

The Almanian

November 12, 1996

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Issue 9

Clinton, Gore elected to second term

Proposal outcomes

APPROVED:

- Proposal B: To amend the state constitution to establish the qualifications for judicial officers.
- Proposal C: To establish Michigan's Veterans' trust fund in the Constitution; its expenditures are to be approved by its Board of Trustees
- Proposal E: To permit casinos in qualified cities
- Proposal G: To maintain wildlife management

VOTED DOWN:

- Proposal A: To amend parts of Michigan's Bingo Act
- Proposal D: To limit bear hunting season and prohibit the use of bait and dogs to hunt

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

On Tuesday many people all across America stepped up to the polls, while others sent in absentee ballots to their home towns, as was the case for many Alma College students.

On the days and weeks prior to the election, many candidates stepped up their campaign ads, trying to convince people to vote for them and not their opponent.

In the presidential race, incumbent Bill Clinton prevailed. President Clinton is the first Democratic president to win reelection since Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The Clinton/Gore ticket won in

Michigan, which is traditionally a Democratic state. Clinton also won in California, where the Dole/Kemp ticket had increased campaigning right before the election.

In his concession speech, Republican candidate Bob Dole stated that Clinton was not his enemy, only his opponent. He also offered words of encouragement to Republicans, "It hurts to lose an election, but stay involved because you are the ones who will make the 21st century the next American century."

Democrat Carl Levin was elected to the United States Senate over Republican Ronna Romney. In the race for the United States House of Representatives, Democrat Debbie

Stabenow was elected over Republican Dick Chrysler.

The United States Congress will retain its Republican majority. In fact, Republicans gained a few seats in the Senate. And although the Republicans remain in control of the House of Representatives, their margin of majority was reduced.

Michigan voters were also faced with a number of proposals.

Proposal A attempted to amend parts of the Michigan Bingo Act. This was voted down.

Proposal B would amend the state constitution to establish the qualifications for judicial officers. Voters passed this amendment.

Proposal C established the

Michigan's Veterans' trust fund in the Constitution and require that its expenditures from it be approved by its Board of Trustees. This amendment was adopted as well.

Proposal D would limit bear hunting season and prohibit the use of bait and dogs to hunt bear. Voters did not approve this proposal.

Voters said yes to Proposal E, which would permit casinos in qualified cities.

Also, Proposal G was passed, which is a wildlife management law.

Sophomore Keeley Donley reflected that, "Whatever happens, happens, but I can't do much about it now."

Global Service Auction helps send students to India

Alma College will sponsor a Global Service Auction Friday, November 15 at 7 p.m. in Jones Auditorium.

International items such as jewelry, sculptures and fabric will be auctioned off as well as some handmade items donated by members of the community and members of the Alma College faculty. The money raised from the auction will go to support Alma College's Global Service Fellowship.

This year the fellowship will send two Alma College students to teach in Kerala, India. The students will teach elementary school. While they will teach a variety of subjects, the students' primary focus will be on teaching English.

From 1963 to 1994 Alma College students were sent to Nigeria to teach, until the political situation in that African country made a change in location a necessity.

Part of the pool of items to be auctioned off come from items picked up during overseas travel.

"The other approach is handmade goods, such as quilts, cross-stitch and baked goods," said Patty Landis, international studies director. "For example, Yavenditti fudge (made by History Department Chair Michael Yavenditti's

wife) often sells for \$18 to \$20 a plate. It has developed quite a reputation and people get caught up in the frenzy of buying things."

Items this year include weavings donated by Kay Grimmes, associate professor of biology, and ceramic items donated by Terry Kirby, a professor in the art department.

Last year the auction earned about \$3,000, and this year the goal is \$4,000. It costs between \$4,000 and \$6,000 to send each student to India. Money donated from the area Presbyterian churches is combined with the money raised through the auction.

This is the first year during its thirty year run that the annual auction will take place in the fall term. The idea is to get more student involvement, and the international office feels that presenting the auction as a way to do Christmas shopping is the way to do this.

"The unique thing about the auction is that it's a college-wide commitment to international service," said Landis.

Selections of the items available in the auction will be on display in the International office.

Alma College hosts print show

By Staci Hill
News Editor

Although few students realize it, Alma College has been privileged to host The Annual Statewide Print Competition for the past 15 years.

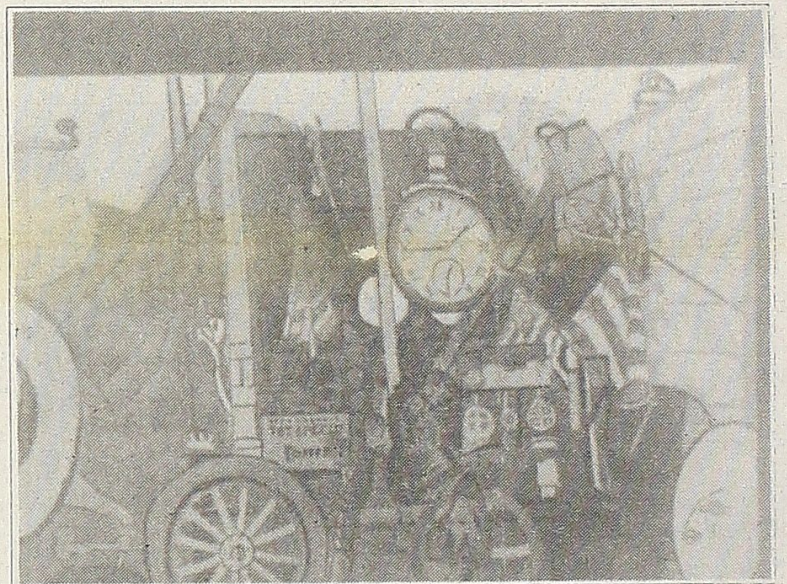
The 16th annual art exhibit is open in the Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery in the Clack Art Center until December 6.

Of the 129 entries, 38 were selected by juror Frances Myers, professor of printmaking at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Each year the show's organizers choose a different juror. Assistant Professor of Art and Design and Gallery Director Sandy Lopez-Isnardi noted, "Myers took greater risks in her selection than others, at least in my two years here."

"I am pleased to be included in the long line of noted print artists who have been invited to jury this competition which, while limited to artists in the State of Michigan, has grown to almost mythological proportions in its reputation," said Myers. "It has most certainly put Alma College on the national print map. The delight for me, as an artist who makes prints, has been to encounter so much depth of concept coupled with a tremendous sophistication of technical means."

Five awards were granted of those selected. The top award of \$1,000 was given to Temporary Instructor of Art and Design Michael D. Barnes for his lithograph and etching *Transport*.

The other awards were presented



Alma has hosted the Annual Statewide Print Competition for the past 15 years. The 16th annual show is on display in the Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery until December 6. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.

to Regina Salamin for *Eruptions and Evolution*, Steve Paulsen for *Overkill*, Bruce Thayer for *The Karaoke Spin* and Johanna Paas for *Untitled*.

"I think this year's show includes many new artists. Bruce Thayer has won quite a number of times but this year four out of five new artists have won." She also commented on the "nice, fresh work chosen as well as some of what we traditionally have," said Lopez-Isnardi.

The three-dimensional *Litho Dress* by Sandra Dupret drew much attention. The dress, hanging from a noose, was constructed of handmade printed and coated paper in the shape of a strapless minidress. Sitting below the dress are cast paper shoes with fur insoles. Myers

said the "piece insists on a decidedly feminist reading."

In fact, the middle room in which it hangs was designed as a "feminine room," said Lopez-Isnardi, with works based on women by both men and women.

The other rooms were also organized by theme. The first room contained work focusing on patterns while the last room contained pieces centered around landscapes and politics. Thayer's work on political satire *The Karaoke Spin* and *The Missing Link* are displayed as well as Andy Suriano's *The Gay Hare*.

After December 6 the print show will move to the Lee Hall Gallery at Northern Michigan University in Marquette from January 13 to February 5.

Inside:

- Tuition hike, p. 2
- Pig Book, p. 3

Feature

- Giselle review, p. 4
- Student literature, p. 6

Sports

- Football, p. 7
- Cross Country, p. 9

Opinion

- Do you believe in ghosts? p. 10
- Staff Editorial, p. 12

November 12, 1996

Presidential Advisory Board passes inflationary tuition hike

By Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

The President's Advisory Committee (PAC) consisting of President Alan Stone and 17 current students, administrators and faculty members recently approved a proposal involving a three percent tuition increase.

The proposal, having been reviewed and accepted on campus, will now go to the Board of Trustees's finance committee for review. If accepted, the proposal will be brought before the full Board in February.

If the Board approves it, the tuition increase will go into effect for the 1997-98 academic year.

According to Vice President of Finance Jon Groteluschen, this is an inflationary proposal and will

amount to an approximate \$568 increase.

For most students this tuition increase will be matched by financial aid increases, which are

A 3 % tuition hike adds approximately \$568 to the current cost of attending Alma.

also inflationary.

The higher tuition will provide for an "increase in goods and services purchased by the college," said Groteluschen.

The increase will also provide for additional half-time positions in the chemistry and psychology

departments.

The addition of a minority scholar position is also being considered with the increased funds.

Program improvements themselves "get funded out of any type of budget surpluses that may originate," Groteluschen said.

A long-term plan for use of budget surpluses include the purchase of more computer equipment, an increase in library book allocations, money for faculty development and residence hall furnishings, as well as improvements to the utility plant.

With the approval of PAC, the proposed tuition increase package will soon go before the Alma College Board of Trustees for approval and implementation.



In the first act of Giselle, Giselle (Karen Scalzitti) dances with her friends as villagers watch. Giselle was the first full length ballet to be performed at Alma. See review page 4. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

ACUB sponsors coffeehouse featuring Curnette and Maher

By Jennifer Wright
Freelance Writer

As many students know, the Alma College Union Board (ACUB) presents various events and activities throughout the year. ACUB sponsors movie nights at least once a month and earlier this year they presented an all-nighter with various activities. On November 6, ACUB presented Alma College students with a coffeehouse, featuring Curnutte & Maher (Kurnoot and Mar), a band from Nashville, Tennessee.

Originally from Wake Forest, North Carolina, the group started as a duet with Steve Curnutte, acoustics, and Matt Maher on acoustics and harmonica. When Curnutte & Maher relocated to Nashville, percussionist Mark Ellis joined the duet, and has now been with the band for a little over a year.

Nashville's Curnutte & Maher performed at ACUB's coffeehouse. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

These three men travel mostly around this side of the Mississippi River, focusing on the east coast and the upper Mid-west area. They perform gigs in various places including bars, clubs and college campuses. One of their most popular spots is in Chicago.

Ellis, percussionist, described the sound of their music by saying, "Our style is an acoustic rock style, but we might be headed a little towards electric rock." The band Curnutte & Maher sings are all originals.

Maher described the process of coming up with the songs as emotional, and spontaneous. "When putting together songs, we use details from our memory which reflect experiences in our life. An example would be stopping at a restaurant and remembering something that just seemed odd," he said.

Maher also describes the music as being an "earnest desire you want to express to others, creating something magical."

Mike Slater, a first-year student who attended the coffeehouse stated, "I really enjoyed the performance. I thought the acoustics were great; they knew how to listen to themselves, and how to please the audience."

Each of the members mentioned that some of their inspirations include Bob Dylan, U2, Tom Petty and a mixture of groups such as Counting Crows and REM. They also turn on the radio while traveling and listen to various artists. Maher mentioned that his all time favorite is Bruce Springsteen.

The next stop for Curnutte & Maher is Chicago, and from there, various cities in Iowa, North Dakota, Ohio, and West Virginia. Curnutte & Maher have three records out right now titled, *Rumble of the Ages*, *Crackerjack*, and *Alive*. They are also expecting to release a fourth record in February of 1997.

