

The Almanian

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Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 5

Militia confronts speaker

By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter

Martin Lee, an investigative reporter who has infiltrated numerous militia movements both nationally and internationally, lectured in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts on Monday, September 30.

The lecture, centered on the politics of particular militia movements here in the United States, presented some material that at some points frightened many members of the student body. When asked about their reaction to the lecture, more than a few mentioned that they were scared that such people do exist, and that these people do indeed have guns.

The introduction to the speaker was given by Joe Jezewski, chair of the theatre and dance departments. He commented that while it was indeed rare for the theatre department to host a speaker, Lee's topic was directly connected to the play the theatre department is producing, entitled *God's Country*, to be performed October 10-13.

Lee then began talking about a topic that has been pronounced in the news media as of late—the links between certain militia groups and specific white supremacist groups, and their ties to particular acts of domestic terrorism.

At one point, Lee stopped his lecture to show a video tape. The footage was recorded by a hidden

baby son 'Johnny, where's your trigger finger?' he'll be able to point to it right away..."

The lecture then continued, as Lee drew connections between those indicted in the Oklahoma City bombing, and a group called the Aryan Nations. Lee also talked about the publications of many militia and "racialist" groups, and their methods of spreading propaganda.

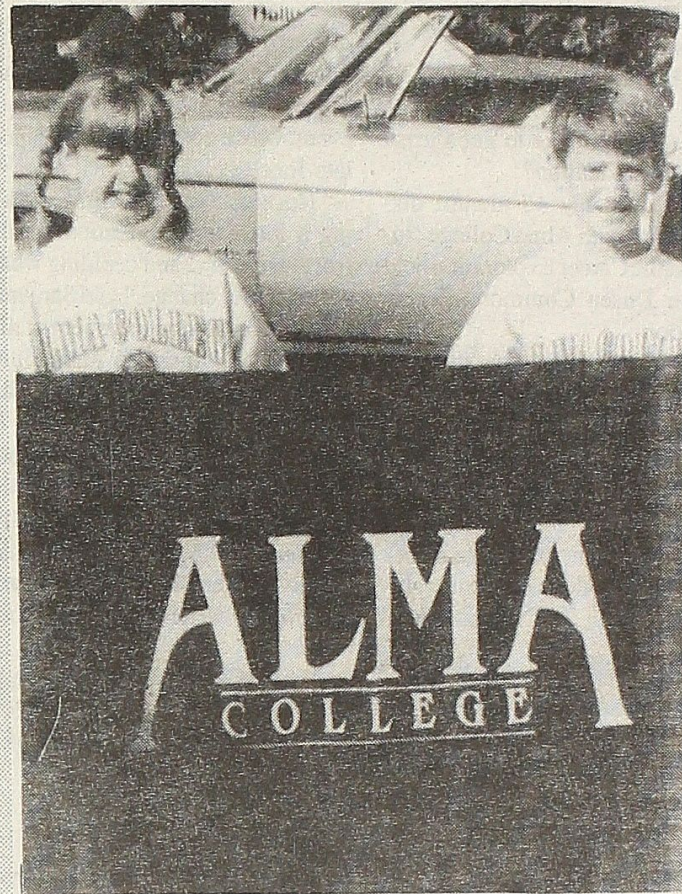
Lee entertained questions at the end of his lecture. At this point, members of the Michigan Militia, two identifying themselves as the Executive Treasurer of the Michigan Militia and as the leader of the Kalamazoo branch, stood up and began arguing with Lee.

After a short period the Michigan Militia members were escorted out, leaving behind them a wake of discussion and dissension in the audience seated in Presbyterian Hall.

To end the evening, there was a short reception during which Lee continued to answer the questions of students and other members of the Alma community.

*'Johnny,
where's your
trigger finger?'*

camera, and was footage of a closed convention of a political organization called the U.S. Taxpayers' Party. During the video, speakers at this taped convention got up and spoke about topics such as the forming of militia groups, and active resistance to the "encroaching government control." One speaker on the video stated "If you ask my



Two local children lead the Homecoming Parade down Superior Street on Saturday. The banner they carry features Alma College's new tartan. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.

Fall play *God's Country* portrays real hate groups

By Staci Hill
News Editor

The characteristic posters for The Heritage Center for the Performing Arts are posted for the fall theatre production *God's Country*. They describe the play as "A chilling portrait of domestic terrorism."

Thursday through Sunday, Oct. 10-14, the Alma College Theatre

Company will perform the highly political play by Steven Dietz.

The play is concerned with the white supremacist movement within the United States. All of the dialogue is taken from actual court case transcripts, newspaper articles, interviews, and political or historical writings.

One court case in particular creates the foundation for the contro-

versial play. Between September 1983 and December 1984, a radical right group called "The Order" organized robberies and armored car heists in order to finance themselves for greater activities. Eventually The Order looked to assassinations as a means for their armed "white revolution" to take over the country.

In June 1984 Alan Berg, a Denver radio talk show host who confronted bigotry, ignorance, and violence on the air, was murdered. A trial began, accusing The Order of direct involvement. The founder of the group, Robert Matthews, was incinerated on Woodby Island as a result of a police standoff in December 1984. Ten members of The Order were convicted of Berg's death in Seattle 1985.

Although these events occurred over ten years ago, the radical right consistently appears in the news. This incident was a prelude to the events involving far right groups at

The cast of God's Country practices for Thursday night's opening performance. Photo by Matthew Singletary.

Ruby Ridge and Waco.

Joe Jezewski, associate professor of theatre and dance, emphasized the ties between all of these radical groups. The book *The Turner Diaries* by William Pierce appears to be the blueprint for the groups' game plans. Jezewski commented on "this unbelievably bigoted book which believes that whites should take back the country that belongs to whites."

Evidence that Timothy McVeigh of the Oklahoma City bombing, Randy Weaver of the Ruby Ridge incident, and The Order believed in the philosophies offered by this book exists.

Despite these connections, the information available to the public about the hate groups in this country is slim. The Order, based in the Northwest, was highly secretive about their racist and anti-Semitic beliefs, unlike the infamous Ku Klux Klan. Jezewski pointed out the difficulties in talking about vital issues that are kept undercover.

Last spring when the news reported on the Montana Freeman and the trial for Terry Nichols and McVeigh, Jezewski saw the oppor-

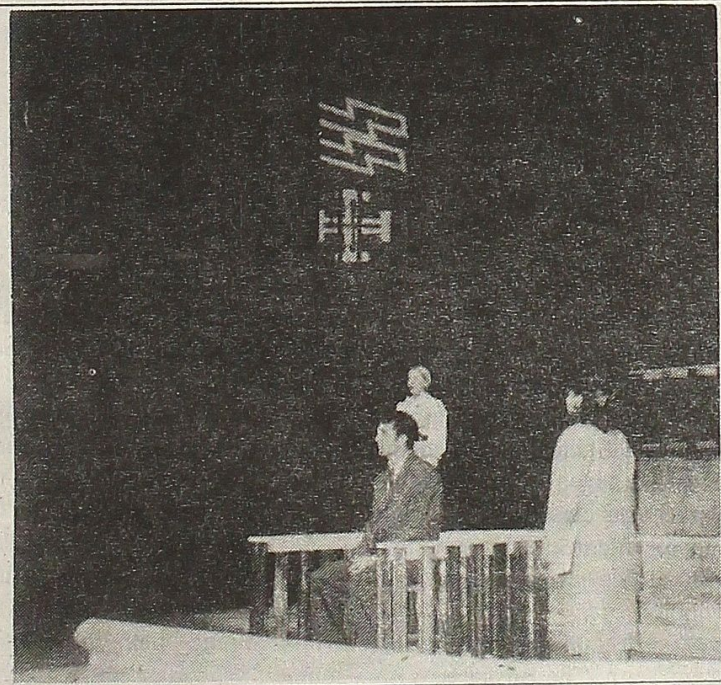
tunity to tempt students into talking about national concerns with this play. Because it is based on a true story, students will learn about the problem and talk about it.

"I hope it raises the consciousness level about these groups that believe the government is aligned with blacks and Jews to suppress whites," stated Jezewski.

Although the theatre company is unsure of the response they will receive at Alma College, the actors hope to inform students of Michigan's involvement in this national problem.

According to actor Jennifer MacKillop, "This hate group action is happening around us in this area. If we choose to ignore it, that's sad. People don't understand the ties to racist groups [in Michigan]." At one point in the play actors read off several extreme far right organizations and at least ten are based in this state.

The actors warn that *God's Country* is not for the faint at heart. Tickets for the play are still available through the Heritage Center Box Office, x7304.



Inside:

- Career Explo, p. 2
- Med Shed support, p. 2

News

- Homecoming, p. 6-7
- Clinton, Dole bios, p. 4

Feature

- Football, p. 5
- Coaches' Corner, p. 9

Sports

- Hunting debate, p. 11
- Opinion poll, p. 12

Opinion

Students network with alumni at Career Explo

By Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

What does it take to get a great job after graduation?

Approximately 45 alumni discussed that with Alma College students at the Career Exploration held in Van Dusen Commons Friday afternoon.

Alumni explained how they got their jobs and what duties they are in charge of to students who attended the Career Explo, which is co-sponsored by the alumni and parent boards.

Mindy Sargent, associate director of student development, commented, "I think we've had a good

turnout, although of course I always hope for more." Sargent and others have been planning this event, which occurs annually, since late June or early July.

"It originally started with reviewing a lot of the evaluation forms from last year... and deciding what we wanted to change," said Sargent. From there, alumni were sent mailings inviting them to attend the event. Alumni from as far back as 1959 attended the event.

"I think it's a really good opportunity for students to talk to people in various fields," commented Polly Vedder, a 1985 graduate of Alma. "It gives them a chance to learn more about different types of work

and what's involved."

"I remember going to these things when I was here," said Paul Burns, 1981 graduate. "I thought it was valuable then. It gives you a perspective of different things. For me it's a value to emphasize that Alma is a good place to go and that there are people out there who are experiencing success coming from Alma."

Not only did students benefit from networking with these alumni, but it also worked the other way.

"I've learned a lot today. I like coming back and talking with the students," said William Dennis, class of 1962. "It gives me a fresh

perspective. Not only do they get information from me, but I learn a lot from them as well."

Gary Evey, a 1981 graduate, said, "For the students, I think it gives them an idea of the types of jobs that are available. People like to talk about what they do. I bet there's not a person here who doesn't think their jobs are boring every once in a while. It's nice to see people who are excited about what you do. I think it makes you appreciate your own work more."

Alumni who couldn't attend but were still interested in networking with Alma students filled out a form which is filed on the career consultant network in the Center

for Student Development.

