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The Almanian

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Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 11

Students direct one-act play series

By Erin Freeland
Freelance Writer

The One-Act Play Festival, directed by intermediate directing students, was presented in two series and preformed from Tuesday through Sunday in the small theatre of the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts.

Series A opened with a play entitled *Riches*, written by Lee Blessing and was directed by Rebekah Doyle '97. This one-act dealt with issues of marriage and divorce, focusing on the married couples' ability to communicate with one another.

Carolyn Rich, played by first-year student Quintessa Duffield, is met with a barrier when she tries to tell her spouse, David (played by senior Joe Johnston) that she wants a divorce. She feels trapped in the relationship, and finally confronts her feelings. The confrontation results in violence, and finally the couple begins to realize the source of their problems.

The second play in Series A was *The Stonewater Rapture*, written by Doug Wright and directed by Jennifer Grutza '98. The characters Whitney and Carlyle, played by Karl Snyder and first-year student Jill Gunter, are high school friends questioning their relationship, religion and goals in life.

Adolescence brings about questions of sexuality and Whitney and Carlyle deal directly with these topics. Carlyle is raped and becomes pregnant by a high school bully

who has been tormenting Whitney throughout school. Finally, Whitney and Carlyle agree to be married.

Series B began with a play called, *'dentity Crisis*, written by Christopher Durang and directed by Matthew Bradley '97. Jane, Edith, Robert, Mr. Summers and Mrs. Summers, played by Amy Zell '98, Leah Christopher '99, Jorge Livingston '97, Brian Papendick '98, and Lori Romeyn '99 were people who had lost their grip on reality. Jane, the daughter of Edith, was sane at the beginning of the play, but eventually ended up going crazy after the persuasion of those around her.

The next play in this series, called *The Universal Language*, is a comedy written by David Jones and directed by Robb Thompson, '97. Don, played by Eric Grace '99, is a con man who deceives a woman named Dawn, played by Julie Heintz '98. Don convinces Dawn that he can teach her a universal language called Una Munda, and that this will enable her to meet new people and overcome her speech problem. After seeing that the woman believes him and will try to use the ridiculous language, the con man feels guilty and admits to her that he is a fake. She forgives him because he made her happy and they go off speaking Una Munda together.

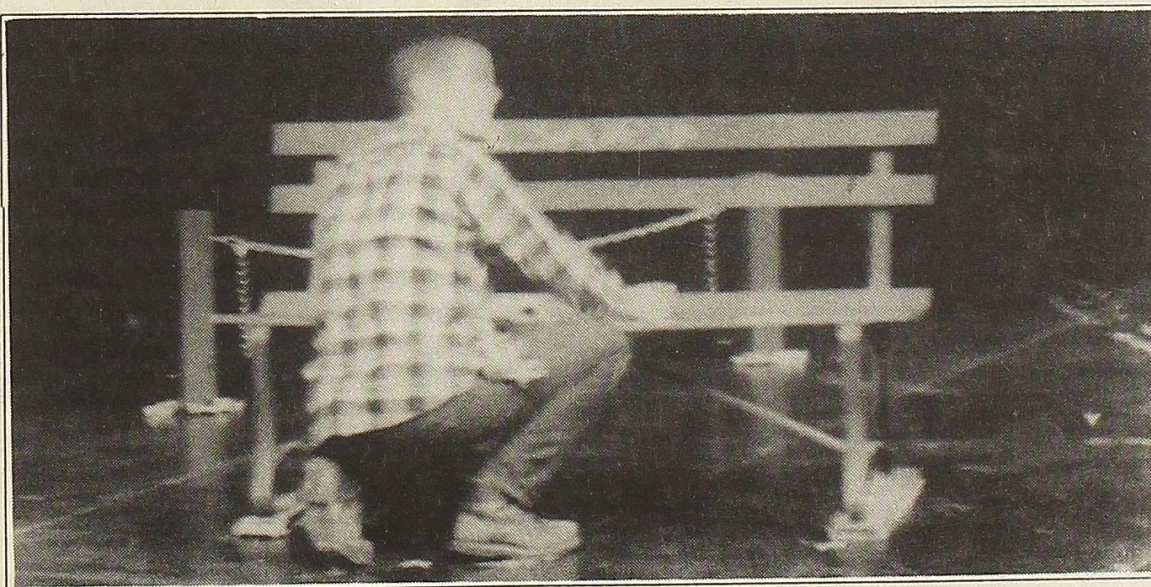
In contrast to the two comical plays in the series, *Hopscotch*, written by Israel Horovitz and directed by Elizabeth Bullmer '97, deals

with very serious issues. Elsa, played by Kristi Stariha '00, and Will, played by Andrew Schmitz '99, confront their past one day in a park. This chance meeting brings about a charged confrontation which results in violence. "It's about becoming so trapped in your past you can never move forward," said Stariha.

Last week's one act plays gave upper level theater majors a chance to direct plays and underclass actors to display their talent.

Right: First-year student Kristi Stariha plays Elsa in Israel Horovitz's Hopscotch, directed by senior Elizabeth Bullmer.

Below: Sophomore Andy Schmitz acts opposite Stariha in Hopscotch. Photos by Beth Rosenow.



Four departments search for new faculty

By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter

Four departments of academic study at Alma College are looking for new recruits to add to their ranks.

New positions in the psychology, chemistry, mathematics, and English departments have opened, and committees from each department are busy at work seeking out new people to add to the Alma College faculty.

The committee from the chemistry department, headed by Melissa

Strait, chair and associate professor of chemistry, is searching for an inorganic chemist to fill a permanent half-time slot. This person would primarily be responsible for teaching the sophomore inorganic class. This person would also have the opportunity to serve as a lab instructor, bringing the position to almost full time.

Advertising for the position has been directed to publications such as *Chemical and Engineering News* and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

The part-time position is ex-

pected to be filled before winter term.

The committee for the psychology department, headed by Carol Slater, chair and professor of psychology, is searching for a new colleague to enter in at the Assistant Professor level. It is a tenure position, and the candidate would be expected to share in teaching introductory courses as well as psychology labs.

The committee is looking heavily at the track record of each candidate, as well as looking for a person whose research skills allow them

to work successfully with students on a research project. According to Slater, one of the main purposes of the psychology department, besides to educate, is to encourage students to seek publication of their own work, or publication of work done with a professor.

The psychology department has advertised in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* as well as in publications from the American Psychology Society and the American Psychology Association. They have also advertised on the Internet.

The closing date for applicants

will be December 1, 1996. Three to five of the final candidates will be invited to the college, and the department encourages students to listen to the presentations given by these candidates when they are announced.

A final candidate is expected to be ready to work by fall term of next year.

New faculty is also being sought by the English and mathematics departments, but further information is unavailable at this time.

ΣAE's Holly House benefits charity

By Staci Hill
News Editor

Despite the lack of snow on the ground, bright purple and gold Christmas lights lit up the Sigma Alpha Epsilon (ΣAE) house Saturday night for their annual Holly House.

Although invites are sent out like any other fraternity party, Holly House is also a charity event. Students are asked to donate canned goods when they arrive at the ΣAE house. Along with an invite and college ID, this allows Alma College students into the party.

The event usually falls closer to Christmas, as it is titled Holly House, however, Christmas break is scheduled early this year.

The brothers then give the donations to the Salvation Army. This year fewer people donated goods than in past years.

Don Light '97, president of ΣAE, attributed the low turnout to the timing of the last weekend for fraternity parties. He commented on the lack of Christmas spirit before Thanksgiving and the two sorority formals taking place.

Holly House began at 8 p.m.

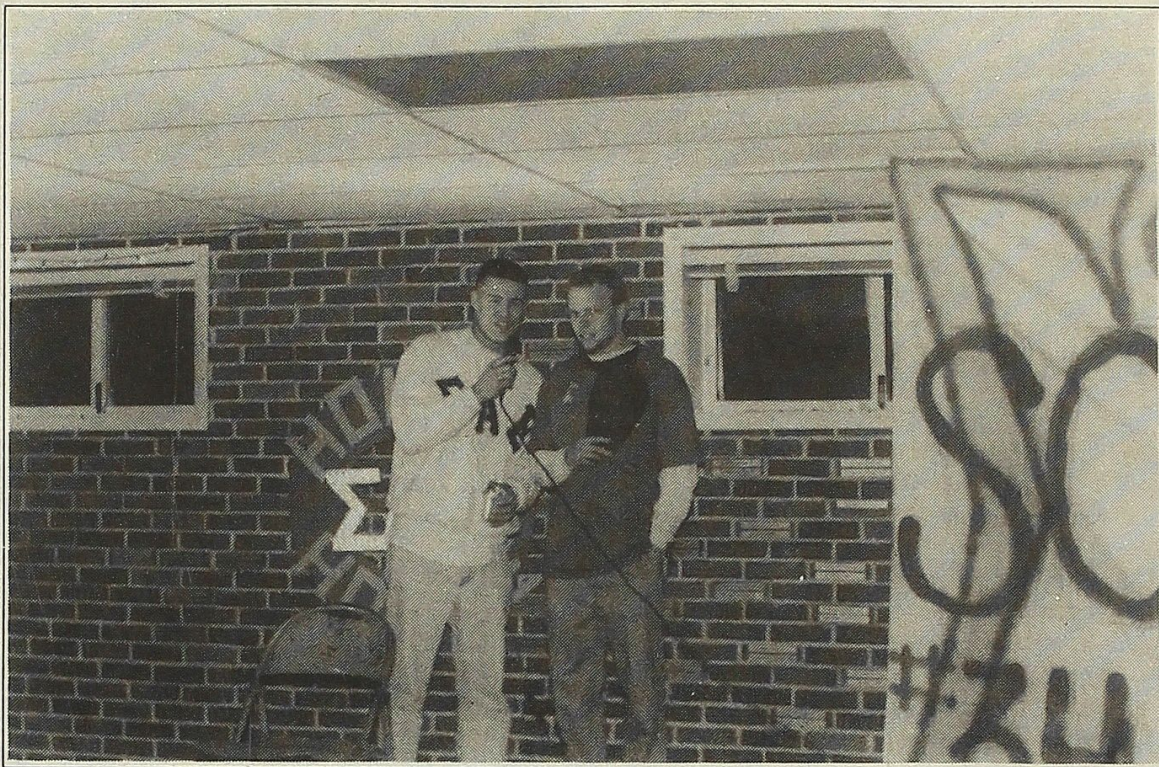
with a half hour skit by the brothers of the fraternity. In the 1950s the skits were done for the faculty at a faculty dinner, but since the 1970s the skits have become a way for students to get involved in a philanthropic event.