Those interested in purchasing a CD or tape can call 1-800-528-7664 or stop by Alma's Scot Shop to check them out.



• NEWS BRIEFS •

• **Bowl for Kids' Sake** will be held Wednesday, November 13 at 9:30 p.m. at the 300 Bowl in Alma. For more information contact Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Gratiot County at 463-3434.

• **Attention first-year composition students** in ENG 100 and ENG 101: writing help is available at the Writing Center in the Library basement, room #1. Hours are: Sunday 7-9 p.m., Monday 8-10 p.m., Tuesday 3-5 p.m., Wednesday 3-4 p.m., Thursday 7-9 p.m.

• **Science, Sex and Society** will be presented by Laura Vosejпка, associate professor of chemis-

try, on Thursday, November 14 at 7 p.m. in Dow L-4. The lecture is part of "The Last Lecture Series," presented by The Dean of Students Office and The Residential Life Staff.

• **Solemn Vespers of the Confessor** by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart will be performed Friday, November 15 at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts. The Alma College Chorus and the Saginaw Bay Orchestra are featured. Tickets are available at the Heritage Center Box Office, x7304, for \$10.

• **Alma College Kiltie Marching Band** performs highlights from the

fall season on Saturday, November 16 at 8 p.m. Tickets are available by calling the Heritage Center Box office at x 7304.

• **Auditions for West Side Story** are being held January 17 at 7 p.m. and January 18 at 1 p.m. at the Midland Center for the Arts Auditorium, 1801 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland. 12 women and 21 men are needed, ages 14 to adult. Some dance experience is recommended, but not required. Auditions will consist of three parts: script readings, singing, and dancing. For more information call The Music Society at (517) 631-1072. Productions dates are: April 25, 26, and 27; May 2 and 3.

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McIntyre Mall, Chapel to undergo renovation

By Mitzi Janukaitis
Freelance Writer

Alma College is expecting some facelifts on campus in the near future.

Two such facelifts include the redecoration of the Dunning Memorial Chapel and an expansion of McIntyre Mall.

There is an overall plan for the redecorating of the chapel which varies from new paint to new carpet. Physical Plant Director Duane Knecht, and President Alan Stone have discussed the options for redecoration and decided what the chapel needs.

This project involves a complete interior painting of the chapel area as well as new drapes, valances and carpet. The new carpet will be installed on a portion of the platform and in the basement, as well

as in a few other areas.

They are also looking into refinishing the pews and enhancing the lighting in the rotunda. There is also the possibility of building a few permanent high rises for the choir. Additionally, the bathrooms will be repainted and new floors installed.

They are not sure when all of this will get started, but Knecht said, "We plan to hopefully start this project sometime after the first of the year." He also explained that jobs will be contracted out because Alma does not have all the necessary equipment to take on such a large task.

Currently, Knecht is also putting together plans for the expansion of the McIntyre Mall. He will then submit the proposed ideas to Stone to approve. From there, the cost of the project will determine an actual

starting date.

The two proposed ideas both involve expanding the mall from where it currently ends, near the Physical Education Center and Heritage Center for the Performing Arts, to almost parallel to the far east corner of the Heritage Center.

One of the plans would strictly be expanding the existing mall down and making a new entrance at the end.

The other plan is to lay a new walkway beginning at the four steps between the Dow Science Center and Swanson Academic Center and continuing to the far end of the Heritage Center.

Knecht also said that the area around the Eddy Music Center is in need of a new walkway because the existing one is brittle in certain areas. This is due to the heavy

traffic from the loading and unloading of music and theatre equipment.

The new walkway would be similar

to the one at the entrance of the Heritage Center and would be stronger than the existing walkway.

Additional improvements

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

- South Bruske will be getting new furnishings for the next academic year. The "loftable" furniture, along with new windows for the complex will run the school approximately \$100,000. "This will finish the dorm/window project for the residence halls," said President Alan Stone.
- Physical Plant Director Duane Knecht plans to close Mitchell Hall in June to paint the entire interior of the residence hall and retexture the ceilings.
- Physical Plant is currently in the process of replacing the steam and

conduit lines running between the residence halls. According to Knecht, "Some of these lines are 30 years old. This is a phase program that will take three or four years to complete."

- Windows for several small housing units, including the Zeta Sigma, Sigma Chi and Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity houses and the Model UN house. This improvement will be made over the next month and a half. Physical plant plans to continue replacing windows in the small housing units.
- A new roof for the Swanson Academic Center. "That roof needs to be done in the next year," said Knecht.

Detroit students meet at Alma for youth mix

By Erin Freeland
Freelance Writer

Students are attracted to Alma College through a host of different functions and in a number of diverse ways. One opportunity which allows students to become acquainted with the college is through the Youth Mix, which comes to campus on a yearly basis.

Alma has hosted the Youth Mix for the past 27 years. It is a religious retreat which brings senior high youth from the Detroit Metropolitan area together. It began in 1955 at Wooster College and has been alternating years between Alma and Wooster since then.

Reverend Jesse Perry stated that

he was not involved in the founding of the Youth Mix, but he has never missed one of the events.

Alma's mix began Saturday, November 9 at 9 a.m. and continued until Sunday afternoon. A keynote speaker addressed the group, which broke down into smaller groups to discuss the topic afterwards.

The theme for this year's mix was "Together As One." The students talked about what this theme means to them in daily life. Along with the keynote speaker, the students enjoyed recreation, a magic show (replacing the usual dance this year), and communion during Sunday service. They slept in Cappaert Gymnasium—boys camped downstairs and girls upstairs.

The Admissions Office, which sponsors the event, gives tours to those of the students who are interested during their weekend stay on the Alma College campus.

In addition to the tours, the students have the opportunity to enjoy traditional Alma College cuisine such as Pizza Sam's and meals prepared by Marriott. Perry stated that 20% of the students who attend Alma find out about it from the "Youth Mix." Perry also cites this as a great opportunity to get senior high Presbyterian youth from the Detroit area together.

The next youth mix will take place March 15-16 for students from Michigan's northern Presbyteries.

Publisher delays PIG Book distribution

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

Following months of unexpected delays, the Pig Books are now in.

The Personnel Identification Guides, as they are officially called, haven't been available because of several delays. When asked why these sacred texts to Alma College students took so long, sophomore Cindy Fiedler, editor-in-chief of the *Scot*, said, "Well, there's tons of reasons."

First of all, the pictures took a month to come in, which wasn't all that unusual, as the company had said that they would be returned between two and four weeks. However, according to Fiedler, it would have taken far longer to get the pictures had the Pig Book staff not called the company to inquire as to when the pictures would be returned.

Following this delay, the facefinders were pushed further back due to problems the staff had with the layout of the book.

When these problems were resolved and the book looked up to par, the staff sent the completed

work in to be printed. However, problems continued to plague the Pig Book as the company found additional mistakes and notified the college. The Pig Book staff then contacted the company and faxed corrections into them. The two organizations kept in contact until

the books had not yet been delivered.

When the books become available, Pig Book staff will contact apartment managers, house managers and resident assistants to pick up the books for their residents from the *Scot* office.

Campus reaction to the delay is mixed. "I think the campus reaction has been a cacophony of disapproval, and I'm right there with the campus. It's a bunch of BS," said junior Derek Boyer. "They might as well just save them for Christmas presents."

Others are more sympathetic to the problems the *Scot* has encountered. Senior Megan Graham said she thought the delays were more the fault of the publishers.

"To be mad at the people on campus who put them together doesn't seem fair. I'd rather have it take a little longer and have them be right then get them quicker and have them be messed up," said Graham.

Putting the delays and campus frustration behind them, the Pig Book staff appears relieved that this issue is almost resolved.

To be mad at the people who put them together doesn't seem fair.

• Megan Graham '97

all of the mistakes were corrected.

The last obstacle to Pig Book delivery involved the company sending proofs to the college for review, something that was again not supposed to happen.

The books were expected to arrive at the Physical Plant yesterday and then delivered to the *Scot* office for distribution. However, as of Monday evening,

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Lenard joins faculty

Visiting professor of English enjoys campus

By Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

This is finally 'real life' for Mary Lenard. A visiting professor in the English department, Lenard recently graduated from the University of Texas in Austin with her doctoral degree.

Lenard studied English literature at the University of Texas where she also obtained her masters degree. She attended the University of Virginia as an undergraduate where she received a B.A. in English.

As a graduate student, Lenard was a graduate assistant involved in teaching. In addition, she worked with the University of Texas's writing center. She was also a student teacher at St. Edwards University, a private Catholic college.

Now at Alma College, Lenard is enjoying her first post-doctoral teaching experience.

"I really feel a lot more comfortable and relaxed with my dealings with students. Here I feel the col-

lege is more caring about students and wants to maintain them," she said.

Lenard is teaching English composition classes, but is most excited about teaching a class on British Romantic and Victorian literature, which is the first class she is

I'm really enjoying being able to work in my field

•Mary Lenard,
visiting English professor

teaching in her specific area. She is also looking forward to teaching a prose class during spring term.

"I'm really enjoying being able to work in my field," she commented.

Alma students seem "to have a better work ethic" than students at many schools she's been at. "I'm really enjoying them," she said.

Like many students, Lenard did

not know what she wanted to do when she went to college. She tells students that "if you're doing something you really enjoy, it makes your life much more fulfilling."

"I think if they're thinking about pursuing a career in college teaching they need to be aware of how competitive it is," she advised to anyone having the same career goals as her.

When her year is over, Lenard hopes to find a full-time teaching job at a regional or state university or at a liberal arts college.

Lenard says her father, a Holocaust survivor, influenced her the most. He made her realize the great importance of language and knowledge.

"We need to come to recognize what happened in the past to avoid it happening over and over again," she said. "That's one of the reasons I feel what I'm doing is not useless."

Feeling confident about what she does, Lenard is happy to call Alma home for the time being.



Mary Lenard, visiting professor of English, poses for a picture at her desk. Lenard will teach at Alma for a year. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.

Giselle offers first full length ballet performed at Alma

By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter

The first full length ballet ever to be performed at Alma College, *Giselle* was a masterpiece of form and movement.

Written in the mid-nineteenth century by Theophile Gautier, a young French writer and a contemporary of Victor Hugo, *Giselle* was inspired by a tale by German poet Heinrich Heine. The tale was about Slavonic elemental spirits called Wilis, spirits of girls who have died before their wedding day. These spirits haunt the forests at night, trapping unwary travelers unlucky enough to cross the Wilis' path.

The story that Gautier wove around this folk tale involves a young peasant girl named Giselle. Hilarion, a gamekeeper of the village, is in love with Giselle, but she is in love with Loys, a young peasant boy. Loys is really the nobleman Count Albrecht, who is posing as a peasant in order to gain Giselle's affections.

The story opens on the day of a harvest festival. Giselle and Loys

(Albrecht) declare their love for each other, and Hilarion, seeing this, is heartbroken. Hilarion challenges Loys (Albrecht) to a fight, and becomes suspicious as Loys (Albrecht) reaches for a sword that a nobleman would carry but that in his peasant guise he doesn't have. Hilarion leaves, and the harvesters return.

More festivities continue and the peasants are joined by the prince of the region, his daughter, and their entourage. Hilarion breaks into Loys' (Albrecht's) cottage, and there he discovers the sword that identifies Loys as Albrecht.

Hilarion exposes Loys as Albrecht, and it is discovered that Albrecht is engaged both to Giselle and the Prince's daughter. Giselle cannot take Albrecht's deception, her heart breaks and she dies.

Act two begins with Hilarion coming to Giselle's grave in the forest at night. He woe's her death, but then as midnight strikes he is frightened away by spirits.

