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The Almanian

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Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 14

News Briefs

International News Briefs

McVeigh Attorneys want new trial
Attorneys for convicted Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh asked for a new trial Friday, claiming that Terry Nichols got preferential treatment denied to McVeigh. The appeal contends that Nichols' lawyers could ask potential jurors more about their death penalty views, and that at least one juror improperly discussed the case. The appeal also says the jury should have been offered lesser charges, such as those accepted by Nichols' jury.

Texas tobacco company's agree
Texas will get \$15.3 billion over 25 years from the tobacco industry to settle its lawsuit over smoking-related health care costs, a deal state officials called the largest settlement in the history of U.S. litigation. Texas will receive \$72 million up front and more than \$1.2 billion this year primarily for children's health care, anti-smoking education and enforcement.

RNC rejects abortion litmus test
The Republican National Committee rejected a proposal to deny funding to GOP candidates who do not support a ban on certain late-term abortions. The committee took its action on Friday after Chairman Jim Nicholson, Speaker Newt Gingrich and prominent anti-abortion lawmaker Henry Hyde warned that imposing an abortion litmus test could cost the party its majorities in Congress.

Athletes bare all for Nike Ads
The NBA's David Robinson and other sports stars will help Nike sell clothes by not wearing any in a commercial debuting during the Super Bowl. Crafty camera angles will obstruct exposure. The core idea of the commercial is to show the vulnerability of the human body to the incredible demands that sport places on it.

Campus Happenings

The **Music Department** is presenting Kristina Belisle, professor of music on the clarinet and Raymond Riley, professor of music, on piano at the Heritage Center, Friday at 8 p.m.

Alma College is presenting "**Especially Tap Chicago**" at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center on Monday, January 26.

Poet Anne Casten will be on campus Wednesday, January 28 at 8.m. in the Heritage center.

Resident Selection carousels will be held on January 31 and February 1 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Faculty utilize new forum link

Alma College Forums

By Missy Crossnoe
News Editor

Many students are participating in discussions with their classmates without verbal or face-to-face communication this term. To complete this feat they are taking part in Alma's new forum link found on the Alma College web page.

The forum link is a site where students can post their thoughts about topics already decided, or ones they start themselves, on the world wide web. Several professors in the communication, English, exercise and health science and foreign language departments are utilizing this link, which is being used for the first time this term, to enhance the classroom experience.

"Traditional discussion in the classroom is limited by time and space," said David Lawrence, assistant professor of communication. "The forum

opens up and extends classroom participation," he added.

Lawrence is using the forum in his communication classes weekly. He offers a question on the site for students to deliberate upon and then asks them to add their own ideas based on his question and peer responses.

"Because of the nature of the courses I teach, the forum is beneficial, it represents another form of human communication," Lawrence said.

Lawrence, along with Doug Seelbach, associate professor of exercise and health science, believe that the forum allows students who do not usually participate in classroom discussions to gather their thoughts and reflect upon them in a way that they feel comfortable with.

The forum offers a different "avenue of expression," said Lawrence.

Because the forum is so new, professors cannot tell yet what its affects are on students.

Seelbach is hopeful that it will become a good addition to class discussion. "If it works in my Nutrition class, I will add it to a couple of other classes in the future," he added. "If students use it and get excited,

we could have some lively discussions."

Lawrence is also curious to know students' feelings about participating in the forum.

"I think it helps them feel more prepared for class," he said, "because they have already read the assignment, their peer's views and posted their own thoughts before they even enter the classroom."

Lawrence said that he foresees the forum being used in the future by many professors who rely on discussion and debate to facilitate their classroom environment. So far, students seem to feel that the forum is beneficial.

"It really does work," said first-year student Laura Baker who uses the forum for her Spanish class.

"It gives us a chance to practice writing in Spanish, which is the most difficult thing for me. Also, using the forum makes writing compositions in class easier," she added.

Junior Martha Schaefer, who uses the forum for Seelbach's class, also believes that it offers an opportunity for students to ask questions and learn outside of the classroom. "I haven't used it a lot," she said, "but I hope to more in the future."

Burns Dinner brings Scottish tradition to campus

By Michelle Pippel
Freelance Writer

The Burns Dinner, which was held on Saturday in VanDusen Commons, provided students, faculty, staff and community members with an evening of Scottish tradition and cuisine.

Alma College has been hosting the Burns Dinner for nine years now in honor of the Scottish poet, Robert Burns.

The evening began at 5:30 p.m. with a reception outside of Van Dusen Commons with hot apple cider and shortbread cookies. After all had ample time to enjoy the atmosphere and company of friends, the welcome given by Chuck Moerdyk commenced the evening's activities.

Following Chuck Moerdyk's introduction, Mike Cameron and Bill Weaver, music faculty member [bag] piped in the Haggis, a traditional Scottish dish made from sheep's intestines, oatmeal, and spices stuffed into a sheep's stomach. Haggis to the Scottish is like apple pie to the Americans. It is a dish held in reverence in Scotland and given to friends and family to show extreme gratitude and thanks. President Alan Stone then proceeded to give the invocation as it would have been given in Scotland.

The dinner began with Partan Bree Soup, which in America is equivalent to Krab soup with rice in a cream broth. Other fare on the menu included: oatcakes and scones, tatties and neeps (mashed potatoes and turnips), Scotch eggs (hard boiled eggs baked inside of a sausage and bread coat-

ing), veggie briddies, briddies with bordelaise sauce (individual steak pies), bubbly jack (carved roast turkey), Haggis, and fruit trifle and tea cakes. Many who were present said they thoroughly enjoyed the menu and the entertainment.

After dinner the night's festivities continued with the Alma College Highland Dancers performing a variety of traditional dances while junior Karla Greening explained the significance of each. The

"The dances provided laughs and entertainment for everyone at the dinner."

•Dan Johnston (98)

dances performed included a medley of three Country Dances, which is comparable to country line dancing and square dancing meshed together.

Other dances included the Sword Dance, which is typically performed by soldiers before battle and it is believed that if a soldier hits the sword while dancing he will die in battle the next day.

The next dance, Sailor's Scorn Pipe, is a dance mocking the English sailors and their actions as they prepare for sea.

The third dance called the Highland Fling is a dance traditionally performed by warriors over a round shield with a spike in the middle.

The dance tells the story of a boy who saw his first deer and did not know how to express what he saw in words and made up a dance to show what he was feeling. The hand and arm movements in the Highland Fling represent antlers of the deer.

The final danced performed was the Irish Jig. This dance mocks the Irish temperament by expressing the anger an Irish washerwoman feels toward her husband who just came home from the pub where he spent that weeks pay check.

"The dances provided laughs and entertainment for everyone at the dinner," said senior Dan Johnston. "The excellence with which the dancers performed almost made one believe the stories that the dances tell really happened to them," Johnston added.

Following the dancers, Eugene Pattison, chair and professor of English, read an assortment of poems in honor of Robert Burns.

The final bit of Scottish entertainment for the evening was a selection of Scottish songs performed by Cindy Moerdyk and Al Bartholomew.

In closing the night's festivities Chuck Moerdyk thanked everyone for coming and asked everyone to join in a chorus of "Auld Lang Syne" accompanied by Anthony Patterson, instructor of music, on the keyboard.

"Overall the entire evening was a success," said Johnston. "The food was excellent, everyone present dressed in their Sunday best or the traditional kilt, and the entertainment evoked laughter from all," he said.

Job openings abound for seniors

By Missy Crossnoe
News Editor

Graduation is around the corner and Alma College seniors are facing many uncertainties. One major question uttered throughout campus is "Will I be able to find a job?"

Well, seniors there's good news. According to a National Study of job market trends for new college graduates there will be an increase of 27.5 percent in job openings for this year's college graduates. The increase predicted is considerably greater than any recorded in recent job market history for new college graduates.

"The results from this survey are true," said Bob Perkins, dean of student development. "Last year's job market was good, but this year's is great," he added.

The 27th annual Recruiting

Trends survey was conducted by career Services and Placement at Michigan State University (MSU). The survey was completed by 477 businesses, industries and governmental agencies throughout the United States.

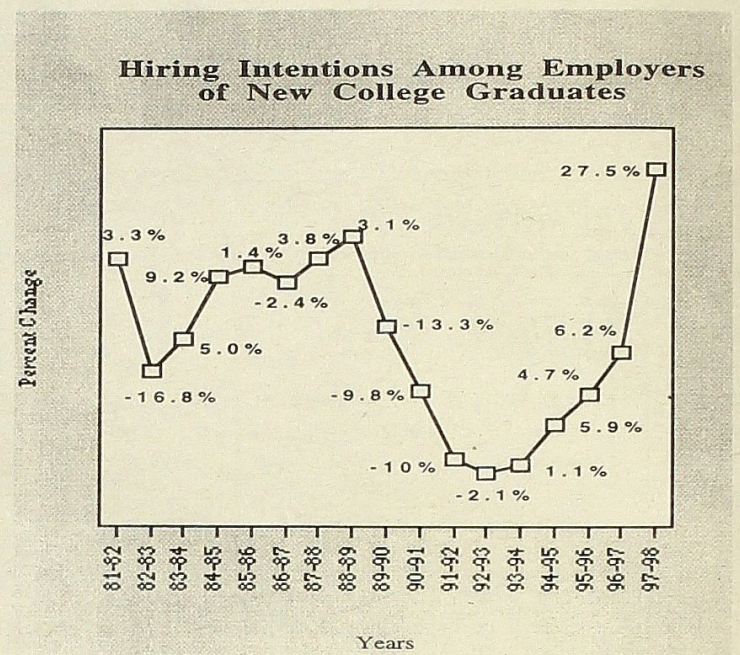
Patrick Scheetz, director of the Collegiate Employment Research Institute at MSU and author of the study said, "96.7 percent of employers are saying that the market will be good to excellent this year, including job openings within their own industries."

According to the survey, the majors that are most frequently being requested in today's job market are computer and information services, engineering, business management and administrative services, and the health professions and related services. However, Perkins added that "the job market is good across the board."

The survey also states that college students with a variety of technological, communication and leadership skills as well as internship and work experience, statewide and abroad, will find themselves at the top of the prospect list. This includes the many Alma seniors who have studied off-campus for a term or completed an S-course.

Further, the survey predicts that starting salaries offered to new college graduates hired in 1997-1998 will be 3 to 5 percent higher than in 1996-97. Salaries will be highest among engineers (4.1 percent), MBA graduates (5.0 percent), and Ph.D. graduates (4.6 percent). Business graduates are expected to receive 3.5 percent increases and social sciences, liberal arts and communication arts majors about 3.2 percent.

The results of the survey say the factors affecting the job mar-



ket this year are a steady growth in the economy, low inflation rates and unemployment rates at an all-time low.

For more information, or to receive a copy of the Recruiting Trends survey, call Scheetz at (517) 355-9510, ext. 134.

King's message upheld through day of community service

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

Yesterday was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. For some it meant a day off work. For others it meant a day of community service.

Many Alma College students participated in community service through Students Offering Service (SOS) and service learning classes to treat the elderly of Gratiot County to an afternoon out.

For the second year, SOS volunteers and service learning students teamed up to determine the annual community service project. The groups decided that the biggest need in the county was the elderly, so they planned a movie afternoon for them. Nursing homes throughout Gratiot County and the Masonic Home in Alma were contacted in order to invite them to the show.

At 2 p.m., Monday, the Strand Theater played the film, *The King and I*, free of charge. The Strand

Theater provided the site of the showing while SOS and the Service Learning department provided the film through rental from a movie corporation. Dial-a-Ride also donated free transportation to pick up the film viewers. During the film, the elderly were treated to free concessions purchased by the two groups.

In order to make the show run more smoothly, SOS and the Service Learning department signed up volunteers last Wednesday during meals. In addition students in service learning classes were asked to participate.

