

News

- *Man of La Mancha*, p. 2
- Rosa Parks Day, p. 3

FEATURE

- Chicago Tap Company, p. 4
- "Who is this God?", p. 5

SPORTS

- Pro Bowl, p. 7
- Women's Basketball, p. 8

OPINION

- Nationalized Day Care, p. 10
- Staff Editorial, p. 12

The Almanian

February 3, 1998

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 16

News Briefs

International News Briefs

Iraqi Diplomacy fades

Secretary of State Madeline Albright said diplomacy has nearly been exhausted regarding Iraq. But Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov asked her to give diplomacy more time to work. Albright again raised the prospect of a military attack on Iraqi sites where U.S. and U.N. experts believe anthrax and other biological weapons ingredients may be secretly stored.

SmithKline, Glaxo Wellcome discuss merger

British pharmaceutical giants SmithKline Beecham PLC and Glaxo Wellcome PLC are talking about combining to form the world's largest pharmaceutical company. SmithKline has a market value of about \$70 billion and Glaxo Wellcome \$96 billion. A combination would be the biggest merger ever.

U.S. bobsledder is banned

Michael Dionne, a member of the U.S. bobsledding team, was barred from the Winter Olympics after testing positive for a banned stimulant, the international bobsled federation said. Dionne was banned from all competition for three months for testing positive to the stimulant ephedrine in November.

Campus Happenings

Orientation Committee applications are available in the Student Affairs office. Completed applications are due by February 19, 1998. If you have any questions call the Student Affairs Office at x7147.

Wednesday, February 4, is the deadline for Assistant Hall Director Applications.

The Alma College Theater Department is presenting *Man of La Mancha* Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and on Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts.

Jostens will be on campus February 10, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. in Tyler-Van Dusen.

The performance art of **Tuco Jakubowski**, featuring the music of the B-Siders, will be presented in the Heritage center for the Performing Arts on Saturday February 14, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, February 15, at 3 p.m.

Alma College hosts BB/BS party

By Joey Mead
Staff Reporter

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Alma College and the community visited Van Dusen Commons last Tuesday to attend a party put on for their "little" brothers and sisters.

At the party, the children could get involved in games, crafts, win prizes and do it all in the company of their big brother or big sister.

Junior Becky Meyers is Alma College's representative on the Big Brothers and Big Sisters board of directors. She said she enjoyed watching her little brother Danny play musical chairs at the Big Brothers and Big Sisters party.

"I like watching him grow socially. He used to be so shy and now he does really well in social situations," she said.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters executive director Christie White said, "Programs like these are just wonderful because a lot of the kids that come [to Big Brothers and Big Sisters parties] are unmatched kids and it gives them an opportunity to do something."

Big Brothers and Big Sisters have matched 40 kids with a big brother or a big sister, but there are still 25 children unmatched and on a waiting list. Alma College represents more than 30 percent of the volunteers for the Big Brothers and Big Sisters agency located in downtown Alma.

"Alma College students have really been wonderful to us and we're really lucky that your whole student body is supportive of our program and also as volunteers," White added.

Sophomore Holly Caraway was responsible for organizing the party. She is the philanthropy chair for the Gamma Phi

Beta (ΓΦΒ) sorority. Caraway coordinates events such as the party for Big Brothers and Big Sisters and other fundraisers. All proceeds from events like Tavern, ΓΦΒ's fall formal, are donated to the Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization.

Balloons were donated for the event by Tom Billig, Bob Moore and Fisher Florist located in Ithaca. Cookies and punch were donated by Marriott.

The kids could get involved in raffles, musical chairs, Twister, pin-the-nose-on-the-snow-man and art supplies were also laid out for the kids to make snow flakes and decorate.

Caraway said, "I think [the program] was great for [the kids]. It gives them someone to look up to. I think the most important thing is a positive role model.

There are a lot of activities and it gives the child something fun to do." Caraway plans on being matched up with a little sister or brother in the future.

To get matched up with a little brother or little sister an applicant must first call the agency and express an interest. Next he or she will go through an orientation that lasts about a half an hour and then the applicant must fill out an application. Lastly a police and reference check is made of the applicant's background. The process takes about one month assuming everything matches up.

White said, "There are kids out there that need a friend. You don't have to be a rocket scientist, you just need to want to care about a child. You can make a tremendous difference in their life."



Members of the Gamma Phi Beta (ΓΦΒ) sorority and children from Big Brothers Big Sisters work diligently at the craft table at the Big Brothers Big Sisters party. Photo by Derek Warner.

Committee working on Honors Day '98

By Cheryl Lenard
Staff Reporter

Due to Honors Day '98, Alma College students will have no formal classes on April 2. All students are required to attend Honors Convocation at 11 a.m. that day, then students will have the rest of the day to attend several student presentations covering the research that the presenting students have worked on throughout the year.

Last year was the first year for Honors Day as opposed to just the traditional Honors Convocation.

It was such a big success that the provost's office has decided to run the event again. Assistant Professor of Biology David Clark along with a committee of three students, seniors Becky Tansy, Michelle Massey and Brandon Miller, are planning the event.

"[Honors Day is] a great opportunity for students to teach each other and to show what they've learned and done. It's for all the different disciplines, and we are really

looking for a good representation [from all academic departments]," said Tansy.

All Alma College students are permitted to participate in Honors Day provided they have a faculty sponsor and have done research into a specific topic. For instance, seniors who are currently doing a thesis are welcome to present their work even if

"Right now the only thing they are requiring is abstracts. The paper doesn't even have to be written yet. It can just be an idea for right now. In theory, a paper can still be written," commented Massey.

"I really encourage everyone to participate no matter what their academic background. It's a great opportunity to celebrate the liberal arts," said Miller. He added that Honors Day is an ideal opportunity for those who are going to present at Michigan Academy or other research presentation events.

"It allows people to practice in an encouraging and safe environment," he said.

"Honors Day is really a chance for students to receive credit for what they've done. There are a lot of students who deserve credit for what they've done. It's really a day to have fun and to enjoy school and our achievements. It's a great chance to get involved," added Massey.

“It's a great opportunity to celebrate the liberal arts.”

•Brandon Miller (98)

it is yet to be completed. The committee asks, however, that research abstracts be submitted to the committee on or before February 13.

Man of La Mancha opens

By Karin Shrum
Staff Reporter

In their first attempt at a musical since *Cabaret* in 1995 the Alma College theatre and music departments are collaborating on what may be their biggest production ever, *Man of La Mancha*.

The two hour musical, based on the life of writer Miguel de Cervantes and the main character in his book *Don Quixote*, will open to a sold out audience on Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts Theatre and will run through Sunday afternoon performing for three more sold out crowds.

"This is probably the largest production we've ever done, in terms of what it takes for the environment, the set, the lighting and the costumes for this particular show and the acting and musical rehearsals as well," commented Joe Jezewski, associate professor of theatre and dance and director of *Man of La Mancha*.

Rehearsals for the production began in the middle of October and the construction crews began building the set in November just after the Dance Company's performance of *The Nutcracker, Act II* concluded.

Before winter break, the 22 performers were rehearsing six days a week, three to four hours a day. Once break ended the group began again, five days a week three to four hours a day.

Now that the production is about to open this weekend, rehearsals were increased to seven days a week.

"It's been an extremely challenging role for me, but one I'm loving."

**•Scott Harman (99),
Don Quixote/ Quijana**

Both Jezewski and Scott Messing, professor of music and musical director of the show, began talking about bringing this show to campus two years ago.

"We both feel that this is a very powerful play. . . it affected both of us when we first experienced the play, at different times in our lives, and it had one of those kind of profound effects that we still bring to it from that first time we saw it," commented Jezewski.

The show points out some very powerful issues in life, pinpoint-

ing one in its well known song "Dream the Impossible Dream."

With its powerful messages, and intricate foot work, it provides very challenging roles for the cast members.

"It's been a tough physical show for me but its made me learn a lot about myself and my character," stated Kristi Stariha (00) who plays the lead female role of Aldonza.

The show contains a lot of choreographed foot work due to the fact that it is a musical that takes place in a jail and contains several fight scenes including sword fighting.

Because of the rough nature of the story there have been a few accidents at rehearsal, however as the difficulty of the movements increases so do the chances of accident.

Scott Harman (99), who plays the lead male role, Don Quixote/ Quijana, commented that, "It's been an extremely challenging role for me, but one I'm loving."

As rehearsal draws to a close this week the cast, crews and pit orchestra, totaling at about 135 students, are adding the finishing touches to the performance. The pit orchestra joined rehearsals over this past weekend and the set was finally completed.

Man of La Mancha Cast

Don Quixote/ Quijana (Cervantes)	Scott A. Harman
Sancho Panza (Manservant)	Aaron Decker
The Innkeeper (Governor)	Brian Papendick
Dr. Carrasco (Duke)	James R. Kuhl
Aldonza	Kristi Stariha
Maria, the Innkeeper's wife	Julie Shier
Fermina, a serving girl	Bethany Emery
Antonia, Quijana's niece	Katherine Bunker
Housekeeper, for Quijana	Anne Galsterer
The Padre	Marcus Evans
The Barber	Mike Slater
The Muleteers	
Pedro	Jorge Livingston
Anselmo	Brian R. Deur
Jose	Jim Miller
Juan	Julian pike
Tenorio	Matthew Singletary
Paco	Mike Slater
Gypsy Dancer	Rachel Capraro
Gypsy Singer	Bethany Emery
Horses	Kelly Boeneman
	Katie Wibby
Guitarist	Tyson Friar
Captain of the Inquisition	Matthew Singletary
Guards	Mark McClutchey
	Nate Spang

Abortion clinic bombing in Alabama kills one, injures one

By Wendy Holmes
Freelance Writer

Twenty five years ago, the Supreme Court decided in a landmark case, *Roe v. Wade* (1973), that abortion was legal. The controversy that rages over abortion has not slowed down since and came sharply into focus Thursday, January 29, 1998, when the New Woman All Women Health Care Clinic became the site of the United States' first fatal bombing at an abortion clinic.

The bomb exploded at approximately 7:30 a.m., killing an off-duty police officer and injuring at least one other person. The victims were officer Robert D. Sanderson, 35, who had just arrived at the clinic, and Emily Lyons, 41, one of the clinic's counselors. Lyons suffered extensive damage to her abdomen, face and leg and also lost an eye. The bomb, which could be felt by those in nearby buildings, left a black crater in the clinic's entryway and nearby buildings, including several of the University of Alabama's dorms, were evacuated.

A witness to the bombing reported seeing a man fleeing the scene, dropping his wig into a blue bag as he ran. A number of other witnesses were questioned, but there was no immediate suspect. The National Coalition of Abortion Providers has cautioned to be on the lookout for a gray, 1989 Nissan truck, although po-

lice refuse to comment on that piece of information. It was confirmed that the bomb was in some sort of package and was intend to harm or kill, not to blow up the whole building.