The career consultant network is a database where students can look up alumni by name, by their undergraduate major, current occupation, by their graduate school, by state or by their degree program. Students interested in talking with someone in their field are invited to use this resource, which mimics the career exploration day.

Career Explo provided many Alma students the chance to visit with alumni who are involved in a career in their major or a related area.

Overall, positive comments were heard about the afternoon event from students and alumni.

Medical Center offers more than just cough drops



By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter

A number of events are stirring Wilcox Medical Center into action to prepare for the oncoming winter illnesses.

Flu shots began Monday on a first come first served basis. The Wilcox advertised the shots by putting up fliers stating "Remember last year? You said you never wanted to be that sick again..." The shots are seven dollars each, and they will continue until supplies run out.

As well as being the beginning of a predictably bad flu season, this is also Alcohol Awareness week. Information on alcohol's effects on the body and mind, as well as some other information about alcohol, can be picked up at the Medical Center.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Women are encouraged to pick up information on breast cancer at the medical center.

The Medical Center also has

plans for the next few months. Coming up is National Awareness of Domestic Violence Month, and to put themselves fully into an active role the Medical Center has joined a national program known as the Clothesline Project.

*Remember last year?
You said you never wanted
to be that sick again...*

"It is a visual display bearing violence against women," said Medical Center Director Joe Gelina. Women can come into the Medical Center and pick up a t-shirt of a various color. They then can use glitter paint to write on the t-shirt, explaining their experiences and how they feel.

Each color of t-shirt holds its own specific significance. White t-shirts are for remembering women who have died as a result of vio-

lence. Yellow or beige t-shirts are for women battered or assaulted, emotionally or physically, as adults or as children. Red, pink or orange t-shirts are for women raped or sexually assaulted. Blue or green t-shirts are for women who are incest survivors or were sexually abused as children. Purple or lavender t-shirts are for women attacked because of their sexual orientation. Black t-shirts are for people who know of someone who has been a victim.

People participate anonymously, and the t-shirts will later be hung up on campus sometime in March.

The Medical Center is in stage one of the project, recycling t-shirts. They ask people to donate t-shirts at the Medical Center, new or used, but preferably clean.

For more information go to the Medical Center, or contact Gelina or Denise Bouchey, registered nurse.

Facefinder photographs cause PIG book delay

By Mitzi Janukaitis
Freelance Writer

Returning students to Alma College are familiar with the traditional Facefinder, also known as the PIG book (Personal Identification Guide). New students, however, will soon discover what all the hype is about.

The PIG book is a picture directory identifying students, faculty, administrators and staff.

This year's PIG book was scheduled to be out to the students around the beginning of this month, but this did not happen due to a delay by Jostens. The pictures for this year's PIG book were taken on Tuesday, Sept. 3 and Wednesday, Sept. 4. They were expected to be back from Jostens two weeks later on Sept. 17. However, the pictures were not received until last Tuesday, Oct. 1, almost exactly one month after they were taken, which puts the PIG book two weeks behind in production.

The PIG book staff kept in contact with Jostens all along. The

thing which puzzled the staff was Jostens had half of the pictures developed but did not send them until all of the pictures were ready to go. If Jostens had sent the first half of the pictures when they were finished, then the PIG book would not be as late as it is now expected to be.

In recent history the PIG book pictures were taken by the yearbook members, but eventually Alma College decided to use a professional company.

Yearbook editor sophomore Cindy Fiedler said, "We switched to a professional company like Jostens so we would have a faster turn around time and the PIG books would get out sooner."

The contract Alma College holds with Jostens will be reviewed this spring, as usual. Right now it is not evident whether Jostens will, in some way, reimburse the yearbook/PIG book staff for the delay. However, it is known that Jostens does claim to be just as upset about the situation as the staff of the PIG book.

Campus Compact promotes volunteerism

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

Michigan Campus Contact, formed in 1989, is an organization of Michigan college presidents. Its purpose is to promote service-learning and volunteerism.

MCC provides many benefits to its members. Each member college receives consultation on how to improve their service-learning programs by MCC staff members. Membership in this organization also provides a great forum for networking and development of leadership skills.

Awards are granted to students as well as faculty and staff members for their contribution and involvement to service-learning and volunteerism.

What, you might ask, is service-learning? As Anne Lambrecht, service learning director, writes, the

program focuses on public service, social conscience, and civic responsibility.

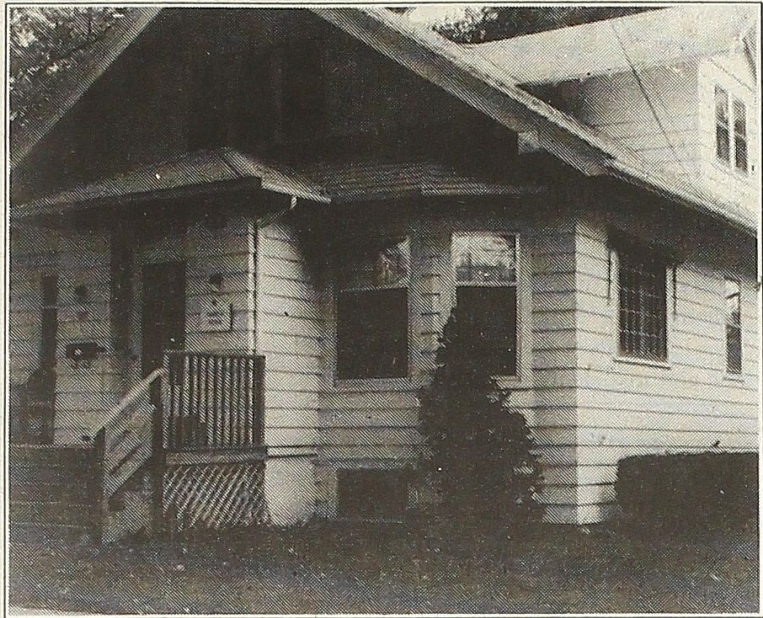
Alma College offers a number of classes with the service learning component. Students are given the chance to learn on a new and higher level. These classes require students to volunteer their time and efforts at area businesses and organizations.

One such course was offered last Spring Term. The Business Writing course was cross-referenced in the English and business departments. Students spent class time learning the basics and importance of writing for your job, while outside of class, students volunteered at local non-profit agencies. They were given the responsibility to do anything from revising personnel policies to preparing pamphlets for the United Way and Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

In addition to service learning courses, students are able to volunteer through Students Offering Service (SOS). This organization allows students to volunteer their time at anywhere from the Masonic Home, helping the elderly, to the animal shelter.

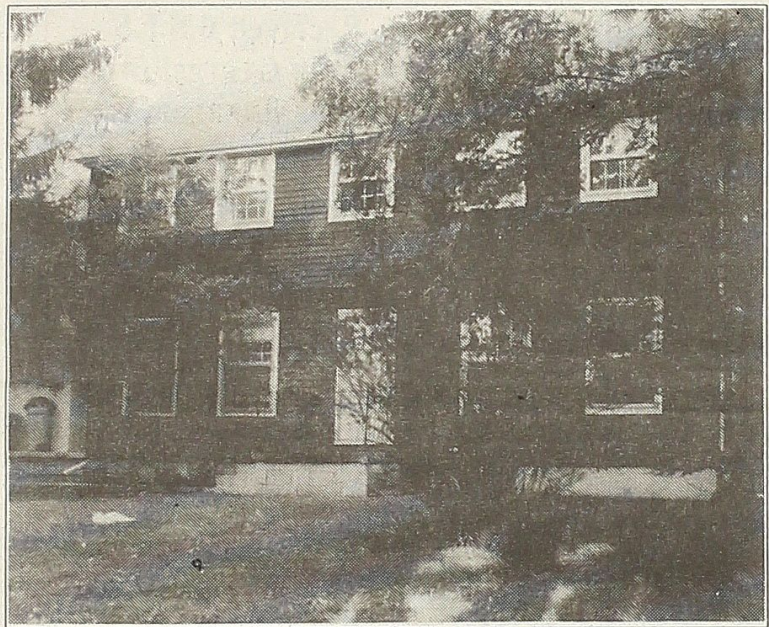
As senior Josh Lincoln states, "the benefit of volunteerism is that it makes you feel good inside while helping others in the community."

Service learning and volunteerism gives students the opportunity to learn what is really being done in the work place. Students can read all their textbooks and do really well on the exam, but still not have a feel for what is expected of them. So it is very important for individuals to get out and experience a taste of the real world even before they graduate.



Above: Residents of the French house, located at 707 W. Center St., host programs such as cultural speakers and a "Day of the Dead" celebration for Halloween.

Below: Residents of the Spanish house, located at 312 Harvard, present Spanish food tasting and dancing programs. Photos by Jason Paetz.



Cross-cultural learning promoted at language houses

By Missy Crossnoe
Freelance Writer

The French and Spanish Houses of Alma College are busily organizing numerous activities and events for the rest of the term. Each week both houses present activities to the students of Alma. The responsibilities of these events rotate between students who live at each house.

All students on campus are encouraged to attend, though the activities are especially emphasized to French and Spanish speaking students. The various activities are carried out in the language of the house, but students who live there often act as translators to those who are not familiar with the language.

Pascale Michel, the French house coordinator and part-time faculty member, stated "These activities place students in a different atmosphere than they are used to at Alma. Many students besides French majors and minors are encouraged to attend."

The French house is coordinating many activities in the upcoming weeks. They are held once a week on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. The activity in which they are presently planning will occur on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 7:30 pm. Senior Gabriel Nguema will

speak about the French speaking countries in Africa.

Future projects at the French House include Director of the French Program Naomi Katz. She will be giving a presentation Monday, October 14, on Alma's overseas program in Paris. There will be pizza and socializing included in the program, and all those interested in spending a term overseas in Paris are encouraged to attend.

Wednesday, October 23, the house will be teaching French songs and Tuesday, October 29, they will celebrate Halloween, known as the "Day of the Dead" in France. Wednesday, November 6, will be an important day, as Michel speaks on the presidential elections and how they proceed in France. She stresses that many political science majors will benefit from this presentation and are recommended to attend.

Other activities include a celebration of the end of the First World War—a holiday in France, a movie night, theater night, and also a Christmas party, where students will hunt for the clue to unlock the secret door of Santa Claus.

Like the French house, the Spanish house will also be sponsoring many sociable, learning experiences in the near future. The Span-

ish house activities occur each week on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. Again, all students are encouraged to attend.