The roughly thirty volunteers arrived at the Strand Theater around 1 p.m. Many jobs were available ranging from popping and serving popcorn, acting as ushers and projecting the film. Many volunteers also rode with the Dial-a-Ride busses to ensure the passengers got on and off the busses safely. Other volunteers were simply available to converse with the elderly if they wished to do that rather than watch the

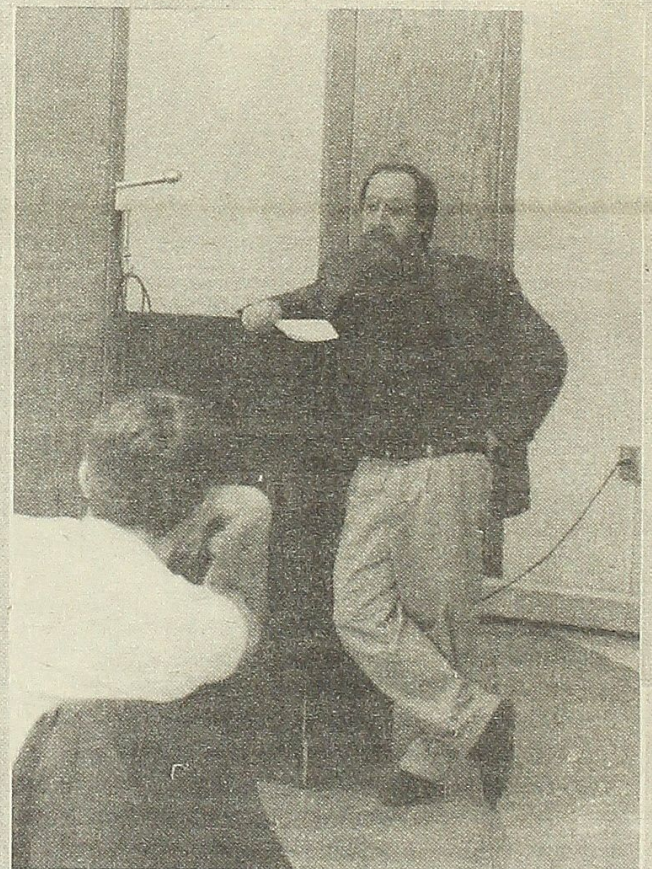
movie.

Junior Amanda Schafer, assistant to the Service Learning Coordinator through SOS, remarked on the importance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a opportunity for volunteerism.

"Just like the representative from Martin Luther King, Jr. says, Monday is not just a day off work, but a day of community service. Those volunteers who helped us were really taking it to heart and doing a lot for the community," she said.

Heather Hodgeson (00), internal coordinator for SOS expressed her excitement for the project. Normally one group within SOS works with the senior citizens of Gratiot County, yet Martin Luther King, Jr. Day allows many students a chance to participate in the lives of the elderly. "This was the first time to participate in Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. It was a great opportunity for students to get involved with senior citizens to celebrate the holiday," she said.

Perkins speaks at junior dessert



Bob Perkins, dean of student development, speaks to juniors at the junior dessert on Tuesday. The dessert was designed to give juniors information on the graduate school application process. Photo by Derek Warner.

Physics lab to be modernized with funds from Cherished Ever Campaign

By Cheryl Lenard
Staff Reporter

Lab improvements are coming soon for the over 100 Alma students enrolled in the introductory physics courses.

As part of the Alma College Cherished Ever fundraising campaign, the physics department received grant money. The grant money will be used to meet its "biggest needs," modernizing the introductory physics labs, according to Eugene Deci, professor of physics.

"This [grant] will really let us computerize our lab [and] bring it up to modern standards," said

Cameron Reed, professor of physics.

"Almost all modern experiments are done on-line anymore," commented Deci.

In addition, Reed stated, "Scheduling [labs] will be easier because we have more equipment per student [so] we can make efficient use of the lab."

The new equipment includes instruments which enable students to place all of their results on computers.

Deci explained that companies are making more accurate measuring devices which can be directly interfaced into the computer.

Using computers for experiments produces more accurate

"Almost all modern experiments are done on-line anymore."

• Eugene Deci,
professor of physics

results, he added.

"[These instruments] save the routine drudgery of collecting data," commented Reed.

The funds for the new equipment coming from the Cherished Ever campaign, a fund-raising initiative by Alma College aimed at raising the College's endowment.

The Campaign originated when all of the science departments put their needs and proposals for new equipment and supplies in writing and submitted them to the college.

With these proposals, Alma College president, Alan Stone, then found companies which were willing to donate money for the sciences to Alma.

The money was then distributed to the respective departments which have resulted in improve-

ments in the physics, biology, chemistry and exercise and health science departments.

The money is not just going towards new equipment in the physics labs, however.

"We will need to upgrade equipment as we go along to stay at the forefront [of technology], [so] an endowment for science equipment is also included," Deci explained.

According to Deci and Reed, some of the \$100,000 of new physics equipment has arrived. Presently, it is still in the shipping boxes but will soon be placed in the labs with the arrival of the rest of the equipment.

Series of poets scheduled to visit Alma

By Karin Shrum
Staff Reporter

"I love Alma College! I cannot believe that you [audience members] came out on this night. This is a wonderful crowd," stated Grace Cavalieri at the beginning of her poetry reading this past Tuesday night in Jones Auditorium.

Cavalieri is the first of three award winning poets that will be visiting Alma's campus throughout this month. She is the author of eight books and the 1996 winner of Washington, D.C. Public Humanities Award. She is also the host of a syndicated radio talk show that has featured over 2000 poets over the past 20 years.

The next poet to visit campus will be Anne Smith, who is a performance poet. She is a Carl Sandburg award winning writer and a four-time national champion of "Poetry Slam" — a competition where poets are judged on the content and delivery of their work. Smith will perform on tonight, at 8 p.m., in the Heritage Center's, Presbyterian Hall.

Anne Caston, the third and final poet, will read on January 28. She won the New York University Press Prize for poetry with her book *Flying Out with the Wounded*.

"I thought the students would enjoy hearing the poets read their work."

**•William Palmer,
professor of English**

"I thought the students would enjoy hearing the poets read their work," commented William Palmer, professor of English. Palmer selected the two poets sponsored by Alma's English department, Cavalieri and Caston.

Palmer met both Cavalieri and Caston in 1995 at a poetry festival at St. Mary's College in Maryland and has wanted them to visit Alma since. The third poet, Smith,

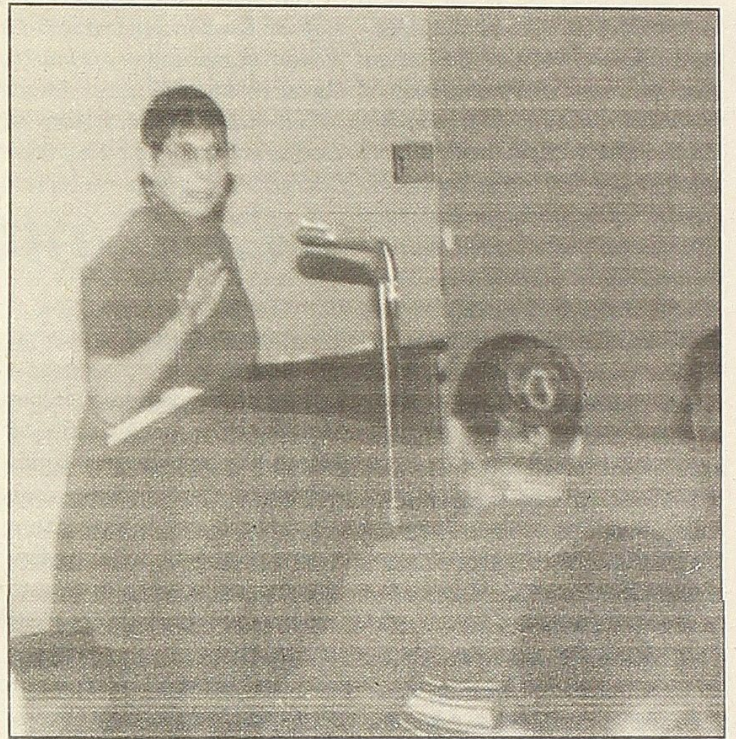
was sponsored by the Co-curricular Affairs Committee.

"Having the poets come to campus and read their own poetry contributes to the background and meaning of the poems," commented Lynn Seaton (01) on the visiting poets. All three of the readings have free admission and do not require a ticket.

Cavalieri's Tuesday night reading brought a full house to Jones Auditorium and even had a few standing in the aisles. She read from her book *New and Selected Poems* and from her latest book *Pinecrest Rest Haven* that is to be released in May. She also invited Palmer to read some selections of his work as well.

"Grace [Cavalieri] and Ken [her husband] were surprised that the students could tune in so well to the reading of *Pinecrest Rest Haven*. They were very pleased," commented Palmer.

The book is a series of poems based in a retirement home that follows two characters, Mr. and Mrs. P, who do not remember that they are married. It follows them falling in love again and all



Grace Cavalieri addresses a group of Alma students at a recent reading of her work. Cavalieri is the first of three poets who will be visiting Alma. The next poet Anne Smith will perform tonight at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Photo by Derek Warner.

the problems that they face along the way.

The excerpts read on Tuesday brought a positive reaction from the crowd.

"The story of Mr. and Mrs. P was humorous but sweet and touching too," commented Jennifer Klaiss (01) after attending the reading.

Holiday commemorates birth of Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Amy Fraley
Freelance Writer

A photo history of the civil rights movement opened last Thursday in Washington, D.C. in commemoration of the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birth.

The exhibit is entitled "We Shall Overcome" and is based on the perspective of the participants of the civil rights movement.

Each year on the third Monday of January the nation celebrates the birth and dream of King. Federal offices, the post office, schools and banks close to remember the societal injustices that King devoted his life toward eradicating. He preached his message of nonviolence and change

not only for the inequities felt by African-Americans, but for the freedom, equality and dignity of all people.

Born on January 15, 1929 to the minister of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, King, learned to treat all people with respect.

His father worked hard to promote equality and he stressed the importance of these principles to his children.

As a child, King soon learned that not all Americans believed as his parents did.

He saw that white and black children had to drink from different drinking fountains and were not allowed to play amongst one another.

King's involvement with the

civil rights movement began with the arrest of Rosa Parks on December 1, 1955.

Along with other African-American community leaders, King led the Montgomery bus boycott, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the famous civil rights march to the front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

King continued to campaign for world peace and speak out for civil rights until his death on April 4, 1968 by a petty criminal named James Earl Ray.

The FBI had investigated 50 plots to kill him and King was quoted as saying, "morning after morning you get up and look into the faces of your children and your wife, not knowing whether

you will get back to them because you that you are living every day under the threat of death."

The civil rights photo show will tour across the country until 2004. The exhibit is sponsored by the National Museum of American History, and contains scenes from the 1954 Supreme Court decision and pictorially details the events of the movement until the death of King.

Alma College students think this exhibit provides a positive understanding of the era.

Martha Schaefer (99) believes that "having an informed understanding, especially through exhibits such as this one can be insightful to facilitating better understanding and cooperation among the races."

Courtney Evans (00) stated that she felt "the exhibit is an interesting and inventive way to teach our generation about the civil rights movement."

The photos show pictures of King being arrested and the tragic events and confrontations between the civil rights demonstrators and authorities. Not included in the exhibit are photos of the Memphis motel where King was shot to death.

"We Shall Overcome" has not only visual, but also historical appeal.

In 1998 the exhibit will tour San Jose, Savannah and Macon as well as Birmingham, Alabama. The photos will not have the opportunity to be seen in Michigan until the year 2000.

Glenn to become oldest space traveler during record breaking shuttle mission

By Wendy Holmes
Freelance Writer

After two years spent lobbying the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for a return visit to space, John Glenn's dream came true Thursday when NASA officials gave in to his desire to orbit the earth once again.

Glenn, one of the United States' original astronauts has not been in space in 36 years and is excited about his return next fall.

He will orbit the earth for approximately ten days this October, traveling with the spaceship Discovery on a research mission.

Research is precisely the reason NASA's decision was controversial. Glenn will be 77 by the time he flies again, 16 years older than the current oldest man in space title holder, Story Musgrave. Musgrave flew his last mission in 1996 at the age of 61.

The announcement has created a national buzz, mostly centered around Glenn's age.

Cari Bieritz (00) said, "I think it's kind of dumb. I don't see the point... They'll find out the effect space has on elderly people, but what are they going to do with that [information]?"

Researchers, however, think they can learn a lot and put it to

good use. They plan to study the effects of space on Glenn's bone mass (research they hope will help in preventing osteoporosis) and heart. They are also anxious to see if it takes more time than usual for Glenn to recover from weightlessness when he returns from space.

Laura Jensen (01) said, "I think it's good if he's healthy enough to do it, but at [77] with the strain it puts on someone's body..."

Doctors assert that Glenn's age should not be a hindrance in any way, provided he is in good health.