Authorities are wondering whether this bombing has a link to two Atlanta, Ga., bombings last year. Two bombs went off within the same hour, the second injuring seven. The bombings were never solved. Members of the Atlanta task force investigating those and other bombings have traveled to Birmingham to search for a possible connection.

Since the 1973 Supreme Court decision, the number of annual abortions has more than doubled and so has violence against abortion providers. Many abortion clinics have been bombed over the years and five abortion providers have been shot to death since 1977. Adel Wentworth (01) said, "I don't agree with abortion, but I wouldn't blow up somebody who did. Activism is one thing, but if they say that abortionists are murderers, then what are they?"

David Schumm (01) questioned, "How can anti-abortion legislation be pursued if its only supporters are so extreme that they don't believe in law and order?"

Although abortion is legal, the regulations against it are still strong. Thirty-nine states currently require a minor to have parental consent or notification, a

law enforced by thirty-one of them. Michigan is one of those states, requiring minors to have consent by at least one parent, a rule that is enforced. Also, there is a 24-hour delay, and abortions can be blocked by state or federal court. There are 25 abortions per 1000 women aged 15-44 years annually in Michigan, and the number of abortion providers has gone down in the last sixteen years. In 1982, there were 83 abortion providers in Michigan, but by 1992, there were only 70—a change of -16 percent. Seventy eight percent of counties in Michigan are currently without abortion providers.

Reaction among Alma College students was one of disgust at the bomber's or bombers' actions. Jon Dereszynski (01) said, "The sanctity of life is a big issue. You can't complain about life [being taken away] in an abortion clinic and then kill people. Human lives are human lives."

Joel Sandersen (99) agreed. He said, "I do not think abortion is right, but it is legal; therefore, we have to obey the law. It's also against the law to kill people....Blowing up abortion clinics is as morally reprehensible as [some think] abortion is."

"There exists a 'fatal' contradiction in the ideologies of the

bombers," said Matt Morin (00). "It strikes me as a double standard. 'If you don't stop killing people, I'll kill you.'"

Correction Box

In the January 27, 1998 issue of *The Almanian*, the story "Student Congress asks Board of Trustees to review library funding" led the reader to believe that Alma College is a member of the Great Lakes College Association (GLCA). While the college is not a member other MIAA schools such as Hope, Albion and Kalamazoo are. The article also implied that Student Congress was requesting some sort of budgetary action from the Board of Trustees. However, Student Congress was just reporting the state of library funding to the Board. Finally, the article stated that the library was decreasing their percentage of library spending. This statement was not entirely true. The amount of money spent per student on the library is increasing at a much slower rate compared to schools such as Hope, Albion and Kalamazoo. *The Almanian* apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused.

OΔK Leader of the week

Each week, Omicron Delta Kappa (OΔK) the national leadership honorary, chooses one non-OΔK member of the Alma College community who exemplifies outstanding qualities of leadership on campus. This week, OΔK has chosen to honor senior Holly Roten.

Roten is involved in various activities on campus, including Beta Beta Beta (BBB), the national biology honor society, the Chemistry Club, and she spends time in DOW doing independent research with spiders.

She is also the co-chair for the Public Awareness/Animal Shelter (P.A.A.S.) component of Students Offering Service

(S.O.S.) and is an active participant of intramural volleyball and softball teams. In her spare time, Roten enjoys reading, watching spiders dance, eating York peppermint patties and telling long, drawn-out stories.

This year, Roten is a Bonbright Hall RA and one of the assistant hall directors (AHD) in South Complex.

It is in this role that Roten feels she has had the most fun and made the largest contribution as an Alma College leader.

Because of her extensive contributions as a leader, OΔK is proud to honor her as this week's ODK leader of the week.

Engler outlines future in State Address

By Sara Bickler
Staff Reporter

Not every student gets the opportunity to shake hands with their state's governor. Members of the Alma College Republicans (ACR), not only shook Governor John Engler's hand, but spoke with him and posed for pictures as well. The ACRs traveled to Lansing last Thursday to attend the State of the State Rally in Lansing. Those present viewed the speech from big screen televisions in the Lansing Center. After his speech, Engler spoke at the rally.

In his State of the State address, Engler highlighted his plans for "taking the next steps to making Michigan first in the 21st Century." He spoke foremost

about Michigan's success stories. He mentioned the state's two national champion sports teams; the Detroit Red Wings in hockey, and the University of Michigan Wolverines in college football. He also highlighted several successes that the state has had in the areas of economics and education policies.

Engler spoke on his economic plans for the state in the coming years. He mentioned that "in 1997, Michigan achieved its lowest unemployment rate since 1969, 4.1 percent... our state unemployment rate has been below the nations rate for four consecutive years." He proposed five income tax cuts over five years until the rate is down to 3.9 percent. He also proposed a constitutional amendment that would require a

three-fifth vote of the house and senate in order to raise taxes.

Among the other topics he spoke about was education. Engler commented on his strong support of education. He said, "the state with the best schools wins. Michigan must have the best schools in the world."

He sighted the fact that education spending has increased every year for the past six years while the budget was also balanced. He emphasized the importance of safety in our schools. He said, "Make Michigan schools safer, protect our teachers and staff—lets get it done." He also called for raising the literacy rate and higher standardized test scores.

Engler stressed the importance of self reliance. He said, "By cut-

ting taxes we make Michigan more prosperous; by cleaning up the environment, we make Michigan more beautiful; by teaching all children to read, we make Michigan more competitive and by strengthening families, we make Michigan more self reliant.

"In these areas, where the state government has a role, we have defined that role and done our utmost to help our citizens help themselves."

After his address, Engler traveled to the Lansing Center and spoke about his coming campaign for re-election. He seemed confident addressing the crowd as they chanted, "four more years."

The Alma College students seemed to enjoy the entire experience. Sophomore David Vink said, "I really liked meeting Engler. I thought his speech was great and he spoke about some really important issues."

Alma Young Democrats to celebrate Rosa Parks's day

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

The Alma College community will celebrate the first ever Rosa Parks Day, next Monday, February 9 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Dunning Memorial Chapel, with an event hosted by Alma Young Democrats (AYD).

Michigan declared Rosa Parks Day last year in a bill sponsored by Jackie Vaughn III, a state representative from the Detroit area. According to the legislation, the state of Michigan will celebrate Rosa Parks Day on the first Monday following Parks's birthday, February 4.

The event will draw on various members of the college community. Members from AYD will discuss the legislation that created the special day. Reverend Jesse Perry will focus on the life of Rosa Parks, her involvement in the Civil Rights Movement, her activities after the death of Martin Luther King Jr. and the character attributes that

led to her decision that she would no longer give up her seat on the Birmingham bus.

After King's death, Parks actively raised funds for African-American women so that they could go to college.

"[Parks] felt that education would remove some of the differences between races," said Perry.

Sophomore Karl Griggs-Vinyard will sing several vocal tributes he prepared on Parks's message.

Karen Garner, assistant professor of history, will speak on the current state of the Civil Rights Movement.

The focus of the event will be an attempt to portray Parks's message and her actions in relation to the Civil Rights Movement.

"[AYD thinks] if we can focus on this woman and her actions, we can provide a more truthful message," said senior "Dan Scripps, co-chair of AYD, "We are hoping that everyone will take the spirit of the Civil Rights Movement to heart."

The event is also noteworthy because it coincides with Black History Month and it follows a February 4 presentation on the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. by Jim Lucas.

"When we think of civil rights, we think of Dr. King, but there are others," said Perry. "Without Rosa Parks there perhaps would not have been a Dr. King." Perry noted that King could have remained complacent and been a minister, and later a pastor, at his father's church.

Parks was more of a symbol of the resistance movement rallying point for King and others.

"This is a worthwhile event that [AYD] is doing," noted Perry, citing that the group's interest in promoting such an event made it happen.

A reception will follow the presentations.

Watch out for flying objects



Nicole Markiecki (99) prepares to launch a snowball at a fellow Alma student. With recent snowfall sporadic snowball fights have broken out throughout campus. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

Alternative spring break goes to Florida

By Cheryl Lenard
Staff Reporter

Twelve Alma College students will not be working at home or vacationing at various tropical resorts this spring break. They are taking an alternative spring break to Zellwood, Florida, located thirty miles north of Orlando. Here they will work at a place called the Anthony House which serves as a shelter for men, women and children needing assistance.

The idea for the trip originated when Alma College hired Dawn Smith (00) for the purpose of creating an alternative spring break.

Eager to plan and investigate the possibilities, Smith attended a conference last term hosted by Break Away, an agency which aids people

in the planning of alternative breaks. The conference focused on the planning of the break but more importantly said Smith, "they focused on how the reflection of the experience is important." The motto of Break Away, she added is "spring break lasts seven days, but an alternative spring break lasts a lifetime."

Following the conference, Smith began investigating possible locations for Alma's alternative spring break. While looking on the internet, Dawn was introduced to the Anthony House. The arrangements were made and the idea was introduced to the college community.

"When I first heard about [the trip], I was really, really excited and it sounded like a lot of fun," commented sophomore Amy Jo Craig, who will be participating in the trip.

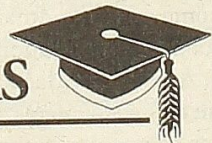
Currently, Smith has 11 others

who are driving with her to Florida where they will volunteer for seven days and live in an on-site dorm. They will be unsure of their specific jobs until they get there due to the fact that other groups similar to theirs will be there at the same time. Smith said that possible jobs include painting and tearing down a room at the Anthony House. In addition, the group is permitted to develop any kind of recreation program they want and put it on for the residents of Anthony House.

First-year student Laura Latham said, "I'm really excited to be going. The chance to help others and the chance to challenge myself and grow as a person is really great."

"We are just going to help [the residents of Anthony House] out while were down there and have a little fun too," added junior Karla Greening.

CALL FOR PAPERS



HONORS DAY: A CELEBRATION OF THE LIBERAL ARTS

Alma College students are invited to present their work on this exciting day. Interested students should complete the required forms (available from a faculty mentor or

the Provost's Office) and return them to the Department or Program Chair by February 13, 1998.

ALMA
COLLEGE

Dean Potter handles scheduling, advising

By Charlotte Grant
Feature Editor

William Potter, dean of academic affairs, has a long history here at Alma College. He graduated with a bachelor of arts in history in 1973. During his time as a student, Potter was a member of Theta Chi (ΘΧ), Omicron Delta Kappa (ΟΔΚ) and Phi Alpha Theta (ΦΑΤ).