This week their activity is entitled "Tapas Sangria," during which they will be tasting Spanish foods and alcoholic beverages to those over the age of 21. The Spanish house will also be featuring a movie night and a Halloween Party. Plus, they will be teaching Spanish dances to students. Junior Jennifer McDowell will be giving a presentation on Costa Rica, and they too will be enjoying a Christmas Party.

Senior Carrie Nelson, a Spanish house resident, stated, "Our house is always open to those who have questions. Whether it be on homework or just about living here, we are very happy to answer questions."

As both houses continue to present these activities and events for educational purposes, they never forget to add a touch of fun. Both houses love to see students attend these activities.

If you have any questions on the date or content of the activities, feel free to call or stop by either house. The French house is located at 707 W. Center (x7382) and the Spanish house can be found at 312 Harvard (x7792).

Bruske marks beginning of residence hall renovations

By Jennifer Wright
Freelance Writer

Each year, as the students return to school, they see new faces and new changes. But do they notice the changes in the dorms? A few students noticed they had new drapes and new mattresses, others saw nothing new. Students in Bruske Hall, however, should have observed lots of changes.

This summer, the physical plant repaired and re-textured the ceilings in every Bruske room. They also replaced furniture and old windows as well as painting hallways and staircases. About half the building has new windows, however the other half will not be replaced until next summer. The new furniture in

Bruske Hall is designed to allow more versatility, more storage space, and more floor space.

One student commented, "I really like the new furniture, I think it adds a lot to the room." Rooms with this furniture, however, are not allowed to have lofts as this stackable furniture can be lofted in one configuration.

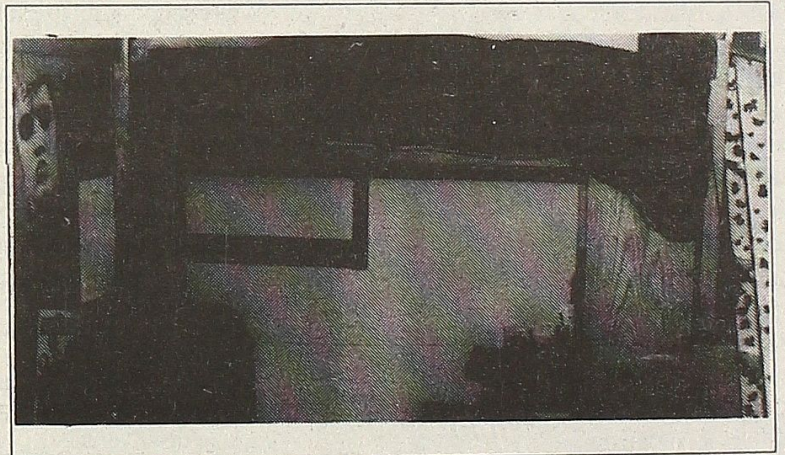
Duane Knecht, physical plant director, who is in charge of making renovations and some of the redecorating, said that he hopes to have Bruske finished after this summer.

Hopefully Mitchell Hall will be next in line. Knecht said that Gelston Hall is also in bad shape as the plumbing needs to be replaced and the bathrooms need to be refin-

ished. Some of the electrical wiring needs to be redone in Gelston and other dorms. When each room has so many appliances plugged in, the system takes on tremendous stress, and fuses are blown.

"Some of the buildings may not need as much renovation as what we would like to do in Gelston, but I think certainly at some point in time we will begin looking at the need to go in and renovate the electrical service in those facilities" stated Knecht.

With the new renovations and remodeling, time and money are large issues. Because students occupy the dorms from mid-August to the end of May, and other groups occupy the dorms throughout the summer, there really is not a lot of



Junior Beth Schwalm's Bruske Hall room is decorated with new furniture. Photo by Elizabeth Mansfield.

time to do these renovations. The physical plant only has about one month during the summer in which to get things done.

Money is another factor in this

process. Each building needs about \$182,000 just to fix ceilings, replace curtains, replace windows, and paint halls. Also furniture is estimated at \$1,000 per student.

• NEWS BRIEFS •

Bikers and Booze II

Bruske Hall Council, in conjunction with the Bruske resident assistant staff, will be hosting Bikers and Booze II tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in Van Dusen Commons. This program will demonstrate the effects of alcohol on motor

skills as college officials such as Dean of Students James Kridler and Associate Dean of Students Bill Arnold attempt to ride tricycles while intoxicated. State troopers will be on hand to give breathalyzer tests.

Alma Symphony Orchestra

The Alma Symphony Orchestra will perform at the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts Friday, Oct. 11 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 13 at 3 p.m. There is reserved seating; call the box office for tickets.

God's Country

ACT presents its fall play, *God's Country*, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. Performances take place at the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts. To reserve tickets, call the Heritage Center Box Office at 7304.

Alcohol Awareness Week

- Monday: Candlelight Vigil, 9:30 p.m., Chalk Wall
- Tuesday: T-Shirt sales, Hamilton
- Wednesday: Bikers and Boozell
- Thursday: Look down, watch where you walk
- Saturday: ACUB movie and mocktails, 7:30 p.m., Jones

Clinton, Dole place emphasis on America

By Daniel C. Scripps
Co-Editor-In-Chief

When Senator Dole said that he thought most Americans could tell that he and President Clinton liked one another, he touched on something we often forget in election years: that despite all the disagreements, there are certain things which as Americans serve to bring us together.

It is interesting to take a look at the backgrounds of the two candidates to find information that is not often discussed, but which shapes virtually every decision a public servant makes. This information includes birthplace, religion, schooling, previous occupations, age and marital status, just to name a few.

Robert Dole was born in Russell, Kansas on July 22, 1923 while his counterpart, William Clinton was born on August 19, 1946 in Hope, Arkansas.

Clinton, as has been widely publicized, is a southern Baptist, while Dole is a United Methodist.

Dole received an A.B. from the University of Kansas and in 1952 went on to receive his LL.B. from Washburn University. Clinton received a B.S.F.S. from Georgetown

University in 1968 and a J.D. from Yale University in 1973. In addition, Clinton also was a Rhodes Scholar at England's Oxford University from 1968-1970, making him the only United States president to win this scholarship.

Clinton is married to Hillary

Underlying all of this is their shared love for this country...

Rodham Clinton while Dole married Elizabeth Dole.

Dole is the only one to have a military record, serving in the U. S. Army with distinction during World War II.

Clinton has spent his career in a number of ways, running unsuccessfully for the U. S. House of Representatives in 1974 before taking a professor position at the University of Arkansas for two years. In 1976 he won the position of Arkansas Attorney General, which

he held for two years before winning the governorship in 1978. He also held this position for two years before becoming a practicing attorney from 1981-1982. Here won the Governor position in 1982 and held it until he was elected U. S. president in 1992. He is seeking his second term.

Dole, on the other hand, has spent his entire career in public service. After he left the Army following W.W.II, he went back to school and won a seat in the Kansas House of Representatives in 1951, while still in law school. He held this for two years, until he won the race for Russell County Attorney, a position he held from 1953-1961. He then served in the U. S. House until 1968, when he won a seat in the U.S. Senate. From 1971-1973 he chaired the Republican National Committee, and in 1976 he was the GOP nominee for Vice-President. In 1984 Dole took on the position of Senate Majority Leader, which switched with the control in the Senate to Minority Leader from 1986-1994, when he was again Majority Leader. Senator Dole retired from the U. S. Senate on June 11, 1996 to concentrate his efforts on the presidential race.

When comparing these records, there are certainly a number of differences which jump out. But there are a greater number of similarities. Both of these men are very well educated, both holding law degrees, as do both of their wives. Both of them have a long history of public service. Both of them have both won and lost elections; they

know what it is like to win, but they also appreciate what it is like to lose an election. Underlying all of this is their shared love for this country, and while their ideas for strengthening it may vary greatly, this common love serves to bring these two political opponents together.

The men behind the masks...

Bob Dole

- Born July 22, 1923 in Russell, Kansas.
- Belongs to United Methodist church.
- Received A.B. from University of Kansas- 1952, LL.B. from Washburn University.
- Married to Elizabeth Dole.

Bill Clinton

- Born August 19, 1946 in Hope, Arkansas.
- Belongs to Southern Baptist church.
- Received B.S.F.S from Georgetown- 1968, J.D. from Yale, 1973.
- Married to Hillary Rodham Clinton.

United Coalition of Students host education forum

By Larissa VanderZee
Feature Editor

Is there a difference between inner city education and suburban centered education? This is the question to be addressed by a forum of students and professors. The United Coalition of Students developed the idea to host a panel discussion focusing on the differences between innercity education and suburban and rural education.

Senior Eric Walton stressed the need for a heightened awareness of this issue. He said, "The object is to look at what we can do as students to improve the school systems in the inner cities."

A tentative date has been set for the week of fall break, but this discussion could easily be moved to the week following break; it will be advertised once a concrete date is set.

The panel will explore the questions of advantage, equal opportunity, and access. Does the standard of education in inner-city high schools place those students at a disadvantage when entering college, or even when considering applying to college? Do inner-city

kids really have an equal opportunity to receive the same quality of education as kids from Farmington Hills? What can be done to eradicate this situation? These are a few of the questions that will be addressed at the discussion.

The object is to look at what we can do as students to improve the school systems in the inner cities.

•Eric Walton, '97

There exists a concern that inner-city schools fail to prepare their students to further their education in the college environment. Whether it be lack of funding, lack of resources, the students, not by their own fault or choosing, are put at a disadvantage. It is the students who suffer because of this, not the institutions.

Walton has experienced this first hand. He has a vested interest in this forum; he understands the issues. Attending high school at Flint's Northern High, he did not have the opportunity to take advanced placement classes, read the newest editions of text books, or access technology within his classrooms. The A.P. classes were offered across town.

Of the four high schools located in Flint, two offer college preparatory curriculums. These two, Southwestern and Central, do

not stand in the heart of the city. These two claim to have an integrated student body. Northern, on the other hand, has a student body largely composed of minorities. Northern offers no college preparatory curriculums.

Walton said that some kids have transportation to the other high schools where they can take A.P. classes. Some kids. But for most students this is not possible. From Walton's experience he has seen that, "they [schools] don't try to prepare inner-city minority kids for

college and because of this the students miss out."

When the kids educated in inner-city schools do decide to go on in higher education, they may be placed at a disadvantage. "I've noticed there's a huge difference. When I came here, I had to play a game of catch up. I felt like I had to work twice as hard," said Walton. He does not claim to know how it is in every inner-city school, but he does know what it was like in Flint.

The forum, according to Walton, should help to educate people of

the situation in the inner-city schools. He said people need to talk about the problem before any solutions can be suggested; people everywhere need to understand that education should not be biased.