They actually expect Glenn to have an advantage in some areas over his younger counterparts.

Notably, it is possible his heart will perform better because the bodies of the elderly learn to compensate for a less efficient heart.

Glenn, for his part, is excited about his return this fall, as are his former colleagues.

Buzz Aldrin, the second man to walk on the moon, thinks it should be a piece of cake for the spry 76-year-old (who will be 77 when he travels back to space).

Glenn's colleagues on Capitol Hill are also enthusiastic about the senator's flight. Glenn (D-OH), who plans to finish his political career at the end of this year, will not be the first incumbent senator to take to space. The

current title is held by Senator Jake Garn (R-UT), who orbited around Earth 109 times in 1985.

Reaction at Alma College to Glenn's trip is seemingly positive. Joel Sandersen (99) said, "Actually, I think it's a really good idea [because] they're doing it to see what effect age has. He's been up there before, so they don't have to train new people, and he wants to do it."

Jon Dereszynski (01) agreed, "I think it's a noble thing that he wants to go on another space flight. I think it's a good idea. He's 76 years old, but it's not like he doesn't know what he's doing."

Award-winning pianist performs on campus

By Karin Shrum
Staff Reporter

"I thought it was amazing, I've never actually seen hands blur in motion. It was interesting," commented Rebecca Dutton (01) on pianist Yakov Kasman's performance this past Wednesday night.

Kasman is the winner of the 10th annual Van Cliburn International Piano Competition Silver Medal. His award marked his United States debut and allotted him two years of concert engagements and career management. His performance on campus was a part of his award.

The Van Cliburn competition is one of the biggest piano competitions. It is primarily for young pianists who have not yet developed major careers.

"Winning the silver medal for this competition will allow [Kasman] to begin his professional career," stated Will Nichols, professor of music.

Wednesday night's performance consisted of four pieces broken by a ten minute intermission. The first forty-five minutes of the concert featured *Three Fairy Tales*, composed by Nicholas Medtner (1880-1951), and *Pictures at an Exhibition*, composed by Modest Mussorgsky (1839-1881). Each piece brought two rounds of thunderous applause.

"I really enjoyed the concert, especially because as soon as he finished a piece you wanted to

stand up and applaud," stated sophomore Amy Sandberg.

The final forty-five minute portion of the concert featured *La Valse*, composed by Maurice Ravel (1875-1937), and *Sonata No. 8 in B-flat Major, Op. 84*, composed by Serge Prokofiev (1891-1953). Again each piece

brought great applause and the finale of the concert brought a standing ovation.

Each piece that Kasman performed required him to play with great energy and concentration. Towards the end of the concert he was beginning to show fatigue. At the finish of his final two pieces

he obviously glad to have a second to rest his hands.

"I enjoyed the concert very much. I thought that he played with a lot of confidence and musical aggression," stated Nichols.

Along with his award and arranged concert tour, Kasman also recorded his award-winning

Cliburn performance and will be making his New York debut.

For the 1997-98 season Kasman will be making appearances in the United States with the Abilene Philharmonic, Fort Worth Symphony, Louisiana Philharmonic, Memphis Symphony and Syracuse Symphony orchestras.

ACDC presents student choreography

By Sara Bickler
Freelance Writer

The Alma College Dance Company members got to show off their production talents this past weekend. The company performed its student choreography concert on Friday and Saturday.

According to Tom Morris, assistant professor of theatre and dance, "This was an entirely student driven event. They coordinated the entire concert themselves."

The concert consisted of nine separate pieces each choreographed by a student, and performed by members and understudies of the company. The pieces covered a wide range of styles from tap, to modern, to jazz, to ballet.

This contrast made the concert very interesting. "Tuscany," a soft ballet piece choreographed by Susan DuLong, was followed by Holly Cyrus's piece, a fun and entertaining tap dance to the song "Cotton Eyed Joe."

Nakku, choreographed by Meredith Yost, was a lively tropical dance.

One of the next pieces, Heather Klepper's "Blue Pearl," mixed ballet with gymnastic moves.

The most moving piece in the show was called "Life of a Dancer"

by Deborah Choszczyk. In this piece the dancers took the audience on a journey through the lifetime of a dancer.

At the beginning of the piece, a mother stands carrying a baby. The baby disappears and a young dancer no older than four appears. The mother gives the child her hair pin as the child goes to ballet class.

The children's class learns a few steps then leave and the audience sees a slightly older group of dancers. They dance some and the focus shifts again to an older group.

Then finally, the audience sees the narrator of the piece in an advanced class on

other.

This symbolizes the choice that the dancer must make to either pursue a typical life or attempt the dream of becoming a professional dancer. We then see the narrator teaching a ballet class.

The narrator grows older and older until the last image we see of an old woman and the youngest version of herself standing next to her, both wearing the hair pin.

All of the dance pieces were very good and wonderfully performed by the dancers. The audience response was extremely good and the dancers seemed to like working with student choreographers.

Company understudy Cara Goethe said, "Working with the students was a lot of fun, and it wasn't too stressful."

The next Alma College Dance performances are March 20-22. This concert will feature a more finished version of some of these pieces along with a few faculty choreographed pieces.

"This was an entirely student driven event. They coordinated the entire concert themselves."

•Tom Morris,
Assistant Professor of
Theatre and Dance

toe shoes. The group begins to dance and a dancer falls hurt. The rest of the class, including the narrator, continue.

The stage clears of everyone except the narrator. She sits and dreams of the future and another dancer enters, representing an adult version of herself. She is carrying a wedding veil in one hand and a pair of toe shoes in the

Movie Review

Denzel Washington battles body-swapping demons in *Fallen*

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

Avenging demons and debates on human nature provide the movie, *Fallen*, with supernatural twists and turns. *Fallen* stars Denzel Washington (*Philadelphia*, *Glory*) as Detective Hobbes. The film also includes John Goodman (*Roseanne*, *King Ralph*) as his partner, Detective Jones.

The movie revolves around a vengeful demon who can pass from person to person through touch. This demon defied God in ancient times and was expelled from heaven. Since that time this demon, and others like it, vowed to destroy mankind.

Hobbes first encounters this particular demon after the detective plants the murderer, Edgar Reeves, in the gas chamber. At this time, Reeves was hosting the demon who then took notice of Hobbes and his quest against evil. Throughout the movie, the demon seeks and at-

tempts to destroy Hobbes.

Fallen is packed with twists. Since the demon is passed from person to person Hobbes never knows which passers-by contained the evil demon. The film is rather spooky; however, it is not a nail biter like films such as *Seven*.

Fallen provides several harrowing moments and glimpses of doom yet fails to keep the viewer continually in fear and suspense.

The acting in the film is superb. Washington, of course, portrays a dutiful and contemplative detective who, until the demon introduced itself, takes every thing he sees as an act of human nature.

John Goodman also gives a strong performance, one much different from his character portrayed in his *Roseanne* days. He adds some humor to the movie, but demonstrated he could perform very serious moments as well.

All the actors who play hosts to

the demon portray evil very aptly. There were many well performed sneers and hissed warnings.

The music for the movie added to the intensity and pathos of the issue. The background music varied, giving equally scary moments different attention. The music helped determine whether a scene was fiercely terrifying or sadly horrifying.

The demon's use of the Rolling

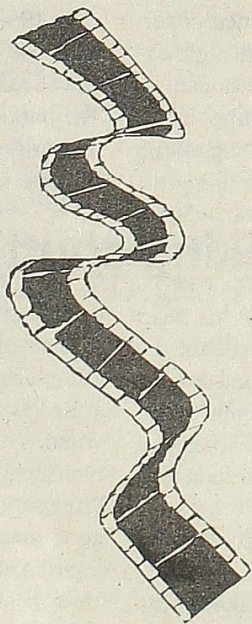
Stones lyric "time, is on my side/ yes it is" provoked a haunting, unsettling feeling.

The visuals in the film could be likened to the filmwork in *Seven*. Experimental angles and filters intensified the supernatural aspect of *Fallen*. Whenever the demon escaped with the soul of the deceased, it floated in the air until it entered a new host. How the filmmakers illustrated this was

innovative.

Overall, *Fallen* provides an ominous outlook on the goings-on of the human race. The title of the movie not only suggests the demon's fall but the potential fall of human beings.

Fallen is like the Junior Gemini at Cedar Point: although there are thrilling moments during the ride, it is a safe and non-jarring trip nonetheless.



Cool Internet Sites

A Brief History of Banned Music is a web site that chronicles the history of music censorship. Available at <http://ericzum.com/banned/>, this page provides an index of banned music from the 1950s to the present, as well as information on pro- and anti-censorship organizations.

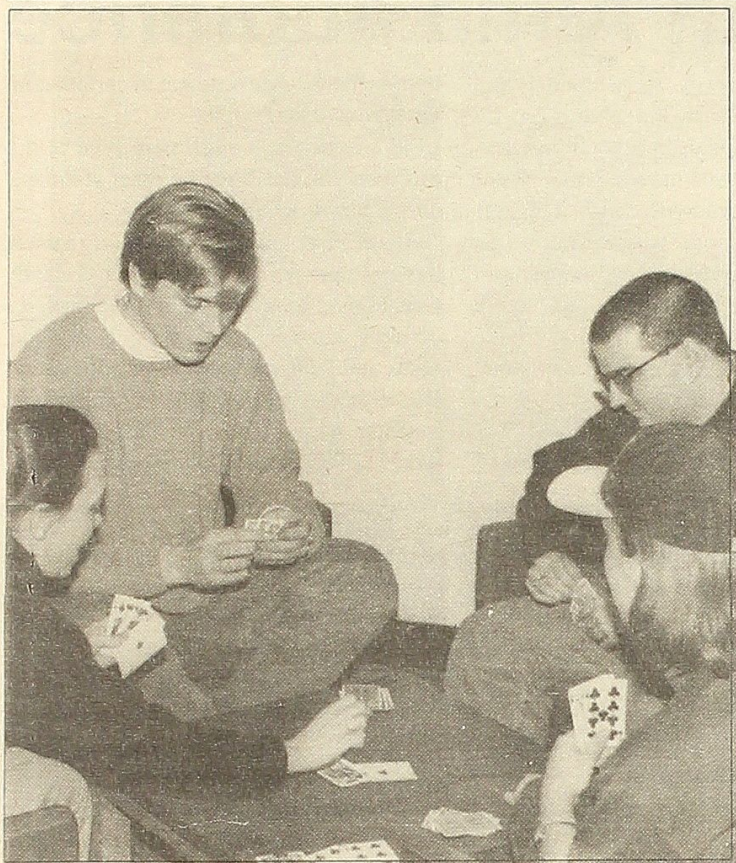
Every time you turn into the Weather Channel these days you hear about El Niño. Supposedly it is affecting weather patterns all over the world, but not very many people know what it really is. If you want to be one of the few people who can converse flu-

ently about El Niño, check out http://www.cnn.com/specialreports/el_nino/index.htm. The site contains information about what El Niño is, its history, its forecast and its impacts.

Lists of pick-up lines are popular items when it comes to e-mail forwards. For a comprehensive listing of the dumbest lines ever that are sure to impress your friends, go to <http://www.argos.org/slurpy/main/pickup.html>. This list of 110 pickup lines contains such winners as "I lost my phone number. Can I borrow yours?" Visitors to this site can also add their own favorites and vote on the top ten

cheesiest pick up lines of all time.

Have you ever been listing to one of your favorite songs and been unable to understand what they were talking about? If so, then Adam's Mondegreen Page is for you. A Mondegreen is a misunderstood song lyric, and <http://k2.sd.cwru.edu/~act3/mninto.html> lists a bunch of them. For example, have you ever heard Gloria Estefan's song *Turn the Beat Around* and thought she sang "Love to hear her passion?" Nope, it is really "Love to hear percussion."



Sophomore Chris Washko plays euchre with Mitchell Hall Director Dave Wagner at Friday's debut of The Hole. Photo by Derek Warner.

The Hole debuts with success

By Charlotte Grant
Feature Editor

"I'm just happy not to be sitting in my apartment," said Dave Wagner, Mitchell Hall director, as he sat in the lounge outside of Joe's Place. He was attending the opening night of The Hole, a new form of entertainment at Alma College.

The Hole is a weekly coffee-house held on Friday nights.