In the glade appears Myrtha, Queen of the Wilis. She and her entourage of Wilis begin the ceremonies that will make Giselle's spirit one of the Wilis. They are disturbed when they hear men in the distance, and leave to pursue them.

Albrecht enters the glade and goes to Giselle's grave, where he encounters Giselle's spirit. Meanwhile, the Wilis have captured Hilarion. Myrtha demands that he dance to his death.

After Hilarion's death, the Wilis encounter Albrecht. He too is commanded to dance to his death. Giselle still loves Albrecht, so she protects him by supporting him through the night with her own dancing.

This goes on until dawn finally

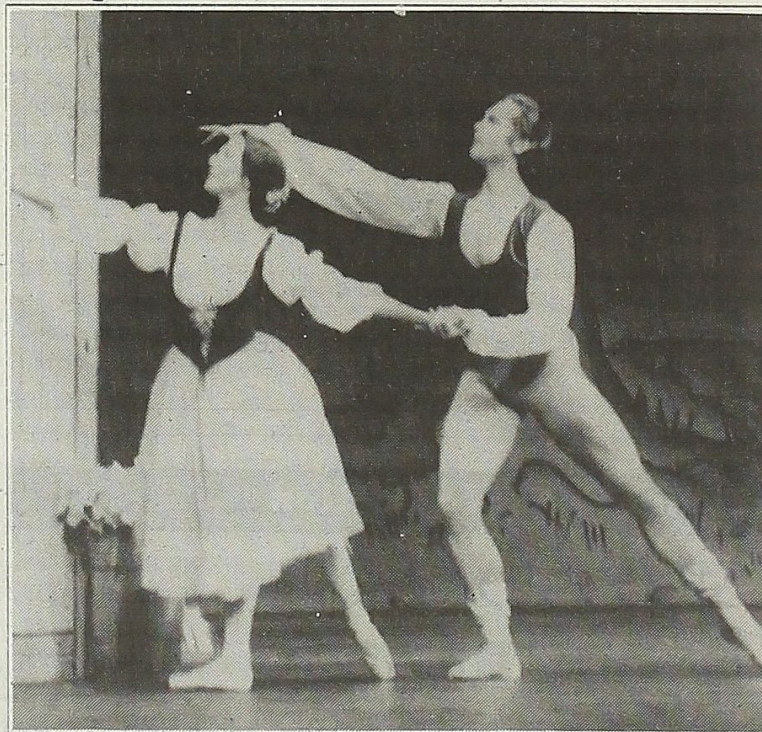
breaks. The Wilis are forced to leave, and Albrecht is saved. Albrecht begs Giselle to forgive him and to stay with him, but to no avail. The ballet ends as Albrecht is left alone in the forest.

For this ballet, the Alma College Dance Company invited professional dancers to come and perform many of the lead roles. The role of Giselle was danced by guest principal ballerina Karen Scalzitti, a professional dancer currently with the Indianapolis Ballet Theatre. Albrecht was danced by guest principal danseur Erlends Zieminch, a professional dancer also with the Indianapolis Ballet Theatre. The roles of the Peasant Pas de Deux were danced by Shayne Dutkiewicz and Atila Mosolygo, both professional dancers from the Grand Rapids Ballet. The role of Myrtha, Queen of the Wilis, was danced by Stephanie Braly-Kelsey, a professional dancer who is currently with the Huntsville Ballet Company.

But guest dancers were not the only ones to be invited to Alma College to participate in *Giselle*. Chris Pickart, a scenic designer whose credits include the scene designs for many off-Broadway shows, was asked to design the drops and scenery that gave life to the world of the dancers. When Pickart was asked what he thought about working here at Alma, he replied, "It was terrific. I had a great time. There's a lot of really interested students here, and they've all pitched in, so it was like a learning experience for all of us."

The wonderful scenery and dancing of *Giselle* was enhanced by the enchanting costumes designed by Alene Brittain, a guest costume designer who has used her talents for many groups including the Grand Rapids Ballet.

Many faculty members and stu-



In the first act of *Giselle* Loys (Erlends Zieminch) and Giselle (Karen Scalzitti) meet and fall in love. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

dents of Alma College also played a big part in the production of *Giselle*. Thomas Morris, assistant professor of dance, not only directed the performance but also danced the role of Hilarion. Carol Fike, associate professor of dance, played the role of Giselle's mother and directed the dancing for this production. Steven Draheim, assistant professor of theatre, was the technical director for the production.

The production of *Giselle* was delightful not only to those familiar with ballet, but to those who have never before experienced the grace inherent in this dance form.

The first act of the ballet held many surprises, such as the Peasant Pas de Deux, whose grace and symmetry held the audience captive, and the festive cloggers, whose wooden shoes enforced the musical beat of their dance and told a tale of distinctive happiness. The

grace that could unfold such tragedy was amazing.

In act two the enthralling dance of Myrtha, the Queen of the Wilis, and her entire entourage left the audience breathless. The effect of their costumes, the dim light and the twilight drop behind the dancers told an entire tale of shadows in itself.

Though *Giselle* and Albrecht gave strong performances in the first act, their dance in the forest glade was unparalleled. The way they moved as one in some moments almost led one to believe they shared one heart, one spirit. One could almost hear Albrecht's silent crying in the end when he raised his hand to the sky in woe for Giselle and his loss.

The audience left wondering how a production with no words could speak so clearly.



In the first act *Giselle* (Karen Scalzitti) is crowned Queen of the Harvest. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

Medical Center hosts Clothesline project

By Kari St. Bernard
Freelance Writer

Rape. Abuse. Molestation. Unfortunately many know someone who has fallen victim to at least one of these acts of violence. But what can students do? What can victims do?

One option of activism is the Clothesline Project, a visual display that bears witness to violence against women. Alma College, in collaboration with the Wilcox Medical Center, is starting its own Clothesline Project. This will allow women of the campus to speak out against the violent acts they have suffered, showing the amount of violence that is not all that uncommon.

The Clothesline consists of t-shirts that have been decorated by a victim, family member or friend of a woman who has suffered through a violent crime. Different color shirts represent different forms of abuse. The t-shirts can be decorated as the person wishes; the only rule is that the full name of the perpetrator be excluded.

White is for women who have died as a result of violence. Yellow or beige is for women battered or assaulted, emotionally or physically, as adults or children. Red, pink or orange is for women who

were raped or sexually assaulted. Blue or green is for women survivors of incest or childhood sexual abuse. Purple or lavender is for women attacked because of their sexual orientation. Black is for people who know of someone who has been a victim.

The Clothesline serves as a way for victims to reclaim their lives, find the courage to survive, and regain their inner strength with the hope that the future holds an end to violence. It serves as a safe forum for women to speak out against abuse and educate the public about the extent, prevalence, and impact of violence against women.

The Clothesline Project began on October 8, 1990 in Hyannis, Massachusetts with just 31 shirts. By February of 1995 it had grown to 35,150 shirts spanning 13.25 miles. Today there are over 250 lines in the United States alone. There are also lines in Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, England, the Philippines and Tanzania.

The idea to bring the Clothesline Project to the campus was introduced by Wilcox Medical Center Director Joseph Gelina, who saw a branch of the Clothesline in Florida while attending a conference. According to Gelina, he missed a number of sessions at the conference

because he was looking at the line, watching the effect it had on people. He brought the idea back to campus and Denise Bouchey, RN at the medical center, felt a line should be established here on campus.

Bouchey is organizing the effort here on campus and she hopes that this can really take off and benefit both men and women.

"For women this is a way to release their anger and to help with the healing process. For men, it will serve as an awareness of all the violence committed on women and show the devastating effects it has on women," said Bouchey.

The Clothesline will be displayed for the first time as part of Women's Month in March. According to Bouchey, this is just the beginning. The Clothesline will be here for years to come—until the violence stops.

For anyone wishing to make a t-shirt, a room has been set up in the medical center where shirts may be made in private with all materials provided. There will be two t-shirt making sessions held this month, one on Wednesday, November 20 at 7 p.m. at the medical center and another scheduled for Monday, November 25 in Newberry Hall at 7 p.m. Privately made t-shirts may be turned in at the medical center where they will be stored in a safe

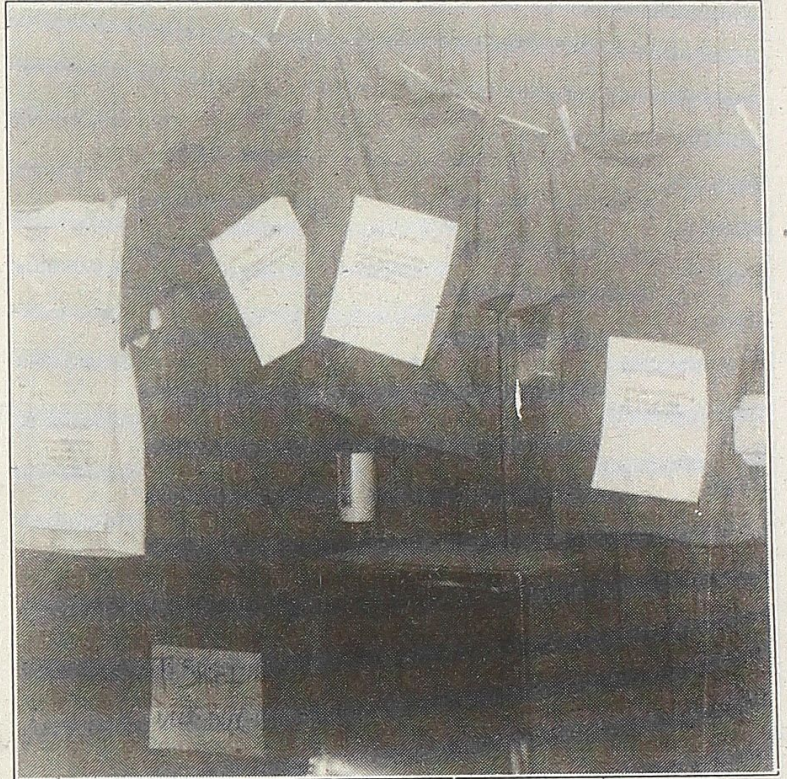
place.

T-shirt donations are being accepted. There is a drop box in Newberry Hall and at the medical center. T-shirts need not be new and any donations would be appreciated.

Volunteers will be needed to monitor the Clothesline while it is displayed. There will be a training

session for those interested sometime in February, so the volunteers can help counsel those who are seriously impacted by the line.

If anyone has any questions concerning the Clothesline Project, or would like to help out, please call the Wilcox Medical Center at 463-7181.



A sample clothesline is on display at Wilcox Medical Center. A t-shirt drop box is also available at this location. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.

Alma students serve community through BB/BS

By Larissa VanderZee
Feature Editor

Many Alma College students contribute to Big Brothers/Big Sisters (BB/BS) via financial donations, but other students donate their personal time. Of the many volunteer options given to a student upon arriving that first year, being a big brother or big sister is one.

"I wanted to do something that would help someone else and I like kids," said sophomore Maggie Czachor about why she chose to become involved in the program. She further said that this form of volunteering offered a one on one relationship, differing from other organizations focused on groups.

Czachor became a big sister last March. At that time she was matched with an 8 year old little sister from Ithaca. Czachor said the time commitment is what one makes of it. She sees her "little"

consistently every other week for about a two to three hour visit.

During these visits Czachor and her little can do a number of things. They have gone to the park, watched movies, worked on art projects, and even went to Uncle John's Cider Mill.

"These kids need someone to spend time with them. They need someone to talk to and hang out with. Sometimes Kathy calls and says 'Can we just hangout? We don't have to do anything special.' They need a role model," said Czachor.