Potter and his wife Nancy were married in Alma's chapel in July of 1973 by Joseph Walser, chair and professor of religious studies. After a year of marriage, they moved back to the Alma area.

"We liked this area so much as students," Potter said.

In 1975 Potter began working for Alma while also studying for his masters of arts in history at Central Michigan University (CMU) and his doctor of philosophy in educational administration from Michigan State University (MSU). First working for the food service, Potter later held the jobs of assistant registrar and registrar.

Potter explained that as part of his current job he is responsible for assigning academic advisors.

"[I get] to know the entering

[classes] before anyone else," he stated.

He said it is one of the five main aspects of his job.

Potter reads the files of incoming students the summer before they arrive. Then, Potter said, he

"[I get] to know the entering [classes] before anyone else."

• Dean Potter

"[tries to] determine based on the contents of those folders who their advisors should be."

In addition, Potter also advises between 40 and 45 students himself.

Another responsibility of Potter's job is the development and management of the class schedule. This includes deciding when classes are offered and the number of sections available.

Sometimes, Potter explained, this entails adding sections during the registration period. He said that his office tries to make

registering "as painless for the students as possible."

Potter's office also supervises grant applications for Alma. They process between 20 and 30 grant proposals a year. Potter said grant proposals are made when "we'd like money to do special things...but it's not in the budget."

Past grants handled by Potter include the MacGregor scholarship, which allows five students to do paid research in their major each summer.

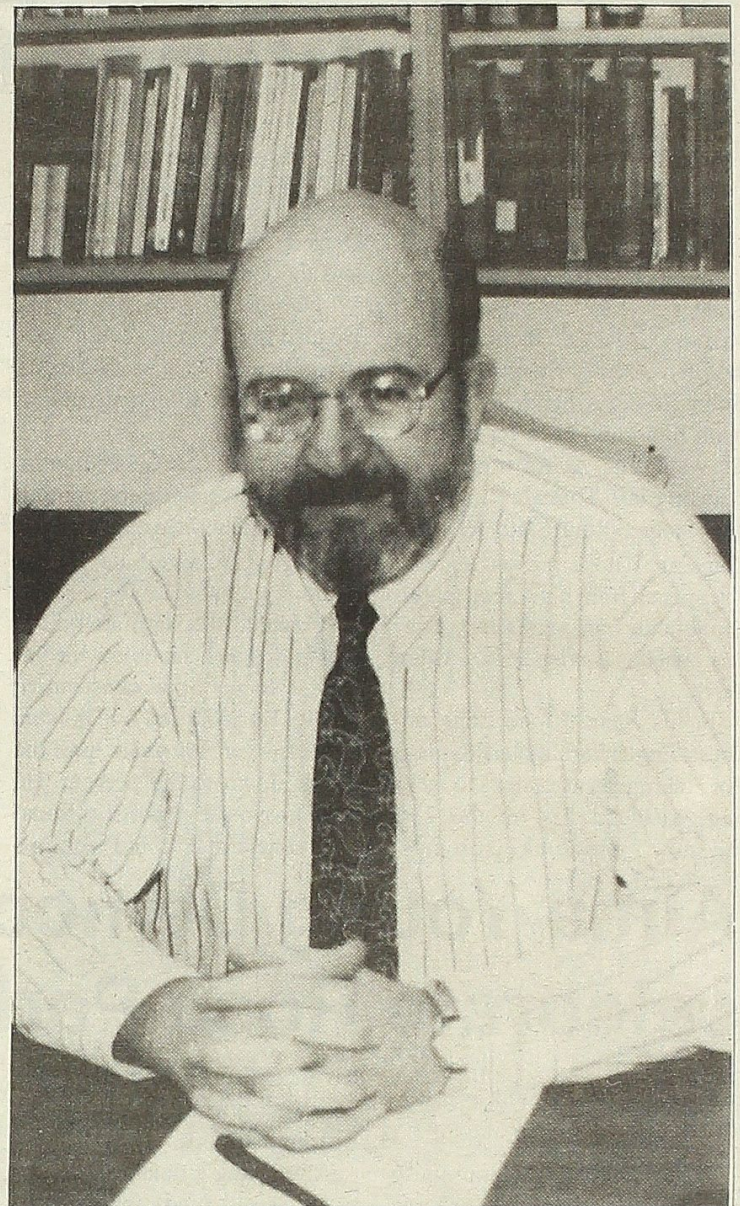
Another facet of Potter's job is the supervision of the athletic department. This includes helping with budgets, planning and staffing.

"I sort of coach the coaches," Potter said.

Finally, there is the category of his job that Potter characterizes as "miscellaneous." Potter explained that this entails "[working] with students who are having difficulty."

Potter said this usually means students who are on academic probation or have been caught cheating.

"We end up having to spend quite a bit of time [with those students]," he stated.



William Potter, dean of academic affairs, poses for a picture in his office. Potter, who is an Alma College alumnus, has been employed at the college in various positions since 1975. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

Chicago tap company performs modern dance

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

Last Monday, at the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts Presbyterian Hall, Alma College students, faculty and community were entertained by the tap company, Especially Tap Chicago.

Especially Tap Chicago (ETC) was founded by Bruce Stegmann in 1988. The company was formed in order to preserve tap dance in Chicago and highlights a variety

of tap techniques including funk, buck and wing and experimental.

The artistic directors of ETC are Lane Alexander and Bruce Stegmann, and the stage manager/lighting designer is Michael Mix. The members of ETC includes Julie Cartier, Becky Cooper, Jay Fagan and Sarah Savelli whose backgrounds include ballet, musical theater, jazz and professional tap.

The group has performed throughout Chicago, the United States and Europe. ETC recently performed at the Kuopio Dance

Festival in Finland as the first tap company to appear there in 25 years.

The company's program consisted of three acts with two fifteen minute intermissions. Each dance utilized various music and

costuming. Titles of dances included "O as in O s c a r," "Concerto...Tocatto," "Sassafras" and "C-Jam Blues."

Dances such as "Stripped" and "Route 66" demonstrated the dancers' enthusiasm for their work. Both works provided the dancers the opportunity to share with the audience

the fun they have dancing with one another. The piece "Time Out" incorporated each member of the ensemble, deftly demonstrating the group's cohesiveness. Pieces like "8-2-5" demonstrated the quickness of the dancers' feet. The dancers were funny to watch and they demonstrated extreme improvisational ability.

The pieces performed by ETC attempted to excite to audience. Dances like "Pops" achieved the goal of rousing the crowd. Yelps erupted from the audience as a result of the impressive foot work.

Works like "Can't be Bothered Now" illustrated the company's humorous side.

The dance began with two couples dressed like bobby-soxers dancing the night away. The women began to taunt the men when they discovered that the men are not so willing to spend money. However, in order to keep their dates, the men decide to

shell out the cash.

The music ETC utilized demonstrated the flexibility of the members to perform an array of tap styles. "One O'Clock Jump" was performed in a classy, big band style. Other genres of music used were jazz, reggae and instrumental.

Junior Cindy Fiedler commented on the visit by a tap com-

pany to Alma College. "I think it was impressive to have such professionals with such diverse experience on our campus. I think, as a dancer, it was nice to see such a good crowd turn out," said Fiedler.

Andy Tallman (00) also found the performance entertaining. "I thought the dance thing was really cool," he stated.

Jacques plans new Spring Term

By Sara Bickler
Staff Reporter

The environment is a very complex, wide-spanning issue, but it is not exactly a field where one would expect to find an accountant professor working. Randy Jacques, chair of business administration at Alma College, just recently returned from sabbatical during which he investigated the field of environmental accounting.

This is a new, but important, field in the business world dealing with expanding and increasingly complicated national and international regulations. Environmental accounting deals with the many issues linking the environment and business. It is thought that someday accountants could specialize in environmental audits. Right now they deal with mostly monetary audits. An environmental audit would involve

assessing the compliance of the clients with the various guidelines dealing with the environment. In other words, the accountants would investigate and see if companies are following environmental regulations.

According to Jacques, environmental accountants would work for companies with either internal or external systems. If they worked in the external arena their job would be to confirm that the corporation that hired them is in compliance with the various environmental laws and regulations. If they worked in the internal field, their job would be to determine if the environmental policies of the companies are being met by all branches and sections within the company.

The purpose of all this research, according to Jacques, is to put together a Spring Term for spring of 1999 dealing the topic of environmental accounting. He has just

submitted a rough schedule and is in the process of having it formally confirmed. He explained that his intentions were to do something with a "more diverse group of students" from several majors outside his area of expertise. He intends to make the class "broader" so that more students will participate.

He said he is planning on having the class located on campus. He wants to bring in guest speakers from various corporations and governmental agencies including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He also plans on taking the class on several field trips to regional corporations to see what their environmental policies are.

First-year student Lynn Seaton, a business major, said, "I think that this class would bring a new opportunity to both the business administration department and to the students of Alma College."

*Who is this God?***Trinity Bible Fellowship informs campus**

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

The Trinity Bible Fellowship spent last Friday evening answering the question, "Who is this God?" in a packed Presbyterian Hall of the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts.

Trinity Bible Fellowship coordinated an evening stocked with a variety of entertainment emceed by Joey Mead (00). A skit entitled "Reasonable Doubt" opened the night. It consisted of two attorneys conducting their summations arguing whether or not God existed.

Then a five member band played a set of songs including "Counting Blue Cars," "Flood" and "Just to be With You."

"The music was pretty awesome," commented Kari Johnson (01).

A video was presented to the audience revolving around Joan Osborne's hit, "What if God was One of Us?" Students from Mount Pleasant High School were asked questions pertaining to God. After the video, senior Matt Anderson sang "I Believe in God."

Sophomore Nate Spang then delivered his testimony to the audience, describing how he had come to have a relationship with God.

"It was very moving, especially Nate's testimony. You could hear people crying in the audience," remarked Stacey Beyer (00).

Next, from Big Rapids, the H.O.P.E. (Helping Others Prepare for Eternity) Drama Team performed. The interdenominational group has been around for eight years and travels around to encourage people to accept Jesus.

The group sang songs like "Facts are Facts," "I'm Free" and "For the Sake of the Call." They also enacted a skit called "Line-Up" where Flesh, Spirit and Soul take a walk together. The group also presented to the audience a nine minute mime skit called "The Redeemer." The skit chronicles Creation, Temptation, Sin, Christ and Salvation.

To conclude the evening, the Trinity Bible Fellowship invited Mike Thomas, a lawyer from Flint, to recount his experiences with salvation. He opened with a few lawyer jokes, but then moved

on to explain that Jesus was not religious, but relational.

Thomas himself did not consider himself religious, but believed he had a relationship with God.