The lounge area was decorated for the event. Streamers, balloons and lights were scattered about and paper table covers were laid on the tables so students could color. There was a free ice cream bar in Joe's Place and free coffee in the lounge.

Students sat at the various tables and conversation areas playing card games, euchre, Yahtzee and Uno. Others talked and read magazines. Meanwhile, WQAC

provided music for the event.

For the first half of the evening, the D.J. was sophomore Jennifer Fish. Fish said she was playing "top 40 that's kind of recognizable, but no trendy stuff. I'm not going to ruin the integrity of the Duck."

Fish stated that she thought The Hole was a good idea because "there's nothing to do on the weekend [and] there's no alcohol involved."

Fish will continue to D.J. for The Hole every other weekend.

Wagner acknowledged that there may have been a lower turnout because there was no alcohol. "But that was the reason we did this," he said, "for people who don't want alcohol."

Wagner estimated that between thirty and forty people attended The Hole's debut and he was pleased with that number.

"I think this is good, especially

for the first night," he stated.

Students on The Hole's organizational committee echoed Wagner's sentiment.

Sophomore Christopher Washko said, "We accomplished what we wanted to. It turned out better than I thought it would for the first night."

"It seems like everyone is having fun. There's not much more we can ask for," added senior Jodie Bannan.

Although some students stopped by only to grab coffee and ice cream, many stayed. Those who did enjoyed The Hole.

Julie Grannis (98) said, "It's fun. They should do it again."

First-year student Jaena Wisniewski stated that The Hole was a good place "to let stressed-out individuals loosen up."

Commenting on The Hole's success, Wagner said, "Hey, it's all about atmosphere."

Center for Student Development helps with resume design

By Charlotte Grant
Feature Editor

Sooner or later, most Alma College students are going to need a resume. Whether it be for a summer job or an internship, a good resume is a must, according to the Center for Student Development.

Bob Perkins, dean of student development, offers students advice on writing a great resume.

When listing employment and volunteer experience, Perkins recommends that students group them together and call the category "experience." He explained that this lends credibility to unpaid jobs.

Students should also try to get a title for positions they hold because it will help when they type their resume.

Students can be selective about listing their employment, Perkins stated. He also advised that they should be careful about leaving gaps, though.

Perkins said that students should "try keep [their] resumes to one page," unless they have a lot of experience to list, in which case they can go to two pages.

According to Perkins, people with majors in education or art and design, or students who have extensive research experience, are those most likely to need two pages.

Layout is also an important consideration when making a resume, Perkins said. They should look attractive and professional, as well as present the information as quickly as possible. Perkins stated that this is because "most resumes only get anywhere from thirty seconds to one minute of review."

He recommended that resumes be done size ten fonts, with no more than two fonts per resume. Perkins also said that the page should not be crowded.

"There should be enough space for the words to breathe," he explained.

When printing the resume, Perkins said that students should "think about what happens to that resume after [they have] sent it." The paper and the print should be faxable and computer scannable.

Perkins also emphasized the importance of proof reading resumes.

"If you have a spelling, error, typo or...grammatical error you're out," he said. The Center does offer a proofing service, Perkins added.

As far as references are concerned, Perkins explained that it is a matter of preference whether students want to list them or provide them upon request. He said that he likes listing them because "it's like having an end to the story."

Perkins also added that recruiters are moving towards wanting references.

For students who need help, the Center provides workshops and the 1st Place Resume disk.

This disk has three different resume options. "I know a lot of seniors who have the 1st Place disks," said senior Cindy Miller.

"Our philosophy is that being able to do a resume is a skill you should have when you graduate from here," Perkins stated.

Perkins's Five C's of Resume Development

1. Clear- uncluttered, straightforward layout
2. Clean- looks sharp, appealing
3. Concise- put in what is needed, not much more
4. Consistent- use uniform spacing and design
5. Continous- your resume should have a logical flow to it

Alumni Association bridges the gap between student and alumni life

By Sara Bickler
Freelance Writer

Just because a student graduates from Alma does not mean that they have to cut all ties with the college.

The Alma College Alumni Association is actively working to make being an Alma College student a lifetime affiliation.

According to Bill Biebuyck, vice president of development, the Alma College Alumni's Office's primary duty is to "maintain contact and personal relationships with as many of the approximately 12,000 alumni as possible."

They do this through many programs including homecoming, quarterly newsletters, alumni ad-

visory board and tartan clubs.

"I'd say the most important thing that we do is sponsor homecoming," said Biebuyck. "Our goal is to get as many alumni to come back and be involved as we can." Planning homecoming is the main focus of the Alumni Office during the fall.

Alma Accents is the quarterly newsletter sent to all alumni, parents and friends of the college. The purpose of the newsletter is to inform everyone of the latest news on campus.

The letter also features a section titled "Alumni Notes." This is a forum for alumni to write and update readers on what is happening in their lives, including

their jobs and families.

Another way that the Alumni Office involves former students is through the Alumni Associa-

"We try to keep in touch with all of the alumni, and also provide a service for them."

**•Bill Biebuyck,
Vice President of Development**

tion. This group acts as an advisory board, and assists the Alumni Office.

"They act as a sounding board for the office. They help us gauge opinions on new projects like con-

structing a new building, or creating a new endowment," said Biebuyck.

The third program that the alumni office sponsors is the Tartan Clubs. These are groups of Alma College Alumni who live in the same general area and occasionally get together for social activities. They meet anywhere from once every other year to twice a year depending on the group. The activities can include going to a dinner, visiting museums, taking scenic boat rides, or a variety of other events.

The Alumni Office will, whenever possible, send a representative to these events. There are approximately 35 of these Tartan

Clubs around the country with a few outside of the United States as well.

In two weeks, three or four of these clubs will meet in various parts of California.

Also, over spring break around seven or eight will meet in different parts of Florida. Some of these groups are planning to watch the Alma College athletic teams' spring training and meet with some current students.

Biebuyck stated the main goal of the Alumni Office, "We try to keep in touch with all of the alumni, and also provide a service for them. If they need an address or phone number of a friend they had here their first year, we will try to find it and give it to them."

South Park finds niche with Alma audience

By Cheryl Lenard
Staff Reporter

"If drinking scotch were a paying job, Kenny's dad would be a millionaire!"

"Yeah I want the cheesy poofs!"

Most have already met the residents of South Park, Colorado: Eric Cartman, Stan Marsh, Kyle Broslofski and his little brother Ike, and, of course, Kenny McCormick. Creations of former University of Colorado film students, Trey Parker, 27 and Matt Stone, 26, these characters of Comedy Central's *South Park* have endeared themselves to a television audience of over a million people every Wednesday at 10 p.m.

What began as a request to Parker and Stone from an entertainment executive interested in sending a different sort of Christmas greeting to his colleagues turned into *South Park's* first short clip entitled "The Spirit of Christmas," which featured a fight between Jesus and Santa Claus. The short film was readily passed around and copied by those in the entertainment industry and related social circles. Comedy Central executives noted the potential success of the show and soon offered Parker and Stone an animated series which de-

buted August 13.

With a production staff of 35, the low-budget cartoon centers around the lives of four construction paper cut-out eight-year-olds and the people in their town. The town characters include people like Mr. Garrison, the emotionally disturbed school teacher who has an unnatural attachment to his hand puppet and the cafeteria chef who sings sexually explicit blues music at every opportunity.

In addition, characters like the egotistical, image-oriented, mayor, the extremely unaware town policeman, and the insane genetic engineer who lives on the hill round out the show's "outrageous appeal," according to junior Christina McGrain.

Believe it or not, South Park is a real place. The name refers to a place near

Conifer, Colorado where Parker was raised. Located in southern Park county, the locals refer to the place as South Park.

In *South Park*, the kids have run into several pressing situations like the time Cartman, the "big boned" attitude-filled kid, is accidentally sent to Ethiopia after government officials confused him with a starving Ethiopian child. Other examples include when Stan, *South Park* quarterback, had his mutant clone escape his

creator, the insane genetic engineer, and when Kyle, a Jewish kid with a pet elephant, believed in his holiday friend, Mr. Hankey who showed up as a replacement for Santa Claus for Jewish children. This is also the only episode where Kenny, the poor kid who is impossible to understand because the hood of his jacket completely cover his mouth, lives.

At Alma, many students watch the show religiously.

Junior Deric Bilicki said, "I like it because it's funny. It's a different type of

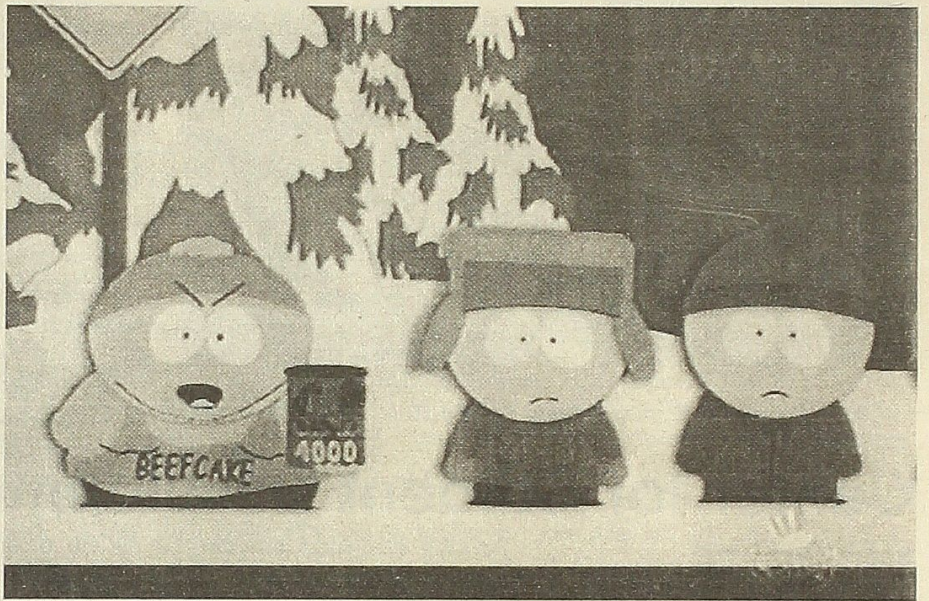
humor that people only get in certain conversations with people."

"It's funny. It's a different type of humor that you don't see on other stations," added junior Brian Lassey.

South Park, contrary to recent rumors, has not been cancelled. In fact Comedy Central Network has several new shows planned for the future. In one episode, Jesus and Satan are going to fight on Pay-Per-View. In another, the kids discover a monster which threatens to destroy the world.

"I like it because it's funny."

•Deric Bilicki (99)
South Park fan



South Park graphic courtesy of <http://home.san.rr.com/blackbart/SouthPark.com>

Spring Term music course to include trip to Gilmore Festival

By Ryan Gall
Freelance Writer

This spring, Raymond Riley, professor of music, will offer students a chance to "break the Alma bubble" by experiencing a nine-day celebration of music, the Gilmore Festival in southwest Michigan. More than 40 world-class artists will gather in such towns as Kalamazoo, Benton Harbor, Battle Creek and Grand Harbor to entertain audiences with top-caliber performances.

Students will depart from Alma on May 3. The students, staying at the Holiday Inn in Kalamazoo, will attend more than twenty concerts with music ranging from classi-

cal to jazz. Upon returning to Alma, the students will engage in a piano literature course, studying classical to contemporary keyboard music and will be required to write a short to medium length research paper on a composer of their choice.

The festival began in 1992 and is dedicated to Irving S. Gilmore. It has brought in artists that one would typically expect to find in cities like New York or Chicago. Gilmore's estate, in excess of \$100 million, funds the Keyboard Festival and is responsible for bringing in the musicians. The event has been held every other year since 1992 and has continued to grow in size and prestige.

Some of the famous musicians that have

performed in the past are the Canadian Brass, Ray Charles, Yo-Yo Ma, Bradford Marsalis and many others. The year promises nothing less spectacular or interesting than those of the past.

For each festival the Gilmore Foundation spotlights their Artist of the Year, a high honor and the main attraction of the festival. Jurors, hailing from a field of 92 candidates and 32 countries, covertly attend concerts searching for their ideal musician. Choosing the artist is not a competitive process and the jurors look for a musician who is not conservative, but rather someone who is risk taking and contemporary. This year's Gilmore Artist is pianist Leif Ove Andsnes, and he receives an

award of \$300,000.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to hear some great, great performance. You would have to be an Alma College student for maybe twenty years, listening to events here that we are going to offer in the Heritage Center to hear as many concerts of the caliber as those on the trip," said Riley.