The process of becoming a big brother or big sister is a complicated one. It begins with an application requiring letters of recommendation. An interview is conducted and personality tests administered. Attendance at an orientation is required.

"It is more than people think it is, but it allows the office [BB/BS]

to make the best matches," stated Czachor.

Sophomore Jason Fischer is another student involved in the program. Fischer has been with his little brother since December of 1995. Although his time commitment will be up at the end of December, he said he will remain in the program with the same "little."

Fischer explained that the "matches only last one year—the commitment is only for a year. If things aren't working out in the match you can gradually work out of it." But Fischer said his match is working well. He plans to stay with Brandon, his 11 year old little brother from Alma.

Typically Fischer spends about 3 to 4 hours a week with his little. "It is a way to get out and have a little fun."

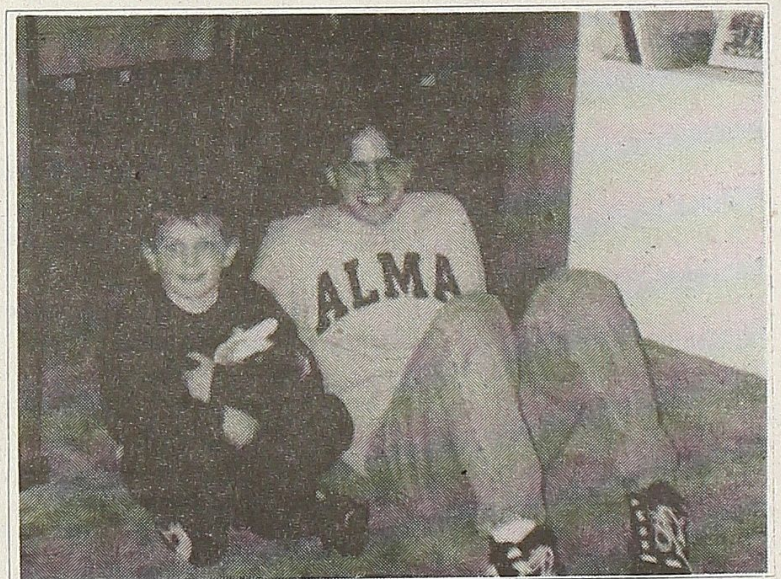
"In the beginning I didn't know what to expect. But as time went on, I figured out that he became

attached to me. It was easier for him to open up to me because I wasn't a parent or friend. He could use me as an outlet," commented Fischer.

These are only two of the many students on campus who find the experience of being a big brother or

big sister rewarding. Serving as this type of role model and mentor is making a difference in many children's lives, as well as the lives of the mentors themselves.

Big brother Chris Tapley poses for a picture with his little, Steven. File photo.



English honorary society, Sigma Tau Delta, returns

By Tiffany Hodge
Freelance Writer

Being a liberal arts college, Alma offers its students a variety of opportunities to become enriched in their studies. Clubs and honorary societies are excellent examples of how students can expand their passion outside of regular classroom hours and become involved in different activities.

One such honorary society is the International Collegiate English Honorary Society, otherwise

known as Sigma Tau Delta (ΣΤΔ). The ΣΤΔ chapter here at Alma College began in 1990. However, since 1994 there have been no new inductees. Senior Laura Paetz and Professor of English Dr. John Ottenhoff have worked to reinstate the society this year. Ottenhoff guides the group as faculty advisor and Paetz holds the position of president.

The purpose of the society is to not only extend the literary passion of those studying English, but to enrich the campus through the value

of literature. ΣΤΔ carries out this goal by planning various activities for campus involvement. Activities such as an annual book swap, a Jane Austen movie marathon, and various readings and presentations will offer such "literary" involvement.

One tradition the society holds is a campus publication named *Books That Matter*. Faculty, students, and all those interested share comments about certain books that have made a difference in their life. The publication lists the works, why

they were a favorite, and the impact on that individual's lives.

The honorary society is not just for those with literary talent, and the group emphasizes this with the planning of a Bad Poetry Writing Contest. For those who feel limited by their personal lexicon to write terrible poems, there may be recognition in the future.

Another activity planned for February is Rent-a-Poet. Around Valentine's Day, if one cannot seem to utter sweet romantic lyrics, one

can rent a poet to recite a few.

ΣΤΔ enthusiastically wishes to bring the honorary back to life. Currently consisting of eighteen members, the English Honorary Society is encouraged and looking forward to expanding the group to those interested.

Becoming involved in various honorary societies or clubs is an excellent way to enhance one's interest and knowledge in what they may be studying.

SOAR offers rape education

Three years ago The Center for Student Development joined forces with a group of students to create a peer education group which called itself Students Organized Against Rape, also known as SOAR.

"What prompted it was I've always had a real strong interest in peer education groups," said Bob Perkins, Dean of Student Development. The idea came from a conference attended by Perkins where he heard about a similar group at a school in Illinois. Other colleges have similar programs, including a group known as Sexual Harrassment and Rape Education (SHARE) at Albion College.

Due to a lack of student interest, SOAR went dormant at the end of last year. Perkins said to restart the

group was simply "a matter of a group of students approaching us," but said that a group of about six interested students was really

We kept hoping that we might generate some interest and get it going again.

•Bob Perkins,
Dean of Student Development

needed for the group to be a success. He went on to add that "the Center is very interested in expanding the number of peer education groups on campus."

As for campus education on ways

to prevent rape, Perkins said, "I don't think the work isn't being done," but just not done by a group centered on this topic. "BACCHUS (Boosting Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of Undergraduate Students) is doing some programming on this topic area," added Perkins.

Perkins continued, "We kept hoping that we might generate some interest and get it going again." If interest is sparked on reorganizing this group, contact Perkins at the Center for Student Development and possibly, with enough interest, Alma College students will once again be organized against rape.

Staggering Statistics

- *Three out of four women will be victims of at least one violent crime during their lifetime. (US Justice Department)*
- *Every single minute of every single day, more than one woman is raped in America. (US Justice Department)*
- *Nearly 80% of women are raped by men that they know. (US Justice Department)*
- *More than six out of ten women who are raped are under the age of 18, and three out of ten are under 11. (National Victim Center)*
- *One out of two women will be in a violent relationship in their lifetime. (National Victim Center)*
- *Women are nine times more likely to be attacked at home than on the street. (Centers for Disease Control)*

**statistics courtesy of the Clothesline Project*

Student literary work...

A World of Hyacinth

By Sarah Kampf
Guest Poet

Precious flowerlets
the essence of the flower
tiny petals
curl and bend
pink, blue, lavender, and white
colors pristine and pure
little yellow centers
peeping at the world
they know something we have yet to learn
their aroma of the spring—
the scent of heaven
the smell takes me away
to yesteryear
all the while their fragrance
creates dreams of today
and forms the hopes of my
tomorrows.

Untitled

By Derek Boyer
Guest Poet

Curious, curious of what is to come and
Afraid. Afraid of it.
Curious of times and yet
Afraid of those times.
Curious of centuries past and
Afraid of the same feat repeating itself.
Curious of death and as always
Afraid of it.
Curious of life, love and age
Afraid of losing life & love and gaining
age.
Curious of disease & disaster but
Afraid that they will catch me.
Curious of life in general, but not
Afraid of being
Curious.

The Fire Within

By Jim Coe
Guest Poet

You can chase the girl you like
and if you're lucky
she'll chase you too
which is a good sign

Sometimes you just let her catch you
just to be "nice"
and maybe because it feels good
when she's tugging at your arm
but you'd never admit it

When you line up for recess
she is right next to you
you kind of hang out with her
but not all the time
that's TOO obvious

You want to tell her about
this thing inside you
that makes you feel things
never felt before
by any 5th grader
but you like it
sorta

Tell her at night sometimes
you dream about her
just you and her
sitting at Dead Man's Hill
watching the frogs and talking
then suddenly you kiss each other
and the entire world applauds
the amazing feat you
have accomplished

But you can't because
your best friend would laugh
(he doesn't understand)
and your parents would think it was cute
(you don't want to be cute anymore)
and she would run away from you
never talking to you again
(Probably)

So you keep it inside
Because there's always Dead Man's Hill

I Just Wanna Walk Away

By Eric Walton
Guest Poet

Why is life so hard that I wish I could just throw up my hands?
Being looked at, stared at, sometimes makes me feel less than a man.
I could've did it; got convicted; caught up in some dope or murder
case.

But instead for three and a half years, I'm in a learning institution where
some can't stand the color of my face.

I just wanna walk away sometimes, man. Get free. Find a little piece of
mind.

Not having to worry about a job, the next test, put my feet up and chill
would just suit me fine.

You know, it's easy for you to say let's start over and forget about the past.
But what do you do; being a minority that they don't pick first,
Always last!

I can't control it; the anger. Wondering why today's people are so plastic.
I have to count to ten to avoid doing something mad
drastic.

I WANNA SCREAM! Yell out into the darkness, but even then yo, I'll still
go unheard.

All this ignorance, bigotry, racism, sexism, politics-mumble-jumble, is
burning up my last nerve.

I just wanna walk away sometimes and say man forget this!
But like a whack emcee once said: "I am 2 legit 2 quit!"

I can and I will. Gotta be like the man of steel 'cause right now I am
looked up to for Keepin' it Real!
As the old folks say, "Lord, I'm tired. I wanna just lay my burdens down."
A young, Black, male in college! Ain't too many of us walking around.

I wanna walk away sometimes, but I gotta keep goin', keep my head up,
keep smilin', keep laughin', keep doin', what I gotta do.

Gotta represent for my peoples at home, plus that special group of friends
I hang with when I'm up there in school.

Plus, If I can do it, then so can you...

The Last Act

By Megan Graham
Guest Poet

Each of us hang on his every word.
Smiles filtered through masks of lead.
He stood strong,
dimples adorning his gay face.

I dwelled on slender features and
discolored flesh, weathered by
cancer.

The lead dripped away.

I bit both lips and glanced in his direc-
tion.
A thumbs up met my eyes.
My lips trembled into a meek smile.
I turned and burst out the door.

And that was our last perfor-
mance.

Scots lose big to Britons in final game

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

Behind the force of a well balanced team the Albion Britons defeated the Scots on Saturday.

"They've got some outstanding talent and we just didn't corral them," said Alma head coach Jim Cole.

One of Albion's key talents comes in the form of the current Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) 100-meter champion Virgil Petty. Petty was the leading rusher for the Britons with 192 yards and three touchdowns in Saturday's game.

"You get three or four hits at a guy and he breaks out and he happens to be the MIAA 100-meter champ—he chucks up some yards in a hurry and it's over," said Cole.

Despite the defeat, the Scots did have some high points in the game.

"The kids wanted to win, they wanted to win bad and they knew we were up against a tough football

team. We forced a few mistakes against a team that doesn't make mistakes but then we were unable to capitalize later," said Cole.

The Scots came out quickly in the first quarter, getting on the board first with a 30-yard field goal by sophomore Rick Brands. Albion came back quickly, though, and took the lead back when Ray Henke scored on an option play to take the lead.

The Scots weren't done yet and four minutes later junior running back Ray Dawood found the end-zone on a two-yard run. Brands added the extra point to bring the score to 10-7 Alma.

The lead did not last long, however. About a minute and a half later Albion's quarterback Kyle Klein ran the ball into the end-zone on a draw play up the middle. Alma never again saw the lead as Albion came back with a string of 31 unanswered points to close out the half with the score Alma 10 Albion 45.