"It is a different way to start a party. We have a lot of fun with Holly House and it is a long-standing tradition," said Light.

The Special Events chair of the group, Steve Didocha '97, organized Holly House. Any member who wants to perform a skit may do so. According to Light, "The skits used to be less tasteful but we have tried to change that." Each year younger members also give gifts to the seniors, representative of each person.

Overall, the brothers felt that everyone liked the show. Joel Krautstrunk '97 said, "I enjoyed the skits thoroughly. They seemed very funny to me; although, my sense of humor may be off because no one else seemed to be laughing."

The show is casually held in the back room of the ΣAE house, where couches are set up to face a stage where the brothers perform. Each



Juniors Matt Wandrie and Bob Mabbitt participate in Sigma Alpha Epsilon's annual Holly House event. Food donated to the fraternity during the party will be donated to the Salvation Army. Photo by Jason Paetz.

year the seniors choose a pine tree to decorate and encourage Christmas spirit prior to final exams.

The event is all in good fun, yet

the members remember why they hold Holly House. Vice President of ΣAE, Paul Brenton '97, summarized with, "This is a great philanthropy because not only do we get

to help people, but we all get to have a good time hanging out and doing the skits, too."

Trebesh works to establish German exchange program

By Missy Crossnoe
Freelance Writer

"The United States of America is highly recognized by other countries for its higher education system," stated Michael Trebesh, associate professor of business administration. "The Germans are in the process of revamping their system and are searching for a better feel on how America handles this system," he continued.

Ten German professors and administrators visited the U.S. three weeks ago with the purpose to compare the U.S. and German systems of education. Their intent was to find ways in which they can improve their own system. During their eight day stay, they lived with U.S. faculty members, including Trebesh. "The objective for this visit was to share ideas and exchange dialogue between the countries," stated Trebesh.

One way which this system might further be compared and improved upon would be to form a German exchange student pro-

gram between Germany and Alma. Trebesh and the Alma education department are already involved with this proposal.

With some encouragement from Trebesh, two German professors visited Alma's campus during their stay. He organized and coordinated

The Germans are in the process of revamping their system and are searching for a better feel on how America handles this system.

• **Michael Trebesh,**
associate professor of
business administration

meeting times for discussions and a campus tour. They visited a German class here on campus and spent some time with John Arnold, German professor and foreign language chair. "They were impressed with Alma's facilities and students," stated Trebesh.

While here, the Germans and Trebesh discussed the possibility of forming this exchange program for students. The program would initially entail five Alma students

traveling to Germany to study in exchange for five Germans coming to Alma. In the future, this program could build up to as many as 20 students traveling both ways.

To discuss further plans on this program, Trebesh, along with nine other U.S. faculty and administrators, will be traveling to Stuttgart, Germany in May of 1997. His tentative plans for the program would consist of the German students visiting with American host families while studying at Alma. They would also participate in some organized sight-seeing such as trips to Chicago, Mackinac Island, and Greenfield Village.

Trebesh believes this program would be an excellent opportunity for students to gain exposure to other cultures. He is a firm believer in the overseas program here at Alma and is in strong favor of the foreign language program Alma offers. Though the details are not set, Trebesh and the department of education are hoping for this program to begin in the spring of 1998.

• NEWS BRIEFS •

• **Thanksgiving is this Thursday.** It's a national holiday. Everything in Alma will be closed, just like on the weekends.

• **All residence halls will close at 5:30 p.m.** Wednesday for Thanksgiving break. All students who have not made arrangements to stay in South Complex over break must leave by then.

• **The Almanian is currently seeking** an office and distribution manager, assistant sports editor and a staff reporter. Anyone interested in these positions should pick up applications outside the Almanian office in Newberry Basement.

• **ACUB is seeking students** to work as cinema coordinator and special events chair. Applications can be picked up in the student affairs office and are due Tuesday, December 3, by 5 p.m.

• **Sigma Tau Delta, the English honor society,** is sponsoring a book swap Wednesday, December 4, from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the lobby on SAC's first floor. Books can be swapped or bought, hardcovers for \$1 and paperbacks for \$.50. Get rid of those books collecting dust on your shelves and discover new favorites!

• **The 10th Annual American Christmas Concert with Phi Mu Alpha** will be held tonight at 8 p.m. in Heritage Center Presbyterian Hall.

• **The Strand Movie Theatre will be showing *That Thing You Do*** with Tom Hanks Friday, November 22 to Thursday, November 28. Show times are Friday and Saturday 7 and 9 p.m., Sunday 5 and 7 p.m., and Monday through Thursday at 7 p.m. Admission is \$2.50. The Strand will be closed for renovations November 29-December 8.

• **The Annual Alma Choir Christmas Concert** will be held Friday, December 6, at 8 p.m. and Saturday, December 7, at 3 and 8 p.m. in Heritage Center's Presbyterian Hall. Tickets are available through the Heritage Center Box Office by calling 7304.

• **Newberry Hall Council is collecting mittens, hats and scarves** to decorate their mitten tree. Before winter break, this winter apparel will be donated to HeadStart. Clean out your closets and donate your old winter wear to the needy!

Women's honorary sponsors first recognition dinner

By Mitzi Janukaitis
Freelance Writer

Last Tuesday evening the women's honor society, Gamma Delta Alpha (ΓΔΑ), had their first annual new member recognition ceremony. The evening consisted of a formal dinner for over 100 junior and senior women. Although only 20 female faculty members attended, all were invited. Some female staff and administrators were also asked to attend the dinner.

ΓΔΑ is reserved only for women and is not limited to a specific major. Also, there are no required classes a member must take to be involved. However, the stipulations for becoming a member include being a junior with a 3.6 cumulative G.P.A. or a senior with a 3.4 G.P.A.

The honor society's founder or founders are unknown because the original records were lost. What is known is ΓΔΑ was founded in 1959. Yet, it did not become very active until the late 1970s when the group's major activities were raising funds for the African Fellow Program and housing foreign students.

The goals set in the ΓΔΑ constitution are "to promote college loyalty, to advance the spirit of academic excellence, to maintain a high standard of scholarship, and to encourage leadership."

The president of the honor society, senior Monique Averill, expands these objectives. The goal she would like to see accomplished is, "To make ΓΔΑ more than just a line on a resume, but to make it an integral,



Provost Leslie Ellen Brown was one of two speakers at Gamma Delta Alpha's first recognition dinner. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

active part of the campus."

The formal dinner for the new inductees of ΓΔΑ was funded by the office of the Provost, the Student Affairs office and the Center for Student Development. During the evening, speeches were given by Leslie Ellen Brown, provost of academic affairs, and Alan Stone, president of Alma College.

Brown's speech dealt with the skills one must learn from those leaders around them, yet realize there are leaders within themselves. Stone's speech dealt with the idea of volunteering and how the involvement ΓΔΑ has in volunteer-

ing does make a difference.

Currently the society is involved in many volunteer activities ranging from the Adopt-a-Family program with the Salvation Army around Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter to coordinating bingo at the Masonic Home. Plans for the near future involve organizing activities for women's month in March. They are helping with a women's history project and they are looking into bring some women alumni back to campus to discuss their careers and steps they have taken in their lives.

Leadership society honors student

Omicron Delta Kappa starts leader of the week award

By Matthew Singletary
Staff Reporter

Christina Pippin '98 is the first recipient of the Omicron Delta Kappa (OΔK) Leader of the Week Award.

According to Monique Averill '97, president of the OΔK branch of Alma College, "The main purpose of Omicron Delta Kappa is to support and encourage other leaders on campus."

OΔK is a national organization, and has been active on the campus of Alma College for many years. On campus the fraternity has sponsored other academic societies, hosted the Common Hour (a time for different honor societies on campus to meet and discuss issues pertinent to their organizations), and for the past several years has been active with the Habitat for Humanity project.

This year the group decided to sponsor a Leader of the Week, in order to give recognition to someone who has shown remarkable leadership abilities both on and off campus. The award goes to a non-OΔK member, and is open to students, faculty, and administrative staff campus wide.

"The nominating procedure is that Omicron Delta Kappa members keep their eyes open for people who do things above and beyond what is expected of a member of the community," said senior Chele Pippin, secretary of OΔK. "Christina performs to 120% of her ability in everything she does."

It was a unanimous decision by the members of OΔK to give the first Leader of the Week award to Pippin.

"Christina has done outstanding volunteering within the community, working with the Salvation Army, and then on campus with the EHS Honor Society," said Averill.

Pippin's work with the Salvation Army is on a regular basis. She works there at least once a week plus every Sunday, and if she is asked to work an extra day she rarely is unable to find time. She also is a member of the Kiltie Band, and volunteers with the Students Offering Service program. Still with all this going she has also been able to achieve an excellent academic standing.

Recently Pippin won a travel scholarship from Valley Travel in downtown Alma. They are going to pay her way when she visits Mexico next year.

She really does have "outstanding involvement in the college community and the outside community," stated the letter announcing her as a recipient of the Leader of the Week award.

OΔK hopes to make this an ongoing weekly award.

Do you have an opinion?

The Almanian is seeking guest columnists. Students who wish to submit their writing for the opinion section should send it to The Almanian office in Newberry Basement by Fridays at 5 p.m.

Six Almanian staffers attended convention

National Media Convention proves educational

By Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

Six Almanian staff members attended Orlando's 1996 National College Media Convention, sponsored by College Media Advisors and the Associated Collegiate Press.

Junior Beth Knapp, co-editor-in-chief; junior Julie Wilson, copy editor; junior Jennifer Hughes, staff reporter; senior Laura Paetz, graphics editor; sophomore Kari St. Bernard, assistant advertising manager; and junior Jenn Cornell, opinion editor, attended the convention where they learned about journalism and enjoyed the surrounding area of Orlando.

The staff flew to Orlando on Wednesday evening, and the con-

vention began at 9 a.m. Thursday morning.

Staff members attended several sessions on topics such as ethics in college journalism, rights of student newspapers on private campuses, finding good features at small schools and basic principles of copy editing, reporting and layout.

"Overall, I think that the conferences were beneficial. We learned many new techniques and are coming home with suggestions we can use to better the quality of the Almanian," said Cornell.

"I learned a lot about layout and design, like more effective ways to use photos and typeface," said Paetz.

While at the conference, the staff also had copies of the paper cri-

tiqued by an advisor of a similar paper.

"To receive criticism from people knowledgeable in journalism will be a big plus for the Almanian staff. Hopefully we will be able to successfully implement the changes suggested to us and make the paper a model for other schools like ours," commented Cornell.