Aside from attending concerts, students will receive the opportunity to meet the artists, attend pre-concert lectures, partake in master classes and share a general love of music. This class fills the S-course requirement and there is still room available. Interested students should contact Riley as soon as possible.

Admissions personnel, student telemarketers focus on recruiting future Scots

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

"We definitely have an increased pool of applications to work with," remarked Julie Williams, assistant director of admissions, about the rise in applications submitted to Alma College compared to previous years.

As of this past week the Admissions Office received 1026 applications—267 more than received last year at this time. Due to the large graduating class, it is important to the admissions office to recruit a large incoming class to keep enrollment level.

Early decision entries have also increased. The 219 early decision applicants last year has risen to 265; 101 of these applicants actually have made a deposit.

This rise can be attributed to the numerous ideas implemented by the admissions office. Williams's position resulted from one of these ideas. She was hired to recruit in the western half of Ohio which will hopefully add diversity to the class of

2002.

Another idea was to waive the application fee for those students seriously considering Alma.

"We're really working hard together. We're focusing on moving students through the application process," commented Williams.

According to Williams, the admission office staff tries to generate applications by initiating strong follow-ups on interested high school students. To do this admission office counselors travel approximately two and a half months in the fall to various high schools. They also attend college fairs sponsored by groups of high schools or local colleges.

Counselors will even conduct home visits when it may be more convenient for the

family. These visits serve to maintain frequent contact with potential applicants.

The applicants' visits to campus tend to lure them to enroll as well. Williams stressed that the work of the Alma Ambassadors and the telemarketers aid in recruitment at this time of year.

"The whole second semester we focus on students coming to campus," commented Williams.

Williams noted that the applicants contact with Alma College's students and faculty could "push them over the edge" and induce their decision to enroll.

"Admissions counselors really appreciate ambassadors and telemarketers and those that bump into families visiting. It really makes a difference to a prospective's decision," said Williams.

Telemarketing Coordinator Jennifer

"The best job you could have is to talk about the school I loved while I was here."

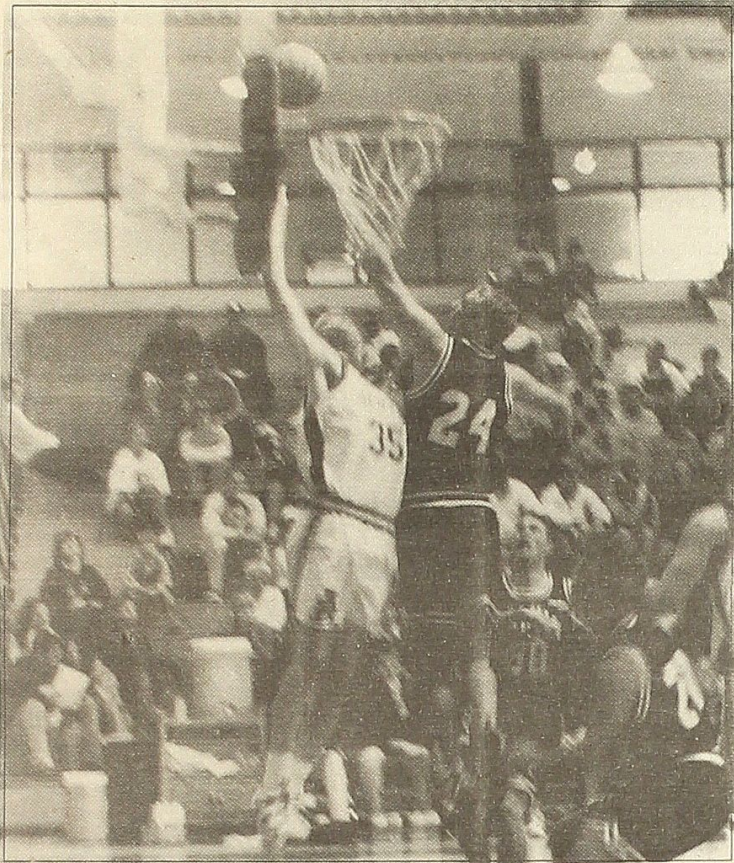
•Julie Williams,
Assistant Director of
Admissions

Wright (99) sees a lot of recruiting going on. Telemarketers keep with admission's goal of remaining in contact with perspectives. According to Wright, telemarketers call high school seniors and juniors to ask if they have any questions or concerns about Alma College. They try to generate interest in those students who have none and remind others who have considered Alma about the school.

Wright shares Williams view on campus visits. "Tours are the most important aspect of recruitment because it really shows off the campus," she said. Telemarketers often hear the results of these tours when they follow-up on a perspective.

"When we call perspectives after a visit the first remark we hear is that Alma College is the friendliest campus they have visited," commented Wright.

Williams, who is a 1995 graduate of Alma College, stressed the importance of recruitment for her. "The best job you could have is to talk about the school I loved while I was here," she said.



First-year student Pat Hoag shoots a lay-up over an opposing player. File photo.

Bulldogs edge Scots

Men's basketball team prepares for Hope game

By Chris Porco
Freelance Writer

Hustle. That's what senior Scott Goddard said was the key factor in last Saturday's men's basketball game against Adrian.

With under a minute remaining the Scots were down by four points. Alma scored two free throws, cutting Adrian's lead down to two points. The Scots then stole the ball and scored two more to tie the game. Adrian scored a lay-up with only two seconds remaining.

After a series of time-outs, the Scots' only chance to win was thrown away when they couldn't hang on to the ball after inbounding it. Adrian sunk two free throws to put the lead the game out of Alma's reach.

The team came just short of a win, with a final score of Alma 67, Adrian 71.

Last Wednesday Alma was defeated by Bluffton, final score: Alma 70, Bluffton 85.

After the game on Saturday, senior Eric Spielhaupter said, "Today has been an addition of what's already been going on. We're in a six-game losing streak, but we're trying hard and fighting to work out of

it."

His sentiments were echoed by teammate Jason VanDerMaas (99) when he said, "We played hard, but just came up short at the end... We've been in a skid but hope to come out of it."

According to senior Jason Huber, the team "just needs a

ready.

We know they're the best team in the league and we need to play with a lot of intensity to come out on top," said Huber. "We know they're a great team, but we also know we can beat them."

Alma is 0-3 in league play and 4-8 in overall action. Hope is undefeated in the MIAA with four wins and has an overall record of 15-1.

The Flying Dutchmen are also on an upswing, coming off of Saturday's two-point overtime win over arch-rival Calvin.

Alma leads the MIAA with a .423 three point field-goal shooting percentage in overall play with, but Hope has the edge in total field-goal shooting with a .518.

Another key statistic: three of the top 15 scorers for the MIAA in overall play are from Hope, one is from Alma. For the Scots to dethrone the Fighting Dutchmen it will certainly take a balanced attack from many players.

"We won't have any trouble to get pumped up [for the game against Hope]... It'll be a good game... We got the talent, we just have to put it all together," said VanDerMaas.

The Scots will travel to Hope on Wednesday and go on to play at Olivet on Saturday.

Last Week's MIAA Results

Wednesday

Adrian 80, Calvin 78
Albion 86, Olivet 79
Hope 85, Kalamazoo 70
Bluffton 85, Alma 70
Defiance 95, Lake Erie 65

Saturday

Adrian 71, Alma 67
Hope 87, Calvin 85
Kalamzoo 77, Olivet 56

MIAA STANDINGS

	League				Overall			
	W	L	Avg	Opp	W	L	Avg	Opp
Hope	4	0	79.5	71.0	15	1	83.4	70.6
Adrian	3	1	71.0	68.3	8	6	73.8	70.8
Albion	2	1	69.7	70.7	10	4	69.1	66.0
Kalamazoo	2	2	63.5	60.3	7	8	68.6	65.9
Calvin	1	2	82.0	79.0	7	7	85.6	77.0
Alma	0	3	62.7	72.0	4	8	72.3	76.0
Olivet	0	3	74.7	86.7	3	12	77.9	86.7



Matthew Marino
Killed by a drunk driver
on September 29, 1992
on Roundtree Lane
in Melville, New York.



friends don't let friends drive drunk

Winter X games provide extreme sports avenue

By Sean Babbitt
Sports Editor

Imagine rocketing down a mountain at around thirty miles an hour on a mountain bike. Now imagine that the mountain bike is in six to eight inches of powder snow. That is exactly what some of the athletes of the Winter X games are attempting to do out in Crested Butte, Colorado this week.

Other odd disciplines such as super modified shovel racing, racer x, boarders and ice climbing discipline are competed.

Created last year by the ESPN sports network to go along with the Summer X games, the Winter X games have provided yet another avenue for extreme athletes to showcase their talents in the dead week that falls between the AFC and NFC championship games and the Super Bowl.

The week long competition in the snow and the cold of the Colorado mountains is the perfect setting for this show of extreme sporting.

The scenic mountain tops and groomed ski slopes of Crested Butte are worth watching even if you are not interested in downhill snow biking or super modified shovel racing.

Snow mountain biking is a sport where the racer is paired up with another person in a race to the bottom of a duel slalom course, over jumps and bumps. This exciting sport will provide a lot of the excitement of the games due to the high biff rate of the riders.

Super modified shovel racing is a sport that is competed by placing skis on what looks like a bullet soap box derby car. It is then flung down a hill reaching speeds upwards of 60 miles an hour.

Racer X is sort of a roller derby on skis where six men or women race over a tight down hill course competing for the first place prize.

The boarder X competition is about the same discipline as the racer X except competed on a snowboard.

Another strange competition is the ice difficulty. On an ice wall athletes climb about sixty feet under a time constraint of 12 minutes using two ice picks and shoes with spikes on the toes. About three quarters of the way up the wall there is a three foot overhang where all the athletes' strength and talent are tested. Competitors are required to pull themselves over the obstacle, sometimes using only one arm, on the small hand holds.

A variation on this discipline is the speed climb and the duel climb. In the speed climb the competitor is required to reach the top of the ice wall faster than the other person. And in the duel climb the athletes are matched up in a race of sorts to the top of the wall.

This small diversion from the normal is welcome this time of the year by viewers, in this dead time of the NHL all star break and the down week for the NFL. Catch it while it is here.

Scots lose by three

By Joey Mead
Staff Reporter

"In the critical time of the game with four or five minutes to go, we really fell apart and didn't execute, had a lot of turnovers and missed easy shots," said, women's head basketball coach Charlie Goffnett, as he recapped last Saturday's game.

The women's basketball team lost last weekend when they let Adrian squeak by with three points in the last quarter. The final score was 59-56.

Leading scorer junior Ellen Bradbury got into some foul trouble and only played seven minutes of the first half (12 minutes total).

In the first half the Scots played well enough to earn a ten point lead. As the game went on their lead slowly diminished.

First-year student Missy Thorndyke said, "We played content with a ten point lead in the first half. In the second half [Adrian] played some tough defense, and we turned it over a few times."

Thorndyke also said, "We didn't rebound. We could have stayed in the game if we would have. We would have won it."

Coach Goffnett said, "We ended up going into the half six points ahead. Then we just kind of played even with Adrian throughout most of the second half. We just couldn't shake them."

With seven minutes to go in the fourth quarter, the Scots still had a four point lead. Minutes later it was tied up. The Scots only scored two points in the final five minutes giving Adrian enough room to take the lead and win.

Strong scorers for the game were sophomore Shannon Gross who led scoring with 12 points, sophomore Adrienne Fitzgerald had 11 points and first-year student Rebekah Baker had 10.

"The kids played hard, we're a very young team. I think the critical thing with this game is how we react to it and learn from it," Goffnett said.