Walton said he hopes this forum will teach people to care about issues such as this. "There are a lot of apathetic feelings about this problem because not everyone sees it as their problem. People try to sweep it under the rug but it's everybody's problem."

Stillman Exchange scheduled for reinstatement

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a minority? The Stillman Exchange is your chance to find out.

The Stillman Exchange is a program that Alma College and Stillman College have participated in years past and would like to reinstate. Stillman is a historical black college located in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Smaller than Alma, Stillman enrolls approximately 900 students. Like Alma, Stillman is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

John Seveland, vice president for enrollment and student affairs, explains that "the exchange is an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to exchange places."

The program was started in 1990, when the colleges wrote a grant to the Presbyterian Bicentennial Fund to provide transportation. However, this fund has since been depleted.

The Alma College Choir and Band have both performed at Stillman and their choir performed here in the past. Also, faculty members have participated in joint presentations with Stillman College faculty at professional conferences.

The Stillman Exchange is set up for students to attend Stillman College for one semester although one student ended up staying for the entire school year. Alma College has typically sent two students at a time to provide a sense of familiarity and security. However, these students do not live together while at Stillman. Also, this Spring Term Assistant Professor of Economics Denise Johnson is planning to take a class to Stillman College.

In order attend, students must be of at least sophomore standing and must have a good sense of who they are. Seveland claims that "socially, you have to be ready to be different." If interested, students should contact Seveland or Dean of Students Jim Kridler. An appli-

cation is required and those qualified will be interviewed by a screening committee.

The program "adds diversity," Seveland stated. Their students are much like those at Alma in that they have grown up primarily around one race. Many of Stillman's students grew up in black neighborhoods and now go to a black college. Likewise, many Alma students have grown up in predominantly white areas and now attend a predominantly white college.

Seveland compares this exchange to going to Europe. "You come back a different person," he said.

Past experiences with the Stillman Exchange have been very positive. Seveland states that "you get probably one of the neatest learning experiences you'll ever have."

Football Statistics

	Alma	Defiance
First Downs	33	23
Rushing Attempts	31	58
Net yards rushing	222	321
Net Yards Passing	345	126
Average gain per play	8.9	5.5
Penalties:		
Number-yds	8-56	14-119
Possession Time	18:48	41:12

Individual Leaders

Rushing	Ray Dawood (A) Lance Laramore (D)
Passing	Bill Nietzke (A) Joe Stein (D)
Pass	Leonard Warren (A)
Receiving	Lance Laramore (D)
Tackles	Jeff Rivard (A) James Adams (D)

Scots win big in homecoming game

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

Over 3,251 alumni, parents, and students were on hand to cheer the Alma College football team onto victory Saturday over Defiance College of Ohio. The Scots opened the game with a touchdown 30 seconds into the first-half when sophomore Kyle Kartes broke up the middle for a two-yard scoring run. Sophomore kicker Eric Brands added the extra point.

Defiance quickly answered with their own scoring drive to tie the score at seven. Defiance capped off their thirteen-play drive with a one-yard touchdown run.

The Scots again countered three plays later when senior quarterback Bill Nietzke found junior wide receiver Leonard Warren for a 25 yard touchdown pass. The extra point attempt by Brands was no good.

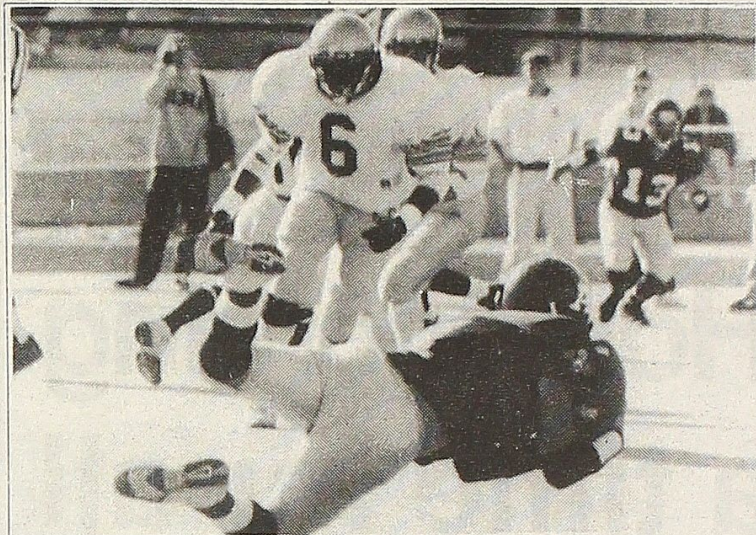
After the kickoff, Defiance again started driving towards the end zone when the Scots' defense stalled them on Alma's five yard line, forcing a field goal attempt. The 22 yard attempt was unsuccessful and the score at the end of the first quarter stood at Alma 13, Defiance 7.

Alma got the ball back to start the

second quarter after a failed attempt by Defiance to get another drive started. The Scots capitalized on the possession change, starting the drive at the Alma 27 yard line and ending it 12 plays and 73 yards later in the end zone. The touchdown was the result of a two yard run by first-year student Raymond Dawood.

Defiance fought back however with a series of runs ending in a scoring run by Lance Laramore for a touchdown. Alma got the ball back after the kickoff with 2:08 left in the first half and used the time wisely, orchestrating a 12 play drive which ended in Defiance's end zone with 57 seconds left in the first half. Defiance was unable to do anything with the remaining time and the half ended with the score at Alma 27, Defiance 13.

As in previous games, the Scots came out and dominated the second half. Scoring for the Scots in the second half included 2 passes from Nietzke to sophomore Jason Hance, runs by Dawood, first-year student Greg Bowden and sophomore Craig Wasen. Sophomore kicker Joel Ritter also added a field goal. The only scoring by Defiance in the second half came from another run by Laramore. The final score was Alma 65, Defiance 20.



Senior Matt Gordon makes a diving catch. The offense dominated the Homecoming game against Defiance, scoring 65 points. Photo by Jerry Stassinopoulos.

"It [the game] was about how we planned it, in terms of we thought they'd be able to run the ball against us and we'd be able to throw the ball and that's pretty much what happened that first half," said head coach Jim Cole.

The Scots dominated the second half of the ball game with five touchdowns and a field goal compared to Defiance's one touchdown. "It was close until they wore out," said Cole commenting on the Scots' dominance of the second half.

Despite the impressive victory this game showed the Scots they still

have things to work on. "It [the defensive play] was sporadic, at certain times it was outstanding, at certain times it was invisible," said Cole. "Our tackling has to get better."

"The receivers knew that they'd come hard at them and try to take them out of the game," said Cole. "Bill Nietzke knew that they were going to, number one, try to confuse him and, number two, hit him a lot and they all answered the call real good. All in all, a very good session out there today."

Nietzke remains in control on and off the football field

By Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

Senior Bill Nietzke practices long and hard every week to perform well on the football field each weekend.

This is Nietzke's fourth year as a member of the Alma College football team, where he is the starting quarterback.

Nietzke came to play for Alma from U.S.A. high school in Unionville-Sebewaing, Michigan.

Two weeks ago, Nietzke was named both NCAA Division III player of the week and MIAA player of the week. He was also

named MIAA player of the week once during his sophomore year.

"I'm having a very good year ... We've progressively been getting better and everything's starting to click now," Nietzke said.

"This run and shoot is the perfect offense for Bill," said offensive lineman Jim Townsend. "He knows it inside out and is very comfortable with everything the coaches call. He keeps his composure on the field even when things aren't going right. The first few games we were losing most of the time, but Bill wouldn't give up and wouldn't let anyone else either."

Nietzke's biggest goal this year

is to see the team win a conference, although he knows that "you can't necessarily go into a game expecting to win ... game plans change."

Confidence in himself and his team is one thing Nietzke has, according to several teammates. "It's obvious in practice that Bill has a great deal of confidence in his life," defensive lineman Dan Nicholson commented.

"Bill doesn't have the best offensive line in our conference, but he has confidence in them and they have confidence in him," Townsend said.

Aside from football, Nietzke is also an active participant of Big

Brothers/Big Sisters, a program which pairs up kids in the community with people such as Nietzke, who play the role of big brother or big sister to the youth. Nietzke has had the same little brother since the winter of his freshman year at Alma and thinks the experience has been a good one.

Nietzke is also a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) which he joined because he "wanted something different and from getting to know people who were TKEs, I decided that's what I wanted to do myself," he said.

With football, TKE, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters taking up

much of his time, Nietzke spends the rest of his "spare" time either studying or relaxing.

Nietzke is a business/economics major and hopes to find a job in investment banking after he graduates.

With everything going in his life, Nietzke is very busy and very successful both on the field and off. With two awards of player of the week under his belt and graduation looming in the future, Nietzke seems to have everything under control and the perfect reasons to have confidence in himself.

Women's soccer team gains confidence with win over Adrian

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

Improve and work hard.

That is essentially all women's soccer coach, Tammy Anderson asks.

"I want to push them to play as hard as they can," said Anderson. "They [the players] have to be able to push themselves."

With a road-game win last Wednesday against Adrian and a home loss to Hope last Saturday, the women's soccer team improved their record to 1-8-1 (1-4 in MIAA).

Alma defeated Adrian 2-0, but the score really is misleading.

"We totally dominated," said junior forward Lesley McDougall. "(We had) lots of chances, but only two late goals."

"We completely dominated the entire game," agreed Anderson.

A statistic that displays this domination is the shots on goal for each team. Adrian had two shots for the entire game, while Alma's shots on goal totaled near 40.

Both goals were scored by junior and co-captain Stephanie Craig.

Junior co-captain Jill Braun assisted on one of Craig's goals.

"(This was) a much needed win to get back confidence," said McDougall.

Saturday's 4-1 loss to Hope also should provide some confidence, especially the second half, when Alma held Hope scoreless.

"We held them in the second half, they [Hope] just got us on some quick goals," said McDougall. "They [Hope] just have a couple of quick players."

"We played good on Saturday," added Anderson.

"We have been working really

hard and we are playing better as a team," said first-year student, Jamie Sutton. "We are improving."

"They, themselves [the players] have stayed focused and kept at it," agreed Anderson.

Alma's lone goal came on a direct kick by Sutton.

Alma had 14 shots on goal, compared to Hope's 15, and the goalies had 10 and 12 saves respectively, which indicates a much closer game, where a couple key plays made the difference.

"A couple let-downs is what cost us those goals," said Anderson.

Something that should always be remembered about the MIAA is the "round-robin" schedule played. Each team plays every other team twice during a season.

"We get to play each of these teams twice. We can see what their playing styles are and we know



Sophomore transfer student Laura Keisoglou works hard on defense. Photo by Jason Paetz.

how to defeat them," said Anderson. "I am very hopeful for how the rest of the season will go."