Everyone attending found ideas suggested at the critique to be very helpful and plan to implement some of the suggestions into the coming issues of the Almanian.

Group members also traveled to Epcot Center, Universal Studios and the Disney Village Marketplace, which was located a few blocks from the Hilton where they stayed.

St. Bernard enjoyed Epcot. She commented, "Epcot was great. Never have I been to so many places (countries) in such a short time."

Paetz was one of the members who visited the many attractions at Universal Studios. "The simulated rides that jerked me around made me sick, but the 3-D ones were cool. I didn't think I would need to bring my Dramamine," she said.

"The funniest part of the trip was when Jenn and I lost our shoes. We left them at the hot tub and didn't realize it until morning. We spent an hour looking for them the next morning, and missed the editors' roundtable, the only session I really wanted to go to. We called the lost and found three times and eventually found them in a bush."

Center events offer variety of options

By Missy Crossnoe
Freelance Writer

The Center for Student Development, located in the lower level of Hamilton Commons, is packed full of information pertaining to internships, interviews, and exams. Many students do not realize how advantageous a trip to the Center can be.

Students are always welcome to just stop in with questions or look around at the abundance of information located on bookshelves, in computers, or on file. Further, the Center offers activities that all students are encouraged to attend.

"Students have to explore for themselves, they need to make the time to consider the many options we have available," stated Mindy Sargent, associate dean of student development. "An internship is a great way to find out more about

who you are and if your major is right for you or not."

For anyone interested in gaining internship experience, Sargent is coordinating an Internship Workshop to be held on December 3, at 4 p.m. in the Center. She encourages all to attend: even first-year students can begin thinking about internship experience. At the workshop, different ways to find out and evaluate potential internships will be discussed. Also, students will be encouraged to make their own networks and begin thinking about what they want to gain from these experiences and what is most important to them at this time. The Center has over 300 internship contacts to choose from; they are located locally, statewide and nationally.

Another option which the Center offers is the opportunity to gain

interviewing experience. Every fall and winter term the Center sends students to Chicago for three days

An internship is a great way to find out more about who you are and if your major is right for you or not.

•Mindy Sargent,
associate dean of student
development

to interview with companies they might wish to work for. On December 4 at 4 p.m. in the Center, there will be an informational meeting on attending the February Chicago Trip. This meeting is recom-

mended for juniors and seniors who are seeking internships or jobs in Chicago.

There is a fee of \$90 to attend this trip and an application and reservation form is required. These forms enable the Center to match students with companies most promising to meet their needs. Carolyn Schneider, assistant dean of student development, is the contact person for this trip.

Additionally, students can benefit from the Center by attending the final exam preparation workshop. This workshop will be held on December 4, both at 4 p.m. in SAC 109 and at 7 p.m. in the Center. This workshop, coordinated by Kalindi Trietly, associate dean of student development, is designed to help students organize their final exam preparations.

Students who feel their previous

approaches to finals have been unsuccessful, or students who are new and have never encountered finals before are encouraged to attend this workshop. "The benefits of this workshop are that students learn to change their studying habits and make them successful, instead of putting more effort in what hasn't worked previously," stated Trietly. "Also, this workshop gets students thinking about finals and not waiting until the last minute to begin their preparation."

Each of these activities and many other options the Center has to offer are excellent reasons for students to check it out. Though it is not required, it is recommended that students call and let the Center know if they are interested in attending any of the activities. Students can reach the Center by calling x7356 or x7225.

Chemistry spring terms emphasize culture

By Larissa VanderZee
Feature Editor

The purpose of a liberal arts education is to become liberally educated by acquiring knowledge from a variety of perspectives, a variety of academic fields. It is also about making connections between disciplines. One can easily understand the connections between English and history or sociology and psychology. However, the connection between chemistry and culture may not be so obvious.

Offered for this Spring Term, two off campus chemistry courses will show students that there is indeed a link between science and the study of humanities.

Associate Professor and Chair of Chemistry Melissa Strait will be taking a group of chemistry students to Egypt for the entire month of May. Strait said she organized the course "in conjunction with Dr. El-Maazawi, a former Alma pro-

fessor who lives in Egypt." The course will be geared toward chemical environmental studies (offered as a 180/380 course).

Working with El-Maazawi, the students will be examining "how environmental problems are affecting the cultural heritage," said Strait. The preservation of such historical sites as the Sphinx and the burial tombs is largely due to the dry, warm climate. However, tourism and industry have been producing a negative effect on this preservation. The increased number of people in the tombs brings with it an increase in humidity through the breathing of these tourists. According to Strait, when humidity levels are up, bacteria have a higher survival rate and decay of the artifacts may occur. Strait said the class will be "looking at ways to control the preservation other than closing them [artifacts] off from tourism completely."

Although students will be spend-

ing time in the lab as well as out in the field, they will also be privy to many cultural experiences. They will spend three weeks at the institute with El-Maazawi in Cairo. And then an entire week will be spent in Alexandria, where as Strait stated "everyone can lay out on the beaches."

In their meetings prior to leaving for Egypt, the students will be learning a little about the culture. Strait said it is important for them to realize that they are in for "a month of living in a completely foreign country."

In addition to Strait's course, Associate Professor of chemistry Scott Hill will also be taking a group to a foreign country. Unlike Strait's course, Hill's will be less scientifically intense. Offered as chemistry 110, Hill said about the course, "it will offer a broad exposure to introductory level chemistry, while taking full advantage of being in Russia and the Czech Republic." They

will spend two weeks here in Alma and the other two weeks overseas.

The students will even take a five day instruction of the Russian language (the equivalent to 15 hrs.)—a further way to understand a culture different from what students are familiar with.

While in Russia, Hill has planned visits to the Hermitage Art Museum, Petrodvorets (Peter the Great's Summer Palace), as well as medical clinics and laboratory facilities. Spending most of their time in St. Petersburg and Prague, Hill said they would also be speaking with chemistry faculty and students of various educational institutions.

Hill hopes that being in a different culture for 14 days will help his students "learn a little more about two countries but a lot about themselves." Having been to Russia two times previous to this, Hill said he felt it "well warranted to share with Alma students."

Jazz band performs non-traditional Christmas concert

By Erin Freeland
Freelance Writer

The Alma College Jazz Ensemble performed a not-so-conventional Christmas concert on Sunday in the Heritage Center. Directed by Don Metcalf, the jazz band featured many soloists and a variety of jazz styles.

The band opened with a tune entitled *Eager Beaver*, written in 1942 and recorded by the Stan Kenton Orchestra. It featured senior Jackson Martin and sophomore Christine Mayers, on tenor sax and piano, respectively.

The next tune, *Bear Bones*, highlighted the entire trombone section. Juniors Dan Scripps, Derek Boyer, and first-year students David Jordan and Jeff Potter showed unique styles, playing expressively and powerfully. In contrast to the featured trombones, junior Anne Murphy soloed on alto sax fol-

lowed by a sax section solo.

A vocal was next on the agenda, and Mayers gave a strong performance. Metcalf described *Call Me Irresponsible* as a "businessman's beat." The song began with a laid-back vibe solo by first-year student Timm Johnson. Band and vocalist worked together nicely on this tune without overpowering each other.

Changing Times, an up-tempo tune which alternated between Latin and swing beats, featured first-year student Kevin Nielson and fifth-year senior Josh Lincoln on trumpet.

We'll Be Together Again slowed the tempo once more, featuring Martin again on a tenor sax solo.

Junior Angie Berle sang with the jazz band for the first time on *Almost Like Being In Love*. Martin was featured on tenor sax.

The band then played a 1946 classic entitled *April in Paris* featured by the Count Basie Band.

Solos by Scripps (trombone) and senior Kelly Ervans (trumpet) highlighted this performance.

Mack the Knife, made famous by Frank Sinatra, was then sung by senior Matt Groves. Scripps soloed again on this groovy tune.

Remembrance, an up tempo samba, featured a strong alto sax solo by Murphy and percussion work by junior Mark Alderman.

Finally, to end the night, *In a Sentimental Mood* was played to put the audience in the Christmas spirit. Christine Mayers sang this tune, accompanied by senior Laura Ringle on piano.

The audience was pleased at the end of the performance. First-year student Allison Shaver, a music major, said, "I feel each soloist filled their part remarkably well."

Kevin Smith, director of the Kiltie Band said, "the concert was wonderful. *April in Paris* was very reminiscent of the famous Count

Basie Orchestra. Mr. Metcalf is my inspiration."

"I was rockin' and rollin' and whatnot when Bubba was on stage," said first-year student Hallie Bard, a concert-goer.

Boyer, trombone player in the jazz band, said, "I felt that the con-

cert went well. Although my saliva glands didn't kick in towards the end I was still able to hit those high notes."

Overall the jazz band had a wonderful performance and an impressive alternative to the traditional Christmas concert.

**The biggest threat to
depression is your
awareness of it.**

Serious depression strikes millions. Serious depression strikes indiscriminately. Serious depression is MOST dangerous when it goes unrecognized. That's why it's so important to always be aware of the threat of depression. And if your life is ever interrupted by a period of depression, remember that it is readily, medically treatable.

**UNTREATED
DEPRESSION**

#1 Cause of Suicide

Public Service message from SAVE (Suicide Awareness/Voices of Education) <http://www.save.org>



Dani Sullivan poses for a picture. Sullivan is approximately one second away from the time to qualify for nationals in three of her events—and it's only a month into the season. Photo by Aaron Mansfield.

Sullivan looks to Nationals

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

While some people are addicted to caffeine or nicotine, senior Dani Sullivan has a far more thrilling addiction.

"I've been swimming since I was five and it's addicting," she said. "I think I will probably be in a pool for the rest of my life."

Sullivan swims through a lot of activities while at Alma College. As an Art/EHS double major, she spends much of her time keeping up with classes. After her work is completed, she doles out her time between her leadership roles—captain of the women's swim team, alumni chair of Kappa Iota sorority, member of the Student Alumni Association and co-chair on the Youth Action of Gratiot county.

Youth Action is an organization aimed to help organizations helping adolescents through cash donations matched by the Kellogg fund. Sullivan works on the newsletter

with the organization's concerns.

When Sullivan has a spare half hour or so, she tries to catch up with her cartoons. "*The Tick* is my favorite, but I also watch *X-Men* and I really get into Japanese animation," she commented.

Last year Sullivan swam 200m freestyle and backstroke, but she does not have a favorite race. "I'm not picky," she explained. "I just love to get in the pool. There's nothing more exciting than getting ready for a big meet." This attitude clashed with her ailments, forcing her out of last Saturday's double dual against Hope College and Grand Valley State University. According to swim coach Greg Baadte, Sullivan's full involvement in the meet would have benefited Alma's final team scores.