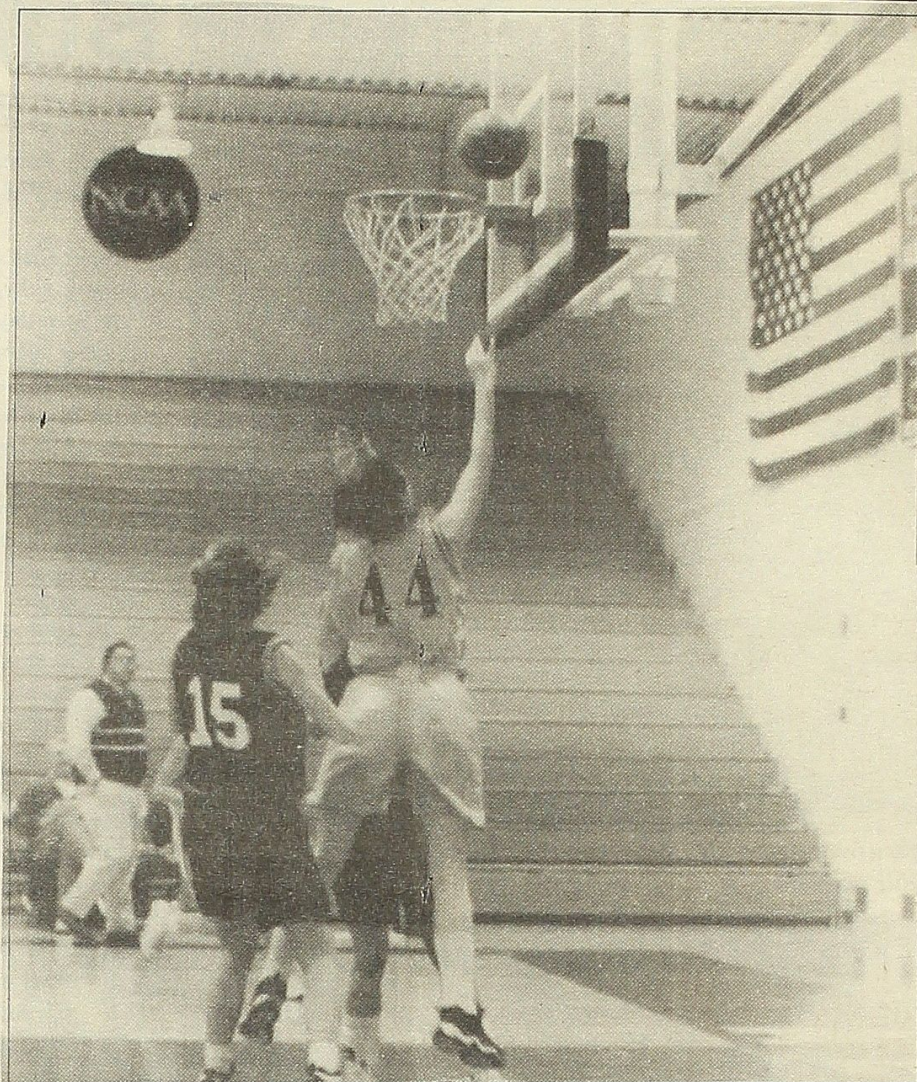
The Scots are already thinking about their next game against Hope College. Hope is ranked second in the conference and the Scots plan to give them a run for their money.

The Scots have a record of 1-2, and a top spot in the conference is still within reach.

Gross said, "If we play well, we can give Hope a good challenge. We're still in the league race; we just have to take it step-by-step. Every game is going to be a challenge."

"We're going to have to work really hard in practice to be ready for Hope. Hope played Calvin (number one in the conference) Saturday and lost by eight points. So they're a good team," Goffnett said.

Goffnett also said, "We have to win as a unit. We don't have the 'go-to players' we've had in the past."



Junior Ellen Bradbury attempts a shot over an Adrian defender in Saturday's game against the Bulldogs. Bradbury, who found herself in foul trouble, only saw 12 minutes of playing time. Photo by Derek Warner.

Ping-Pong Club provides fast-paced entertainment

By Joey Mead
Staff Reporter

Thanks to the new Ping-Pong Club, Gelston Hall is the proud owner of a brand new Ping-Pong table.

Sophomore Kevin Main founded the club last term. He observed that many people were interested in Ping-Pong, and was also aware that Michigan hosts one of the largest table tennis tournaments in the nation. These two facts led to the club's creation.

"There are obviously a lot of people interested in playing, because there is a lot of people who gather together in Gelston and play," Main said.

"Michigan holds the U.S. Open in Detroit every Thanksgiving, and I thought if we got this kind of interest here there is no reason why we can't get a group together and try to get some Student Congress funding to send some people to the tournament," Main continued.

Last term the Ping-Pong Club was approved by Student Congress, wrote their Constitution and nominated group leaders.

Main is the Ping-Pong Club president, vice president is sophomore Matt Kunkle, sophomore Kevin Stanley is treasurer, secretary is junior Greg McQuillen and student representative is John Chasnis.

They already have over 20 members.

The group has recently purchased two new tables with the \$500.00 granted to them from Student Congress and plan to place a table in every hall basement on campus. They also hope to put some tables in the new IM building.

As for now, one table is in Gelston and the other is going to be set up in Mitchell. The tables originally cost \$250, but the Club received a deal that lowered the price \$169. The nets were \$16 and the corner guards cost \$10.

"If we can continue to buy a table every year for a couple of years, that will put one in every dorm. We've gotten offers to put one in Van Dusen, we've got offers to put them in all the dorms," Main said.

The tournament in Detroit is held at the Cobo Hall, and costs \$230 to send a team of three to five. The Ping-Pong Club will hold tournaments to determine which five will go to the U.S. Open in Detroit.

Sophomore Ryan Webb, one of the Ping-Pong Club's top players has been playing

ever since high school and is curious how he'll hold up in the tournament in Detroit.

"In high school a couple of my friends had tables, and we used to go over to their house and have tournaments. We kept standings and all that kind of stuff; we had a lot of free time," Webb said.

Another strong player on campus is Kevin Stanley. He said, "My aunt and uncle had a Ping-Pong table and when ever I went over there that's all I did."

"There was also this 75 year-old guy

who lived down the street from me who had a Ping-Pong table. I remember going over there and playing against him. He'd kick my butt. Man he was good."

Stanley is also hoping to go to the tournament, and is excited about what the club is doing.

"It is an open club. I'd like to see big participation. The more people we have the more tournaments we can have. We really have to get started this next term," said Stanley.

NHL builds Olympic hype with all-star game

By Sean Babbitt
Sports Editor

For the first time in the history of the NHL the all-star game left its normal east versus west format in anticipation of the Olympic games in February. The league, thinking it would capitalize on the euphoria created by the National Hockey League pros participating in the Olympic games, pitted the North American all-stars against the all-stars of the World.

What ended up was the same old all-star game with the North Americans topping the World 8-7 in an offensive display spurred on by the lack of defense.

In the first period the World beat North American starting goalie Patrick Roy, of Canada, on three of its first five shots. Finnish all-star Teemu Selanne, on his way to all-star MVP honors, scored two of the goals in the first four minutes. The North Americans then rallied the rest of the way in the first by out shooting the World 13-2 and beating starter Dominic Hasec three times to tie.

Keith Tkachuk and Scott Niedermayer scored from point-blank range with little defensive pressure.

Calgary forward Theoren Fleury gave North America a 4-3 lead at 1:53 of the

second period but Selanne scored his third goal and Finnish teammate Jari Kurri beat Ed Belfour as the World went up 5-4. Eric Lindros scored on a rebound to tie it at 12:36 of the second, which would be the first of four unanswered goals by the North Americans.

Tony Amonte scored from behind the net at 16:19, banking the puck off Olaf Kolzig, to give the North Americans the 6-5 lead after two.

Tkachuk and Mark Messier scored in the first four minutes of the third to finish off the North American scoring before the World made it close in the last minutes of the game.

Six players in the game earned three or more points including Tkachuk, Selanne, Jere Lehtinen, Saku Koivu, Fleury and defenseman Chris Chelios. The great Wayne Gretzky also chipped in with two assists to pass Mario Lemieux for first all time in all-star scoring.

This game is not really a prelude to the upcoming Olympic games which will be much tighter checking and

have more defensive stands than the score-at-all-cost all-star game.

This game was very typical of other all-star extravaganzas of which the teams have combined to score more than 15 goals for the seventh straight time. In contrast the average NHL games scores a total of 5.28 goals per game, whereas the average all-star game produces 16.5.

Of the 46 participants in the NHL game 36 will be competing for their native countries in the Olympics, during the 16-day Olympic break in the middle of February.

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Lacrosse team prepares for season

By Sean Babbitt
Sports Editor

"We can't wait to get out there and hit someone other than ourselves," said senior captain and assistant coach John Zielinski.

What he was referring to was the start of the second Alma College lacrosse season, which will get under way on February 14 at home against Western Michigan University in an exhibition game. The season will then kick off for keeps one month later when the Scots will play Calvin College.

The team is led by Professor of Physics Eugene Deci who is the faculty advisor and acts as head coach. Zielinski heads up the assistant coaching staff as well as starts on the defense. Senior Jay Swan along with sophomores Brock Kremer and Eric Didoca will be some key players according to Zielinski.

"The players will be electing some more player assistants later on this week to help with the duties on both the offense and the

defense," said Zielinski about the duties of the coaching staff. "This will allow us to draw up and work on plays and organization," he added.

The Scots will be looking forward to having a stellar season this year based on returning 14 players from last year.

"We are really looking to win at least half of our games this year," said Zielinski when asked about the outlook for the season to come.

"This year by having 12 more players we will be able to counteract the fatigue that killed us last year late in the games. We will be able to sub 16 players in contrast to five from last year's team," added Zielinski.

The team will be playing five of six home games, depending on weather conditions and the way the schedule falls, out on the football field.

The teams the Scots will be matched up against this year include the likes of Hope College, Ball State University, University

of Indiana, Albion College, Michigan State University club side and Oakland University.

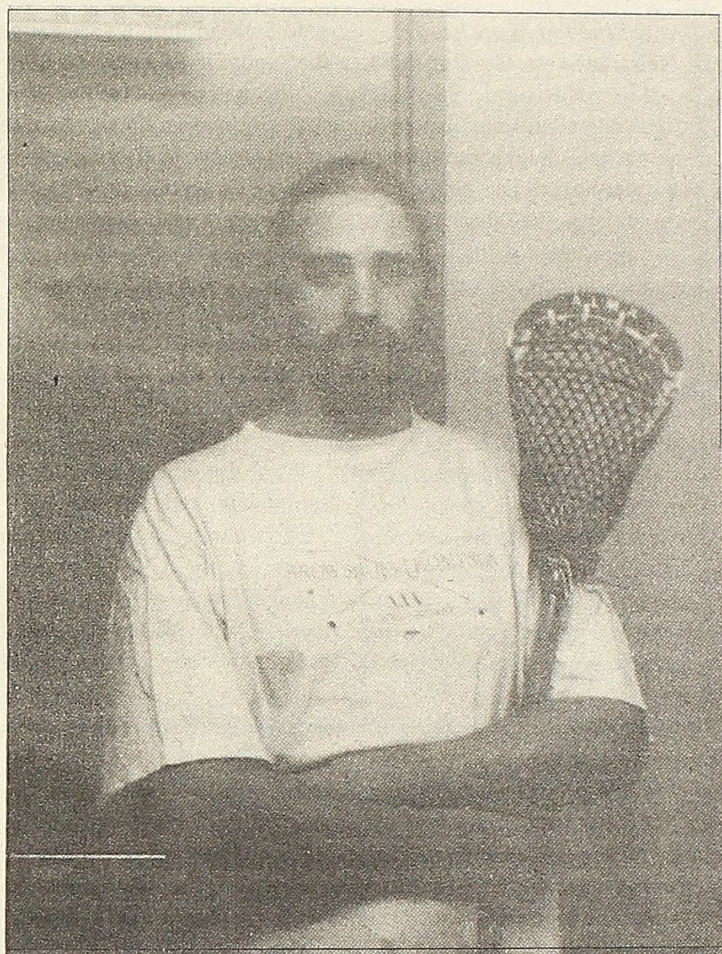
"In the off-season the players have been working very hard to improve on their overall game which is a great improvement from last year when we had a lot of players that had never played lacrosse before," said Zielinski.

"We are working on plays this year that we could not do last year, such as man-up situations and open field plays," he continued.

"We all know what to expect when we step out onto the field this year compared to last year," said Zielinski.

The team practices on Monday Wednesday and Friday afternoons during the week out on the football field.

John Zielinski, senior captain and assistant coach for the lacrosse team, poses for a picture. The lacrosse team is preparing for their upcoming season which will officially begin in March.
Photo by Sean Babbitt.



Swim teams perform well for Parent's Day meet

By Cheryl Lenard
Staff Reporter

The men's and women's swim teams found success last week in their meets at Albion on Tuesday and against Wayne State University on Saturday. Saturday was also Parents' Day for the swim team, so many families were present for the easily won meet.