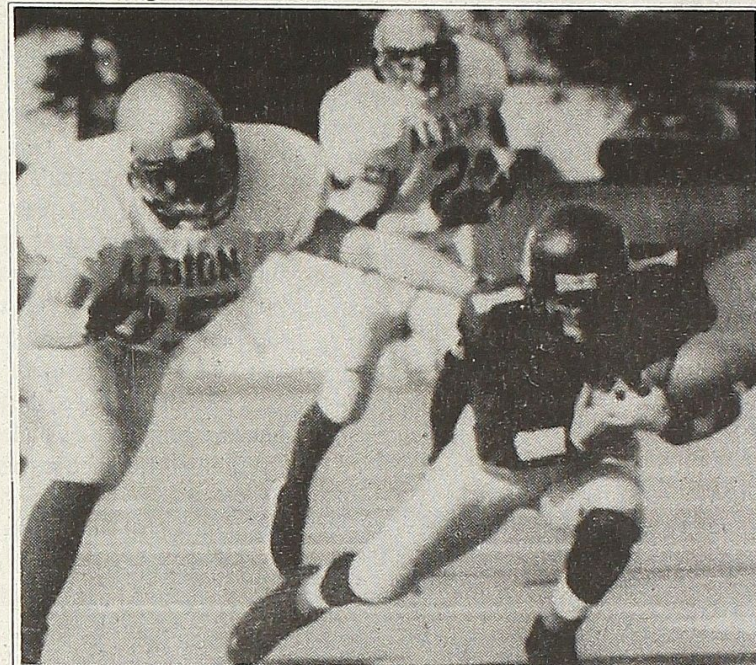
Alma's hopes of coming out of

the locker room on fire were quickly doused when a minute and a half into the third quarter Albion again found the end-zone. Albion would repeat that same scene two more times before the Scots were able to get on the board. The Scots scored with 7:33 left in the third quarter when senior quarterback Bill Nietzsche found first-year student Joe Rizk in the end-zone for a twelve-yard touchdown pass. Brand's extra point attempt was good.

Albion would score one more time before Alma would score three touchdowns, bringing the score to Alma 40 Albion 73. Alma's touchdowns came off of 11 and 22 yard runs by first year student Greg Bowden and a touchdown pass from sophomore Jason Vandermaas to junior Leonard Warren. Albion would add one more touchdown before the time expired, bringing the final score to Alma 40 Albion 80.

Alma's game against Albion was their final for the season and left

them tied for third in the MIAA. Albion is the MIAA champion again this year. The Britons will finish their regular season next Saturday and then will be on to the playoffs for the national championship.



Senior Matt Gordon catches a pass as two Albion players converge upon him. For the day, Gordon had seven receptions for 48 yards. Photo by Jason Paetz.

Transfer student Dawood excels in Scots' backfield

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

Starting every game in his first season with the Alma College Scot football team, junior Ray Dawood has made quite a positive impact for the team.

A graduate from Troy High School in 1993, Dawood attended Illinois-Benedictine for two years. The college is slightly larger than Alma, and his football skills there helped him become a leader for the team.

Dawood's first year at Illinois-Benedictine gave him valuable experience, some of that stemming from the four All-American players on the team that missed the national playoffs by only one game.

"My sophomore year I was made

one of the captains," said Dawood. "That was the second time the school ever had a sophomore captain for the team."

After that, the team fell apart.

"There were a lot of racial problems going on with the team," explained Dawood. "The program just fell apart. The coaches left, and most of the players left too."

After his second year at Illinois-Benedictine, Dawood decided it was time for a change. He attended Oakland Community College for a year, then transferred to Alma for the 1996-1997 academic year.

Transferring to a similar sized school made the transition much easier for Dawood.

"I knew Scott Heymoss and Craig Fritts and they told me how much

they loved it," said Dawood. "The Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association is a good league and I

Coming into the program with two years experience gives me an advantage.

•Ray Dawood,
'98

knew I would fit in well."

Fitting in has not been a problem for Dawood, at least on the team. Dawood ranks fifth in the league for rushing yards overall and ranks ninth in league games. In pass re-

ceiving yards he ranks ninth in the league for all games while during league play, he has moved up to third place. Dawood tops the charts in all-purpose running for the season with over 176 yards per game and ranks second during league play.

Although Dawood prefers his running back position, he has no set position.

"On the first play I will be the running back while the next play I will be a wide receiver," said Dawood. "After that, I will be somewhere else on the field playing."

Becoming a valuable player for the Scot offensive in his first year at Alma may be surprising, but not really for Dawood.

"Coming into the program with two years experience gives me an

advantage," said Dawood. "It is not like coming in as a freshman and learning everything about college football at once."

Dawood feels his strongest games were against Hope and Kalamazoo, but had a special desire to play well against Albion, "My older brother went there," he explained.

Football is not Dawood's only purpose in life. As a history major he plans on teaching secondary education, so studying is important.

"I'm keeping up with studies really well, although by transferring, I have no idea what my grade point average is going to be," he commented.

If it is up to Dawood, his grades will be as promising as his football stats.

Students attempt to establish lacrosse team

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

Several students are again attempting to form an Alma College Lacrosse team, continuing the process that started two years ago. There is one difference this year. "We actually have a team," said junior John Zielinski, who has spearheaded attempts to form a lacrosse team since his first year at Alma.

"We have it a lot more together [this year]," said first-year student,

Eric Didocha, adding that "there has been lot more interest from the student body." This year 30 students have made a commitment to the team.

The team, if approved by Student Congress, would begin practicing in January, and would play its season through March and April.

The team would play against several other teams, including Albion, Kalamazoo, Olivet, Hillsdale, and Central Michigan, plus have the opportunity to play many teams in Indiana and Ohio. Zielinski has also remained in close contact with lacrosse coaches at Northwood University and at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

"It [lacrosse] is a rapidly growing sport," said Zielinski.

The two major obstacles still facing the team are Student Congress approval and funding.

"We are in the process of getting our constitution recognized by Student Congress," said Zielinski.

Since the group is a student-run organization, it does not fall under the athletic department for funding and therefore must raise its own money.

The team plans on selling t-shirts and having a can drive to supply part of the money. For the portion of money the fundraising cannot meet, the team will petition the Student Congress Contingency Committee.

The team has enjoyed a great deal of broad-based support this year.

"[There are] a lot of students and faculty who want to see lacrosse brought to Alma College," said Zielinski.

Zielinski also believes that this is the year lacrosse will finally come to Alma College.

"Definitely. The guys are all excited and everyone is pitching in. It is a team effort," he said.

Help has also come from Ron Hebert, the varsity lacrosse coach at Northwood. Hebert is the Michigan representative for the Lacrosse Foundation, a worldwide organization that promotes lacrosse. Zielinski is also a member.

Despite all of the promise, there is still one bottom line according to Didocha.

"It all depends on if we keep the same number [of players] and how the school feels [about lacrosse]," he stated.

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MIAA Report

Season League Standings
for Fall sports

Football			
	W	L	T
Albion	5	0	0
Hope	3	2	0
Alma	2	3	0
Olivet	2	3	0
Kalamazoo	2	3	0
Adrian	1	4	0

Women's Soccer			
	W	L	T
Calvin	10	1	1
Kalamazoo	9	1	2
Hope	9	3	0
Albion	6	5	1
Olivet	3	8	1
Alma	2	9	1
Adrian	0	12	0

Men's Soccer			
	W	L	T
Hope	11	1	0
Alma	8	3	1
Kalamazoo	8	3	1
Calvin	7	5	0
Adrian	3	9	0
Albion	3	9	0
Olivet	1	11	0

Volleyball			
	W	L	
Hope	11	1	
Calvin	10	2	
Kalamazoo	9	3	
Alma	5	7	
Adrian	3	9	
Albion	3	9	
Olivet	1	11	

Cross Country			
Men	Women		
Calvin	Calvin		
Kalamazoo	Hope		
Hope	Kalamazoo		
Albion	Alma		
Alma	Albion		
Adrian	Adrian		
Olivet	Olivet		

Lady Scots prepare for season

By Kari St. Bernard
Freelance Writer

Those attending the women's basketball season opener on November 22 can expect to see a different team than in the past. After substantial losses from graduation, a different style of play will be demonstrated by the new Scot team.

This year's women's basketball team is full of potential. The team has a solid base, with three returning starters and seven returning letterwinners to serve as the team's nucleus. According to head coach Charles Goffnett, with the incorporation of some of last year's junior varsity players and this year's incoming class, the team is looking to have a strong blend of talent.

A major difference in this year's team will be speed. The team, as a whole is much smaller than in years' past.

"Our quickness will be a definite asset this year," senior Michelle Olds said. "With being more of an up tempo team, we should also be more exciting to watch."

After coming off a disappointing second place finish in last year's Michigan Intecollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA), the team has high expectations. Goffnett feels that the team's dissatisfaction with last

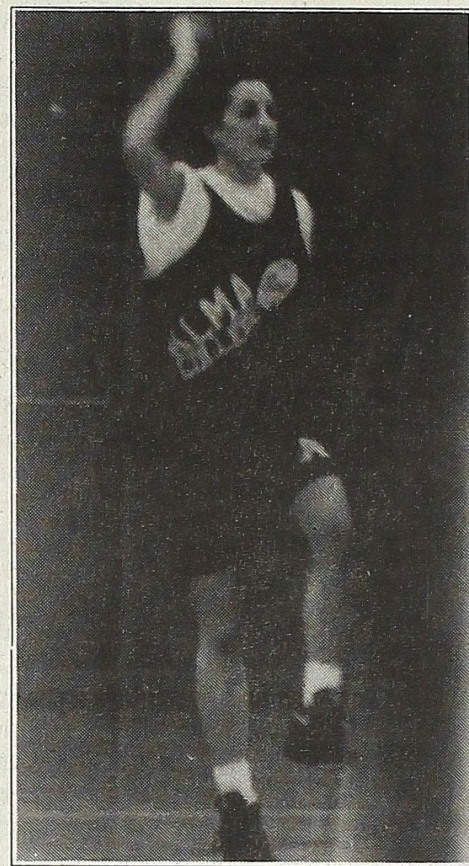
year's results will add additional fuel to their always present goal of competing for the present year's league championship.

"Expectations are high for us this year, and that's where we want to be," said senior Lisa Meyer.

The team has another difficult schedule, but also have a larger roster than normal. According to Goffnett, last year's junior varsity and this year's newcomers will be vying for varsity positions over the next couple weeks.

"Our focus will be on our returners for leadership," stated Goffnett. Strength will come from the combined efforts of last year's MIAA most valuable player and member of the MIAA first team, senior Melissa VanDamme; first team player, senior Jaami McClellan, and second team player Michelle Olds. Additional experience and depth will be added to the Scot backcourt by returning seniors Kristi Kern and Lisa Meyer and by the two sophomore guards, Sarah Lefke and Christie Semiak, who will be battling for a starting position.

According to Goffnett, how much the team can improve between now and the league season in January will determine our success this year.



Sophomore Erin LaCrosse works on fundamentals during practice. Photo by Jason Paetz.

Scanning the wide world of sports

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

With professional and amateur sports continuing throughout the world, people may get a little behind in everything going on.

Last Saturday, November 2, Giacomo Leone, an Italian policeman, won the New York City marathon finishing it in just under two hours and ten minutes. Leone was the runner-up in last year's Venice Marathon. Anutta Catuna of Romania won for the women. The winners were a surprise—experts expected the Kenyans, winners of last year's marathon, to dominate once again.

In the ice skating world, the Skate America competition marked the first international event of the season. Michelle Kwan of the United States won the women's single title. All three women's medals were awarded to

Americans. Todd Eldredge of the United States won the men's singles competition. Landing eight triple jumps during short program, he narrowly beat out 1994 Olympic gold medalist Alaxei Urmanov.

The African soccer champions, the Orlando Pirates, advanced to the finals of South Africa's cup competition, the Super Bowl, with a 4-1 victory over their chief rivals, the Kaizer Chiefs. Jerry Sikhosana led the Pirates with a hat-trick. The finals will be played November 23.