This year Sullivan hopes to work on the 100m freestyle, 100m butterfly and 200m individual medley. The scores in all three events are approximately one second away for qualifying for

nationals—after less than a month of practice this season.

"Last year I qualified for the B-cut for the national competition," remarked Sullivan. "My time was 1:57:38 and the alternate used in competition had a time of 1:57:35. I was up there, but no one backed out."

Sullivan plans on making the nationals this year, but her events are not set for what she will be swimming in competition yet. As her records show, Sullivan is versatile in her swimming—she holds nine college records for women, including five relay team records.

Sullivan will return to Alma next year and, as the current plan stands, will be the assistant coach of the swim team. After that, "I don't know," she said. "I'll either continue in grad school or go get a real job. I would like to coach swimming at some high school too."

Women's basketball team hosts Scottie Classic

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

The women's basketball team kept busy last weekend as they opened their season with the Alma College Scottie Classic. On Friday night the Scots faced St. Mary's College. On Saturday the Scots were up against Baldwin-Wallace college. Alma crushed both teams.

In the game against St. Mary's the Scots took the lead early with just a little over seventeen minutes left in the first half. Once gaining the lead the Scots never lost it. The Scots were, however, a little disappointed with their offensive play in the first half.

"We had a lot of opportunities at point blank range to score and didn't," said head coach Charlie Goffnet.

The score at the end of the first half stood at Alma 38, St. Mary's 22. The Scots stayed on the move throughout the second half bringing the final score to Alma 74, St. Mary's 53. Throughout the game Alma's defense played well.

"We had an excellent defensive effort," said Goffnet.

Leading the team in scoring was senior forward Jaami McClellan with 23 points. McClellan was 11-12 from the floor. Also contributing was senior Michelle Olds.

"Michelle Olds really gave us a shot in the arm on Friday night with 13 points, most of those in the first half when we were really struggling to score from the inside," said Goffnet.

On Saturday the Scots came up against Baldwin-Wallace College. Baldwin-Wallace qualified for the NCAA tournament last season winning close to twenty games and are expected to have a big year again this year. The Scots, led by the dynamic duo McClellan and senior Missy VanDamme, didn't let this faze them though as they jumped out to an early lead and never looked back. While scoring 38 points in the first half the Scots didn't feel that they executed particularly well. According to Goffnet the Scots felt that they had some silly turnovers.

The Scots picked up the level of play in the second half, however. "The second half we duplicated our defensive effort in the first half

and really were much more efficient on offense and really took control of the game in the second half," said Goffnet.

Goffnet felt that one key to the win was getting up and down the court. "Our pressure over the forty minutes tired them out and it helped our rebounding and transition game because I think we just had a little more gas in the tank and a little more quickness and team speed," said Goffnet.

Another key factor in the Scot victory was holding Baldwin-Wallace's Jill Smith to twelve points. Smith was first team all-conference in the OAC last year and has been averaging about twenty points per game. Smith obtained most of her points in Saturday's game from the free-throw line.

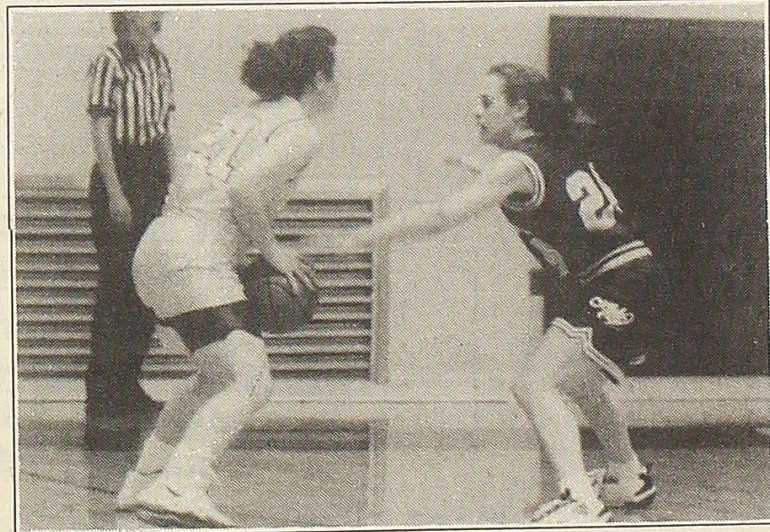
"[Sophomore] Sarah Lefke and Michelle Olds both did a nice job frustrating her both as a ball handler and a shooter and that was key because she's a big part of their team," said Goffnet.

Leading the scoring for the Scots were VanDamme and McClellan. Coming off the bench in a big way

and grabbing the second highest points was first-year student Shannon Gross. Leading the team in rebounds was again VanDamme.

"It was a good team win; we won this as a team. We played team defense; we doubled down on the post and everybody was helping each other and that's what good basketball is all about, playing as a team both offensively and defensively," said Goffnet.

"We want to take this positive experience this weekend, the two wins and just kind of keep going in the right direction as a team. Keep improving, that's the important thing. Over a long season you're going to have some ups and downs but we want to make sure that when we do take a little dip we take another dip up and improve," said Goffnet. The Scots are in action tonight at 7 p.m. at Spring Arbor.



Senior Lisa Meyer utilizes her defensive skills. The women's team hosted the Alma College Scottie Classic this past weekend. Photo by Jason Paetz.

Time for Fontes to pack it up as coach

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

They change offensive strategies. They change defensive strategies. They change assistant coaches. They change players.

Yet despite this, the Detroit Lions cannot change the fact that they have not won a "big game" since losing the NFC Championship game against the Washington Redskins in January of 1991.

Considering that the same result occurs every year, the Lions make a late-season run at the playoffs, get in by the skin of their teeth,

and then get embarrassed, something else must be done.

That something is to bring a new head coach to the Lions.

The coach cannot go out and play for the players, but making sure the players are prepared for the game, both physically and mentally, is his responsibility. Considering the Lions have played flat for several games this year, as well as a multitude of games over Wayne Fontes's tenure as Lions head coach, Wayne Fontes should take responsibility, and should also be held responsible by Lions' management.

His position has supposedly been

in jeopardy for several seasons, but somehow, the Lions always make it to the playoffs, and Fontes's job is therefore secured.

The goal of the Lions should be the next level, not just being good enough to make the playoffs.

This year, with their 5-7 record coming out of their game against the Chicago Bears last Sunday, the Lions' chances of making the playoffs are pretty slim. Even if they win their four remaining games, their record will be 9-7, which might get them into the playoffs, depending on how the Dallas Cowboys, Philadelphia Eagles and Carolina Panthers play.

So they need to win all their games, and they will still need help.

To win all four games, they must defeat the Green Bay Packers and San Francisco 49ers, two extremely difficult tasks.

With prospects for even making the playoffs so low, a decision should finally be made; Fontes must go.

The responsibility for losing has been placed elsewhere for too long. It is now Fontes's turn to share it.

If talented players do not consistently perform up to their potential, then it might not be the players' fault, but rather the coaching staff's fault for not

mentally preparing them for the game.

With Barry Sanders, Herman Moore and Brett Perriman on offense, how could the Lions possible struggle?

Yet they do.

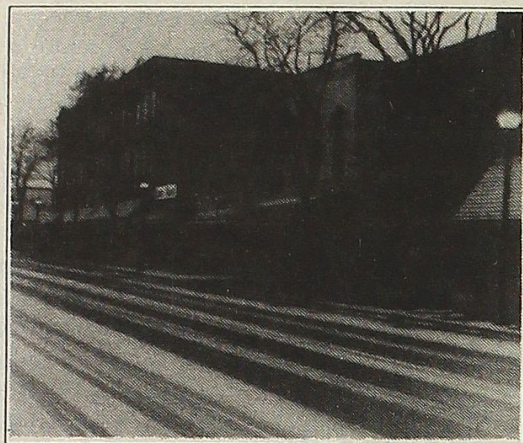
Players who do not perform leave. New players come in and do not perform.

The blame cannot simply fall on their shoulders.

Fontes helped bring the Lions back to being playoff contenders, but he has not brought them to the next level. The Lions need someone who can.



Shop Alma fo



By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

Christmas is a time of giving and it is just around the corner. There are only 29 shopping days left until Christmas, so it's time to get on the ball if the holiday shopping has not yet been started.

While Christmas shopping for most Alma College students may entail time consuming trips to Lansing or other mall-laden urban areas, the shopping alternatives of Alma should not be overlooked, especially at this busy time of the term.

Alma offers a variety of shopping experiences. Without a shopping mall, one might think it would be difficult to find gifts for friends and family. But if one actually looks here in Alma, Christmas present ideas abound.

Downtown Alma has a number of small shops at which one can find gifts for everyone.

The Book Shoppe offers a variety of excellent book selections, zippered book covers, and calendars for gifts. Whether one is looking for a book of inspirational quotes, a favorite childhood story or the latest science

fiction novel, the Book Shoppe has it. With more books in stock now than the rest of the year, "don't be afraid to look here first," Nancy Rittenger stated. The Book Shoppe can always order a book if it is not in stock.

Slivers and Pokes Craft Creations sells everything from porcelain dolls to wooden shelves. Owner Vicki Toth stated that, "I've got something for everyone." This shop offers a "huge variety of unique and unusual handmade items."

Bob Moore Flowers and Tom Billig Flowers and Gifts not only provide flowers as an option to send a loved one for Christmas, but also offer collectibles.

Scripture Palace offers a variety of religious items, and could be a good place to find a gift in the spirit of the season.

For the handyman or sporting enthusiast one might try Van Attens. It is a hardware store, but does offer a selection of sporting goods.

The Cardboard Addiction sells sports cards and memorabilia, which make great gifts for collectors.

Rita's Hallmark is also a good place to go for holiday shopping. One can find a variety of ornaments and keepsakes here, including many miniatures and col-

lectibles.

Local clothing stores J.C. Penney and Fashion Bug offer a good option for the hard-to-buy-for individual.

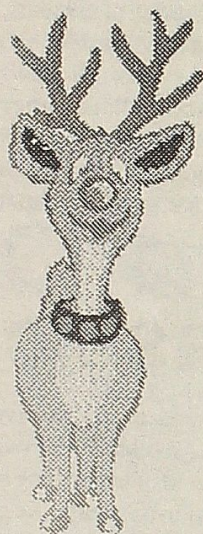
When gift ideas are hard to come by, gift certificates make a good present because they offer the recipient some choices. The 300 Bowl, Oscar's Restaurant and Alma Cinemas have date package gift certificates available for dinner and a movie, and bowling.