Although the men's team did not win Tuesday's meet, the teams feel they were successful.

"We swam really well, but they [Albion] just swam a little bit better. It was a good meet for us," said junior Chad Wisniewski.

"The men lost in a really close meet," commented men's and women's swimming coach Greg Baadte.

He added that recent injuries

including one diver's broken foot cost the men's team some valuable points.

One outstanding performance Baadte commented about was the personal record of junior Bill James in the 100 breaststroke.

"It's the fastest anyone has gone last year and this year. He's not a true breastroker,

but we've been working with him....He's going to be a really big help to our relays," he said.

"It was kind of exciting," commented Baadte regarding the women's win on Tuesday. "They came back from a big deficit. We

had to come back. We were down the whole meet until the breaststroke," he added.

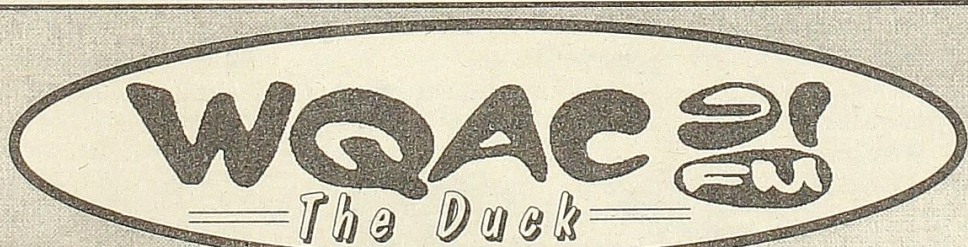
The women grabbed first, second and third place in the 100 breaststroke to take the lead and eventually win the meet.

"That was very helpful and was

a turning point," said sophomores Amanda Barker and Carrie Thomas.

“
It was the second meet in a row that we swam really well... We were very pleased.
”

• Greg Baadte, head swimming and diving coach



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Women's...

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
Hope	4	0
Kalamazoo	3	1
Calvin	3	2
Albion	2	2
Alma	0	2
St. Mary's	1	4
Olivet	0	3

Men's...

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
Kalamazoo	3	0
Hope	2	1
Albion	1	1
Calvin	1	2
Alma	0	3

Recent Action...

Women-

Alma 132, Albion 110
Kalamazoo 117, St. Mary's 90
Hope 129, Kalamazoo 112
Calvin 148, Albion 89

Men-

Kalamazoo 135, Hope 100
Calvin 126, Albion 111

Sports Uncovered by Tim Caister

Recent broadcasting deals inflate the NFL

Off the top of my head. . .
NFL deal sets new standard.

The National Football League recently announced the sale of their television rights to the networks. The amount of money involved in the deal is outrageous; considering the NFL ratings from this season.

The new contracts are for the Disney duo of ESPN and ABC to broadcast NFL's *Monday Night Football* and their Sunday night games.

CBS has bought the rights for the AFC package while Fox has retained the rights to broadcast the NFC package. Last, but not least, NBC lost out in the race for broadcasting rights.

Here are the stats: Disney

paid \$600 million a year for just the Sunday night games on ESPN.

CBS will pay \$4 billion (that's with a b) over eight years for the rights to the AFC package. Finally, Fox agreed to pay \$4.4 billion over eight years for the rights to the NFC package. Are you doing the math?

In a year where the ratings were at a record low for the National Football League, the networks are forking over huge amounts of money to gain their rights.

What is the advantage you ask? Sports is the name of the game.

The money generated from sports, and the NFL specifically, will certainly repay the networks back in full plus more. Even though this was a bad year for the

NFL ratings, the NFL still makes them money.

Sunday afternoon football allows the networks to advertise their lineups for the upcoming week, which will definitely help CBS since they have been out of the Sunday football schedule since 1993.

Worried about NBC? You should not be. They have the Olympic Games locked up for the next decade, which has the equivalent ratings of fifteen *Monday Night Football* broadcasts.

What does retirement mean?

There is a viscous rumor surrounding the St. Louis area that Ozzie Smith may return to baseball. It is reported that he is negotiating with a National League

team other than the Cardinals.

If you want to quit, make sure you do it for good. In most instances, it does not work out for a player to return after they have been out of the game for a long period of time. Does the name Kirk Gibson ring a bell?

Remember Billy Sims?

Seems like our former Lion ran into the law.

The original number "20" for the Lions has been sentenced to one month in jail after failure to meet financial obligations to his daughter. He owed a Tulsa woman, who bore his child in 1978, \$32,000 in overdue child support.

I guess the NFL pension did not cover that, did it?

Final thoughts.

The latest NFL broadcasting deals underline a large problem with sports. On one hand, we all know that the networks will make the money back, but the fans will suffer.

This is an example of trickle-down economics in sports. From the large broadcast deals, the teams will be able to spend more on players and drive the ticket prices upward.

Is that not the ironic situation? The networks will indirectly make more money by driving the ticket prices higher which will lead to more fans staying at home to watch the game on television. Maybe that was the plan in the first place.

United States must pay up to keep global influence

By Brandon Edward Miller
 Freelance Writer

Not only does our \$1 billion debt to the United Nations undermine our leverage in the Security Council and our attempts at reform in the General Assembly, it also causes concern among our allies about the United States commitment to work cooperatively on key global issues of concern.

American foreign policy increasingly relies upon international consensus. From the Kyoto Conference on Global Warming to agreements on international terrorism, the United States needs support from other countries to realize its goals.

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright this week sharply criticized Congress of undermining American foreign policy, accusing some lawmakers of "legislative blackmail."

At a time when our influence on the U.N. Security Council is crucial to persuading other members to react strongly to actions taken by Saddam Hussein, the United States is playing the diplomatic deadbeat.

It is a sad state of affairs when the world's only remaining superpower holds the organization hostage due to its domestic political games.

After long negotiations this past fall, the Clinton administration and Senator Jesse Helms, chair-

man of the Foreign Relations Committee, reached an agreement to pay the United Nations. This agreement included many reforms long sought by Republicans.

Members of the House blocked the package, as well as funds for the International Monetary Fund, because of concern "over American participation in international family planning programs."

Conservative Republicans, such as Christopher Smith of New Jersey, claim they want to prevent, "U.S. subsidies to foreign organizations that perform or promote abortions," even though this is already banned by U.S. law.

Much of the money the United States owes stems from failure to pay for U.N. peacekeeping op-

erations it voted for in the Security Council.

So, we mandated action—which entails costs—and stuck the United Nations with the bill.

This is not prudent for promoting long term stability. Peacekeeping operations allow the United States to take collective action in areas of the world in which it would be politically difficult or costly to intervene unilaterally.

When we do not pay our peacekeeping dues, we effectively withhold payments to countries providing the troops and necessary supplies for the operations.

If this continues, states will be unwilling to bear the burden of U.S. and U.N. mandated Security

Council peacekeeping operations.

These operations have been key to promoting stability in the Middle East, Guatemala, Haiti, El Salvador, Cambodia, and other areas of direct concern to the United States.

With the United States increasingly relying on foreign trade—twice as much in real terms as in 1975—and U.S. jobs depending increasingly on international trade and investment, Americans have a direct stake in promoting global stability.

The United Nations provides some of this stability at a price much lower than we could do it alone. It is time for Congress to take responsible action to end this debacle.

News Bytes by Tim Caister

Tucker demands clemency from Texas governor after being "born again"

Gender is not the main issue.

The seemingly endless debate surrounding the Death Penalty is continuing. Karla Faye Tucker is awaiting execution at the hands of the state of Texas for murdering two people 14 years ago with a pickaxe.

She admits absolute guilt for the crimes and due process was properly given to her during her prosecution. So what's the debate?

It seems that she has been "born again." Tucker has apparently converted and shown remorse for her crimes.

Strong names now surround her in a fight for clemency for her crimes. Even our friend Pat Robertson from the *700 Club* has joined her cause. She is urging Texas Governor George Bush Jr. to answer her plea.

The, let's say "larger," media has portrayed this as a gender issue. Not since the Civil War has the state of Texas executed a woman, compared to the 37 men it executed just last year. Gender issue? Somewhat. However, the

gender question is only a contributing factor in this instance. The much larger issue in this case is the conversion/remorse factor.

When does it become necessary for a system to grant clemency to someone who is remorseful for their crimes? It should never get to that point.

We are forgetting one other large factor in this case—the two people brutally killed with a pickaxe.

The justice system is not perfect, but it will lose some credibility and accountability when we start granting pardons to those who "claim" to be converted and remorseful for their crimes.

The memories of those murdered should not be dishonored in this manner.

If a person found guilty of a capital crime gets the chair—give them the chair; if a person is given life in prison—keep them there until they die. The system cannot afford to become this arbitrary.

Good luck tracking them.

Invasion of privacy versus the health concerns of the general

public; which would you defend? It seems some of the health agencies located in New York may start tracking those who are infected with HIV.

Would you prefer the health agencies tracking those who carry a disease which is a threat to you? What if you are the carrying the disease? Which argument has more weight?

Tracking someone who is carrying HIV may prove beneficial, but how much more bureaucracy would this require?

In a system where we could afford one individual tracking another who is infected, it would be ideal; however, I fail to see where the resources could make this a reality.

New tax break.

There are some new tax laws in effect for 1998, one of which will prove positive for most students. Under the old system, if you wanted to

deduct your interest payments from federal student loans, you needed to itemize your deductions. However, in order to itemize your deductions, you needed a minimum Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).

That AGI requirement was far out of the reach for most newly

graduated students. So, most newly employed graduates could not deduct their interest payments to Uncle Sam. Well, good news. You no longer need to itemize the deduction of interest payments back to the federal government.

Finally, someone was thinking in Washington.

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Union remains out of touch with workers

By Shannon Casey
Staff Reporter

Thomas Jefferson said it best when he wrote, "To compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves is sinful and tyrannical."

Unbeknownst to many union workers in the country, this is what their union bosses are doing

with their dues.

Union workers, who pay a certain percentage of their income to the union in the form of dues, are unknowingly supporting Democratic incumbents in Congress. This money should be spent for collective bargaining and other legitimate interests of individual union members.

The vast majority of union dues used for political purposes are

spent on campaigns to fund the Democratic Party. The political makeup of rank and file union members is not this lopsided.

Forty percent of union members voted for Republicans in the 1994 elections. Are labor bosses spending union dues to promote legitimate union interests or to promote their own self-interest?

In the 1996 elections, the union bosses admitted to spending \$35

million on a political smear campaign against Republican incumbents in Congress. Rutgers University economics professor Leo Troy told the House Oversight Committee that unregulated spending by the unions was actually between \$300 million and \$500 million in 1996.

In 1988, the Supreme Court held in *Communications Workers v. Beck* that union workers

can request a refund equal to the percentage of paid-in dues not used for reasons related to collective bargaining. This decision was meant to give individual union members the freedom to spend their money as they see fit.