Alma's next game will be October 8, at Olivet.

HOMECOMING '96

CREAT

Homecoming a time for all

By Larissa VanderZee
Feature Editor

The campus returned to its normal state sometime Sunday afternoon. This mass migration of individuals who once ate dinner in saga every night, began Thursday afternoon, continuing throughout the weekend.

On Thursday evening the Pine Knot and the Highlandaur reclaimed some of their past fixtures.

On Friday afternoon at the Career Explo, many Alma alumni represented their employers, while chatting with past classmates.

And in the later evening hours of Friday and Saturday, alumni and present students gathered to reminisce about the past and inform each other of the present. The Highlandaur was standing room only.

Homecoming focuses primarily on the return to campus of the alumni; yet the present students play a significant role in making the weekend memorable. The anticipation of seeing familiar faces, the rekindling of old friendships, and the excitement is shared by all. The students who call Alma "home" today, provide a variety of activities and recreational events for those returning "home."

Homecoming co-chair, junior Kim Irish, said the attendance during the early and mid-week functions was somewhat less than the committee hoped for; however, Friday brought a livelihood back to the festivities.

Instead of the typical pep-rally held in the gym, this year's committee planned a bonfire. Irish said it was this event in which she noticed the greatest change from last year.

"In past years not many people seemed interested in going to a pep rally. We thought a bonfire would be more fun, and it was. The turnout was great and it was really neat to see current students and the old students together." The sports teams were announced; the homecoming court was announced; and the band played a few rounds of "pep" music.

sic.

Saturday was a full day. There were breakfasts and luncheons for various classes of alumni. Striped tents were erected all over campus: from VanDusen lawn to the centennial house.

The annual homecoming parade kicked off the day at 11 a.m. As the parade crept down Superior Street, the alumni lined the road sides, cheering for their past clubs and organizations. Watching the parade gave them a window into the life of campus today.

Jon Kapp and Lynn Benson, last year's homecoming king and queen, led the homecoming "royalty"—the majority of the 1996 Homecoming court. Both Kapp and Benson returned from the windy city of Chicago as representatives of the class of '96 and to present this year's king and queen.

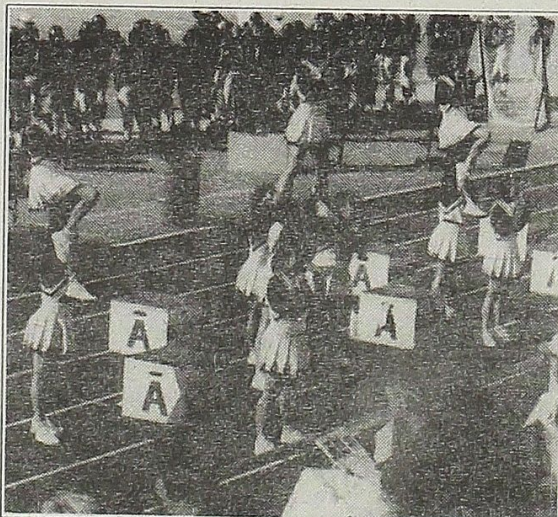
Almost immediately after the parade, the soccer game began. And the cross country match was still in progress. Most of the many people milling around campus went to these athletic events, or went straight to the football game to reserve a seat.

A pre-game show grounded strongly in the Scottish tradition offered the alumni a chance to sing their alma mater, led by sophomore Marcus Evans, or listen to the sound of the Kiltie band. Even the ever familiar Highland dancing was present.

Half-time finally arrived and with it, President Stone's announcements of the winners of the homecoming banner contest and the parade winners. The last announcement he made named Alex Gierhart and Annie DeLind as the 1996 Homecoming King and Queen.

For the rest of Saturday, people spent time with their friends and previous class mates, knowing that Sunday brought with it a return to normality. Sunday brought a close to the weekend, a close to the visiting.

Sometime Sunday afternoon the alumni packed up and returned to their real life, their real homes, in their real cities. And Alma College returned to its somewhat calm state.



The Alma College cheerleaders lead the crowd in rooting on the Scots. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

The Zeta Sigma fraternity and Gamma Phi Beta's sport their float. These organizations were the only ones to actually construct a float for Homecoming. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.



Wished



A few of the sisters of Gamma Phi Beta cheer on the Alma football team. The Scots emerged victorious in the game, defeating Defiance. Photo by Beth Rosenow.



Homecoming royalty Annie DeLind and Al Gierhart pose for a picture shortly after crowning. DeLind and Geirhart were elected by popular vote. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

Members of the Kiltie Marching Band begin the halftime show. The band performed Mooreside March, and hid behind a black sheet to start the show. Photo by Beth Rosenow.



Highland dancers demonstrate their skills in the Homecoming parade. The parade route followed Superior Street from the GTE building and ended at the First Presbyterian Church. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.

Scots volleyball team splits to go 3-4 in league

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

The women's volleyball team beat Albion but lost to Kalamazoo last week. This split gives the team a league record of 3-4.

Last Tuesday the Scots hosted the Kalamazoo Hornets and lost in four games — 13-15, 1-15, 16-14, 12-15.

The Scots fell behind in each of the four games with the Hornets within grasp of winning the game, but rallied at the end of the games.

"That is not the style of play we normally use," said sophomore Jatell Driver. "We found ourselves behind and had to work hard to catch up."

In the first game Alma was down 7-11 but began a six-point rally, but failed to score the last two points before Kalamazoo won.

The Scots had trouble in the second game, unable to compete against the Hornets, but again rallied to defeat the Hornets in the

third game.

Junior Amy Picklemann and sophomore Kristin Randolph each served three-point runs and first-year student Angie Easton led the team with a four-point run to give the Scots a 15-14 lead. Picklemann won final point with an unreturned serve.

In the fourth game, Alma again found themselves behind. But after

six serves from Randolph and two more from junior Karyn Tucker, Alma pulled ahead 12-11. The two teams battled it out with a long series of volleys until Kalamazoo pulled ahead to win.

During intermission students competed in a volleyball shootout to win free Subway sandwiches. Contestants were given one chance

to serve the ball over the net onto a cardboard box. Approximately forty students participated in the contest, many of the contestants entering repeatedly, until they won.

This contest drew in many additional spectators to the game.

On Thursday the women traveled to Albion for their match against the Brits. The women won in five games, revenging the loss suffered in their

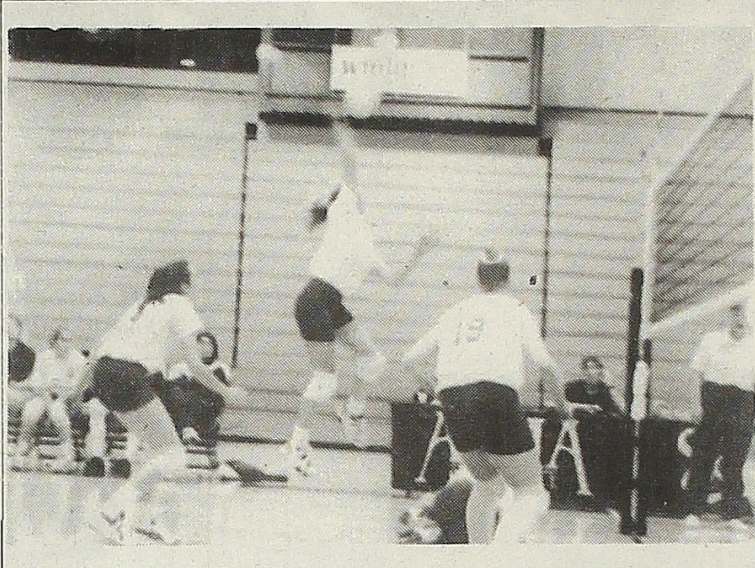
*We found ourselves
behind and had to work
hard to catch up*

*•Jatell Driver,
'99*

previous encounter.

"Albion has not been a strong team in the past," said Driver. "We were over-confident last time we met them. We knew this time that we had to go into the match prepared."

After winning the first game by seven points, the Brits answered their loss with a 15-0 win over



Juniors Lori Swenson and Amy Picklemann watch a third teammate go up to spike the ball. Photo by Phil Allmen

Alma.

"Coach Cook was not happy with that loss," said sophomore Mali VanderBeek. "Albion is not a team we should lose to."

The Scots came back to win the

third game, but lost the fourth. In the tie-breaking game Alma won, 16-14.

The volleyball team hosts Calvin College tonight for conference play at 6:30 p.m.

Recreational sports remain underrated on campus

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

While the weather turned brisk this past week, there is still time to enjoy some outdoor activities before it gets too cold.

For starters, outside of Gelston and Newberry halls is the beach volleyball net. While most people use it solely for volleyball, the net is also perfect for an invigorating badminton match. Using a few rackets and a birdie, the competition can be fierce.

The wide open lawn outside the Chapel can be used for almost any sport. Often time there is a group playing soccer, football, catch or frisbee. What about all of the other sports people tend to forget about? Find that friend with the croquet set in his or her closet and pull them out. How about that boccie (bah-chee) ball set you got for Christmas. Instead of hunting for the instructions, go out and use it.

Much related to boccie ball is the ever-popular horseshoes. Getting a three-point ringer will never be so much fun as when you beat your friends in a friendly toss. Another popular lawn game is jarts or lawn darts. But beware when playing this one, it is all fun and games till someone gets hurt.

These are all games that many people have played, presumably at family gatherings. Why do people worry about what others will think if you are doing something uncool. If it is something different to do and also fun, why not do it?

There are much more relaxing sports to enjoy the outdoors. The Chapel lawn is perfect for flying a kite. On any of the cool autumn days with a gentle breeze, pull out a kite and let it soar. It does not matter if the kite cost you \$2.00 at Walmart or \$200 at the Mackinac Kite Company, just have fun.

How about that old hackey sack you used to use. Sure, it is not the

sport it once was, but you enjoyed it once, why not again.

Another fun activity is canoeing. With access to a canoe or kayak, upriver Pine River is rather extensive and scenic. Coupled with the isolation on the river, this can be a fun experience. Renting a canoe or kayak is an option in Mt. Pleasant, although you are limited to traveling down the Chippewa River.

Related to this is fishing, yet another outdoor sport. Either from on the water or off the dock or bridge, try your luck with the city's finest

collection of wild aquatic life. Or perhaps go swimming, either in the Alma College swimming pool or in the Pine River, although I would not recommend it.