"We usually sell quite a few [gift certificates] around that time [the Christmas season]," stated Jane Smith of Oscar's Restaurant.

The Scot Shop presents another option for holiday shopping, as one can find a variety of Alma College paraphernalia for family and friends. Whether a sweat shirt or piece of glassware, college merchandise makes a thoughtful gift.

Also, one might want to consider attending a craft show in the area. Just check the newspapers for when and where they are held.

Junior Joanne Howd stated, "They [the craft shows] provide a nice gift alternative opportunity."



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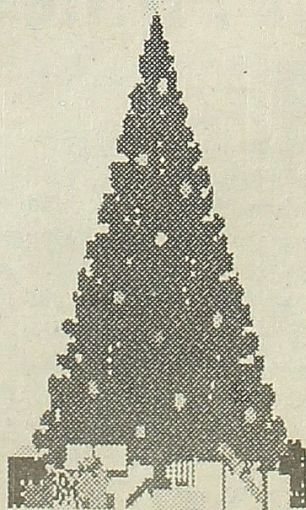
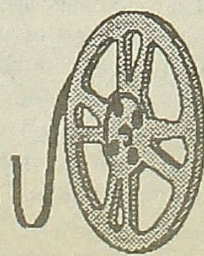
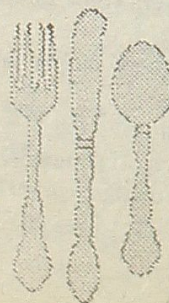
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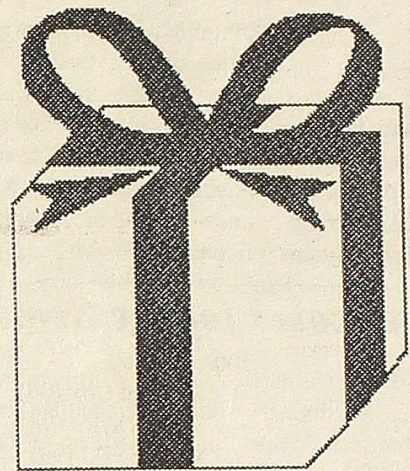


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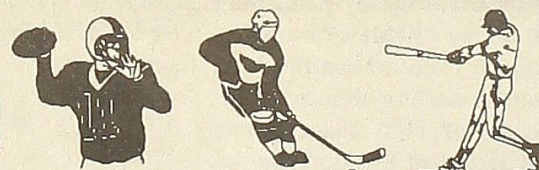


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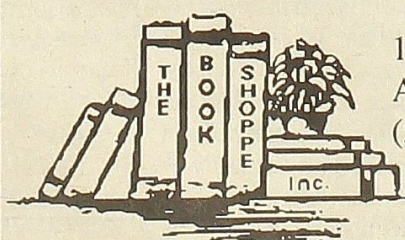
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Scot swimmers impressive despite loss

By Phil Allmen
Sports Editor

Last Saturday Alma College hosted a double dual meet as the swim team battled Hope College and Grand Valley State University. The teams played three different

matches—Alma against Hope, Alma against Grand Valley and Hope against Grand Valley. Hope has been ranked in the top ten for the past six year and Grand Valley is a Division II school, so Alma knew that the meets would be difficult.

"It's hard to enter a match knowing that it will be an uphill battle," said head swim coach Greg Baadte.

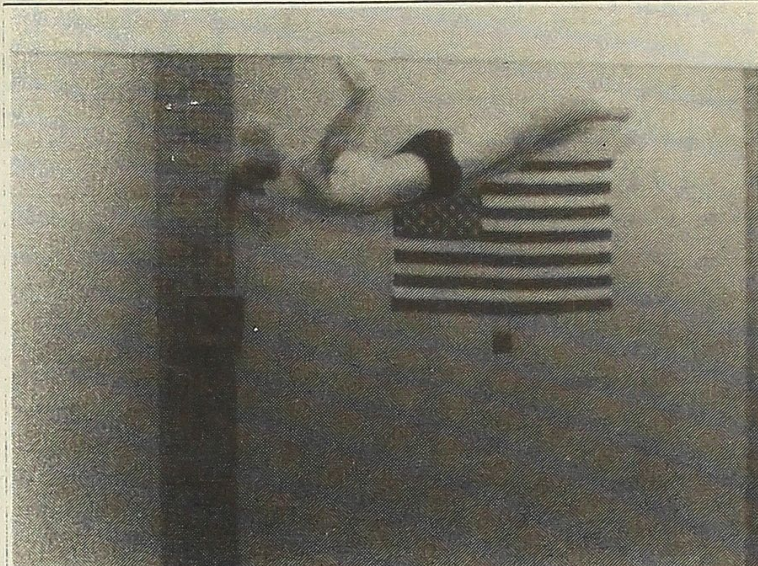
The men's team defeated Grand Valley 127-109 but lost to Hope 143-93. The women's team was edged out by Hope 170-168 and also came up shy against Grand Valley 149.5-92.5.

Despite the losses, Baadte was impressed with the excellent performance by the team. "This is the first time in my career at Alma that the men have defeated Grand Valley," said Baadte. "The school had not beat them for twelve years."

The women's team swam with two key players sick and unable to play—senior Dani Sullivan and sophomore Sarah Abbey.

"The women really stepped up to make up for the missing swimmers," said Baadte. "There were a lot of good swims out there."

Sullivan did not enjoy watching the match, although she did end up swimming 50m as part of a relay



First-year student Joey Mead demonstrates his winning form on Saturday. He won in both the 1m and 3m competitions in the double dual meet against Hope and Grand Valley. Photo by Jason Paetz.

team. She described watching the team as "the most horrible thing I've ever experienced in my life. There was nothing I could do."

Cheering the team along, Sullivan sees the talent her teammates pos-

sess. "The women's team has so much talent and depth, it's amazing," she said. "The team size has doubled and a lot of underclassmen have really stepped up to fill the leadership roles."

First place scores for the Scots

MEN		200m medley	
Bill James (99)		Michael Cox (00)	
500m freestyle		Steve Taylor (98)	
1,000m freestyle		Wisniewski (99)	
200m individual medley		Straub (00)	

WOMEN		200m freestyle	
Mark Oberman (99)		Jen Bondy (97)	
100m freestyle		500m freestyle	
200m freestyle		1,000m freestyle	

Chad Wisniewski (99)		Amanda Barker (00)	
50m freestyle		200m freestyle	
Jocye Mead (00)		100m backstroke	
1m diving			
3m diving			

Renee DeGraaf (98)	
50m freestyle	

Peter Straub (00)		Laura Camaan (00)	
100m breaststroke		100m butterfly	

NHL Standings

Standings through Sunday, November 24, 1996

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division:	Games	Win	Loss	Tie	Points
Florida	22	14	3	5	33
Washington	22	12	9	1	25
Philadelphia	23	12	10	1	25
New Jersey	20	11	8	1	23
New York Rangers	24	7	13	4	18
Tampa Bay	19	7	10	2	16
New York Islanders	21	4	9	8	16

Northeast Division:	Games	Win	Loss	Tie	Points
Hartford	20	10	6	4	24
Buffalo	21	10	10	1	21
Montreal	23	9	11	3	21
Boston	20	7	9	4	18
Ottawa	20	6	8	6	18
Pittsburgh	21	7	13	1	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division:	Games	Win	Loss	Tie	Points
Dallas	22	14	7	1	29
Detroit	24	13	8	3	29
Chicago	24	11	10	3	25
St. Louis	23	12	11	0	24
Toronto	22	9	13	0	18
Phoenix	21	6	11	4	16

Pacific Division:	Games	Win	Loss	Tie	Points
Colorado	24	15	5	4	34
Vancouver	20	12	8	0	24
Edmonton	23	11	11	1	23
Los Angeles	22	9	10	3	21
Calgary	23	9	12	2	20
San Jose	23	7	12	4	18
Anaheim	23	6	13	4	16

By Mike Reed
Freelance Writer

Seven players from the men's soccer team were recognized for their achievements by being selected for the All-MIAA teams.

The men's soccer team finished off a strong season with an overall record of 11-6-2 and an MIAA record of 8-3-1. They were ranked eighth in the Great Lakes Region and finished second in the conference.

All conference coaches vote for players to be honored by one of the twelve man All-MIAA teams. Coaches may not vote for their own players, making the selection process a sign of respect from opposing coaches.

Selected to the All-MIAA first team were Alma's junior co-captains Jeff Bateson and Tom Jewett. Bateson was selected to the team for the first time and Jewett has been honored once before.

Bateson anchored the midfield for the Scots and finished the season as the second highest scorer on the team with a total of seven goals and five assists. His five goals in MIAA play placed him in a six-way tie for sixth place in the conference for goals scored and a two-way tie for twelfth place in total points.

Jewett plays defense for Alma but was able to notch five goals and two assists this season, placing him fifth on the team's scoring list. His four goals in conference play gave him a tie for twelfth place in both goals scored and total points.

Recognized for the second team were first year student Matt Keller, senior Gabe Nguema, and sophomore Randy U'Ren.

Keller plays forward for the Scots, and although it is only his first year he led the team in both points and assists. He netted seven goals and seven assists on the year. His five

goals in MIAA play earned him a tie for sixth place in goals scored. Keller took second place in assists in the conference with six. His total points earned him a tie for third place in the conference.

Nguema has played for Alma for four years. He plays forward and

and notched three assists for the year and was a consistent threat from the wing position.

First year student Jon Cullen and senior Ian Schmidt were the two Scots selected to the All-MIAA honorable mention team.

Cullen received the call to start at goalie in the middle of his first season at Alma. Since then, he has performed magnificently in goal for the Scots and helped the team turn the season around. Cullen allowed only four goals in the entire nine hundred minutes that he played this year. His goals against average was an astounding 0.44 goals per game.

Schmidt anchored the defense for Alma for his fourth year in a row. He has been on the team for four years and has started every game since his freshman year except one which he missed due to injury. Schmidt's presence in the defense will be difficult to duplicate next year.

I thought it was a great four years.

•Gabe Nguema,
'97

took third place in the team's overall points. He tallied seven goals and two assists on the season.

Nguema's five goals in MIAA play earned him a tie for sixth place in goals scored. He also tied for ninth place in the conference in total points with twelve. When asked to look back on his soccer career at Alma Nguema said, "I thought it was a great four years. It was wonderful playing with all the guys."

Nguema's contributions to the team will be sorely missed next year.

