, and towels.

The object of bowling is to roll a ball (12 to 16 lbs.) down an oily wooden floor at ten pins arranged in a triangular shape. The bowler gets two attempts to knock down all ten.

After you bowl your second ball, you get to go again. And again.

You do this ten times. Each time is a frame.

If for any of those frames you knocked down all ten pins that is a mark, somewhat like notches in a

gun, but not quite.

If you get a mark on two tries, you get a spare, but if you knock them down in one try, it is a strike.

If this is getting confusing, fear not! The 300 Bowl keeps score for you, and you can bowl your heart away.

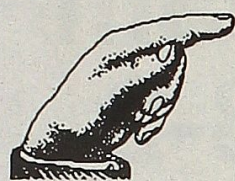
Many people have different strategies when bowling.

You can use a weighted, finger-tip-gripped ball to hook the ball into the pocket. You can throw the ball straight into the pocket, or across the alley for a Brooklyn strike.

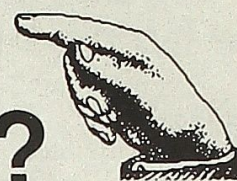
All of these styles can be reduced into two important strategy tips.

"I keep my eyes on the pin and make sure my shoes are not too slippery," said Seybert. "Sometimes it is easy to slip."

"I just throw the ball as hard as I can," said Deur.



Point/Counterpoint: Are Colleges tough enough?



Colleges must challenge students

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

Have you ever thought a college course was too easy, that it was a "blow-off?"

How many times have you not received an "A" in one of those "blow-off" courses?

There lies the central argument that a challenged student will receive better grades than a student who is not challenged, and who therefore shows little interest in the class. On many occasions, these students will not study properly for the class, and after an exam or two, they regret it because, guess what? That student will not get an "A" in the course. In all likelihood, they will struggle for a passing grade.

That is how I would classify my first two years at Alma College. I would do rather well in the more challenging classes; the classes that forced me to keep up with my studies. Those that I thought easy, or simply did not have an interest in, were the classes that I did poorly in.

Looking back, I now wish that I did not blow off certain classes, especially during my first year. I have also discovered that the secret to good grades is keeping busy. A busy person is an organized person. An organized person is a successful student.

That is why I believe that many college courses must strive to provide students with a more rigorous, challenging academic ex-

perience. After all, that is essentially why students go to college, and why they, or their parents, pay so much money.

There are professors that are challenging, and there are challenging courses. But overall, there are too many students, especially in their first two years, that are not challenged and therefore do not achieve their potential.

The saying, "If you accept anything but the very best, you might just get it," is true about college life. If a student is satisfied with a "B," rather than giving just a little more effort to get that "A," they are not living up to their potential.

A busy person is an organized person. An organized person is a successful student.

A class that does not push a student is a waste of that student's time and money, and to be honest, the professor is wasting his or her time if they are not challenging their students as well. Many professors believe that they learn as much from those students

that they challenge, as those students learn from them.

Eventually, these "pushed students" become motivated students, because they push themselves. And these motivated students become future leaders, prominent business professionals, lawyers, or even a challenging professor.

A challenged, motivated, student is what every professor and every college should strive for.

College is tough enough

By Kendra Seybert
Freelance Writer

As college students, we live extremely hectic lives, inside and outside of the classroom, constantly growing and learning in both the academic and social arenas. We do not have a lot of spare time on our hands. Imagine having 15 additional hours of homework each week. Imagine tacking on four more credit hours to your already ridiculous eight-teen. Imagine where you would find the time to do this; imagine the lost interpersonal growth that would result from living your four years at your institution of higher learning in the library.

College is tough enough.

We don't need to fry our brains and cram our memories to learn.

True, some classes at college, even at Alma College, are laughably easy. There are classes that you will never have to study for until the night before the test. There are classes in which you do not need to show your face until midterm and still receive a good grade come the end of the term.

However, the average class is not like that. In the average class at Alma College, you will spend two hours on homework for each class each night; you will be allowed a maximum of three absences before it is reflected on your grade; and you will study long before a test ever rolls around. You will work hard to do well.

You will be challenged.

That is the point of college: to challenge its students to the point where they are constantly learning.

This is happening at Alma College.

I do not think the point of academics is to confuse everyone who is trying to learn; students would get frustrated and stop trying.

Then what? The concept of "higher learning" would be replaced with "over-your-head non-learning;" you cannot understand anything when you're so frustrated you cannot even sit through a class without feeling the weight of the world on your brain.