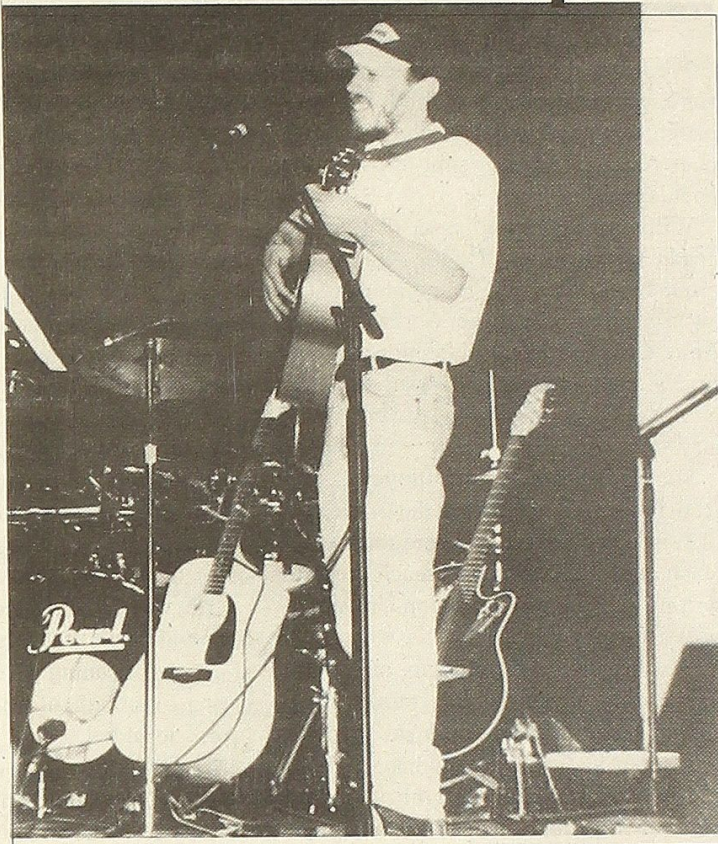
Thomas related the story of his father becoming saved by accepting Jesus into his heart. Thomas told of his confusion with the term "saved." However, all he knew was that it was something good.

"My father was a better man [after being saved]. I liked the new guy better than the old guy," remarked Thomas.

Thomas said that soon after his entire family was saved and he now speaks on the importance of salvation. He told stories of acquaintances he tried to persuade to accept God, but lost them before knowing their decisions. Then Thomas provided those who wished to be saved the opportunity to speak to people about it.

One last song by the Young People's Church Praise Band concluded the event.

Johnson remarked on the message of the evening. "I thought it was really interesting how [Tho-



Senior Matt Anderson performs at Trinity Bible Fellowship's presentation of "Who is this God?" on Friday night. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

mas] was talking about the people he had known. It hit home because I've been through some of

the same things. I've also been through the whole questioning of God process too," she said.

Phi Beta Kappa speaker discusses family values

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

"I was surprised by a lot of her examples, but they were pleasant surprises because it re-evaluated family values," commented Michelle Pihlaja (98) about the Phi Beta Kappa (ΦBK) guest

speaker. Elaine Tyler May spoke on the topic "Family Values: Confronting the Myths of the American Past," to students and faculty last Tuesday night in Jones Auditorium.

May teaches American history at the University of Minnesota. Her historical research is geared

towards rewriting women into American history. May has published several books including *Homeward Bound: American Families in the Cold War Era* and *Barren in the Promised Land*.

May focused on the issue of family values as spoken of in political discourse. Family values now have become a struggle between private and public life. A family's public life eventually leads to political identity.

"Issues once considered part of the domestic ground became so prominent in the political ground," commented May.

According to May, the phrase "family values" as used in political rhetoric implicates that America has lost sight of family values and it is now the task of the nation to reinvent a sense of value.

She began discussion on this by examining two assumptions. First, it is assumed that until recently there has existed a "traditional" family structure. Through overheads May displayed examples of a "traditional" family: a late nineteenth century stern family portrait and a 1950s white, middle class family.

"The political rhetoric we hear suggests this structure is dying," said May.

The second assumption suggests that families' public and political life have only been recently discovered. May argued that both assumptions were false.

First of all, the family institution was always in flux, never "traditional." Secondly, families were never privatized or outside of government.

May went on to discuss the ambiguous meaning of the phrase "family values." "It does have some intrinsic meaning," she remarked. Family values is not necessarily a political phrase and can be interpreted to mean love, care, nurture and loyalty.

Family values, in May's view, connotes public policy issues that can have nothing to do with the family. May argued that family values only became a political issue when the conservative agenda captured the flag of decreasing family values and used the rhetoric to hint that Democrats and liberals aim to destroy the family institution. May argued that both sides are arguing for different ways to become involved in the issue.

May claimed that another issue involving family values is that there is "still the notion there was a time when families were self-sufficient." May argued that families often thrived on government support, especially in the 1950s with G.I. Bills and subsidies for the construction of suburbs.

May stated that the family has had its place in American government since the beginning. The founding fathers placed the family in the center, blaming family for social disorder.

May debated the idea that a decline in family and family values has created an increase in crime and drug abuse. She asked

whether the "traditional" family ever existed and if family ever held society together.

To illustrate her ideas, May presented to the audience her version of "Name That Tune." Instead of tunes she presented descriptions of families and asked the audience to guess in which time period that family existed.

She produced a family in which the women are usually pregnant before marriage, the children did not live with their biological parents and broken marriages and remarriages were common. The answer: the Puritan family. Her point was to use historical snapshots to place values of today in historical perspective.

Before opening the floor for questions, May summed up her discussion by saying that she was at no end point. Technological change continues, delivering new questions on family values and that some of the issues commonly considered new phenomenon—like single parents—are not so new.

"The way she looked at family values today brought out positive aspects of families rather than putting down what we've become in our society. Rather than being negative, she put it in a better light," commented Pihlaja.

Senior Sarah Chambers believed the speaker to be enlightening. "One of the good things about the presentation is that it broke myths about what people thought the ideal family is. May did a good job in using the family examples to break the myth and open people's eyes," she said.

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After School Book Clubs (2 Positions)

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Qualifications: Desire to work with children. Good communication and problem-solving skills. Positive attitude, high energy. Must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, and have a high school diploma or GED.

Position Dates: March 1998 - March 2000

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Contact: Anne Ritz, Service Learning Coordinator
SAC 229, Alma College, 463-7366, or Dr. Sue Root,
Education Department, SAC 239, 463-7202

Application Deadline: Friday, February 13, 1998

Poet series continues with Anne Caston

By Lindsay Robinson
Freelance Writer

Wednesday night brought to our own Heritage Theater an hour and a half of insightful presentation of the works of poet Anne Caston, brought to us by the poet herself.

William Palmer, professor of English, began the program of with some background about the poet. He pointed out the awards she has won for her works. In 1996, Anne Caston's poem collection entitled *Flying Out with the Wounded* won the New York University Press Prize for Poetry.

She was recently named the Jay C. and Ruth Halls Poetry Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she used to teach, and a fellowship to teach creative writing at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Caston then entered the stage and began the reading. From the first moment she started performing her work she held the captivated audience in her hand, taking them on an emotionally moving ride on the trails of her life. She read poems about growing up in Florida, during the time that Castro and Cuba were greatly feared, and her studies in her training to be a nurse.

She spoke of the experiences volunteering in a local asylum, where she reminisced of "The Last Lobotomized Woman,"

and of her work as a nurse, working with children on the pediatric oncology ward.

Caston then brought the reading to an end, reading two final poems. In her second to last poem, she relayed an experience with a boy whose father had set him on fire as punishment. She explained how the even was a life-changing experience. To bring the night to its culmination, she read a poem about her mentally disabled brother. It was a letter she had written to him during a two year time span in which he was missing, much like times in his childhood. But now she couldn't go out and find him and bring him back home.

When asked of his reaction to the reading, Palmer commented that there was a "cumulative weight throughout the reading—a buildup of emotion... emotionally dramatic."

"Her poetry helps people feel so much they can't help but raise deep questions about the meaning of life and death, of caring for others, of brutality, of God, of love," he added.

Brandon Miller (97), currently enrolled in Palmer's Creative Writing course added, "The performance was a wonderful opportunity to hear poems read aloud that we're studying. . . Her stories about the background of her poems were fascinating."

Anne Caston travels all over the continental United States performing her poetry. She likes to target colleges and uni-

versities where she says "the audience is always prepared to receive you," and she also frequents struggling bookstores where she helps to boost sales.

And her advice to all aspiring poets? "Do it. It's so worth it no matter the cost. It is just so worth the moments it gives you back," she said.



Anne Caston presented her works on Wednesday night in the Heritage Center. Caston is just one poet in a series that has visited the campus this term. Photo courtesy of the Public Relations Office.

—Movie Review by Sara Bickler—

Modern setting spoils Dickens's *Great Expectations*

Another work of classic literature had been updated to our time period in the movie *Great Expectations*, which starred Ethan Hawke (*Reality Bites*, *Dead Poets Society*) and Gwyneth Paltrow (*The Pallbearer*, *Seven*).

It is an updated version of the novel, by Charles Dickens set in New York City and Florida rather than Victorian England.

The movie is Finn's (Hawke) story as he narrates certain events in his life. As a young boy he is accosted by an escaped convict. The man threatens to kill him if he does not return with food and provisions. Finn does and the man takes him away on a boat until the police show up. The convict hides and the police bring Finn home. Before he leaves, he throws the convict a lifejacket so that he would not drown. This incident scares him and comes back to haunt him later in his life.

The main plot line of the story is the love story between Finn

and Estella (Paltrow), an upper-class beauty who he has loved since childhood. Estella's aunt and guardian, Nora Driggers Dinsmore, was left at the altar when she was younger and consequently hates all men. She taught Estella to use men and to break their hearts. The movie follows Finn as Estella plays with his feelings.

At the center of the story are the questions Finn asks himself. Does Estella love him? Those questions constitute the main plot of the movie. The movie was meant to be a gripping romance, but did not quite pull it off. Finn ends up looking like a mouse caught in a cat's claw. Estella bats him around and plays with him. When watching the movie, it was very hard to believe that Estella actually has any feelings for Finn, that he was anything more than a plaything to her.

The ending of the book was changed in the movie. This made

the characters and their motives even harder to understand. The story did not flow. Throughout the entire movie the character of Estella was cruel and heartless, then suddenly at the end of the movie her character has a complete change of heart for no reason.

Ethan Hawke made a puppy dog face and followed Paltrow around panting the entire movie. He was very good at it though. Paltrow played her character as convincingly as she could. The character was underdeveloped, and at times did not make sense. Even Paltrow did not seem to know what to do with her.

On most counts the acting in this movie was exceptional. Especially good were the perfor-

mances of the supporting actors. Anne Bancroft was funny, cruel and calculating all at the same time. Robert De Niro gave an emotional performance as the convict.