U'Ren plays midfield for Alma and finished the season in fourth place for the team in total points. He tallied five goals

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Coaches' Corner

Closeup on Charlie Goffnet

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

This week's coaches' corner features women's head basketball and golf coach Charlie Goffnet. Goffnet is starting his tenth year here at Alma. His accomplishments include winning three MIAA league championships and four trips to the NCAA Division III playoffs for basketball. One of these trips culminated with the Scots winning the 1991-92 National Championship. He also led the women's golf team to two MIAA championships. Goffnet is married and his wife Mary Ellen is a speech pathologist for the Alma Public Schools. The couple has one child, a seven year old daughter named Kathryn.

What's your coaching experience?

I've been in coaching since I got out of high school. I'm from Shepherd originally. I went to college at Central Michigan University. While there, I was coaching basketball at the junior high level. I then became the head girls' basketball coach at Shepherd from 1977-79. So I've kind of been coaching ever since I got out of high school. From there, after college I became a graduate assistant at Central Michigan University with their men's program for two years. That's where I really broke into college coaching. The opportunity to coach at Central really opened the door for me to kind of enter college coaching. After two years at Central Michigan I landed an assistant coaching position at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas. From there I went on and spent a year at the University of Texas as a part time assistant. I had one of my closest friends, Ralph Pim, coaching here at Alma College with the men's program in 1986, and he called and said there's a women's position open up here; they have a highly successful program. When I interviewed for the position, we had been in Texas for about five years and we were kind of getting homesick. We felt a little isolated and didn't get a chance to see family a lot, so we decided it would be a good move for us to take this position. Ten years later we're sitting here talking. ... I'm also the women's golf coach, which is another one of my favorite things that I like to do. ... Golf has always been a love of mine and when Alma College started golf six years ago I was real excited to help build a golf program here.

What prompted your decision to go into coaching?

I was an athlete in high school and I just really enjoyed sports and played basketball, football, baseball and golf. I guess when you graduate from high school there's a huge void there. I wasn't really accomplished enough to play in college. I did play a year over at Montcalm Community College in Sidney, Michigan which is a huge community college over there in Montcalm county. That was a fun experience but after one year I transferred to Central and ended up going to school there. I'd probably say I was an average player trying to play college ball so I decided to put my efforts into coaching and just enjoy it. I enjoy working with the young players. There's a lot of good lessons to learn through athletics. You learn how to handle adversity. You learn that success is never final and that failure is never fatal. It's just the courage to go on and keep competing. So it's something that I enjoyed to do and it's just something that was pretty natural for me. I enjoy teaching skill. I'm a pretty patient person and I think that's a good attribute to have as a coach—to deal with kids and try to be patient with them and to help them learn. It just seems to be something that I enjoy doing. It's almost like it's not a job. If it's something that you enjoy doing it's almost like, "Wow I can't believe I'm getting paid to do this." I think that if your job isn't like that, if you're not enjoying your work, then maybe you better find something else to do because you can be in a lot of pain for a lot of years if you're not enjoying what you're doing on a day to day basis.

What was the best moment in your coaching career?

Well, the obvious one is the 1992 national championship. It was almost like it was surreal that it was going on because Alma was really a highly respected name in Division III basketball but really wasn't probably viewed as a national power. So as we went through that tournament experience that was really the culmination of true teamwork. The team had struggled a little bit during the year, was having a good year but just at the right time it all came together technically from a basketball standpoint and teamwork wise from an emotional standpoint. Our team was playing its best and was getting along and was its most unselfish at the right time. Those moments in sports are very rare. It's a peak performance. ... To do that in individual sports is one thing, but to bring a group of twelve or thirteen players and to have them be on the same wavelength during that tournament was really a special moment in my career.

By Erik Cargill
Freelance Writer

The men's basketball team kicked off it's season with a road trip to Erie, Pennsylvania. The Scots took the title of the Hamot Classic by defeating Wesley College (Delaware) and Penn St. - Berends. This tournament brought a positive start to what could prove to be a very successful season for the Scots.

"We went in expecting to win and we did," said junior Scott Goddard.

The first Scot victory arrived at the expense of Wesley College. This was a typical opener for the season. Alma stuck together and stumbled through their problems to pull out a hard fought victory. A strong all-around performance by

junior Doug Austin contributed greatly to this victory as he finished the game with 19 points, including two clutch free throws to ice the game. Their teamwork and intensity proved to be enough to pull out an 85-83 victory.

The Scots played the championship game with equal intensity and ended with a similar outcome. The Scots defeated Penn St.-Berends 75-66. Clutch free-throw shooting by junior Eric Spielhaupter proved to be a deciding factor. Junior Jason VanDerMaas provided tenacity coming off the bench finishing with 11 points and 7 rebounds. Seniors Chris Davis and Nathan Lounds added another thirty points finishing with 15 apiece.

The Scot team dominated the boards, out-rebounding their opponents 42-30 in the first game and

39-22 in the second. First-year student Chris Alexander moved the team along playing point guard.

Lounds finished the weekend with 26 points, 22 rebounds, 6 blocks, and 5 steals.

"Despite the large number of new faces on the team, we are expecting to keep improving as the season progresses," said Lounds.

Davis was named MVP of the tournament. Lounds also received recognition by earning a spot on the all-tournament team.

"We played well enough to win, but there is definite room for improvement," said Spielhaupter.

After a successful beginning, the Scots are looking to improve as the season progresses. The team is looking ahead to their first home game on November 30 against Elmhurst College (Illinois).

By Derek Boyer, Guest Columnist

Solitude makes hunting enjoyable

I hunt. Yep! That's me. Derek the Ripper. Cold-blooded murderer...

Well, not quite.

Luckily this year the opening day of deer season commenced on Friday, and I was able to skip town for the weekend. Contrary to most beliefs, and I speak for myself only, I do not hunt for the kill, but for the love of being the only person out there—solitude. I am extremely lucky. My family owns a cabin in the Upper Peninsula. I can hunt there with my closest "neighbor" situated over a half mile away.

On opening day I heard four gunshots. This is a remarkably high number of shots for the number of hunters, especially for those hunting in the mitten of Michigan. But anyway...

The anticipation of opening day compares to the opening night of a new play, the intense match between two rival schools or before a blind date. You never know what you will see, where it will come from or what will happen.

As I lay awake in bed Thursday night with visions of eight-point deer in my head, I realized that being there is the ultimate part of it all. I knew I would freeze my tate off the next day. I knew that I would not see a single thing all day. I knew I would probably have to wade through waist-high snow to get out there in the first place. None of that matters, however. Seeing a deer, or simply taking in nature makes everything okay.

Rising at 5:30 that Friday morning after a restless night, I ate a hearty breakfast, suited up and headed off to the deer blind. Making sure to get to the blind before

daybreak, I arrived at 6:45 a.m. After brushing off the fallen branches and snow, I got situated on my rock chair. Light peeks through the trees just after seven. At this point, every mangled stump, weed patch and pine tree resembles a deer. As the light continues to shine through, brightening the forest floor, I realized there were not fifteen deer in front of me. Not even five. Not one.

So begins another opening day.

After sitting for over four freezing hours, I walk around. Without broken trails, the stroll was difficult. The heat generated from blazing a trail, I thought, would do me some good. Wading through waist-high snow, I stop as if with sudden realization. I aimlessly sucked in everything going on around me—the sound of falling snow, the chirp of a blue jay, the caw of a crow off in the distance.

Ahhh...

I returned to my truck and returned to camp. My grandpa and uncle Steve were there with uncle Mike and my pa not far behind. The unexplainable calling (or perhaps just the cold) gathered us all together at the same time to share lunch and swap stories of the morning. Afterwards, we suited up and returned to the wild to see the "big one."

As dusk approached the shapes began altering again as the forest sounds transformed into the sounds of deer. My heart began racing. Nope, just the imagination. Darkness begins to blanket the land and I have not seen a single deer.

No big deal. Maybe some other time. Saturday morning arrives and I pack up for the Kiltie band concert. It is a bummer I did not see any deer, but getting out of Alma is nearly as exciting.

I go through all of the shenanigans of hunting to spend time with my family, share in the camaraderie and to breath in the fresh air. Everyone needs to spend time in the woods more often. The outdoors is my realm, my comfort zone, my inner peace. I love it.

MIAA Football Honors

By Chris Tapley
Assistant Sports Editor

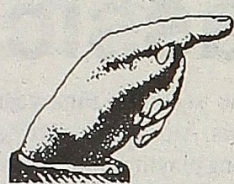
First Offensive Team
Offensive Lineman
Jason Couch Senior

Second offensive Team
Offensive Lineman
Jim Townsend Sophomore
Wide Receiver
Leonard Warren Junior
Quarterback
Bill Nietzke Senior
Running Back
Ray Dawood Junior

Honorable Mention
Kicker
Ric Brands Sophomore
Defensive Back
Craig Fritts Senior
Defensive Lineman
Mark Goedge Sophomore
Wide Receiver
Matt Gordon Senior
Runningback
Scott Heymoss Junior
Defensive Back
Chad Hoeve Senior
Offensive Lineman
Mike Joslyn Junior
Defensive Lineman
Jorge Livingston Senior
Defensive Lineman
Greg Mans Senior
Linebacker
Greg Maxson Senior
Defensive Back
Scott Menard Senior
Offensive Lineman
Ben Washabaugh Senior
Defensive Lineman
Bryan Roberts

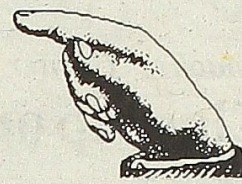
First year student

November 26, 1996



Point/Counterpoint:

Should political correctness matter?



Political correctness accurately refelects modern times

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

While discussing the topic of political correctness with a friend recently, he said, "I don't like political correctness. Why don't people just say what they mean?" After having some time to review his comment I would like to ask the same thing: why don't people just say what they mean?

Not too long ago, unfortunately, we lived in a time when the only people who were postal workers, Congressional Representatives, business professionals and many other divisions of our labor force were male. To call these people *postmen*, *Congressmen*, *businessmen* and so on was an accurate reflection of the work force.

Times have changed.

Today we boast a diverse work force that includes members of all genders, races, national origins, etc. Yet our language has not changed with the times. All too often we continue to keep the hopelessly outdated labels for people who no longer fit the description the words suggest. Clearly this is a case where we are not saying what we mean.

The problem goes far beyond job titles, however. Case in point: last year a group of students on this campus rallied in opposition to the changing of the name of the yearbook from *The Scotsman* to *The Scot*, claiming that this was just a case of the yearbook staff pandering to political correctness. Various arguments were heard on why the former yearbook name should be kept, but one that

was conspicuously absent was that the change would put us in a position where we were no longer "saying what we meant."