How many classes have you had while at Alma College where you never worried about an assignment or a test because you already knew everything that you needed to know? It's probably safe to say that there have not been many, if any at all. And those "blow-off" classes that you have had the liberty of skipping were

taken for that purpose: to give you a break from your heavy workload. Even "blow-off" classes serve their purpose.

Imagine less spare time than you already have.

Imagine being more stressed out than you already are.

Sure, college could be tougher, but would you want it to be? Would you be happy at a place where the library was your second home? A learning environment should be a positive one; happy people will be better students.

...You cannot understand anything when you're so frustrated you cannot even sit through a class without feeling the weight of the world on your brain.

I don't get it!

Social phenomenon remain beyond understanding

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

It seems like there are a lot of things I just do not understand. Things like Geometry and Physics aside, many are social phenomena that happen on a regular, re-occurring basis. Below are a list of things I just don't get. These are things that either I don't understand their existence, what they are, or what their purpose is. If you can explain any of these things, please send letters to the *Almanian* office addressed to me.

1. The "Dark Side" in the cafeteria
2. How people can dislike people that they do not know anything about

3. Professors who repeatedly hold you over class time
4. People who are selfish
5. Why it matters what clothes you wear
6. Bigotry of any kind
7. Abusive people
8. Why it seems impossible to eat just one potato chip
9. Why people look at your funny when you laugh out loud for no reason
10. Narrow mindedness
11. Guns
12. Why people don't put more tepee on the roll when they've used the last piece
13. The Alma Bubble
14. Why we stop playing outside as we get older

15. P.D.A.
16. Hunting/Hunters
17. Violence
18. Animal testing
19. "Co-ed naked" shirts
20. *Playboy/Playgirl* magazine
21. Bull fights
22. Greek Week
23. Why people don't smile more than they do
24. Genital piercing
25. Inaction
26. Better to be seen than heard
27. People who butt-kiss their professors
28. People who don't understand that no means no
29. Intolerance
30. People who cheat on their significant other

31. Why people make fun of other people that they don't know just because of who they're with or how their dressed
32. How falling in love happens
33. Why David Letterman has never been voted "most eligible bachelor"
34. How people cannot like Pizza Sam's
35. These mysterious individuals everyone calls "townies"
36. Plastic surgery—especially breast enlargement
37. Bathing suit calendars
38. Why I only get one channel unless I buy cable
39. Why homosexuals cannot have legal marriages

40. People who rat on others for no good reason
41. Puffy paint
42. Why we have to be 21 to (legally) consume alcohol
43. Why people would willingly carry around baby bottles for themselves
44. People who don't say what they're really thinking
45. Hazing of any sort
46. Why everyone doesn't shop at the Goodwill
47. Bullies
48. Any slogan containing references to genitals
49. Liars
50. Why anyone thinks that they are better than anyone else on this earth.

Celebrities forfeit privacy for fame

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

Roseanne Arnold. Tom Cruise. Oprah Winfrey. These are everyday household names. We all recognize their names and faces. And we have all read about them, whether it be in the newspaper or in the headline of a tabloid magazine. They are celebrities.

But what is the price of stardom? Do these people really deserve to have all of their privacy taken away? Does the public really have the right to know every last nitty gritty detail about the lives of celebrities?

Junior Joanne Howd believes that "a price of fame is that they give up a lot of privacy," but she says that the tabloids go too far.

Personally, I believe that the careers celebrities have chosen puts them in the spotlight. They made a conscious decision to become an actor, athlete, or musician. A partial loss of privacy comes with the territory.

With fame, one has to expect a bit of public curiosity. However, no one should cross the line and scrounge through a celebrity's garbage just to find information about them.

Being in the public eye, celebrities, whether they want the role or not, are role models. Many children look up to these people. Therefore, celebrities need to set a good example. They should be careful in their actions because people are watching them and sometimes imitating them.