On all other counts the movie was very well done. The direct-

ing and cinematography were top rate. The main problem is taking a story set in Victorian times that is basically about clashes in class, updating it, sporadically changing key plot points, and expecting it to make any sense at all.

Cool Internet Sites

<http://www.nj.com/yucky/> is the self-purported "Yuckiest site on the internet," and it certainly does its best to live up to that goal. It includes roach and worm discussion groups and information about the yucky things your body can do. One of the page titles is "Find out about you—belches, snores and more."

In the past few years *Dilbert* has become

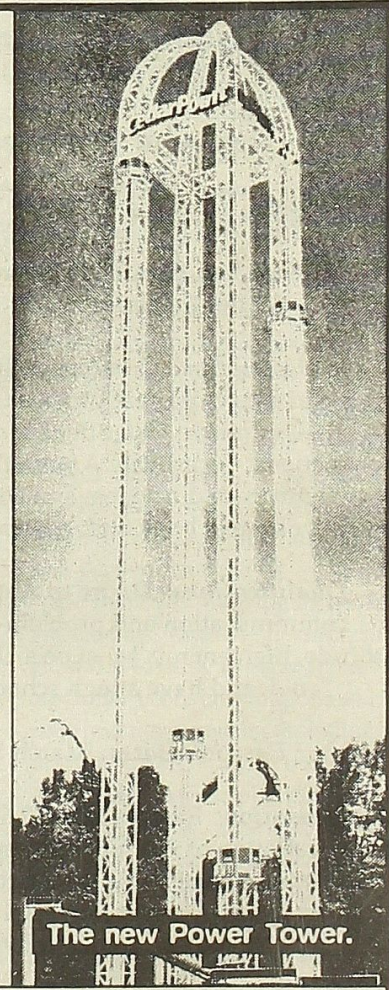
an icon for cubicle rats—faceless employees in monolithic corporate buildings. Now the bespectacled engineer is available on the internet. "The Dilbert Zone," at <http://www.unitedmedia.com/comics/dilbert/>, contains a four week archive of *Dilbert* comics, as well as downloads and Dogbert's "Center for duhcision making," a guide to making stupid decisions and then blaming them on someone else.

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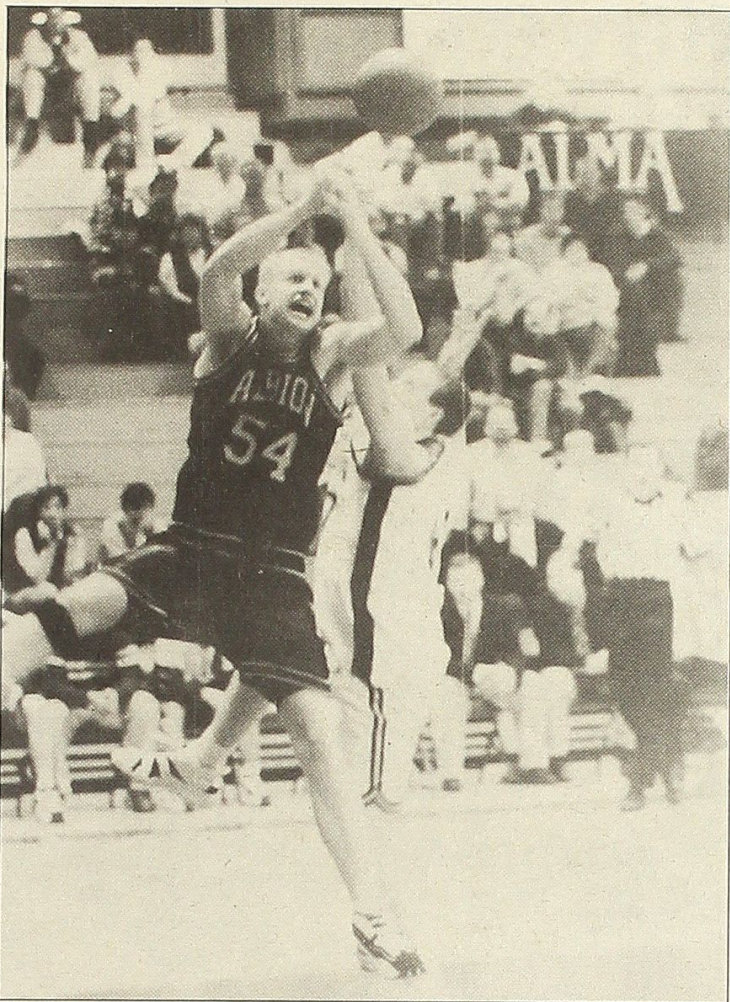


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Scots earn first league win

By Joey Mead
Staff Reporter

"You don't give up, you don't lose faith, you just stay confident and you know it's going to break and finally we got it," head coach Kevin Skaggs said celebrating his team's first conference win.

The men's basketball team beat Kalamazoo College 78-70 last Saturday. Kalamazoo is tied for fifth in the conference, while Alma sits below them at sixth.

The Scots and Kalamazoo took turns leading the game, but in the final minutes the Scots stretched the lead by making their free-throws and playing strong defense.

Skaggs said, "It was a great win for the team. It was a lot like

Sophomore Jeremy Hyler reaches for a rebound. The men earned their first conference win over Kalamazoo on Saturday. Photo by Derek Warner.

many of the games we've had so far in the conference where we have a good first half, but the turning point has always been about the 10 or 11 mark in the second half."

“
Last year we made a good run in the second half of the season. I have no doubt that we'll do the same thing. We have enough talent to compete with anyone in the conference.”

• Coach Skaggs

minutes of the game.

Team manager Steve Crider (00) said, "We focused on our defense and playing hard. We knew Kalamazoo was going to come out strong so we had to limit our number of turnovers, which we did. It came down to free-throws at the end of the game and we came through."

An important play of the game was made by first-year student Pat Hoag.

"Hoag came off the bench to hit two critical three point shots late in the second half. The two three-pointers that he hit were back-to-back and pushed our lead up to five points," said Skaggs.

The Scots record is 1-6, placing them behind Kalamazoo (2-5) and Olivet (2-5) in the conference standings.

"We'd still like to get into fourth place. We still got a shot at it. It looks like second and third are going to be pretty hard to get to, but we still have an opportunity to get to fourth, which is where they predicted us to finish," said Skaggs.

The Scots recent win has improved team spirits. Skaggs hopes that this win will propel the team to a stronger second half of the season—much like the one they had last year.

"Last year we made a good run in the second half of the season. I have no doubt that we'll do the same thing. We have enough talent to compete with anyone in the conference. We've proven that already. We just have not been consistent in closing the games," said Skaggs.

Skaggs noted strong performances by senior Chris Davis and junior Eric Spielhaupter. Davis scored 11 points and Spielhaupter had 18 points, five assists and no turnovers.

Davis said, "It was a good win because we finally got our first conference win and we've been struggling lately. I think [the Kalamazoo game] was the first time we really came together."

Sophomore Doug Austin contributed another strong performance scoring 20 points total. He was also 10 for 10 on the free-throw line, sinking all 10 within the last two and a half

Team Total Field-Goal Shooting

	GP	FGA	FGM	PCT	OPP FGA	OPP FGM	OPP PCT
Adrian	7	426	170	.399	370	181	.489
Albion	7	341	162	.475	403	158	.392
Alma	7	418	174	.416	412	195	.473
Calvin	6	391	179	.458	392	164	.418
Hope	7	399	215	.539	414	190	.459
Kalamazoo	7	388	153	.394	358	155	.433
Olivet	7	438	210	.479	452	220	.487

AFC defeats NFC 29-24 in Sunday's Pro Bowl game

By Sean Babbitt
Sports Editor

With 2:19 left in the fourth quarter Seattle Seahawk defensive tackle Michael Sinclair recovered a fumble and teammate Warren Moon dove over the line

four plays later to score the decisive touchdown in a 29-24 Pro Bowl AFC victory.

The NFC controlled the game until late in the fourth quarter when three consecutive drives failed when NFC players fumbled, turning the ball over to

the AFC. Moon, the eventual MVP of the game, then directed short drives into the end zone to overcome the 24-14 deficit. Moon completed a pass to Oakland's Tim Brown that set up the eventual score from the 1-yard line.

The 41-year-old Moon com-

pleted 4 of 8 passes for 89-yards to garner the Most Valuable Player honor.

Super Bowl champion John Elway was voted into the starting job for this year's game, but was unable to play due to a shoulder ailment.

The scoring kicked off quickly in the first quarter when at 5:35 Detroit's Herman Moore caught a 22-yard touchdown pass from the 49ers Steve Young. The extra point was added by Lion Jason Hanson.

The AFC then answered at 14:30 of the first when Kansas City's Andre Rison hauled in a 17-yard slant from Jacksonville's Mark Brunell making the score 7-7.

The NFC drew first blood in the second when at 2:50 Rob Moore and Young connected on a 36-yard bomb stretching the lead to 14-7. With the NFC defense holding, Super Bowl runner up from Green Bay, Dorsey Levens scored on a 12-yard jaunt for the only rushing touchdown of the day for the NFC.

Fireworks flew in the third

quarter when the game was starting to tighten up, when Denver's defensive end Neil Smith, and 49ers guard Kevin Gogan came to fisticuffs at midfield and were both ejected.

With the fighting over with the AFC went to work in the third scoring 11:31 into it on a Drew Bledsoe touchdown pass to a cutting Jimmy Smith good for 14-yards. The AFC defense in the second half was dominating by allowing the best from the NFC only 3 points.

The fourth quarter started out promising for the NFC when Hanson booted a 35-yard field goal which would prove to be the last points scored by the National Football Conference. The AFC then proceeded to score two more touchdowns and one more field goal by Mike Holis when he connected on a 48-yarder to seal the victory.

The AFC has managed to win consecutive games for the first time since 1987-88. Each AFC player receives \$25,000, while each NFC player will earn a nice \$12,500 bonus.