The Atlanta Hawks may get a new stadium. Turner Broadcasting Systems (TBS) owns the team and threatened to move out of the city into Cobb County if a new stadium is not built. The proposed \$215 million arena will be erected in the Omni's current location. The Omni is the team's current stadium. If all goes according to TBS plans, the

1999-2000 season will be played in the new arena.

The National Hockey League announced yesterday that they have indefinitely postponed their November 14th Executive Committee meeting. The intended highlight of the meeting concerned the large number of applicants for new expansion teams. Eight cities made formal requests.

The Swiss sixteen-year old Martina Hingis beat top-seeded Monica Seles 6-2, 6-0 Sunday to win the Bank of the West Classic final in Oakland, California. Hingis committed only five unforced errors and nailed 30 winners to Seles's 11.

In a non-official PGA event, Paul Stankowski birdied the 18th hole in the Kapalua International in Maui, Hawaii to defeat two-time former champion Fred Couples by one stroke.

Winter Sports schedule

(home games are in bold)

Men's Varsity Basketball

11/23/96	Penn State-Berends	TBA
11/24/96	Tournament	
11/30/96	Elmhurst College	3:00 p.m.
12/7/96	Concordia-Ann Arbor	7:30 p.m.
12/17/96	IUSB-South Bend	7:30 p.m.
12/30/96	Alma Rotary tournament	6&8 p.m. (Mon.) 1&3 p.m. (Tues.)
1/4/97-	Thomas Moore,	TBA
1/5/97	KY Classic	
1/8/97	Calvin College	7:30 p.m.
1/11/97	Hope College	3:00 p.m.
1/13/97	Grace Bible College	7:00 p.m.
1/15/97	Bluffton College	7:30 p.m.
1/18/97	Albion College	3:00 p.m.
1/22/97	Olivet College	7:30 p.m.
1/25/97	Kalamazoo College	3:00 p.m.
1/29/97	Adrian College	7:30 p.m.
2/3/97	Calvin College	3:00 p.m.
2/5/97	Hope College	7:30 p.m.
2/12/97	Albion College	7:30 p.m.
2/15/97	Olivet College	3:00 p.m.
2/19/97	Kalamazoo College	7:30 p.m.
2/22/97	Adrian College	3:00 p.m.
2/24/97-	MIAA Tournament	TBA

Women's Varsity Basketball

11/22/96-Scottie Classic	TBA
11/23/96	
11/26/96Spring Arbor	7:00 p.m.
11/29/96-GR Press Tourney	TBA
11/30/96	
12/3/96 Cornerstone	7:00 p.m.
12/7/96 Aquinas	3:00 p.m.
12/21/96Concordia	1:00 p.m.
1/3/97- Hope Classic	TBA
1/4/97	
1/8/97 Calvin	7:30 p.m.
1/11/97 Hope	3:00 p.m.
1/14/97 St. Mary's	7:00 p.m.
1/18/97 Albion	3:00 p.m.
1/22/97 Olivet	7:30 p.m.
1/25/97 Kalamazoo	3:00 p.m.
1/29/97 Adrian	7:30 p.m.
2/1/97 Calvin	3:00 p.m.
2/5/97 Hope	7:30 p.m.
2/8/97 Defiance	3:00 p.m.
2/12/97 Albion	7:30 p.m.
2/15/97 Olivet	3:00 p.m.
2/19/97 Kalamazoo	7:30 p.m.

2/22/97	Adrian	3:00 p.m.
2/25/97	MIAA Tournament	TBA
2/27/97	MIAA Tournament	TBA
3/1/97	MIAA Tournament Finals	TBA

Swimming and Diving

11/22/96	Hope/GVSU Tri-meet	6:00 p.m.
11/23/96		1:00 p.m.
12/6/96	De Pauw Invitational	TBA
12/7/96		
1/10/97	Kalamazoo	6:00 p.m.
1/15/97	Albion	6:00 p.m.
1/25/97	Calvin	1:00 p.m.
1/28/97	Hillsdale	6:00 p.m.
2/1/97	Wayne State	1:00 p.m.
2/20/97	MIAA Championship	11:00 a.m.
2/22/97		7:00 p.m.
3/13/97	NCAA Div. III Women's	
3/15/97	Nationals	TBA
3/20/97	NCAA Div. III Men's	
3/22/97	Nationals	TBA

Coaches' Corner**Interview with John Leister**

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

This week's coaches' corner spotlights Alma's new head baseball coach and assistant football coach John Leister. Leister lives in Alma with his wife Linda, daughter Nicole and son Jarrett. Leister is a former high school all-American, quarterback at Michigan State and professional athlete. Leister was named Alma's head baseball coach in June when former head coach Bill Klenk stepped down.

What made you decide to coach?

I was an athlete for thirty years of my life and I got out when I retired from baseball. That was probably the worst two years of my life. I enjoy the competition but mostly I enjoy the kids. I like being around them. I'm an eternal teenager. I just enjoy being around the kids and I enjoy teaching them things and seeing their eyes light at something they worked on for three weeks and haven't been able to do it and all of a sudden it happens.

What brought you to Alma?

The opportunity to coach both sports. I played both professionally and I love both baseball and football. When I was coaching at State I was only coaching baseball and I spent a lot of time in the football building. But Division I coaches tend not to listen to baseball coaches about what they should do with their offenses and the Division III mentality was very appealing to me strictly because it helps me work closer with the kids. I can be more of an impact on their lives here than I can be at a bigger school. I mean, these kids are my baby-sitters, they clean my house and these kids are my best friends. You don't have that at the big schools.

What is your background in sports?

Well, I played high school ball in Montana and was an all-American in football and baseball in high school. I was drafted by the Mets and I went to Michigan State on a full ride scholarship for football. I played four years of football there and one year of baseball. I was drafted by the Oakland A's in baseball, but I didn't sign with them. I signed a contract with the Pittsburgh Steelers. I went there and made it to the final cut and they cut me. I went to the Michigan Panthers in the old USFL league. While I was playing for them I was drafted again by the Boston Red Sox so I left the Michigan Panthers and started to play baseball for the Red Sox. I played seven years of pro ball, spent a year in A ball, a year in AA, and then went to the big leagues in 1987. In 1990 I blew my elbow out in a game against Milwaukee. Seven elbow operations later it wouldn't work anymore so I had to retire. I still hadn't finished my degree because I had signed a contract before I graduated from State, so I went back and finished my degree and started to help Tom Smith with the baseball program there as a coach at Michigan State. And then one morning Tom called me up and told me I had an interview here. He set it up for me and I came up and interviewed. They offered me the job the next day and I took it. This has been the most enjoyable thing I've done, including professional ball. Part of what I try to teach them is there is a lot more to life than money. I've had a lot of money and I've had a little money and I would much rather be here with the individuals who are here than I would be in the big leagues making all that money.

What made you choose to play pro football over pro baseball to begin with?

I was more of a natural talent in baseball strictly because I could throw the ball 93 miles an hour. God just gave me a super arm and it was easy to throw the baseball, but football was tough because it was more of a chess match. When I played quarterback I had to think more and I had to work harder. I've always kind of tended to lean more toward things that were more challenging to me. I don't know if that's something my father instilled into me or what but I'm glad they did it. More often than not, the easy way out is not nearly as rewarding as having to work your tail off for something to finally see it come through.

How do you feel about being named head baseball coach?

It's an honor to follow Bill. Coach Klenk has been around longer than most of the buildings here. He's set up a nice program and it's going to be easy to step in and just continue it. There's a lot of love for him around. His kids that played for him are a great support. We couldn't get done things we do without them. At the same time, it's a nice challenge because anytime you take over a program you want to do some things differently just to see if they'll work. Any time you're an assistant coach you have ideas and now I get to implement some of them. Plus he's handing me over a pretty dang good team. I mean the guys that are coming back are as good a team as Alma's had in years. Now if we can wrap them all together and focus them in the same direction we should do pretty well this year.

Alma cross country winds up season at regionals

By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter and
Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

Alma College was host to the 1996 Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) Cross Country League Meet on Saturday, November 2.

Both Alma's men's and women's teams placed fourth in the league meet. Winning the meet was Calvin followed by Kalamazoo and Hope College. Placing after Alma were Albion, Adrian and Olivet College.

The top five runners for the men's team were senior Jason Bandlow (4th), sophomore Jon Buesing (21st), sophomore Peter Muccio (23rd), senior Jon Makela (29th), and junior Jerry Howard (31st).

Bandlow was named first team all-conference, with the best finish in six years for Alma College at a League meet.

"I was happy about it. It was good to end my conference career on a positive note," said Bandlow.

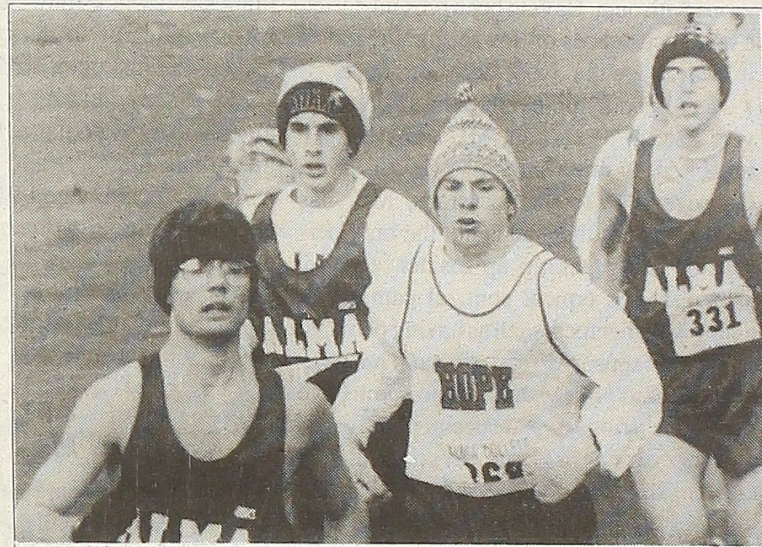
"Jason Bandlow was really awesome. That was a great performance," said head cross-country coach Dan Gibson.

The top five runners for the women's team were first-year student Anne Grimaldi (10th), junior

Rebecca Walter (13th), sophomore Dana Cole (15th), sophomore Nikki Deja (18th), and senior Tammy Adams (26th). Both Grimaldi and Cole made second team all-conference.

"The girls' team didn't run up to par, but they'll do better in Regionals," said Gibson.

Under better weather conditions than last year the teams competed Saturday at Otterbain College in Columbus, Ohio in the regional meet. Neither team was again able to pull off the performance they would have liked.



First-year students and cross country runners Kyle Kristin, Josh Wiggins and Steve Pickelmann battle for position. Photo by Jason Paetz.

Holyfield upsets Tyson by TKO

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

The heavyweight fight many thought would never happen did last Saturday in Las Vegas as Iron Mike Tyson battled Evander Holyfield at the MGM Grand Garden. Holyfield beat the odds and everyone who felt that he had no chance. This match was their third scheduled encounter, but various circumstances prevented the first two.

In the eleventh round, referee Mitch Halpern stopped the fight after Holyfield assaulted Tyson with a left jab and eight head shots, including three left hooks. The ninth punch, a right to the head, sent Tyson into the ropes — 37 seconds into the round.

The win gives Holyfield the WBA championship, the second man to hold the title at three different times. The other is Mohammad Ali.

Holyfield, elated after the bout, stated, "I gave it what it takes to win the fight. It wasn't about getting tired, it was about not giving up."