While I believe that the public has the

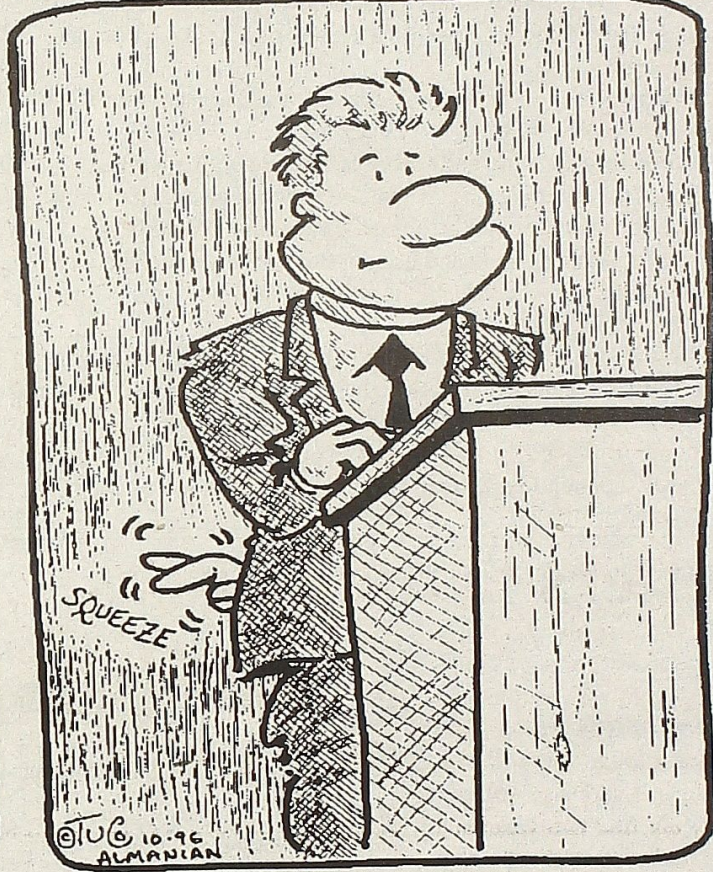
right to know certain things about celebrities, I believe that tabloids go way too far. They are appalling. I read the headlines as I stand in line at the grocery store. Who doesn't? But I just find it hard to believe most of the things these headlines claim. The simple fact is that tabloids exploit ce-

lebrities and drag their names through the mud. It is not fair that the tabloids can print untruths and get away with it. Even if they are reprimanded, though, the damage has already been done.

In short, I believe that although celebrities claim to be normal, everyday people, this is

not the case. They are in the public eye, and that makes them different. Fame has its benefits, but it also has its costs. It's just a simple fact of life that celebrities have to deal with. If they had wanted to live a private life, they chose the wrong profession.

PREPARATION FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES...



Growing older embraces changing views

By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter

There are certain thoughts that come to a teenager graduating high school when he or she thinks about college. Tests, alcohol, parties, alcohol, professors, alcohol, papers, alcohol, rushing, jobs, the cost of living, and of course, alcohol. It is not their fault. This aspect of college life has been fed into their brains for many years, beginning with the great James Belushi himself, and continuing through the media's portrayal of the very real and the humorous parts of college life.

Nobody is immune, trust me. Through my high school career I never once took a drink of any alcoholic beverage. It's true, ask my roommate. I went to plenty of parties where there was drinking, always had a good time, and was always offered a drink or two. I'd always refuse, and instead grab a Pepsi. The idea just never appealed to me.

Then I graduated. My parents would continuously tell me "Eighteen is not a magic number!" and "Just because you've graduated, don't think everything is going to change!" They were wrong. Eighteen is a magic number, and everything changes once you've graduated high school.

I do not know why, but strange things happen to people when they get a diploma in their hand. A couple of my friends decided they desperately needed a tattoo, and one of my friends even felt that his life would have no meaning unless he pierced both of his nipples. Like I said, strange things.

For me, the summer after my senior year was when I had my first taste of alcohol. I tried all kinds of beer, tequila, vodka, and mixed drinks. Didn't like any of it (except for the occasional strawberry daiquiri). My

friends laughed when I choked on all of the drinks, then protested when I refused to take another sip. "You have to acquire a taste for beer," said one of my friends, and everybody else I talked to who likes beer agreed. What I don't understand is why somebody would want to take the time to acquire the taste if it tasted so bad in the first place.

Then I tasted wine, and I loved it—still love it.

Does this mean that I am an alcoholic? Certainly not. I don't drink all that much and...damn! Oh, excuse me, but my glass of wine just ran out, and I can't write unless I have that glass of wine in my hand. It will only take a minute...So anyway, as I was saying, I don't drink all that much and when I do, I do it because I am merely enjoying...Isn't it amazing how quickly someone can finish off a glass of wine! Excuse me for a moment...Where was I? Oh, yes, I drink because I enjoy the taste, not because I feel a need.

There's only one problem. I'm only eighteen. So, legally, I'm not supposed to drink. Of course, it's illegal for me to speed on the highway as well, and that has rarely ever stopped me. It may be wrong for me to so blatantly disregard the law, it may be immoral, but there I am.

Which leads me to the reason why I was the first case heard by the student judicial committee this year.

The door was closed, there was no radio on, we were being quiet, and of course no one in the room had even finished their first beer. Still, two resident assistants managed to knock on the door of my friend's room in Bruske Hall. They said that they had heard somebody say "Take a drink," and had come to investigate. Go figure. We had to dump

out all of the open beer containers, and all of the closed beer bottles in the refrigerator.