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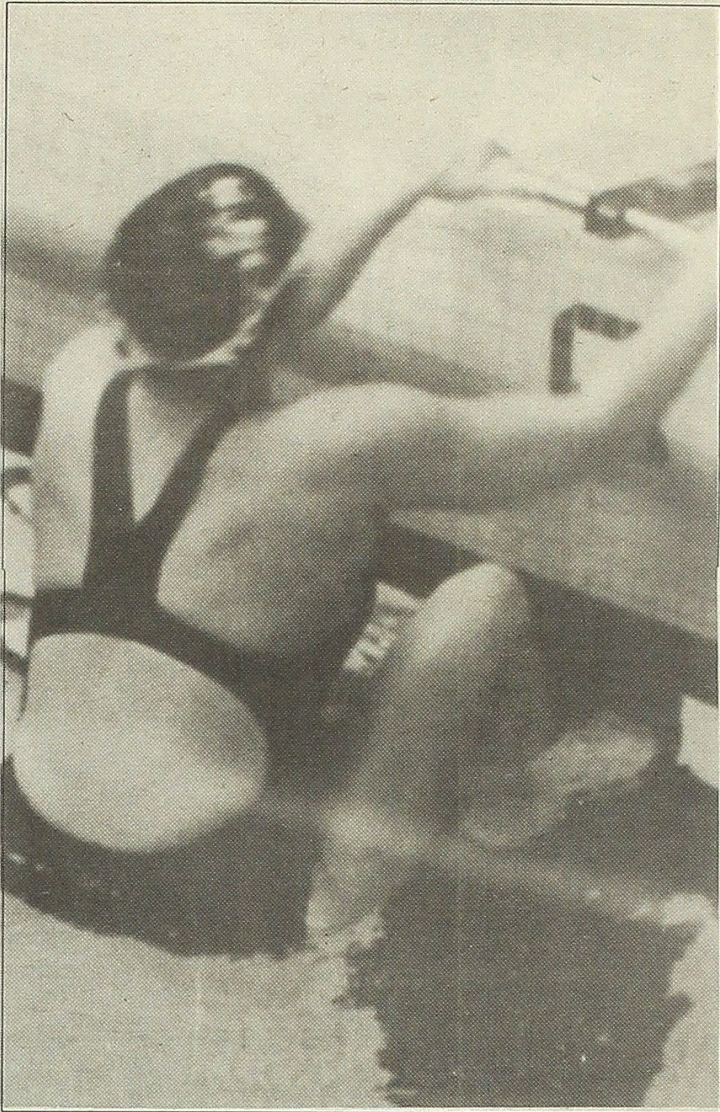
Scots finish regular season

By Cheryl Lenard
Staff Reporter

The women's swim team finished their regular season strong by blowing away both St. Mary's College and Hillsdale College in a dual meet at home last Tuesday. The final scores put the Scots ahead of St. Mary's 129-70 and

Hillsdale 129-79. Several outstanding performances including many season and personal bests added valuable points for the women's team. Seniors Marisa Proctor and Renee DeGraaf both had season bests. Proctor set both the school and the pool record in the three-meter diving competition with a score of 285.25 and DeGraaf had a season best in the 50 freestyle. Senior Jennifer Rocco had a great day as well. In her last home meet, she managed to have the "best meet ever of her life" according to head coach Greg Baadte. Rocco had an "outstanding swim" and almost a lifetime best in the 1000 freestyle and a lifetime best in the 500 freestyle. Other notable Scot performances include first-year students Nicole Gentry's career best in the 200 IM and Andrea Carlson and Christine Doyle's season best in the 500 freestyle. The women's team ended up with the school record this season for most wins in a season. They were 8-2 overall and 4-2 in the conference. "It's the best record ever percentage-wise for an Alma College women's [swim]

team," said Baadte. The men's and women's swim teams are now finished until the MIAA conference meet which begins February 11 with the diving competitions and continues through the 14. The men will be looking to improve on a sub-par season by Alma standards, 0-4 in the MIAA, by making a good showing in the conference meet. Sophomore Mike Cox, juniors Bill James, Chad Wisniewski and Mark Oberman make up a very fast 200m medly relay team, which came close to setting a pool record in an exhibition race last week. The team will try to qualify for nationals at Hope. After the conference meet Proctor will be packing her bags for St. Louis, where she will compete in the NCAA Division III national meet. There she will try to improve on her all-american season of a year ago by placing in the top six in the three-meter and one-meter events at the meet. "[Tuesday's meet was] a good way to end the dual meet season. [We had] the best ever record for the season and that's pretty exciting and now we can finally work ahead to conference," commented Baadte.



An Alma College swimmer prepares for the start of her race. The women's team defeated both St. Mary's and Hillsdale this past week. Photo by Derek Warner.

MIAA Standings

Women's...

	W	L
Hope	6	0
Kalamazoo	5	1
Alma	4	2
Calvin	3	3
Albion	2	4
St. Mary's	1	5
Olivet	0	6

Men's...

	W	L
Kalamazoo	4	0
Hope	3	1
Calvin	2	2
Albion	1	3
Alma	0	4

Women's basketball team beats Albion, falls to Kalamazoo

By Kari St. Bernard
Freelance Writer

The Alma college women's basketball team is currently in third place this week after winning one game and losing another on the road this past week. The women defeated Albion last Wednesday 62-53, despite team illness and injury, but lost a close game to Kalamazoo this past Saturday by a score of 69-72. Alma outscored Albion in both halves of last Wednesday's game, led by junior Ellen Bradbury who scored 23 points in 26 minutes of game action. First-year student Rebekah Barker was also a leading scorer with 13. "We played well on Wednesday; we had a good collective effort from the team and we really pressured [Albion]," said Bradbury. Head coach Charles Goffnett said, "Defense was critical in Wednesday's game. We were having a little bit of a problem scoring—our percentage was down from what we like it to be." Both Bradbury and first-year student Missy Thorndyke were suffering from the cold/flu virus that has been circulating on campus. First-year student Meghann Devlin was also plagued by a previous wrist injury that prevented her from playing much on Wednesday and kept her out of the game on Saturday. Last Saturday's game against Kalamazoo was much different from Wednesday's game. Kalamazoo led the first half of the game with a score of 35-32. Alma fought back matching the score in the second half, but it was not enough. "We were a little flat on Saturday;

our offense wasn't smooth," commented Goffnett. "The disappointing part was that even though we didn't play our best, we could have gotten a win if we just could have done a couple things," he said. According to Bradbury, "We had too many turnovers on Saturday. The big problem was our defense—we just weren't running the court the way we usually do." Bradbury led the team with 26 points and eight rebounds. Other leading scorers were sophomores Shannon Gross and Adrienne Fitzgerald with 16 and 13 points, respectively. The women look to improve their MIAA record of four wins and three loses this week as they take on two more conference teams. This Wednesday the women will have home court advantage against Calvin, who is currently the number one team in the league. Then they will hit the road again as they travel to Defiance.

MIAA Overall Field Goal Shooting

		TFGA	TFGM	TPCT
Ellen Bradbury	Alma	86	48	.558
Ann Terpstra	Adrian	94	49	.521
Kristin Koenigsknecht	Hope	65	33	.508
Lisa Hoekstra	Hope	66	32	.485
Shannon Gross	Alma	59	27	.458
Emily Hollenbeck	Adrian	57	26	.456

WHERE QUALITY WILL COUNT

one set of Alma College alumni are helping their brothers on-campus, and also the campus at large—

In an award which will recognize leadership, participation and fraternal spirit as well as academic achievement, their Scholarship Review Committee is now reviewing completed applications for **Tau Kappa Epsilon's Zeta Delta Chapter Scholarship**, to be awarded soon to an undergraduate member of their chapter at Alma. These alumni are in the **Zeta Delta (Phi Phi Alpha) Chapter Alumni Association**, and the endowment fund providing this scholarship is made possible through their gifts. It is administered by the **Teke Educational Foundation** of Indianapolis, Indiana.

OTHER PLACES THEY HELP

This set numbers over 900 living alumni, many of whom support Alma College. They give generously to the **Cherished Ever Campaign**. They started and they remain part of the annual **Tim Patterson Memorial Invitational** golf tournament, which raises money for the college weight training room, open to all varsity athletes in training. Many are involved in fundraising for the future **Klenk Park**. They have also assisted those in other fraternities and sororities — whether called "members," "brothers," or "sisters" — by recommending them for scholarship aid from their own national Greek foundations.

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104 East Superior, Alma

College revamps training program

By Karin Shrum
Staff Reporter

When an athlete is hurt at a game, meet or at practice, who takes care of monitoring the rehabilitation and makes sure that the athlete is taping their injury correctly? Athletic trainers not only work with athletes after the in-

jury on correct care and rehabilitation, but they also work on preventing injury as well.

"What we do here is often overlooked, but we're a big part of the athletic program," commented Margo Greciar, assistant trainer.

Currently athletic trainers at Alma work in an internship program to receive their certification

in athletic training. Within the next few years Greciar and Denny Griffin, head trainer, plan to have that program switched to a curriculum-based program.

"By the year 2004, NATA [National Athletic Trainers Association] has mandated that in order to become a certified trainer all programs have to become accredited and that's what we're in the process of doing," stated Griffin.

Of the two ways to become certified as a trainer, curriculum-based is more structured. Internship programs require students to complete 1500 hours of practical experience under a certified athletic trainer while taking a core curriculum generally in the

Sophomore Brandon Klump uses ultrasound on a swimmer's shoulder. Photo by Derek Warner.

exercise and health science (EHS) program, in addition to their regular studies. This is the program that Alma follows.

The curriculum program cuts the number of hours of experience down to

800, but includes more class work and is currently offered at some colleges and universities as a major.

"I think that it will be a big adjustment, but good because it's going to make our program more accredited,"

commented junior Lori Carlson, a third-year intern in the current Alma program.

This year's athletic training staff consists of 16 student members, Griffin and Greciar, the two certified trainers.

The majority of the students are sophomores and first-year students, creating a very young crew. However, the staff is learning quickly.

"[The students] are the reason that our program is as successful as it is because of the time that they put in," stated Greciar.

The program depends on great dedication from the students. They are the ones that show up first to the game or event and with the exception of the coaching staff they are the last ones to leave many times.

They are assigned most often in groups of two to the various athletic teams and attend all practices and games.

"The main reason is to help the athlete to better themselves so they can perform at their top level. I like to help them to build to that level," commented first-year student trainer Kristy Nemec.