Tyson came into the fight weighing 222 pounds with a 45-1 record with 39 knockouts. Holyfield weighed in at 215 pounds with a 32-3 record with 23 knockouts. Holyfield had both height and reach on Tyson with a three inch advantage on height and six and a half

inch additional reach.

Since his departure from prison, Tyson's four previous fights have totaled eight rounds.

The first five rounds showed a fairly even match between the two. The two spent a large portion of time in each others arms, clinching after every few connected blows. The sixth round marked the beginning of an upset as Tyson met the

in the tenth, but the bell saved him. The final round was all Holyfield as the fight ended.

Tyson takes home \$30 million for his loss while Holyfield receives \$11 million...and the title. Tyson's earnings for his five comeback bouts reached \$105 million.

People are already looking for the rematch. Promoter Don King said after the fight in the press conference, "Don't write Tyson off. We're going to dance again. We're going to see if we can put together the greatest rematch in the history of boxing."

Holyfield will face the IBF heavyweight champion next March 15.

The night highlighted two other heavyweight title defenses.

Michael Moorer, the IBF heavyweight champion, successfully defended his title for the first time against the formerly undefeated South African Francois Botha. Referee Mills Lane stopped the fight with only 32 seconds left in the twelfth round after Moorer sent Botha reeling after four straight punches. Moorer was favored at 5-1.

Henry Akinwande of Britain dominated Alexander Zolkin of Russia to retain the WBO heavyweight title. Akinwande was favored with 13-5 odds and boosted his record to 31-0-1 with 19 knockouts. This match marked the thirteenth straight win for Akinwande.

It wasn't about getting tired, it was about not giving up.

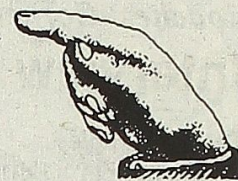
•Evander Holyfield, professional boxer

canvas after 44 seconds. Tyson was up by the count of five. Tyson's sixth-round knockdown was his second ever, the other at the hands of James "Buster" Douglas in 1990 when Tyson lost the title.

In the seventh round, the fans backed Holyfield, chanting "Hol-Y-Field, Hol-Y-Field" sensing the impending victory. In the final four rounds, Tyson had trouble. Holyfield was landing punches quickly and accurately, while Tyson appeared to be exhausted and unable to come up with any major offensive. Tyson almost fell



Point/Counterpoint: Do you believe in ghosts?



Many people experience the supernatural

By Mali VanderBeek
Freelance Writer

Do I believe in ghosts? There is no question in my mind that the supernatural world is one with ours. Having been present during a few occurrences of this spiritual realm, it is clear to me that, yes, there are ghosts.

High upon a hill, overlooking a tiny, private lake in Mattawan, MI, sits a cottage inhabited by one Mary Jane (M.J.) Pryor. On several different occasions, M.J. has become aware that she is not the only person, or being, taking up residence there. There are the typical comical games that keep her on her toes, such as having personal objects disappear. Frustration and memory all come into play when you know you have put your earrings in that special place in the jewelry box, just as you always do, and then they are suddenly gone. 'Okay,' you think, 'maybe they are just misplaced,' but then you turn around and look again. Sitting in the spot that was empty just two minutes earlier are your earrings! Is it all in her mind? I don't think so.

Unfortunately, these happenings are not all as innocent or even harmless for that matter, as hiding a pair of earrings.

Having retired for the evening, in search of some restful hours of slumber, Mary Jane went to bed. Suddenly awakening for no apparent reason, after a few hours of sleep, she attempted to fall into her original state once more. Any dreams that previously had occurred were abruptly shattered as M.J. was the victim of a strong slap directly across the face! No visible person was in the room or the cottage. Was this just a bad

nightmare? It is hard to believe that it was just a nightmare when you consider everything else that has happened in that very same bedroom.

It was the night after their wedding, the beginning of the honeymoon. Wayne and Sally Sohldon were to spend the first evening of this much awaited period of time in this same cottage. Once again, after being asleep for a couple of hours, they too were awakened. Both Wayne and Sally had a horrid, overbearing physical pressure forced upon their unexpected chests, forcing the air out of their lungs. It seemed obvious that something saw them as unwelcome and that this was an attempt to suffocate them...or to make them just plain GET OUT!

Mary Jane continues to live in this spiritually challenged domain. She basically puts up with the nonsense and in some cases, the pain. As for Sally and Wayne, one experience with the supernatural is more than enough.

Some may say there is no such thing as ghosts...I say they are dead wrong!

Unexplainable phenomenon not necessarily supernatural

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

Poltergeist, Ghostbusters and The Exorcist.

These movies all feed off of society's fixation on confining all occurrences, natural and unnatural, into neat, orderly categories. In other words, people need to explain

any and everything that happens in the world.

Sigmund Freud developed various stages of learning, including oral and anal fixation relating actions to early childhood development to explain the actions of individuals. He saw problems using the current methods and categories of explanation. There were no adequate answers. He then created new answers to fill in the gaps left by the problems. After informing others of these problems, they fill their gaps with the solutions he came up with. Everyone is happy, because he found an explanation for an unknown.

He was not necessarily correct in his explanations. As Freud once said, "Sometimes a cigar is just a cigar." He did not believe his habit of smoking a cigar was related to an oral fixation.

In much the same way, people today explain unnatural or problematic happenings on questionable explanations. This time, the answer is ghosts.

In explaining the unknown one must realize that the human race is not perfect or omniscient. Even though humans believe they are the most intelligent beings on the planet, how are they to know? This is unknown. Humans interact on a different level than bees, elephants or trees. Using human knowledge and technology they cannot find intelligent life comparable to theirs, at least in their capacity. It is possible that any living creature can communicate and act in ways unimaginable to humankind using methods incomprehensible to humans, therefore unrecordable. Most can not comprehend his possibility and immediately discard it as ludicrous.

A much simpler answer is that these creatures are unintelligent and unsophisticated. Similarly, when something out of the ordinary occurs, one must explain it, somehow. When all possible explanations are ruled out, the impossible is the alternative answer.

Ghosts.

"I can't find my keys." "Did you feel that cold draft, too?" "I see grandpa sitting in his old chair like when he was alive."

Whatever happens, people often use ghosts as answers. The power of suggestion explains much of this. When someone forgets where he/she left the keys or sees something kind of strange, call it a ghost. Society has an attraction to the supernatural, so the person automatically transfers that attraction to the current situation. Cope mechanisms also explain these occurrences.

When my grandfather was a little, his younger sister died. After the burial in the cemetery, he saw his little sister in the sky with wings. His sister waved, smiled and slowly went away. He is certain he saw this, and I believe him. I do not think it was a ghost, however. He was sad as his sister's death and wanted her to be safe and happy, wherever she was. This image was simply a confirmation of her safety.

Another argument against ghosts is that often people discuss the encounters of others. It is hard to convince others of the validity of the claim without knowledge of all the facts. One important factor is fatigue. When one is tired his/her eyes may play tricks on him/her. One may simply forget where something was last put. Setting also matters. Questions of lighting, mirrors, drafts, windows, fans, heating ducts, *et cetera* always come into play. These details vary from situation to situation and are imperative to discount all other possibilities before accepting the impossible.

When strange things happen personally, the excitement of the moment or memory loss causes the inability to explain them.

All right, what about the unexplainable, what is that, if it is not ghosts? Unexplainable. Why must one try to explain it? Human capabilities is not limitless. Humans do not know everything. It is something that will remain unknown some sort of evidence can be used to support the claims.

By automatically placing the unknown into a category like ghosts, society halts its critical thinking process by failing to recognize that humans are fallible and have a lot to learn about life.

Child-like pettiness does not end with childhood

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

Some idle thoughts were making their way through my head the other day. Sometimes people do things that really make you wonder, "What's this all about? Why are we even here?" Take this for example: I'm sitting in Joe's, watching the hustle and bustle as people swarm in to get their lunch. Sitting at a booth, close to the counter, I hear a girl comment to her friend, "Do you see that outfit she has on?" They were talking about another person who was in line ahead of them. All I could think was, "Why did they notice something like that?" Furthermore, why was it important enough to mention?

I am recalled to another place and time, thinking of the conversation between those girls at Joe's. I think of all of the horrible things children say to one another. I re-

member being in the third grade and having another child ask a friend of mine why she was so fat. This of course led to a crying fit by my friend and nothing was really accomplished. Nothing but hurt feelings, doubt, and sadness. Children have the damndest talent for pointing out the obvious—and saying things that do not need to be said.

Thinking of elementary school brought me half-way back to reality, remembering all of the silly little cliques that were formed within my high school. There were the jocks, the burnouts, the preps and the dorks. Pretty simple classifications for other people, right? The thing is, we based these cliques on how you acted, dressed, who you associated with, and even where you sat in the cafeteria—not on who you are as a person.

Coming full circle now, I think of how things really haven't

changed. Certain groups of people represent in our minds certain characteristics, even if we have never talked to the person. These characteristics are attributed to people by their clothes, their Greek affiliation, and yes, even where they sit in the cafeteria. Pay attention sometime when you're in Joe's, or in the library, or even in class. One quick look around the room will probably be enough for you to see someone whispering and giggling to their friend, talking about someone else.

It happens everywhere, all of the time. Inevitably, someone we know will be the object of someone else's cruel stares and whispers. We have all been both the recipient and giver within this phenomena. We look, we laugh, we may even point. Why do we do it? To be funny, to make ourselves feel better, to stand out above someone else. Whatever the reasons are, no one should do it. The funny thing is, even though it

has happened to everyone, whether or not we realize it, we still do it to other people.

Is there really a solution to this whole dilemma? Do we even really care? My guess is no. Sometimes I say things that I know are cruel and unnecessary, but it doesn't really phase me for all that long. Within the next day, chances are I've moved on to someone else to point out and make fun of. My reasons for talking about that other person seem valid on the surface, but I've really begun to reevaluate the things that I say around other people, about other people. Has this self-reflection revealed to me what life is really all about? Not at all, but sitting in Joe's, watching those girls who I do not want to be like has taught me something valuable. Look deep enough within yourself and you'll find the very thing that you are making fun of someone else for.

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Scandal prevents mandate for Clinton

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

The results of this past election provide few clear indications as to where voters stand.

For example, only 33% of voters polled on election night by CNN stated that character was an issue. Yet in the primaries this fall, Roland Jersevic, a State House Representative for the Saginaw area, lost in the primary because of a scandal. But Bill Clinton was elected despite numerous scandals.

The overall results of the elections throughout the country show that Americans still lean more conservative on many issues, a continuation of the 1994 election. The U.S. Congress is still controlled by Republicans. Most ballot choices endorsed by Republicans passed, such as California's proposal against affirmative action, and Proposal G in Michigan.

Bob Dole received more votes than anyone thought he would, and Clinton didn't receive the majority he wanted to get a "mandate."

The irony of Clinton not receiving a majority of the vote, but only

a plurality, is that Ross Perot, the candidate whom Clinton fought hard to get involved in the debates, was the reason Clinton did not receive those few votes.

Both parties will harp on the historical significance of this election. For the first time since Franklin Roosevelt, a Democrat President was reelected.

For the first time in 66 years, a Republican Congress was reelected.

The most prevalent indication of the election, however, is that the American people do not trust Clinton enough to give him a "blank check."

Filegate, WhiteWater, Travel Gate, accepting money from Indonesian business interests and sexual harassment charges might not have caused Clinton's defeat, but they helped many Republicans win or retain seats.