The options of outdoor sports are endless if you only think about what is out there to do. Not all games may appeal to you, but it is hard to complain that there is nothing to do when the possibilities are there. Recreational sports should be played for fun. Image is nothing, personal enjoyment is much more.

beach volleyball, badminton, pick-up soccer, football, frisbee, boccie ball, horseshoes, lawn darts, hackey sack, kiting, canoeing, fishing, swimming...



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Coaches' corner

Interview with Coach Cook

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

This week "Coaches Corner" features a personal interview with this year's head volleyball coach, Penny Allen-Cook the newest addition to Alma's coaching staff.

Where are you originally from?

I was born and raised in Perrysville, Michigan.

What's your educational background?

I have my bachelors degree in exercise science from Michigan State, graduate course work towards my masters in education and my certification to teach.

Where's did you do your graduate work?

Western Michigan University

What is your coaching background?

This will be my eleventh season of coaching. I coached one year of junior varsity at Perry when I was still in college. Then I went on to coach three years at Pewamo-Westphalia High School varsity, five years at Jenison High School and two years at Grand Rapids Community College.

What brought you to Alma?

I moved this direction so I actually lived about 50 minute drive from Grand Rapids Community College and I wanted to continue on coaching but I also wanted more of a full time position because Grand Rapids Community College was only a part time position, so when I heard of this position I thought it would be a nice situation. At the time I thought it would be a full time position and that was appealing. Then when I drove up and looked at the campus I thought this would be a pretty nice place and thought I'd really be interested.

When your were at the high school level did you do any teaching?

I did, but I never taught at the same school that I coached at. Not because I didn't want to but it just worked out that way. Wherever I taught, the volleyball position was already full.

What type of classes did you teach?

I taught high school physical education, high school biology and middle school science.

Do you have a family?

I am married and have a husband Tim. No kids, I have a dog, its not really a kid it's my dog.

What made you decide to start coaching?

I was a three sport athlete in high school and when I chose to go to college I turned down some division III recruiting that was being done so I could go to Michigan State, which was my dream school. So I gave up playing and I think part of me still always wanted to be involved in sports, so I think that's why I moved to coaching, because at that point it was my only option.

What other activities are you involved in on campus?

I will be teaching fitness for life the second seven weeks of the semester, assistant track coach in the spring and building coordinator/federal work study coordinator.

Do you have any career aspirations to go on any higher that division III?

I don't know, right now I'm just going to sit back and enjoy division III and see what I can get out of it. I guess I try not to look that far in advance. I kind of like the philosophy of division III with academics being important. The whole community aspect of a small school is nice.

Any other things you would like to share?

So far I think the impressions that I have of Alma College is that the coaching staff here is second to none as far as truly caring about the athletes as people, as student and individuals, and not just wins and losses. Not that wins and losses aren't important but their hearts are truly in the right places. That is incredibly refreshing to be apart of staff like that. And I think that what I've been exposed to with the rest of the campus community, as far as faculty, that's the same case with all of them too. I think that is a very nice warm feeling around here you as students are lucky to have that.

Motivation: key to success

Shonda T. Brown
Freelance Writer

The Alma College cross country team got a chance to show how hard work and determination can pay off. On Saturday, October 5 the team hosted the Alma Invitational. The women won second place running the 5K and the men placed fifth in the 8K race.

The top scores for the Alma women were sophomores Dana Cole (3rd) and Nicole Deja, first-year student Anne Grimaldi (5th), junior Rebecca Walter, and senior Tammy Adams. On top for the men were senior Jason Bandlow (2nd) and Jonathan Makela, sophomores Peter Muccio and John Buesing, and junior Ben Witte.

Dan Gibson, cross country team head coach, thought his teams did well but hopes for first place at the next meet. Gibson said he has a few goals that he wishes for his team to achieve this year.

"I want my teams to finish high at the conference and for some of them to go to nationals," said Gibson.

Gibson added that with 17 girls on this year's team and a lot of them being first-year students, another goal is for them to gain more experience in competing at a college level.

Grimaldi placed 5th overall for

the women. She started running track after being cut from the soccer team during her freshman year of high school, but has made a successful transition.

"What a person puts into a sport like cross country is what they will receive," says Grimaldi.

She added that it takes a lot of hard work but it really pays off in the end when a person really looks back on it.

Many people tend to wonder how crosscountry runners traverse those long distances. It takes a lot of motivation, but the means of motivation varies among many of the runners. For some it's just the pure

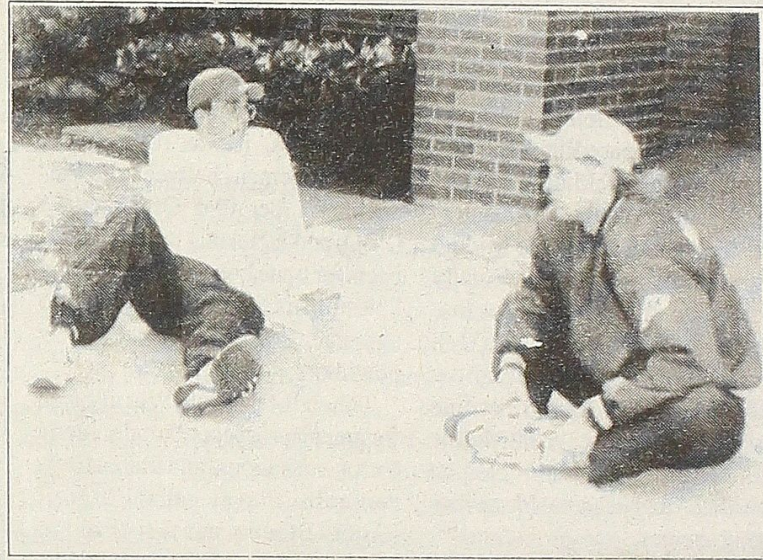
competition while for others it's for recognition. But for some it is for the love of the sport.

"The thing that always keeps me motivated is that this is just something that I love to do," said Adams.

Adams also stated that anyone who wants to try out for this sport should definitely love to run.

Though there is a lot to put into cross country, there are also many things you can get out of it.

"Cross country taught me a lot about time management in balancing out my studying time from my practice time with also getting in a little fun time as well," said Buesing.



First-year student Steve Pickelmann and senior Chad Millett stretch before the Alma Invitational on Saturday. Photo by Phil Allmen.

Men's soccer team shows improvement

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

The Alma men's soccer team had a roller coaster ride this past week. The team played Adrian on Tuesday and came away victorious. "We played rather well but we came out a little flat," said Head Coach Scott Frey. The team's flat-

ness was partially due to the wind on Tuesday. Regardless, the Scots were able to put together a win.

The Scots' first scores came when sophomore Randy U'Ren found the goal on an Alma penalty kick. The Scots' next two goals were put into the net by first year student Matt Keller, bringing the score to 3-0. The Scots found the net one more time when junior Roger Pattie, assisted by junior Ben Hondorp, scored his first collegiate goal. The final score was Alma 4, Adrian 0.

Alma's offense was not the only power to be reckoned with on Tuesday. Alma's defense also played a key role. A stopped penalty kick by first year student Jon Cullen with fifteen minutes left saved the Alma shut out and kept the momentum of the game on Alma's side. According to Frey, if Adrian could have made that penalty kick it could have been a different ball game.

Unfortunately, the rest of Alma's week didn't go as well as the Adrian

game. On Saturday the Scots were defeated by unbeaten Hope. "This was one of our best efforts of the year," said Frey. The Scots were disappointed by the loss but encouraged by the level of play.

"This was just a great college soccer game," said Frey. Hope is currently ranked twelfth in the nation and first in the MIAA, so Alma was

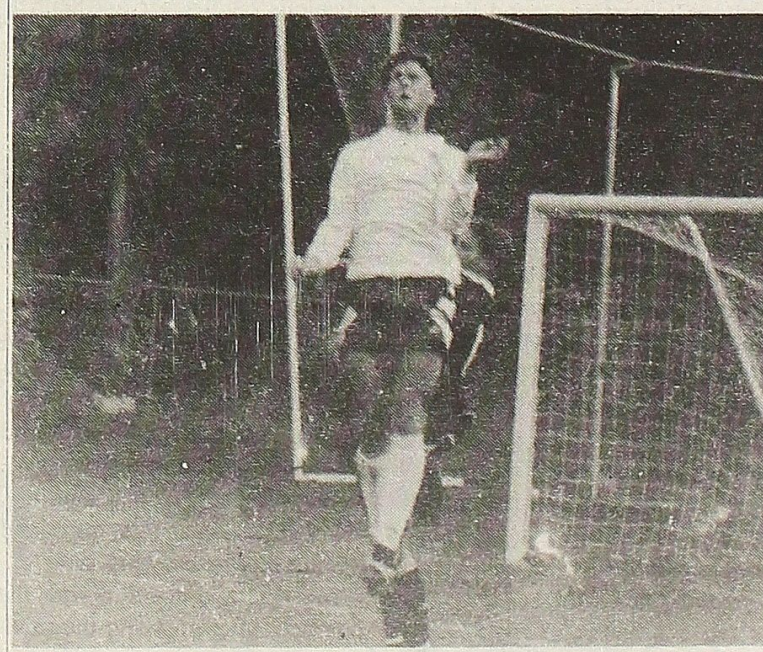
happy to play as closely to Hope as they did.

Alma was down 2-0 after the first half. Five minutes into the

second half junior captain Tom Jewett found the net for the Scots' first and only goal. Despite creating some good scoring opportunities the Scots were unable to bring the score any closer and the game ended at Hope 2, Alma 1.

The Scots' next game is today at 4:00 against Olivet. "There is a team [Olivet] we just can't look past," said Frey. Despite the fact that Olivet is near the bottom of the league Alma does not intend to let that affect their intensity.

"The big thing is if we can play to the level of intensity of the Hope game," commented Frey on the upcoming game. Alma hopes to keep that intensity not only in the Olivet game but throughout the rest of the season.



First-year student Chris Alexander goes up for a header. In action this week, the team beat Adrian, but lost to Hope at home. Photo by Jason Paetz.

United States must remain world's police

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

There are two major arguments for why the United States should continue the role of world police: it is in the best interest of the U.S., and it is the moral obligation of the U.S.

Clearly, the U.S. has a vested interest in peace. For example, when Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait, the U.S. clearly had to respond, for moral, economic, and political reasons. We could not allow 20% of the total petroleum reserves in the world be dominated by a regime that was anti-U.S. Prices for petroleum products would have increased dramatically.

Stability in the Middle East is one of our most vital political interests. A potential war in the Middle East would be disastrous, especially if it were to involve countries that possess nuclear weapons. The U.S. government also cannot allow countries such as Iraq to become too dominant a power in the Middle East, because that would threaten our allies, and lead to instability among them.