Student Trainers

Annie Bolan

Bryan Brunelle

Lori Carlson

Candy Cornett

Dawn Corwin

Brandon Klump

Max Leonard

Katie Mack

Julie Minnick

Kristy Nemec

Kat Nordin

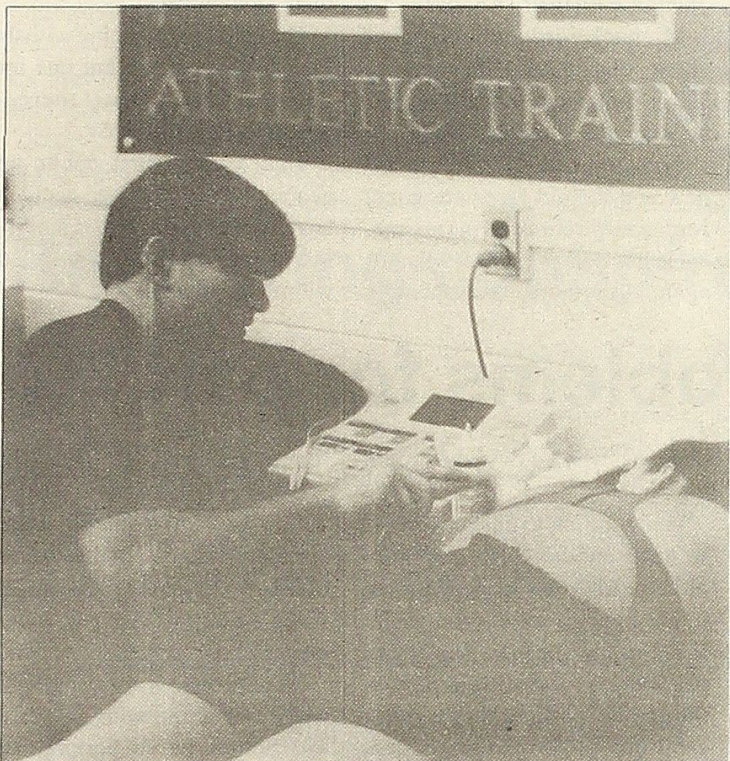
Alex Nicander

Marnell Sanders

Christy Serniak

Melissa Stricklis

Rick Villarreal

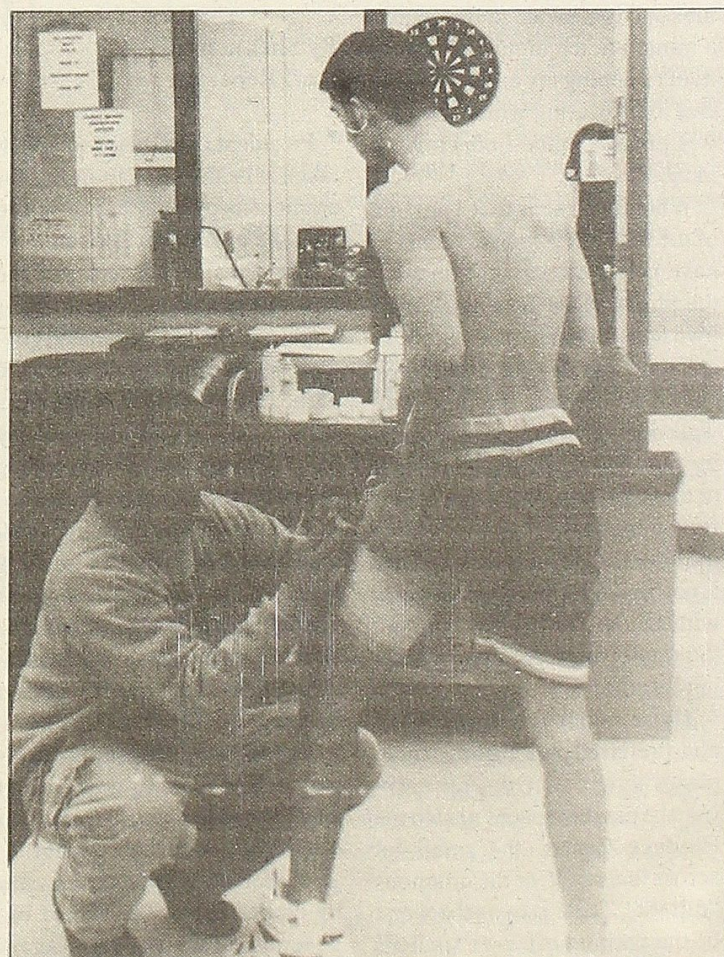


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COMPUTER AND MEDIA SERVICES OF ALMA COLLEGE IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF RCC (RESIDENT COMPUTER CONSULTANT). THE PRIMARY OF THE RCC IS TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN CONNECTING THEIR PERSONAL COMPUTERS TO ALMA COLLEGE'S NETWORK.

RCC'S RECEIVE A YEARLY STIPEND OF \$1470. APPLICANTS MUST BE ALMA COLLEGE STUDENTS RESIDING ON CAMPUS. QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, GOOD TECHNICAL SKILLS, EXCELLENT INTERPERSONAL ABILITIES AND GOOD TIME MANAGEMENT.

INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS SHOULD SEND A RESUMÉ AND COVER LETTER TO THE COMPUTER AND MEDIA SERVICES OFFICE, SAC 117, NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4.



Junior Rick Villarreal tapes sophomore Ian Jackson's thigh (00) before basketball practice. Photo by Derek Warner.

Sports Uncovered by Tim Caister

Arbitration begins in Sprewell case

Off the top of my head...
Who is at fault here?

Arbitration has begun in the Latrell Sprewell case. It seems that Sprewell, a former Golden State Warrior, is being made out as the victim.

Questioning and testimony is reportedly surrounding the actions of his former coach, P.J. Carlesimo.

Sprewell feels the suspension he was given was too severe for his actions. The player who received the largest non-drug suspension in NBA history will probably get what he wants—a lesser penalty.

Players are coming out of the woodwork to help in his defense, even Michael Jordan.

This all aids in his case; however, too much is being made of Carlesimo's faults and not enough of Sprewell's. Who was the one who assaulted their coach?

On the other side, maybe he did receive a harsh punishment for this incident. The 10-day suspension, the one-year league suspension and the termination of his contract all add up to a large penalty.

These help identify the reason for the arbitration, but let us not forget one important fact:

Sprewell hit his coach.

Just because the heat from the incident has subsided does not mean the league should get soft.

Open mouth, insert foot.

This past week, Brett Hull from the St. Louis Blues made a rather interesting comment concerning the game which puts food on his table.

He labeled the game of hockey as boring and in need of change. According to him, the game is not fun for the fans to watch.

Hull is now regretting those statements, especially since the League Commissioner, Gary Bettman, has approached him.

Hull probably made the comment out of emotion, but nonetheless, he must have felt that way in order to make the comment.

It's interesting when a player talks down about their game and their livelihood.

Jordan retiring? (Again?)

Michael Jordan has hinted about retiring after this season. He is somewhat indecisive, but he is considering that option.

Thinking that the players are new and the old faces are gone, Jordan may retire one more time.

He has done it before, why not again? Anymore, retirement is

becoming a loose term used in sports. It is used more for talk than for walk. We have all heard this line before.

Cheers to Vladi.

Last Friday the Detroit Red Wings were finally able to make the White House visit following their Stanley Cup.

The usual schmoozing with the President occurred, but one important player was there—Vladimir Konstantinov.

This was his first public appearance since his car accident last summer. Recovery is moving fast and it was good to see Vladi with the team again.

Winter wonderland causes problems for parking

By Wendy Holmes
Freelance Writer

Winter has struck Michigan again and lately it has been hitting us with a great deal of aggression, pouring down snow and ice like hellfire. Although this has been occurring for weeks, Alma College has done little to help its students.

I know I am not the only Scot who trudged through snow drifts to the parking lot and slid my way on ice to class the first week the snow hit.

Now, apparently AC has taken notice. Salt has been dropped on icy areas. Parking lots are starting to be plowed; however, this causes another problem.

The snow that is pushed out of the plow's way accumulates near the cars in the parking lot, forming a barrier. Personally, the snow collected behind my car's back tires and proceeded to freeze into a miniature ice mountain, effectively trapping my car. After several trials (during which my foot was pressed to the floor) my car inched free.

What is worse is that I am one of the lucky first-year students to have preferred parking. Imagine the plight of the poor souls who own non-preferred parking stickers. After parking their cars, they can look forward to a nice long walk across campus in the numbing cold before they make it back to their rooms and thaw out their frozen limbs.

However, the bigger issue here is not the way Alma College deals with the winter in their parking lots (and elsewhere), but the parking lots themselves.

Those unlucky souls who have non-preferred parking have three places to choose from for parking: the parallel spaces next to the Heritage Center, the small lot across that street, or the infamous "dirt lot." The dirt lot is the worst of the parking offenses students have to endure here at Alma College due to the fact that it is just

plain dangerous. Anyone who has parked there knows the frustration of driving to it, maneuvering around potholes big enough to damage a car and then hiking back to campus.

Anyone with dirt lot experience knows the fastest way back to campus is to follow the railroad tracks. However, whether one takes this route or another, they are all dangerous, especially when one is walking at night.

Anyone who has ever walked around AC at night can tell you that this campus is nowhere near well-lit. Even walking back from SAC at night is scary. A person walking toward you can be three feet away and still only a silhouette due to the poor lighting, which

lowers the chances of being able to identify attackers in case of an incident.

Imagine walking back at night along the railroad tracks. Due to the fact that it's winter now, you would be walking in the snow and probably be slipping on ice, because you would not be able to see where it is (poor lighting, remember?).

Hopefully, with a little luck and a lot of caution you would make it back to your dorm room safe and sound, albeit a bit cold.

Because of these safety concerns, the lot has been nicknamed "the Prefer to Be Raped Lot." Thankfully, it has yet to be christened, but if precautions are not taken by both the college and its

students, who knows what might happen?

One solution to this problem is to have another place for non-preferred drivers to park. But there is not enough room, you might say. Not so. Consider the faculty parking lot located right next to the parallel parking spaces. Why can't non-preferred drivers park there? It is rarely used except for certain sporting events and parking for those could be relocated to the Heritage Center's lot (not to mention that there is plenty of visitor parking around campus).

This would eliminate the need for the dirt lot, which could then be put to some other use by Alma College and it would alleviate many of the concerns non-pre-

ferred drivers have.

If this is not possible, why not build a new lot? After all, we are building a new baseball field. That indirectly sends the message that Alma's sports field appearance is more important than its students.

Finally, there is always the possibility of eliminating preferred and non-preferred parking and issuing one sticker, good for all over campus. It would not add to the number of cars currently parked at the college, although upperclassmen may find it to be a nuisance.

The bottom line is if Alma College is going to allow first-year students to have cars on campus, they must provide adequate space for them to park safely.

Nationalized day care proposal discriminates against majority

By Shannon Casey
Staff Reporter

President Clinton is sadly mistaken if he thinks that more government programs are going to help the average American.

The President's nationalized day care proposal is a part of this larger and more complicated government he envisioned in the State of the Union address. Regardless of his intentions, nationalized day care is a huge step in the wrong direction for this country.

Americans sent a strong message to the government in 1994 when they emphasized their wishes of smaller, more reliable government by electing a Republican majority in the House and Senate.

These Republicans campaigned on making government smaller and keeping government out of the lives of Americans.

Clinton embraced the country by claiming that the end of big government is over. Many trusted the sincerity of the President and re-elected him to a second term.

Obviously the President's message was a highly political one, designed solely for votes.

As soon as he was re-elected, Clinton started proposing more programs that would expand government.