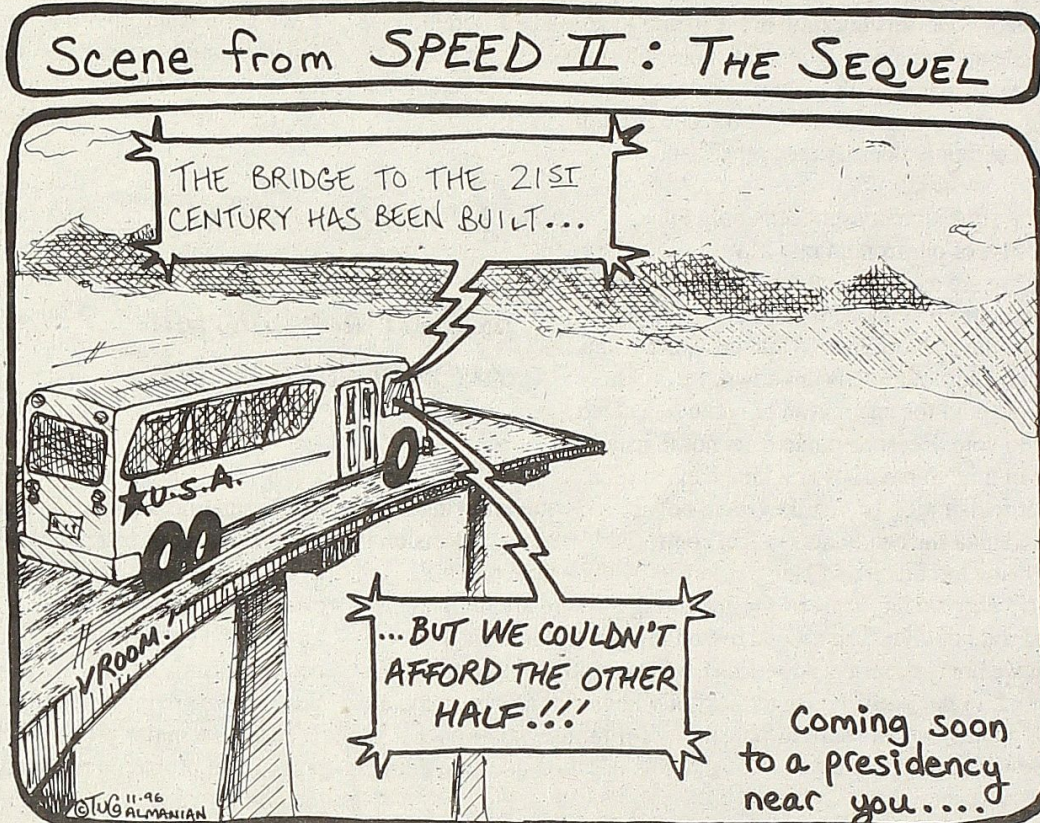
Clinton's constant changes in policy, based on the polls, displayed an unwillingness to take a stand on many issues. The voters noticed this. His taking credit for many reforms initiated by Republicans displays his excellent campaign

skills, but also demonstrates his election year ideological move to the center. Voters also realized this. His scare tactics concerning Medicare, Student Aid and Social Security elected him, but few candidates across the nation were elected

because of Bill Clinton. Many voters are now aware that the supposed "cuts" are actually increases in funding, just not the increases that Democrats supported.

Clinton did win his election, as did many individual Democrats.

The Republicans won the ballot issues, retained control of the U.S. Congress, retained control in many State Congresses (not the Michigan House), and therefore are in the best position to remain in power through the next few elections.



Student Congress discriminatory in allocation of funds

By Nathan Lane
Freelance Writer

The Alma College's Student Congress recently budgeted the Model United Nations team over six percent of the budget. Six percent may not seem like a lot of money, but all told the Model U.N. team will receive around \$13,000 for their expenses. The problem with this lies in the fact that Model U.N. is a class.

I think that if Student Congress is going to budget one class that much money for expenses, then money should also be budgeted to cover the fees other students

incur in their classes. All science students have to pay lab fees, and many other classes have fees as well. However, unlike the Model U.N. team, the students in these other classes must pay their lab fees out of their own pockets.

One might argue that Model U.N. has extra expenses that other classes do not have. The team must travel to their competitions, and travel, along with the necessary accommodations, is an expensive and unavoidable cost. The cost of some of these

competitions might preclude some students from participating in Model U.N. I do not doubt that this is true. However, the problem

The budget, as it stands, is prejudiced against the majority of students on Alma's campus.

that I see with the Student Congress budget is that other classes also have costs that excluded many people, for example, spring

term classes that go overseas.

In order to go on such a spring term trip, students can look forward to expenses of \$1,500 or more, plus spending money. I think that if Student Congress is going to readily give Model U.N. students so much money for their class, then students interested in going overseas for Spring term, or even the whole term, should receive a subsidy or stipend from Student Congress to help with the cost of this trip. After all, going overseas is as much a learning experience as Model

U.N.

The budget, as it stands, is prejudiced against the majority of students on Alma's campus. Many of us have expenses that we must pay in order to take certain classes. Many of us do not have the financial backing necessary to go overseas for a Spring term, or for a whole term.

If Student Congress, which is supposed to represent all of Alma's students, is not going to budget money to help a more diverse section of the Alma College community, I do not think that the budget should contribute such a large sum money to Model U.N.

• CLASSIFIEDS •

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More sections of required classes are necessary Small college shouldn't mean fewer course offerings

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

What a hassle! Trying to schedule classes for the term is such a pain. Professors really need to offer more sections of classes, especially those needed to fulfill distributive requirements.

Each term, students try to develop a class schedule that has room for classes in their majors as well as fulfill distributives. However, it is very hard to fit in every class a student would like to take with the limited sections offered. So many times students find that they cannot enroll in a course because its meeting time conflicts with another class. This would not happen at bigger schools. It just not seem fair that students'

choices are limited because the only time a certain class is offered it conflicts with another class.

Also, being a liberal arts school, Alma College requires its students to take classes from each discipline. Although it is a good idea for students to diversify their education, it can get to be rather cumbersome. Most of the courses that fulfill the distributive requirements are introductory level classes. These classes are also often required for majors. So those students are not only competing with other majors for spaces in

these classes, but with the whole campus as well.

For example, it is just not fair for a first-year student who is planning on majoring in psychology to be shut out of Introduction to Psychology (PSY 121). It puts them behind in credits for their major, since students need these introductory courses as prerequisites for other courses in that department.

If more sections of courses were offered, students would not have these problems. Students could take courses of interest to them without

having to worry about their required classes conflicting with its meeting times. Also, with more sections offered students would not have to worry as much about fitting classes into their schedules before they graduate. It can get to be a rather large hassle for seniors to have to run around trying to get professors to sign them into a closed section of a course they need in order to graduate. Professors are usually very understanding in those situations, but is still a bother to have to deal with that.

Offering more sections of courses would be a benefit to all. If for no other reason than convenience, the college should consider offering more sections of certain courses.

Trying to schedule classes for the term is such a pain.

Staff Editorial

Voter apathy: Does it apply?

With a week having passed since the 1996 elections, many questions have been answered. However, there are just as many that are left unanswered despite the seemingly continuous analysis that we all have been subjected to in these past few days. Among the questions that just doesn't seem to get answered is why don't more eligible people vote in the elections.

As often as this question is asked and to as many different people and groups of whom this question is asked, there is a more central question on this campus—does it apply to us? The answer to this is much less clear. On the one hand, it most certainly does. On the other hand, it really doesn't.

This question does indeed apply to us because of our turnout rate as well as the fact that we are a campus made up of primarily American students who have as one of their rights the right to vote. While the exact Alma College turnout rate is unknown, we all know people who for one reason or another decided not to vote. Reasons range from not registering in time to having something happen to their registration so that they were not able to vote; knowing too little about the candidates to feel comfortable making a decision to knowing too much and being sickened by the whole process. There are as many reasons for not voting as there are individuals who did not vote. The second reason this applies to us is the fact that we are (primarily) Americans, and the national turnout rate is dismal, to put it nicely. Regardless of whether or not we voted as individuals, we all share responsibility for those who did not.

So what, then, are the reasons that this question does not apply to us as a campus?

Again, without knowing the exact turnout rate for the college, it is impossible to know, but all indications are that the Alma

College campus as a community voted with far more regularity than the nation did as a whole. This can be attributed to as many factors as the low turnout rate, but it basically comes down to the fact that we are generally better informed on the issues and candidates than the "average American," and with this information comes an implied obligation to make use of it.

We get this information from a variety of sources not open to all Americans. This paper has in the past few months printed letters to the editor supporting or denouncing candidates—a policy that is not shared by all in the journalism field. We have also allowed members of our staff, as well as freelance writers, to take sides on the issues and candidates by providing a forum for discussion. But we do not supply all the information. The Young Democrats and College Republicans have both had a busy fall, distributing information, hanging signs and inviting the candidates themselves to campus. Other groups have sponsored debates on individual topics of interest.

But more than any one group is the source of information we share—the campus itself. Throughout the fall the campus has been buzzing with political talk which grew in intensity as the election neared. From political science classes to geology classes, professors have been doing what they can to increase turnout and provide information to those who wanted it. It is because of this free access to information that we are informed. It is because we are informed that we vote.

There is a major problem with voter turnout in this country, and part of that problem rests within each of us. However, because of the unique stage in our lives in which we each currently find ourselves, we are also a large part of the solution.

There are as many reasons for not voting as there are individuals who did not vote.

Veterans Day remains unnoticed by most

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

Yesterday was a national holiday. If you are like the vast majority of Americans, you probably never knew it, and if you did, it probably didn't have a significant impact on your life. Yesterday was Veterans Day, and while it may not matter to you, it matters to those men and women who have laid down their lives in the defense of the American ideal.

It is all too common these days to be either apathetic or actually hold a dislike of the members of our military. Much of this is held over from a war that was fought before the majority of us were even born—Vietnam. It is unfortunate that the youth of America have for an entire generation grown up with a distrust and dislike of our men and women in uniform. We support our troops when they do well, but when they are given an unpopular, not too mention impossible, mission in a land unknown to all of us, the stones we through in opposition are often hurled not at those who make the decisions but instead at those who are putting their lives on the line.

This is not to say that it is wrong, or even inappropriate, to challenge the basis for any conflict. Indeed, it is as trademark of America that we have the right to challenge governmental decisions, especially when the lives of our youth are sacrificed for oil or political ends. However, when we challenge the basis for these wars, we must take caution that our objections are directed at

those who have the power to make such decisions, not those who are on our front lines actually participating in the bloodshed.

It was Veterans Day yesterday.

Perhaps even more disturbing than this backlash against our fellow Americans is the apathy. While there are always a vocal few who stand in opposition to certain government actions, it is the silent majority that gives validity and backing to these decisions.

It is the people whose only interaction with our veterans comes from watching the names of the dead scroll across the six o'clock news

without ever taking a stand who present the greatest problem.

It is those who through their silence back aggression without ever taking the time to thank those who served our nation that hurt us the most. Those who comply and forget, that is if they ever actually take notice, break the back of holidays such as Veterans Day, as well as those veterans the holiday was designed to honor.

And that's just it: it is still honorable to serve one's country. Regardless of the unnecessary aggression of our government in the past, it was not those whom we are

supposed to honor that were unnecessarily aggressive.

Yesterday was Veterans Day. It is up to you to remember. If you don't, who will? Regardless of your personal feelings in regards to basis for conflict, do not through your silence condemn those who served in the Armed Forces; who served America; who served you.

It is the American ideal to have the freedom to speak out against our government, and it is the veterans who have defended these freedoms.

Yesterday was Veterans Day. Break the silence. Thank a vet.

The Almanian

Newberry Hall
Alma College
Alma, Michigan
48801
(517) 463-7161
ALMANIAN@alma.edu

Editors-in-Chief:

Beth Knapp

Dan Scripps

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Staci Hill

Feature Editor:

Larissa VanderZee

Sports Editor:

Phil Allmen

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