The judicial committee was very nice about it. They didn't fine us or give us community service. Instead, we each have to put up a bulletin board explaining the Alma College drinking policy.

One of the girls I met here at college said I might as well have the word "Freshman" stamped to my forehead for drinking in Bruske. I tend to agree with her.

Did this experience teach me not to drink until I was of age? No. What it taught me was to be a little more careful about where I drink.

I wasn't upset at the R.A.s for "busting"

us. There is very little point in being upset with someone for doing their job. It's like yelling at the police officer that pulls you over for speeding. If you take the risk, you should be prepared to get caught. Besides, one of the R.A.s was a friend of mine, and we both had a good time at a party the next night.

One more thing. While I think that drinking is a personal decision, I desperately disagree with the idea of drinking and driving. When you do something that stupid, you're not only abusing yourself but you are also abusing others. If you decide to drink, either have a designated driver take you home or be prepared to spend the night. Don't get behind the wheel of a car. Please.

Classifieds

The dance department is offering a London Trip for next spring term. A London theatre and dance trip to be exact. If you are interested in finding out more about it please stop by my office in the Heritage Center and sign your name. I will then send you an informational packet describing the trip in detail and the costs involved. Some details to whet your appetite—we will be in London for approximately 10 days with a two day trip to Stratford—we will see 6 performances which will include Broadway shows—ballet and modern dance performances and theatre productions. Back stage tours and work shops will be included as well as guided tours and sightseeing of London—plus much, much more. The course meets IIIA

distributive and receives 4 credits. Hope you will all be able to join us for a very exciting trip. Carol Fike X7242.

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Staff Editorial

Homecoming Court lacks purpose

In the midst of Homecoming hoopla, one pauses to consider what the event is all about. Homecoming is a time for alumni to come back home to Alma. It is a time for us to be reacquainted with old friends who have graduated and celebrate with them the spirit of Alma College. Homecoming is also a time to build school spirit and pride. On that day, we can go with alumni or friends to watch various Alma teams represent our school in athletics. We can also watch as our fellow Scots, past and present, parade down Superior Street in a display of school support and involvement.

If we watch closely, we may even see the Homecoming King and Queen drive past.

What does the King and Queen have to do with anything? Before Homecoming even begins, seniors are given a ballot on which they vote for the three people they think would best represent Alma as King and Queen. From those votes, the top five vote getters are selected and the entire student body picks our Homecoming Court.

How do we really pick King and Queen? Is it the person who we party with every Saturday night? Is it the person who we think is the best looking? Do we even really know what to look for? Judging from the past Homecoming courts, they are selected on looks and popularity. Instead of picking the person with the best

body and image, why can't we pick the person who has truly contributed the most to the college?

While the people who are chosen to be our Homecoming Court may very well be the same people who contributed the most to our college on some occasions, on many more occasions, it is the people who are the most popular. Unfortunately in our society, popularity isn't always gained by being the nicest person, the smartest person, or the person with the biggest heart. Too often, we judge people by the image that they portray and their ability to be socially deft instead of the things that really count.

Overall, the notion of a homecoming court is ridiculous. A good deal of nostalgia is conjured up by having the traditional court, but do we really need to have one? Do we, as strong and capable adults, need to revert back to high school heaven where the girl with the most name brand clothes was the coolest?

If Homecoming is truly a time to welcome back alumni and friends, why do we need a court? Will they go to the bus station, or out into the parking lot and greet all of our visitors that day, or will they merely bask in the shimmer and sparkle of their own popularity?

Getting rid of this archaic and silly tradition would not only make sense, but would show that we truly believe and practice what we so often preach—that we are all equals.

Letters to the Editors

To the Editors,

A new fad is sweeping the colleges. Although people aren't throwing up over it, it is still growing in popularity. It doesn't give you a hangover, and it helps you get your tests done on time. A way to electrify your brain into a pentium processor. Power punch for perfect papers and pleasant popular parties at parties.

How to obtain a powerful brain? Good nutrition and a drink to make you think. A think drink: Mix three to six tablespoons of lecithin granules (or take capsules) with one tablespoon of vinegar (which is acetic acid) in a nonalcoholic drink. Some brain cells combine these ingredients, to make acetylcholine, for your brain cells to communicate and remember with. Quicker thinking, too. Proper nutrition and plenty of protein produces a powerful brain and premium peak performance.