Once again, the change, and a politically correct one at that, was simply a case of the language used in the title of the yearbook was moving towards a more accurate verbal description of the people being covered in the name. Obviously, there are more than just *Scotsmen* on this campus, and the new yearbook name reflects that, reflects a move toward saying what we mean.

This entire basis of this discussion centers not around politics, but instead around language, and who has the power to name. For centuries that power has belonged exclusively to white males, and now that is being threatened. The reaction by those currently in power to this threat is typical: charge that those working for progress are presenting a "radical agenda" and work to get others to think the same.

Unfortunately, this process seems to be working, as the term "politically correct" has taken on extremely negative connotations. Once again, those with the power to name are changing the focus of this movement away from linguistic accuracy and on to a topic which the majority of Americans dislike: politics.

Hopefully the American people will see through this smoke screen put up by those who fear a more equal distribution of power and we can move in a direction of actually saying what we mean.

Political correctness has gone too far

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

The greatest indicator that the politically correct movement has gone too far is that the politically correct word for being politically correct is now "culturally sensitive."

The politically correct movement has suggested a number of changes that are not precise and raise even more room for revisions.

Take for example the word "African-American." Many use this term for people whose skin color is black. What about people with black skin whose heritage is not African? Or even better, what about those people with African heritage who have white skin?

If those with black skin are "African-Americans," then what are people with white skin called? Certainly not "European-Americans," for there are people with white skin who do not have European heritage, but are Asian.

There are also varying degrees of skin color. How does P.C. account for that?

A word that drives P.C. people crazy is "Indian." They want to use the phrase "Native American," instead. They also fight to change references made by sports teams, such as the Central Michigan University Chippewas, or the Eastern Michigan University Hurons (now the Eagles), even when the groups in question do not have a problem with the use of their names.

If leaders of Indian tribes do not care, and if their people do not care, then why should it bother non-Indians? What injustice is there in using a name of the specific tribe as a mascot?

Furthermore, the term "Native Ameri-

can," is also not exactly precise. Are Native American Indians technically native?

No, they just migrated to North America before Europeans did.

The term "Native-American" also does not make the distinction between the different types of Indians. So really the word is just another gross over-generalization.

Another fight is over what should be taught in public schools, especially American history. P.C. people tend to emphasize what they call "minority contributions" over standard history teachings. If there is time to spend on minority achievement, that would be excellent, but there are basic historical facts that must be covered in the curriculum. Students should know about our founding fathers. Students should learn about the Wright brothers. The Industrial Revolution should be covered, as should the Great Depression. People such as Abraham Lincoln must be covered, as should Martin Luther King, Jr.

However, those whose contributions were minor simply cannot be covered in the limited time most classes have. To remedy this, a good idea would be to offer a class that specializes on specific eras or peoples, such as those offered at Alma College. This would provide an alternative to students who feel a particular need to study people not normally covered in a standard United States history class. These students could take these classes as supplements to the standard curriculum.

The P.C. movement has taken things to extremes. The examples I have provided are just a few of the many instances where political correctness, under the guise of promoting "liberal thought," actually promotes change for the sake of change.

By adopting these thoughts, we in no way better our society.

Lower level classes require too much work

Professors fail to distinguish between 100 and 200 level classes

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

Alma College is a liberal arts institution, which means that students are required to take a certain number of classes in each discipline. Of course students take the entry-level, 100- and 200-level classes to fill these distributive requirements. The problem is that these 100- and 200-level classes are just as hard and require just as much work as 300-level classes.

Often, students who take entry-level classes are not majors unlike those in 300-level classes. These students may not have areas as do the majors. So why do professors make 100- and 200-level courses

so difficult?

Many entry-level classes are so-called "weeder" classes. They are designed to keep those who are not able or willing to do the work out of that discipline as a major. In a liberal arts setting, however, this is not fair. All students are required to take these classes. So why penalize someone taking a class solely to fill a distributive requirement?

For instance, I have a class which

I am required to take. The class really frustrates me because I understand the concepts but I think that the professor is just too damn picky. He expects students to an-

Many entry-level classes are so-called "weeder" classes. They are designed to keep those who are not able or willing to do the work out of that discipline as a major.

swer more than the questions he asks on the exams. It is just not fair. I am not a mind reader, and I should not be expected to do so.

It is not fair, either, for professors

to expect students to do the amount of work for an entry-level class as an upper-level class. I know of students who have taken classes where for each exam they had to

write four to eight take home essays. Each essay had to be four to six pages. This is absolutely ridiculous.

Maybe professors

think that students only take their class for the term, where as most students have three or four other classes. That can be the only explanation for professors piling on the

amount of work that they sometimes do.

Perhaps a good solution would be to set up certain guidelines to distinguish the differences between 100-, 200-, and 300-level courses. That, at least, would make difficulty level and amount of work more uniform. Students, therefore, would not have any question about what was generally expected of them before entering the course.

Don't get me wrong, I am not trying to be a whiny college student, and only complain about all my work. I just think that students should only be required to do 100-level work for a 100-level class. I do not believe this to be an unreasonable request.

Count blessings, not obligations

By Kari St. Bernard
Freelance Writer

Turkey Day, an official break here at Alma College, is more than just a vacation or a chance to catch up on homework: many students have lost sight of the fact that this is a holiday as well. It seems that the true meaning of Thanksgiving has been overshadowed by students worrying about the close of the term and everything they still have to finish before finals. It is unfortunate that many of us have let procrastination, neglected responsibility, and school matters cloud this meaningful holiday, but it does not have to be this way.

Honestly, how much school work do you get done on Thanksgiving Day? Probably not much. Let's face it, you are probably not too busy to take out a little time to 'count your blessings?' So this year, do not worry about the paper you have not finished or the exam you have to study for. Instead, enjoy the holiday like you did as a child--worry-free and fighting for the opportunity to pull on the Thanksgiving wishbone.

This year make the time to think about how truly blessed you are: enjoy the family, friends, food, and even football. Find the joy in little things, like seeing a child's eyes light up when they see Santa Claus in the Thanksgiving Day parade.

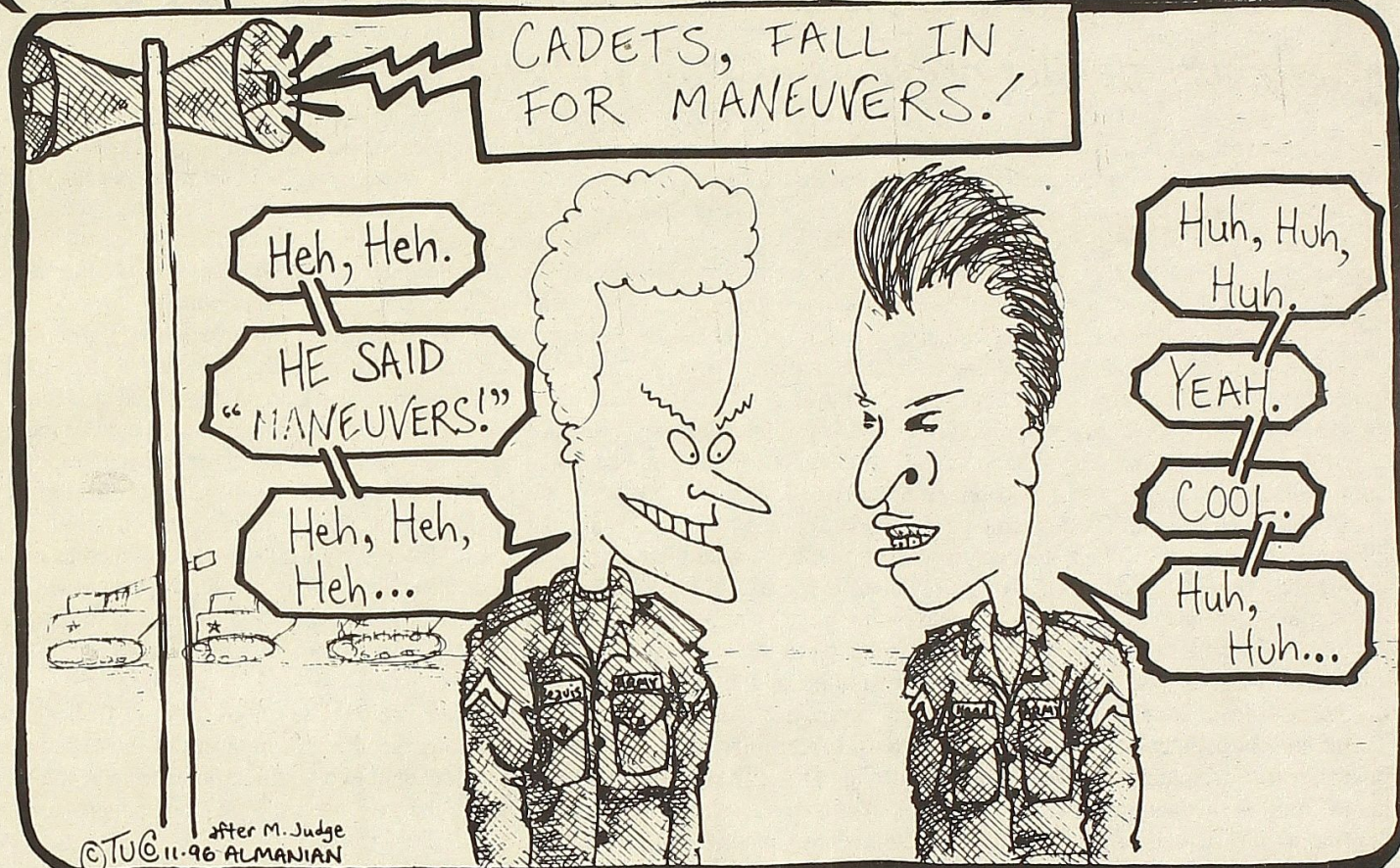
If you do not have any holiday traditions of your own and none of these strike your fancy, try starting a new one. Maybe you could start one with your significant other, or a close group of friends. You could have an annual Thanksgiving road trip, traveling to a different place each year, gaining new appreciation for the beauty of the land. Backlash against tradition and eat mashed-potato pizza or turkey burgers. Try a holiday progressive meal with your friends, where each person is responsible for making a different course of the meal and you travel from house to house to sample each other's cuisine. If you do not like to travel or cook you could start an annual "vegeathon," where you sit around and watch the boob toob and eat all day long. But do something--don't just fret over your scholastic concerns.

Do not dwell on the negative or spend all your time thinking about school; that is not why we have this holiday break. Use this time to relax: it is called a "break" for a reason. Make a conscious effort to, for at least one day, forget about all that stuff you have to do. Use this opportunity to remember the holiday spirit.