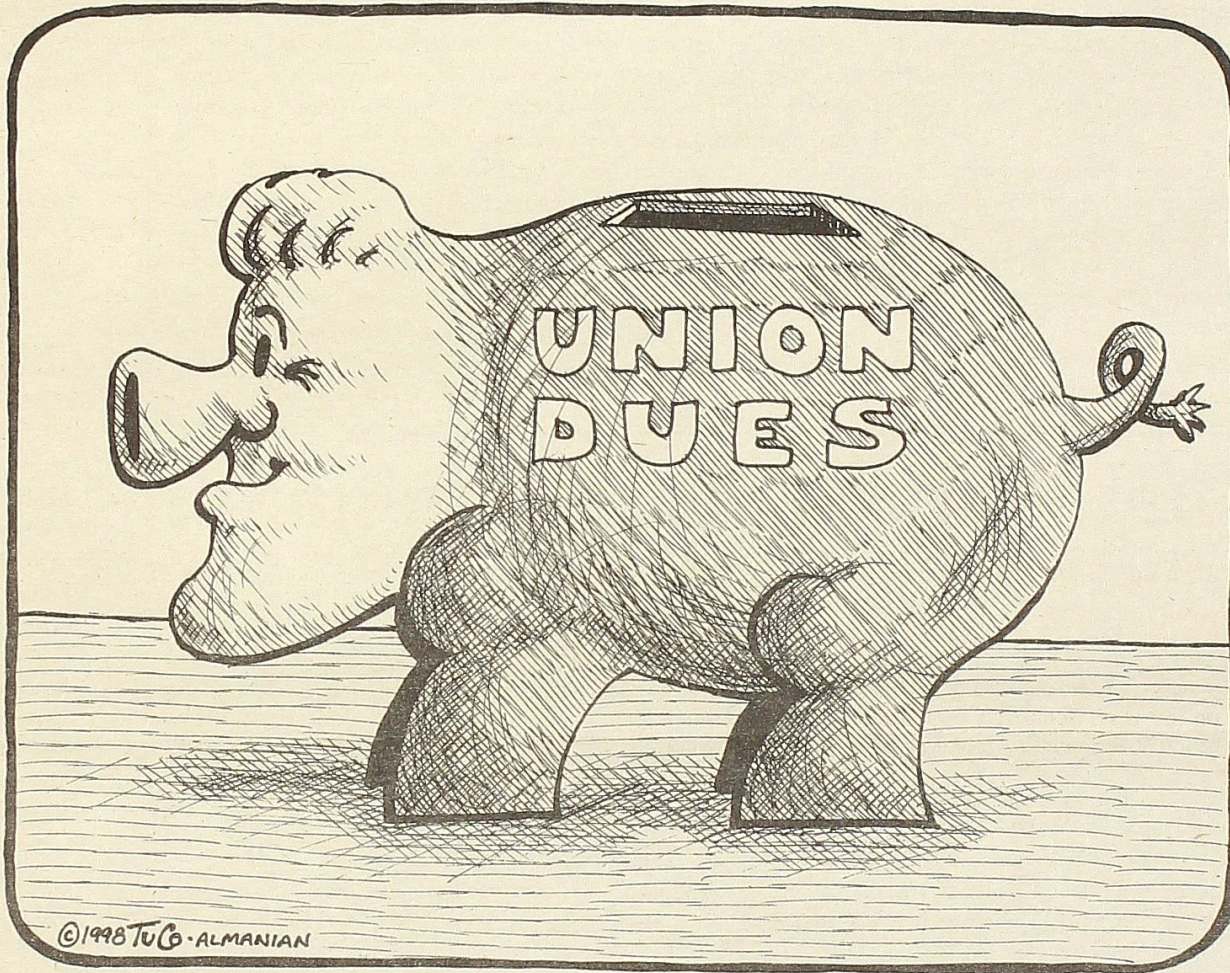
President Bush agreed to protect union members by reinforcing Beck in 1992 with an executive order requiring government contractors to post notices to inform workers they may object to payment of union dues. Bush wanted to give workers more control of their money. That was, after all, the intent of the founding fathers.

One of President Clinton's first acts in office was to repeal Bush's executive order and thereby ending the protection of union members. How can the President claim that he represents the average worker, when indeed he is more interested in campaign cash?

Republican Representative Harris Fawell is trying to carry out the Supreme Court's intentions by introducing "The Workers Paycheck Fairness Act," which would require union bosses to ask permission of their workers before using dues for political purposes.

The union bosses would also be required to disclose how all dues are spent and thereby limiting the potential for corruption.

The AFL-CIO, which is run by union leaders, along with the Democratic National Committee, are fighting this legislation all of the way.



Classifieds

The Alma College Conference Office is now accepting applications for the position of Highland Festival Housing Coordinator. Responsibilities include: reserving rooms, processing payments, supervising a staff of students, and coordinating guest registration during Highland Festival weekend. Good organizational and communication skills are essential. First- or second-year students are preferred, with the expectation of handling responsibilities for more than one Festival. Interested students may apply at the Personnel and Conference Office, Reid-Knox building by January 30, 1998. Position will begin in mid-February.

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There will be a meeting for all those interested in I.M. basketball Thursday at 10 p.m. in the Gelston lobby.

Privatization will save social security

By Shannon Casey
Staff Reporter

Imagine intergenerational political warfare. This conflict would not be centered around race, political parties or even between countries, but between the young and old.

A certain grudge develops when today's workers are forced to finance a social security system that they do not believe will provide the same assistance for them.

In the 1964 presidential campaign, Republican candidate Barry Goldwater cautioned the public concerning the potential bankruptcy that the social security system faced. He suggested semi-privatizing it in order to insure its solvency.

Unfortunately, Goldwater was painted as a mean-spirited, cold-hearted Republican who wanted to steal social security checks from the elderly. A man with a vision was chastised for suggesting change.

Because of its effectiveness against the Goldwater campaign, Democrats have been running around for 30 years scaring seniors into believing that conservative Republicans want to steal their retirement income in order

to fund tax cuts for the very rich or big businesses.

The fear factor worked and Bill Clinton used it successfully against Bob Dole in the 1996 presidential elections. In 1986, this fear allowed the Democrats to retake the Senate.

Liberal politicians have even used this scare tactic against candidates who have no control over social security such as state legislators and most recently Jeb Bush, the GOP candidate for Florida governor. The scary part is that Goldwater's predictions are coming true.

This is bad political news for the liberal Democrats who designed a system that cannot support itself. This is also bad news for the millions of senior citizens that depend on their monthly social security checks.

The system's own trustees predict bankruptcy by 2029. According to many economists, it may be much sooner. If Congress continues to support a broken system, it must raise taxes or divert money from other popular programs. Neither option is politically smart.

The only alternative is to duplicate a retirement system that works. Both Britain and Australia are supporting millions of se-

nior citizens on a social security system that is partially privatized.

It is a two-tiered system that gives workers the option of putting part of their withholdings into private accounts. There is no risk because each investor is guaranteed to receive at least as much retirement income as under the old system. The best part of the system is that the government is not trying to play banker with taxpayer money.

In Britain, over 70 percent of workers take advantage of this privatized system and can expect to receive three times more than in the traditional system.

This is not a conservative scheme, as Al Gore would have you believe. In 1980, it was the Australian Labor Party that recognized the need to privatize social security and implemented the strategy.

Although the British conservatives introduced the system in 1978, the British Labor Party saw its success and now offers their supports. They actually campaign on promises of further privatization.

Just think, this doomsday prophecy would not have come true if only the American people would have elected Barry Goldwater in 1964.

Staff Editorial

Heritage Center enlightens Alma

Alma College students and community members should take full advantage of the wide range of opportunities made available to them at the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts.

The Heritage Center offers entertainment and enrichment through many performances and speakers that occur on a weekly basis. These speakers and performers offer students a chance to experience everything from musical and dance performances to an illusionist. All of these performances are offered to students free of charge.

This gives students the opportunity to broaden their horizons and experience events which they normally would not. Free admission for these events allow students to try events which they might not like without the fear of losing large amounts of money. It also lets students see things like a full length ballet which they might otherwise be unable to afford.

However, students must take advantages of these opportunities. The various departments and organizations around campus work hard to bring events to the Heritage Center's stages.

This work is done to benefit the student population. The students of Alma can show their appreciation for this work by attending the events.

By going to the events, students show their support for their classmates and other members of the Alma population. They also

ensure that the groups responsible for booking the Heritage Center will continue to bring quality entertainment for the student population to enjoy.

The Heritage Center programs also benefit the Alma community. Programs which are offered to students are also open to community members.

The only difference is that community members are charged a small fee in most cases. It is very rare for a small mid-Michigan town to be able to offer its community members symphony orchestra concerts or a concert by a world-renowned concert pianist.

This community partnership also benefits the students. Performance majors are able to perform for audiences made up of people other than just students and faculty. This allows students to build a stronger resume and performance record.

Along with the programs which are offered through the Heritage Center, students build valuable experience working on productions. Students are also able to obtain management and booking skills relevant to running a theater.

The Heritage Center is a vital part of a students positive experience at Alma. Students should try to attend as many of the chances offered. Maybe a new experience will open a new world for someone.

The Almanian

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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 as layout space allows and priority will be given to letters under 250 words. Submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication. 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.

Cloning debate forces self examination

By Daniel Scripps
Freelance Writer

Recently Richard Seed, the scientist who successfully cloned a sheep, unveiled his plan to attempt to clone a human being. Since he announced his intentions, he has been blasted by nearly everyone from the Pope to President Clinton, who called Seed's plan "unsafe" and "morally unacceptable."

While the debate rages, people

on both sides of the issue seem to forget that this is a change. Like any other change, we can either attempt to stop it, or we can embrace it. And stopping it never works.

This case is in many ways no different than the theme of *Oedipus* or the story of the forbidden fruit. In both cases, a decision was made to accept change and the awareness it inevitably brings. After we are made aware, after we know the truth, we long for

our lost ignorant innocence.

It's too late. We cannot go back.

We have moved forward. And this movement, like any movement, does not come easily. We lose, once and for all, our innocence. We can no longer claim ignorance. We know, and whether we like this new knowledge or not, we must move on.

In many ways, this debate over human cloning mirrors life. As comfortable as we have become in the confines of our realities, in

order to grow, we must change.

Growth and change hurt, but they are a necessary part of living. Without growth, we would remain mentally, emotionally and spiritually as young children. Living without challenging one's beliefs inevitably leads to a state of blissful ignorance. But it is still ignorance.

This debate takes on additional dimensions when being examined by educated persons in an institution devoted to education and learning. In our classes we are confronted with daily challenges to our thinking.

Inevitably our experiences change us, and it is for this very personal growth that we pay our tuitions. We have dedicated ourselves to become informed individuals.

This growth, this process of informing ourselves, however, is not easy. It comes with a price.

We strip ourselves of the defenses of ignorance and stand naked of innocence before the weather of change.

In choosing to attend Alma, or any institution of higher learning, we have forsaken the comfort of the known and set out to find what we do not know.

Our search for the truth often hurts, but it invariably leads to a fuller existence. We know. And that is good enough.

The question of the ethics surrounding Seed's plan to clone humans then resolves itself by examining ourselves and why we are at Alma, or any, college. Though Seed's plan shocks our senses, it forces us to grow. We lose a little more of our innocence, but we grow proportionately more aware.

And while this hurts, it is the path of knowledge, a path we have each chosen for ourselves. If it was easy, we would not be here.

United States should respond to Saddam Hussein with force

By Tom Glegola
Freelance Writer

The latest round of weapons inspection violations on the part of the Iraqi government sends a clear signal: the only method of insuring compliance from Saddam Hussein is the use of force.

At the end of the Gulf War, the U.N. Security Council authorized inspection teams to find and destroy all nuclear, chemical and biological weapons that Iraq might possess, plus destroy the means of a future produc-

tion. Iraq agreed to this as part of the cease-fire. Therefore, by preventing such inspections, Iraq is defying the will of the Security Council, which in turn means that it is flagrantly ignoring the will of the international community. Most disturbing is that Iraq has been able to do this without repercussions.

Russia "brokered" a deal with Iraq to allow inspections in November, but Iraq has now violated this agreement by denying access to the inspection team led by Scott Ritter, a U.S. Army captain in the Gulf War. The charge: Ritter is "a hyena who publicly serves American intelligence."

Additionally, Iraq submitted a complaint to the United Nations concerning an "imbalance" in the team. Of the 16 members, nine are American, five are British, one is Russian and one is Australian.

The reason for the imbalance is because the United States and British inspectors are the best in the field. China could send inspectors, Russia could send more than one, but the consensus is that doing so would compromise the effectiveness of the mission, and

the integrity of the Security Council.

Iraq cannot dictate who may inspect possible weapons facilities, and who may not. Yet that is exactly what Iraq is doing.

The U.N. Security Council must act. First, France, China and Russia can no longer coddle Iraq because they might have some further potential interest. Stability in the Middle East should be more important than making money. Saddam Hussein's history proves that he remains a threat to peace prospects.

Iraq was involved in two wars in 15 years, the first with Iran, and later its invasion of Kuwait. Iraq is very hostile to Israel and to any attempt to bring peace between Israelis and Arabs. Therefore allowing Saddam to possess weapons capabilities is a mistake.

Second, the Clinton Administration needs to stop talking about acting tough, and start *acting* tough. Who dictates U.S. foreign policy? Certainly not Iraq. Nor should Russia, France or China. If the use of force is the only method of insuring compliance, then the United Nations must use it.

IFC Can Drive

On Saturday the Intrafraternity council will place donation cans outside each of the fraternity houses. This is an attempt to raise money for the Tara Peters fund. In addition each of the five fraternities will be donating deposits from all returnables collected during the party.