Alcohol will destroy the effect, since it depletes acetylcholine, causing less of it, and alcohol destroys the brain cells that make it, which lowers your capability to manufacture this important neurotransmitter. Leading to less memory and coordination ability. The damage can last a lifetime...

Super to be Sober,
John N. Maguire III
149 Cabana Road
Myrtle Beach, SC 29572
Fax: (803) 272-0792

...

To the Editors,

Dan Scripps' article in last week's issue made many conclusions that lacked content. He first claims that the "personal growth" that Greeks feel is the same as any

college student. Sure, everybody's academic prowess increases, but what about those experiences and responsibilities Greeks get from holding offices and having others depend on you. Being Greek has taught me how to better organize my time as well as heightened my awareness of social responsibilities and alcohol awareness.

Furthermore, the loss of individualism by Greeks is just a myth. Everybody's activities on this campus is seen as an extension of the person. Just as I describe some of my friends as band members, or Computer Science majors, so too does that label Theta Chi become associated with me. But I am an individual, capable of my own free thoughts and feelings. Scripps claimed that Greeks lost individualism because they "are looked at as members of a group, not individuals." To imply that people can only be individuals by lacking membership in groups in narrow minded.

Scripps' blasting of the Greek sponsored philanthropies was also unfounded. True, the Greek Life Handbook does mandate one philanthropic event per year. But after quickly filling their quota, why do Greek organizations continue to participate in such activities? Whether it be collecting empty cans, adopting schools, or serving food in a community cafe, Greeks continue to help Alma. Sure, other groups on campus perform charitable tasks, but that is what ALL groups are for. Organizations exist to better the college and the student experiences and that includes giving back to the community. Just like many other groups on campus, the Greek community commits a large amount of its time and resources back into the campus and the community.

Finally, Scripps claims that the Greeks are exclusionary. True, just

because you rush does not guarantee you membership. But to imply this fact means that Greeks feel superior to others is a leap of reasoning. What he called "a sense of entitlement," I see as pride developed from an organization whose standards the members believe in and live by. Unfortunately, this quality is often misconstrued as condescending and xenophobic. Greek Pride does not mean "I am better than you." Rather it says "I like who I am (an individual), the beliefs I have, and the organization I have helped to create."

Justin Burtch '97

...

To the Editors,

I am compelled to respond to Tom Glegola's opinion piece entitled "Capital Punishment is an Effective Deterrent." Mr. Glegola argues that criminals are rational actors who measure carefully the potential costs and benefits of their crimes, and that the lengthy appeals process in capital punishment cases tips the balance to encourage lawlessness. He suggests further that death row inmates should be permitted to appeal their convictions only within one year of their conviction. Apparently, the one-year limit sufficiently protects inmates' rights to due process, while permitting the state to make a timely example of the men and women awaiting execution.

Experience, however, contradicts Mr. Glegola's assertion that one year is a sufficient period in which the wrongfully convicted can demonstrate their innocence. Take, for example, the recent case of Walter McMillan. On March 2, 1993, Mr. McMillan walked out of an Alabama courtroom a free man after prosecutors admitted that he served six years on Alabama's death row

because the State had withheld evidence from his attorneys which would have proven his innocence. Prosecutors also admitted that law officers had pressured witnesses to perjure themselves against Mr. McMillan.

Moreover, Mr. Glegola never demonstrates conclusively that the use of capital punishment deters crime. He fails to cite any empirical studies that point toward a causal relationship between capital punishment and crime prevention. Instead, he relies on questionable reasoning to argue that rational people would not commit heinous crimes if the punishment for such crimes was death. Of course, people do commit heinous crimes. Should we conclude that these criminals are rational? No. To say that they are not rational, however, does not mean that they are insane; rather, it means that they do not perpetrate their violent crimes based upon a rational calculus of the costs and benefits of those acts. We might consider, then, the three different standards of behavior when considering a violent act: rational behavior, insanity, and the simply criminal. I would suggest that Mr. Glegola consider the truism that violent crime usually is the result of criminal behavior.

Even if we accept his logic, Mr. Glegola never considers whether the public's interest in deterring crime warrants such severe restrictions on due process that will likely result in the wrongful execution of innocent people. If, as he suggests, the life of a law-abiding citizen is worth more than that of an incorrigible criminal, then should we not err on the side of caution in order to protect at all costs the lives of the innocent?

Howard Lubert
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Staff Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed weekly in the "Staff Editorial" reflect the views of *The Almanian* Editorial Board, which includes section editors and the editors-in-chief. These views in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.

The Almanian Letter Policy

All Letters to the Editors 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 serve basis, up to three per week. We reserve the right to condense letters 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, or e-mail at ALMANIAN@alma.edu.