If you are feeling that you have few blessings to count, remember that there is always someone, somewhere, who is worse off than you. If you are really having a hard time feeling thankful, volunteer at a local soup kitchen or homeless shelter or try visiting nursing home or hospital patients in an effort to try and bring someone else something to be thankful for. Find a way to appreciate all that you have rather than stressing out about all that you have to do and everything that is going wrong in your life.

And remember: if nothing else, you can at least be thankful that this term is almost over.

NEWS ITEM: Another military sex scandal has been exposed at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md....



U.S. has moral obligation to help

We have a moral obligation to provide assistance to a less fortunate, innocent people that is starving and suffering from human rights abuses.

By Brandon Edward Miller
New York Correspondent

While the current exodus of refugees from Zaire to Rwanda has delayed the necessity for a large military presence in the Great Lakes Region in Africa, some wonder why the United States government would commit to joining such a force. Indeed, during a recent briefing for high school students on the United States role in the United Nations I was asked, What is the United States interest in Zaire? Why should we die for them?

What are our interests in central Africa? We really do not have a political interest. There are not too many Rwandan-Americans petitioning Congress nor are Zairian-

American a powerhouse of a lobbying force on Capital Hill. An economic interest does not exist; General Motors has not targeted Rwanda for its newest line of compact cars.

Our interest is a moral one; we have a moral obligation to provide assistance to a less fortunate, innocent people that is starving and suffering from human rights abuses. In the post-Cold War era, the United States has emerged as the sole world superpower. If we wish to be a positive influence, a responsible leader, we must take action, not in every situation, but when we are able. This requires a great deal of thought and restraint. Indeed, the United States, before it made its decision to commit troops to the humanitarian mission in Zaire, was roundly criticized for its reluctance to act quickly. Careful planning with clear goals and an end-game strategy are necessary to avoid situations which occurred in Somalia and the former Yugoslavia due to hasty planning.

We cannot, however, be the world's policeman. We cannot assist everyone, everywhere. That is why the United Nations is central to conducting our foreign policy, particularly with regards to our peripheral interests. The United States has always and will continue to deal with its closest

allies like Mexico, Canada, Japan and Israel on a bilateral basis. But when an issue does not directly affect us, in a place like Zaire, Eastern Slovenia, or Guatemala, we can take action multilaterally with other member states of the United Nations.

This has the effect of spreading the responsibility. We are not the only country politically, economically, or militarily on the line. This collective security is exactly what the founders of the United Nations had in mind when they drafted the Charter.

Finally, we must be careful not to let our moral interests, such as whether or not to participate in a humanitarian force in Zaire, be determined by the CNN factor. It is a bit disturbing that no real action started with regard to Zaire until Christine Amanpour arrived with her news crew and sent back horrifying accounts and pictures to Atlanta. The United States government—not CNN or Reuters images—must decide where we can most effectively use our political, economic, and military might, which are not unlimited.

Miller, an Alma College senior, is currently in New York City at the United Nations working as Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright's Press and Public Affairs Assistant.

Electronic mail Nazis dominate labs

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

Etiquette is a big theme this week for the "Opinion" section of the *Almanian*. This trend is not going to stop with this article, either.

Have you ever been sitting outside of the computer lab, waiting for someone to finish up with their e-mail "business"? All you want to do is send a little letter to your family, your friends, maybe even a professor, right? So, you patiently wait while someone else hogs a computer for an hour, either writing the person who is sitting across the room from them, or writing someone else on campus.

For those people out there who do not

realize that this is a problem, think of how often you see the very same people at all hours of the day and night in the computer labs when you pass by. Think of waiting in the computer lab for your turn to come and hearing someone say to the person next to them, "Oh, I know, but did you hear this?" and then type furiously. These people, who are sitting together, who are perfectly capable of talking to each other, are actually writing to each other.

This is a phenomenon that is incomprehensible to most people. If you are sitting next to someone, why can't you just talk to them? Why do you have to write back and forth with this person? There is no apparent logical explanation for this question.

There is nothing wrong with sitting at a

computer all day if that is what you want to do with your time. However, like with all things, your rights end where another person's begin. If you are sitting in the computer lab and you notice that someone else is waiting, do not be rude. If you are planning on an e-mail marathon, get up, and allow someone else to use the computer. The person you are chatting with can wait a few minutes so that someone else does not have to wait an entire evening for you to finish.

An important thing to remember is that these e-mail Nazis are everywhere and out of control. Everyone has the right to use the computers. It is not at all courteous to stay on a computer for an obscene amount of time while other people wait patiently.

Staff Editorial

Alma needs week-long break

Campus calender prevents us from truly becoming a national school

Tomorrow at 5:00 pm, Alma College officially begins its Thanksgiving Break. Many students have already left, and for the majority of Alma College students, it is just a few hours—or less—in the car before they arrive at home.

However, for a small majority of Alma College students, the short time between the beginning of break and the actual holiday forces them to make a choice. Either they can take a few day off of class or they can miss the spending the holiday with their families. These are the Alma College students from out of state and overseas.

Many other schools solve this problem by allowing student to take a full week of off classes. These schools realize that for out of state and international students, a four day break is not worth the expense and trouble of a trip home. They understand that there needs to be a longer break to enable all of their students to return home to be with their families, not just those who live relatively close to the school.

Alma College does not follow this line of thinking.

The worst part is that while the college holds on to this four day break (including the weekend), the administration and Board of Trustees are looking for ways to expand the geographical diversity of the student population. They talk about increasing recruiting efforts to lure foreign students and those who live out of the state of Michigan to enroll at this national liberal arts school. We talk as a school of finding ways to make Alma attractive to these students, about making

it worth their while to travel far from home to go to school. Despite all our “national” rhetoric, we hold on to a very local approach to length of holiday vacations.

If Alma College is indeed serious about diversifying the geographical make-up of the campus, if Alma College is serious about attracting students from locales not traditionally covered by those in admissions, if Alma College is serious about truly becoming a nationally recognized liberal arts college, we need to work as much on the campus calendar as we do on the course content.

This is not to blame the admissions staff. They are recruiting well as evidenced by last week’s story on the admissions report. However, they are placed in a position by those who develop the campus calendar of only being able to offer so much to out of state and international students. Why would a student who has to travel very long distances chooses Alma over a similar school with a calendar that allows them the time to return to their families for holidays without having to worry about missing class? Quite simply, there is no reason.

There are many reasons to chooses Alma College, and many students do. However, the vast majority of those that do are from small schools less than two hundred miles from Alma. If we really want to change that, we need to make adjustments in the campus calendar.

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

Rudeness ruins vacation enjoyment

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

Vacation—a time for relaxation and peace. As much as we hope that our vacation will fit this ideal, it does not always. Sometimes, it is not even by any choice of our own. Rude people can ruin a vacation in a variety of ways.

Rude people case scenario number one: People who cut in line. This doesn’t seem like a huge deal at all, but it is. When you are absolutely famished, standing in line at a restaurant and someone cuts in front of you, you have every right in the world to gouge that person’s eyes out with a fork. This is one of the rudest things someone can do to another person. Wait your turn. It will only be a few seconds longer. Besides, everyone knows when you

are cutting in line. You may think that you are being sly, but you really are not at all.

Rude people case scenario number two: People who cannot control their children. We see this form of rudeness everywhere. Nothing ruins a nice vacation-out meal like a screaming child running around a restaurant throwing crackers or small plastic automobiles. What is especially disturbing about this is the fact that oftentimes, the parents are passively enjoying their meal while their child terrorizes everyone else. If you cannot control your child, do the world a favor and get a baby-sitter.

Carrying on with scenario number two is people who cannot control their children on airplanes. (This is a rather personal scenario for me after flying this past week.)

Everyone knows that when you are ascending or descending through the air, your car drums pop. Imagine how disturbing this must be for a child, thinking that what they are hearing might be their brains exploding. However, this is no excuse for a child to scream their head off while their calm parents say quietly, “Shh. You cannot look out the window if you are screaming.” Wow. Big brains on that parent. If a child is scared and sore, do you really think that they care about looking out the window? Give them some gum or candy to chew to help the pressure.

Rude people case scenario number three: Walking in front of people when they are taking a picture. This one happens all the time. In order to stop yourself from com-

mitting this social faux pas, it only takes a moment of thought. Pay attention to where you are going and what is going on around you. This is not too difficult a concept, is it?

My final rude people case scenario: Adults who treat people our age like trash. Nothing is more rude than being treated horribly because of your age. We really are not that incompetent, no more so than some adults, anyway. It is perplexing to think about where this change may have even come about. When do we decide, as a society, that we are better than other people, when every adult has been our age before?

The lesson in all of this: Think about others before yourself every once in a while. Everyone will be happier for it in the long run—even you.

Differences should be embraced, not shunned

“One of these things is not like the other...”

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

Look around sometime. How often do you notice that other people are not like you? If your answer is pretty often, congratulations. Noticing other people’s differences is a proud first step on your way to becoming an open minded individual. Now, how often do you think negatively about people who

are not like you? If your answer to that one was pretty often, please go to jail, do not pass go, do not collect your \$200.

No one is the very same person as someone else. If you think that you are, or you think that you might like to be exactly like someone else, shame on you. Not only is that unhealthy, but it is not wise either. We should learn that we are all different and that is why we are individuals and not clones. We were made to be this way. Finding your own inner beauty and finding the best way possible to express it is what it is all about to becoming a better person.

The thing that everyone needs to remember is that what is not right for you may be perfectly right for someone else. So, you do not like to wear black lipstick, pierce your

body, or wear used clothes, just to name a few of the many outward differences between people. Good for you. What does it matter if someone else does? Do their actions and appearances in any way harm you? Probably not. So, why do you have to harm them?

People love to point out people who are different. Think about it this way: you are different from them in their eyes, too, so you really are not any better than them. When you laugh at someone or make fun of their appearance, you do absolutely nothing to better anyone, except yourself. If you get a big head by making fun of someone else, more power to you. If you get a cheap thrill from making other people feel like an outcast, throw a big clone party in your honor. It is just such a shame that in this day

and age there are still people blind to the fact that differences in others should be embraced, not shunned.

An important thing to remember is that these differences are outward. People who are not afraid to be individuals and respect everyone’s differences may be better people than those who do not extend the same courtesy to others, in the long run, we should all have the same goal. Encourage diversity in all areas of our life. Encourage tolerance, understanding, respect. Encourage everyone to be themselves and stand up for the differences between other people. Learn to embrace differences and maybe not only will you become human, but you may learn something important and valuable about yourself.