One might ask, using the example of the Persian Gulf War, if the interests of Saddam Hussein do not coincide with the interests of the U.S., why did the U.S. not re-

move him when it had the chance? It was not in our interests. Were Saddam removed, several possibilities could occur. Another person worse than Hussein could have risen to power. Ethnic and religious factions in Iraq could have divided the country, which could have caused similar factions in neighboring countries to also rebel in the quest for a homeland, causing even greater instability. So, since Saddam Hussein is neutralized, it is in the United States's best interest that he remain in power, unless a peaceful democratic transition occurs, which is highly unlikely.

Peace also creates opportunities for business. It was the original peace agreement between the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and Israel that brought prospects for trade between Israelis and Palestinians, and eventually led to agreements between Israel and its neighbors.

The end of the Cold War allowed for greater prospects of trade among European nations, and there is now consensus that eventually former Eastern Bloc countries such as Poland will join the European Union.

The end of the Cold War also fostered opportunities for commitments to reduce nuclear weapons by the US and Russia. And these

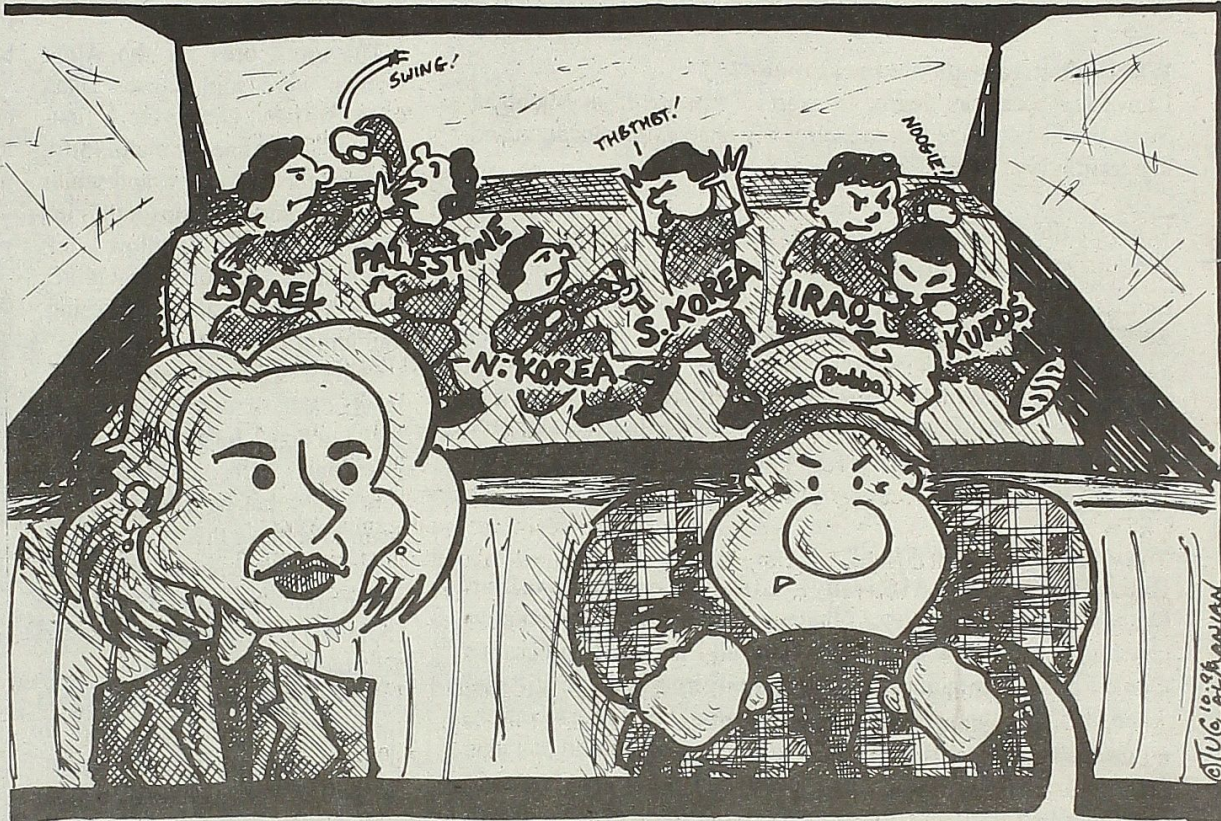
agreements have led to others such as the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which only India refuses to sign. So the world is a safer place.

The U.S. government has an ob-

ligation to its own people, to keep them safe from threat such as nuclear war. Because of U.S.-led initiatives, this has occurred.

The world is a safer place for many other nations as well, because of the U.S.

So the U.S. must remain actively involved in the world peace process, for economic reasons, for political reasons, and because of the moral obligation to its people, and the people of the world.



KIDS! DO YOU WANT ME TO STOP THIS CAR? I'LL LET YOU OUT RIGHT HERE AND YOU CAN WALK HOME!

Animal experimentation: wrong and unnecessary

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

We have all seen the label "cruelty-free" on something that we have purchased. We see the label on cosmetics, shampoos, personal hygiene products and more. Do we really understand what that means though? Also, where do we draw the line? Is it acceptable to use animals for tests on cosmetics or shampoo, or in any laboratory experiments? Furthermore, is it morally right to use animals for anything that we need them for?

I say no. An animals purpose is not to be our testing ground. People say that animals are here for our use, the sort of "survival of the fittest" argument. How can we disregard life like that though?

More than what is acceptable, we use animals for purposes beyond any justification. How many of us have had Psychology 121, with the rat lab experiments? Personally, I took that course and refused to do the lab. I was not offered any alternative assignments, even though I am extremely morally opposed to using rats, or any animals, for my own purpose. My professor explained that the animals were not abused, that they were fed and watered and kept in a clean environment. I guess that she just could not understand that taking any animal and using them for

our own purposes is, in my mind, a form of abuse. Instead of compromising my morals in order to subscribe to my professors way of thinking, I dropped the class and took a different lab class that does not use animals, in order to fill that particular distributive requirement.

My ultimate reasoning for not taking Psychology 121 and doing the rat lab? What would I learn from making a rat push a bar for water? We all complain about learning things that we will never apply to our own lives. I would like to say that the psychology department's idea that the rat lab is acceptable is ridiculous. I will never, and neither will anyone else who is not a psychology major, use the knowledge that they acquire from the rats in these experiments.

Beyond our own little bubble, think of how often we go to Walmart and get shampoo or cosmetics. Do we stop to read the labels, or do we just buy what we think will look best on us? Animals who are used to test cosmetics are put through extremely painful and unnecessary experiments, even though there are alternative testing routes available. To test your favorite shampoo, mammals, such as rats, mice, and rabbits are shaved and their exposed skin and covered with the product. After applying the product repeatedly, animals are checked to see if their skin is irritated. To

test cosmetics, researchers put the product directly into a rabbit's eye and check for irritation and cornea erosion. This test, known as the Draize Irritancy test, is extremely painful and unnecessary. There are alternate ways to test these product, but using the animals is less expensive. In the money oriented society that we live in, of course a company's main interest is going to be to keep their prices down, no matter what the moral price may be.

What can one solitary individual do to stem the tides of cruelty? Plenty. Be a more educated consumer. Look for products that say "cruelty-free". Take the time to write any animal welfare organization. They will gladly send you a list of truly cruelty and animal free products. Do not patronize companies who use animals to test their products. Call the hot line number on the back of the product bottle and tell them that you are not satisfied with their product because they use unnecessary and cruel means of testing. With more and more people concerned with the welfare of animals, more and more companies will begin to take notice. If you refuse to buy their product, they will lose money and have no choice but to change their policies and ways. If you are opposed to doing the rat lab in Psychology 121, stand up for yourself and the animal. Tell

your professor that you will not abuse an animal. Expect them to respect not just the rat, but their student as well.

If everyone takes the time to educate themselves on the products that they use, and if everyone stops to really stand up for themselves, we can truly make the world better for everyone, not just ourselves. Look a little deeper into your own self and really try to justify hurting an animals for your own selfish

purpose. Cruelty-free products are not hard to find these days and are really not that much more expensive than their competitors. It honestly only takes 20 seconds to read the back of the product and see if it is cruelty free. Try it. See how much better you will feel about yourself for thinking of others. Make your voice the voice for the voiceless animals. Know that if they could communicate, they would thank you.

you are the energy

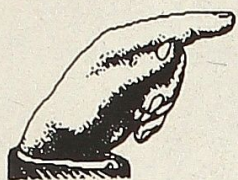
you have
the power

to make the world
a better place



American Red Cross

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Point/Counterpoint: Is hunting ethical?



Hunting appeals to primal instincts

By Nathan Lane
Freelance Writer

Hunting. The word tends to create controversy whenever it is brought up. The people involved in the issue are usually diametrically opposed to each other's views. Those against hunting claim that it is cruel and senseless, while the hunters claim that it is natural and necessary. The two sides will never agree, and it is not my purpose to try to convince the non-hunters of my position. I only hope to educate those people who are against hunting of the necessity of the process.

In this day and age of development and the generic word, progress, wild lands are becoming much more scarce. The days of unlimited forests and other such wild areas are no longer. The animals that inhabit these areas still reproduce and more often than not, the land cannot sustain the populations of the animal kingdom. In order to keep a sustainable balance, the Department of Natural Resources schedules hunting seasons.

The DNR sets up these seasons as a means of culling various populations of wild game. Culling limits the number of wild game and helps to limit the numbers of animals that suffer the excruciating pain that death by starvation wreaks upon the wild populous.

In order to participate in a hunting season, one must first successfully complete a hunter's safety class. The DNR sponsors these class sessions to educate the future

hunter on proper handling of firearms, as well as the proper way to collect the game once it has been culled. Once the class participant has successfully completed their hunter's safety course, they may purchase a hunting license (following the legal guidelines involved). The DNR uses the proceeds from the hunting permits to further their resource programs.

Of course, most hunters do not have the DNR's rationale when they go up to the store to purchase the seasonal ticket known as the hunting license. Many hunters like to be outside, experiencing a cool fall day while in search of their game. Also involved is the thrill of the hunt. Hunting is a primal instinct. Hunters experience the same thrill that their ancestors felt after a successful hunt. At the same time, the hunter gains respect for the animal world. The natural kingdom is a cunning opponent. It is a challenge to venture out into the woods in search of wild game. The challenge is what draws the crowds.

Hunters are answering the call of the wild, their primal instincts. It is through the help of responsible hunting that the natural world can coexist with our human made world. Without hunters to cull the natural populous, the animals would find themselves in dire straights come winter time. And while the idea of death by bullet may not appeal to some people, it makes for a much quicker and less painful death than starvation.

Hunters have no respect for life

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

With hunting season set to open soon, a certain uneasiness is returning to my stomach. As I think of people going out into the woods and killing for pleasure, I wonder why. Why do people think that it is fun to kill? Why do people have a definite lack of respect for life? What makes a person think that murder is all right?

I've heard the argument many times. It usually begins with, "If I don't kill them, they'll starve to death," or the even more logical, "I love nature. I'm helping out by hunting."

I guess the thing that I wonder about is that if hunters have such a love for nature, how can they go and murder a part of it?

How do we define murder? Murder is the taking of a life, right? What makes it any different to kill a person than an animal? "Animals are dumb" is what I hear frequently. I know some dumb people, but I'm sure people would think it was wrong if I justified killing them by saying that they were dumb. Why can't we, as reasonable and intelligent human beings, see the beauty and wonder in another living creature?

I understand that if people did not hunt then the animal population would explode and animals would die a slow death. I just wonder what makes a person want to go out and end that animal's life. Are some people taught at a young age that it

is totally acceptable to go and kill? Perhaps it is their parents before them who hunted and passed on this trait to their children. For whatever reason a person decides to go out and hunt, they still cannot deny that they do fully participate in, and agree with, taking a life. Murder.

When hunters go out and kill, do they think that the animal doesn't feel any pain? Furthermore, do hunters think that these animals have nothing better to offer the world than dinner? I beg to differ with both of these points. We do not know how an animal feels when they are shot. They do not communicate with us and cannot convey their fear, anxiety, and pain. I just cannot understand how people can assume that these animals have no other purpose in their life.

For any person who says that hunting is a sport, I laugh. How sporting is it to hide yourself in bushes, trees, and camouflage and wait for your victim to helplessly come along? Sports are played on semi-even playing fields. Hunters do not even give their prey a fighting chance. No antlers can compete with a bow, and no set of wings can compare to the power of a gun.

People always have and always will hunt. I just wonder how worth the thrill is when you consider that what a hunter is doing is murder. How can you look in the mirror after killing something so alive and not feel horrible about yourself? I suppose if someone is shallow enough to assume that they are better than an animal, and that the animal deserved to die for their supper and cheap thrill, then what they see when they look in the mirror isn't worth a second thought anyway.

Presidential Campaign 1996

Clinton, Dole avoid confrontation during debate

By Daniel C. Scripps
Co-Editor-In-Chief

Going into this past Sunday's presidential debate, President Bill Clinton had a commanding lead over principle rival Senator Bob Dole. Coming out of the debates, little had changed.

The exact numbers according to the latest poll I saw before the debate had 51 percent of Americans leaning towards Clinton, 39 percent for Dole and 6 percent for Perot, with the remaining 4 percent scattered among the secondary candidates and undecided voters. The same poll following the debate showed Clinton had increased to 56 percent, Dole up to 41 percent, Perot dropping to 2 percent and only 1 percent undecided or for another candidate. This all points to the saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Neither candidate seemed to do poorly. Both had good points as well as some weaknesses, but with the economy on the increase, the deficit going down and America at peace, Dole gave no reason to change. Indeed, if anything, the two candidates agreed too much, with both of them seeming to have the primary goal not losing.

However, with indicators all being favorable and sitting on a strong lead going in, Clinton could legitimately play this role,

while Dole, also needing not to appear mean, desperately needed to give the voters legitimate reasons for a change.

That is the paradox Bob Dole is currently in: he needs to take the offensive and point out areas of concern, but in doing so he cannot bring back the mean Bob Dole so many Americans are wary of. It's a no-win situation for the former Senator, but one he needs to remedy in the near future. With less than a month to go before the election and trailing by 15 percentage points, Dole needs to find a way to take the offensive without alienating voters.

Clinton, on the other hand, is in a great position. Because the economy is up, he can take responsibility for the increase in drug use and the events which transpired in Somalia, answering charges about his character and political backbone, or lack thereof, and not worry about losing votes. He can appear presidential and visionary, using the economic success of his four years as a selling point to Americans on why his plan is better. He also can link Dole with House Speaker Newt Gingrich and point to disasters he has prevented from happening through his use of his veto power. Clinton stands on a record, not so much of what he has done, but on what he has prevented from happening. The Republican congress has given him the oppor-

tunity to define himself in opposition to something, and it is paying huge rewards in the polls.

The only person in a worse position than Bob Dole is H. Ross Perot. By excluding him from the debates, the two main candidates have basically labeled him a novelty item, and forced his supporters to choose between the two of them. Again Clinton comes out on top, as Perot voters tend to like what has

happened in the past four years economically.

I didn't think either candidate won this round of debates. However, by that very fact, the win goes to Clinton as Dole has to find a way not to avoid losing, but to simply win, at the same time not being too aggressive and running the risk of playing the mean Bob Dole. And he has to do it quick.

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Staff Editorial

Hate groups hit close to home

Area hate groups

- Assembly of Yahweh, Holt.
- Bible Restoration Ministry, Royal Oak.
- Confederate Alliance, Saint Clare Shores.
- Concent Clause, Ferndale.
- Michigan Klan, Madison Heights.
- Michigan Protection Association, Muskegon.
- Michigan Patriots, Ann Arbor, Drayton Plains, and Novi.
- Mountain Church, Byron.
- S.S. Action Group, Dearborn and Drayton Plains.

Living at Alma College in the "Alma bubble" nine months of the year with a distinctly homogeneous selection of students and faculty protects everyone from knowing about many world events. What most people fail to realize is how close to home world events may be.

This list of organizations marks a few of the extreme far-right groups existing today in the state of Michigan. Evidently, the white supremacist movement is closer than some may wish to think. The highly political groups are rooted in Alma students' hometowns. Members are neighbors, business owners, politicians. Alliances to the hate groups are local businesses, long-time supporters, underground organizations.

Would students be happier if they did not know? After all, ignorance is bliss at Alma College.

However, in recent years Alma College has attempted to raise the consciousness level of students. In regard to issues concerning differences in culture, race, and religion, the college has encouraged students and faculty to

improve the diversity on campus.

The Diversity Enhancement Team has set goals to enhance the diversity of the student body through admissions selection each year. Prospective students are recruited from around the globe to attend the school that excels in academics yet fails in culture.

Students across campus have organized groups such as the Association of Intercultural Understanding. Unfortunately, few people are involved. Few recognize the opportunity to educate the campus about problems affecting the world beyond Superior Street.

Recently the Alma College Theatre Department sponsored a talk by Martin Lee entitled "The Politics of Hate: The Militia, the Far Right and the Scourge of Terrorism." In addition, the play "God's Country," held this weekend, will focus on the activities of hate groups across the country.

Despite these attempts, Alma College has remained predominantly a school of caucasian students of middle-class families

from small towns with relatives that attended Alma. For students hoping to graduate and pursue careers in locales beyond the quiet, friendly, small town, this atmosphere is misleading and potentially harmful. Yet within the cheerful bubble of Alma the big, bad world of other races and religions seems too distant to be concerned with. After all, everyone is so busy.

Considering the efforts made by the college to enhance the education of its students, the results literally appear minimal as students walk across MacIntyre Mall. This is not to say that Alma College has become a white supremacist society of individuals. But the presence of those groups surrounding Alma is a reality. The question is when this fact will become too close for comfort and students will have no choice but to talk about the hatred so unfamiliar to the Alma College family.

Letter to the Editors:

I want to add a couple of notes to the article concerning the Dave Matthews concert. As I did not attend, I am very happy that two gentlemen had such an enlightening experience. I firmly believe that live music is meant to be an experience and that no music is better to listen to than a live version of your favorite tune.

One point I want to raise is about the band's opening tune. Think back to all of the concerts you have ever been to. Now, how many times has a band actually opened with a well-known-to-all song? Not very often. That is the whole point of the concert and how a band prepares a set list for the show. It's the suspense created that you feed off of before the jam really hits you. They play the audience with the know, the mood I'm in will just be exalted to a higher level of emotional happiness.

Point two regards the statement about "All Along the Watchtower" by Bob Dylan. As this song is frequently covered, fact will show that it is not the most covered song in music's history. Amazingly enough, yet not too surprisingly, "Yesterday" by the Beatles is Numero Uno.

Thanks for listening and keep on rockin' in the free world.

Dan Kinney, "Deej," '99

CLASSIFIEDS

• During Spring Term 1997, Bob Rozier will once again teach Art 250: Contemporary Art in N.Y. This course serves as an introduction to major artistic movements and critical theory of the last two decades. During the third week of the term, the class will travel to New York City in order to explore galleries, museums, artists' studios, and performances. The course is intended for both art majors and non-majors who wish to increase their knowledge of contemporary art and visit one of the world's major art centers. For further information about course content and costs, interested students may attend an information session at 4 p.m. on Thursday, October 10 in Clack Art Center Lounge. Or contact Carrie Parks-Kirby at x7285.

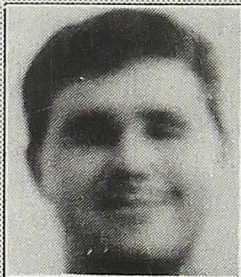
• **SPRING TERM IN JAMAICA, 1997.** If you're interested, but missed the first meeting, don't fear! You are invited to another slide presentation and informational meeting on Wednesday, October 9 at 7 p.m. in the art building. If you have any questions, please contact Nicholas Dixon (x7219).

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Opinion Poll

If you could be any comic book superhero, who would you be and why?



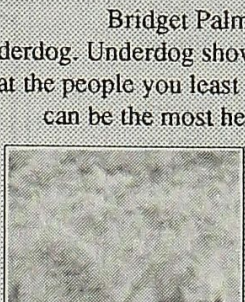
Joe Martin '99
"Wolverine because he has an indestructible skeletal structure and regenerative powers."



Doug Potter '98
"Batman because he drives a cool car and he has a great butler."



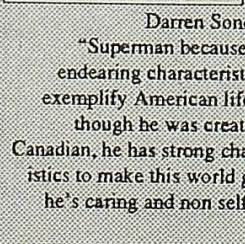
Mandy Bowler '98
"Wonder Woman. She has a neat outfit and a cool invisible jet. Also, she's strong and can kick anyone's ass."



Bridget Palmer '97
"Underdog. Underdog shows you that the people you least expect can be the most helpful."



Chip '00
"Rocky the flying squirrel because he's my step-brother, and my hero."



Darren Sondey '98
"Superman because he has endearing characteristics that exemplify American life. Even though he was created by a Canadian, he has strong characteristics to make this world great—he's caring and non self indulgent."

The Almanian

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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.