In his State of the Union address, he called for a nationalized child-care program that would cost \$21.3 billion.

In a recent survey, the Family Research Council found that 70 percent of Americans do not use commercial day care.

Clinton proposes to spend over \$20 billion on a program that includes less than 30 percent of Americans; this is a gross misuse of taxpayer dollars.

Why should Congress support legislation that is discriminatory towards parents who stay at home with their children?

Many times the second parent must work in order to pay the tax burden that came as a result of these huge government programs.

There are alternate ways to ensure that children have adequate day care while not creating more

government programs. Give tax relief to all American families and let parents decide what kind of care they want for their children.

Congress should double the \$500 per child tax credit they enacted last year. This tax relief would allow parents to use all types of day care, including private or church-sponsored.

Parents would also have the option of staying at home with their children and using the money provided by tax cuts for other essentials.

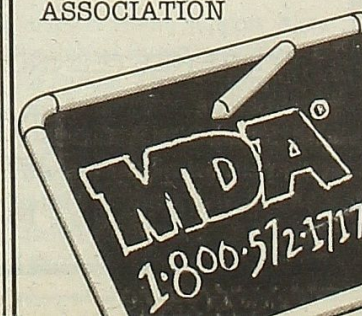
Congress should also enact flextime legislation, which would provide opportunities for parents to juggle their work schedules in order to spend the maximum amount of time with their children.

There are options to expand child-care without expanding government. As Americans, all we need to do is to elect legislators who will use our tax dollars responsibly.

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MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION



February 3, 1998

OPINION

11

College should expand language offerings

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

As a liberal arts institution, Alma College strives to create a multi-disciplined student. One facet in which Alma has failed, when compared to its competitors, is modern foreign languages.

Alma currently offers three modern languages: French, German and Spanish. Alma once offered Japanese, but then canceled the program.

Admissions employees told perspective students that the college considered offering Russian. Yet currently, Alma offers only three.

Hope College, Albion College, Kalamazoo College and Adrian College—all considered Alma's competitors—offer

more modern foreign languages. This is a clear indication that Alma is not keeping up with the competition.

Hope College offers instruction in Dutch, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Russian and Spanish, four more than Alma. Albion students can study Dutch, French, German, Japanese, Russian and Spanish, three more than Alma. Kalamazoo College provides courses in Chinese, French, German, Japanese and Spanish, two more than Alma. Adrian College instructs students in French, German, Japanese and Spanish, one more than Alma.

Though Alma offers the three most popular foreign languages to study, some students might wish to distinguish themselves by gaining knowledge of another language.

By offering Russian, Japanese or Chi-

nese, Alma would meet the needs of these students. Since other institutions offer these languages, this is not a radical change in course offering.

When compared to four liberal arts colleges of similar student populations, Alma loses in this category. The question students should ask is "why?"

Why did the college cut the Japanese program? Why did the college decide not to offer Russian?

If the administration believes that there is insufficient interest, why does it not offer another foreign language, such as Chinese?

If Alma College wishes to compete with institutions such as Hope and Kalamazoo in attracting students, it must convince perspective students that it offers a better

overall education.

If Alma wants to compete against such institutions for national recognition, it must provide a better and more diverse education. One way Alma can do so is by offering more foreign languages.

One argument that might be used to excuse the situation is insufficient funding. However, the college has enough money to pay for a new intramural facility.

The college could apply for a grant as it did to receive equipment for the science departments. The administration could also reassess its priorities.

Since the goal of a liberal arts institution is to provide as diverse an education as possible, Alma College owes its students, both current and future, greater opportunities to study modern foreign languages.

Right wing conspiracy theory lacks hard evidence

By Shannon Casey
Staff Reporter

No one knows if the allegations against President Clinton are true. Americans should let all of the facts come in before jumping to any conclusions. All Americans, including the press and the First

Lady, should let the independent prosecutor Kenneth Starr do his job. After all, a non-partisan panel of judges hired him and Attorney General Janet Reno expanded his jurisdiction.

On Tuesday's *Today Show* Hillary Clinton told Matt Lauer, "The great story here for anybody willing to find and write

about it and explain it is this vast right-wing conspiracy against my husband since the day he announced for President."

Just as everybody else should not be jumping to conclusions, it is irresponsible for the First Lady to be claiming that there is a right-wing conspiracy with the intention of bringing down the President.

There are no facts present to support this preposterous allegation. For the last couple of weeks, the Clinton Administration has criticized the media's lack of facts regarding the scandal. Yet, Hillary goes on national television and does essentially the exact same thing.

Does the President not hold his wife to the same standards? There is no proof that Starr conspired with anyone.

Newsweek was the first publication to

break the story. *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* quickly followed with new revelations. With the history of their liberal leanings, the conspiracy theory does not pan out.

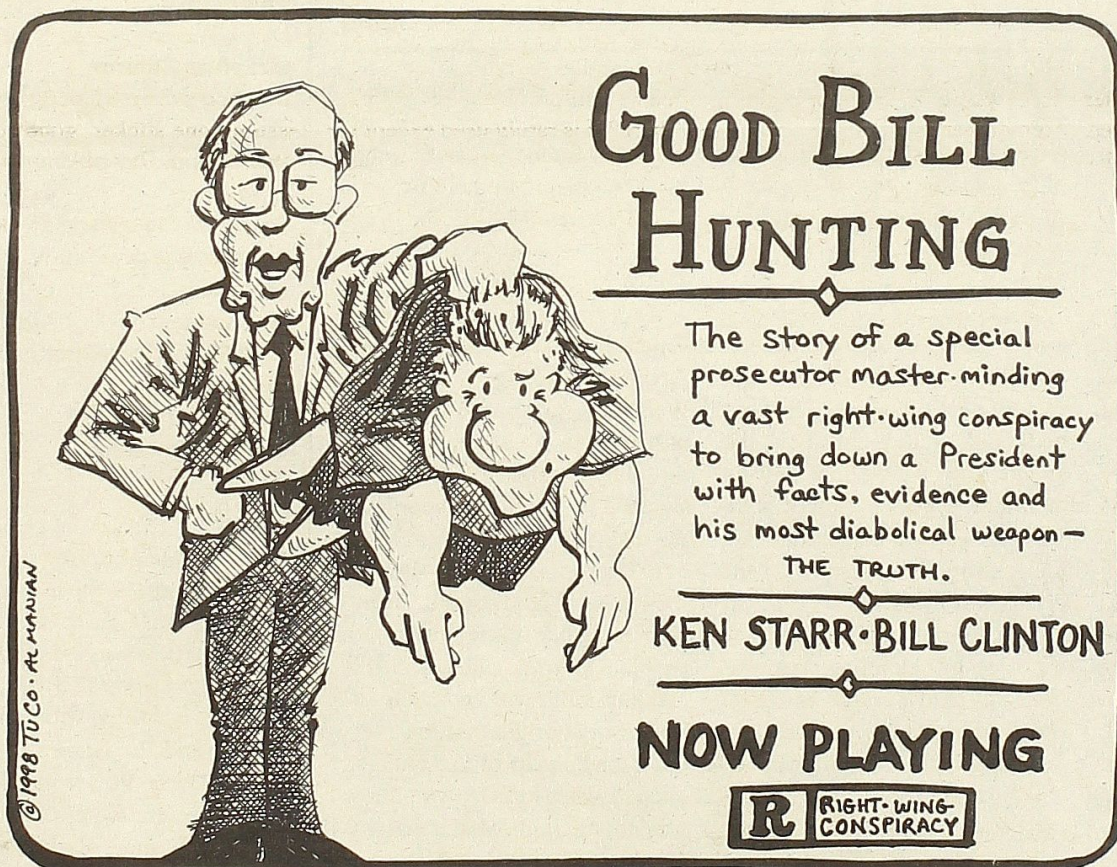
Why would three major publications, which have always supported Clinton, conspire to bring an end to him now?

If there is a conspiracy, Monica Lewinsky must also be involved. Lewinsky is a long time Democrat and Clinton supporter. How else would she be allowed such access to the President? If the allegations are true, no right-wing conspirators forced Clinton to act in the manner he did.

Janet Reno approved Starr's expansion of his probe to include this matter. This means that she must also be a co-conspirator. Why would Reno conspire against the President when she refused to even appoint an independent counsel to investigate the fund-raising allegations?

Just because some of the witnesses and parties involved in the alleged scandal are connected with the Republican Party does not mean it is a conspiracy. When Democrats bring allegations against Republicans, does that mean the allegations are false and should be dismissed immediately? Of course not, each allegation should be judged on its own merits.

In a time like this, the Clinton Administration should be leading by example, not acting in the same way it criticizes others for. It will only be a matter of time before the facts come out. In the mean time, everyone should just wait patiently.



News Bytes by Tim Caister

Internet gains more independence from government regulation

Internet deregulation.

Clinton seems to do the "right" thing when it is hidden under the rug. His administration has proposed a new type of government deregulation concerning the internet.

It seems convenient when he proposes government deregulation when nobody can see his involvement.

Oh yeah, I forgot, the internet deregulation proposal. Since the internet is becoming more commercial and is falling out of the federal government's responsibility, there will be more private sector traffic cops for the internet.

New domains are also in the plan. Presently, we see such domains as .com: commercial businesses, .org, nonprofit organi-

zations and .edu: educational institutions. In a few years we may see domains such as .arts: cultural sites, .info: informational services and .rec: recreational activities. All these will help control the fast-growing internet.

The internet is a large aspect of mass communication. Consequently, mass communication should not be regulated by Uncle Sam. It is good to see the government stepping down as traffic cop for the internet; however, it would be nice to see Uncle Sam step down in a few other areas. **Clinic bombing.**

Last Thursday, a women's clinic in Birmingham, Alabama was tragically bombed. This resulted in one death and one injured employee.

No matter how you feel about the abortion issue, bombing an abortion clinic will probably not convince you otherwise. The person responsible for this crime lacks the proper reasoning when trying to change people's attitudes.

Violence in this manner is inappropriate. It will only serve as a motivational cry for pro-choicers.

Final thoughts.

Last week I wrote about the latest Clinton sex scandal and how the truth would be nice; however, Clinton seems to sweep everything under the rug. I have now changed my mind concerning the issue: I don't care.

Yes, Clinton's latest scandal has jeopardized, if not lessened, his credibility and

accountability. However, he is in his second term and no one will be able to significantly change his role as president.

Rumors may surround him, but that's all they are right now. If anything substantial does come out of the independent counsel, good for them.

Maybe they will serve a purpose by exposing some truths, but the American public will not care. It will be yesterday's news.

Presently, the polls show that the American public thinks that the latest scandal will not affect his ability to serve as president.

I agree. I may disagree with his views or actions, but in the end, he will survive a few scandals and move on. So should we.

Staff Editorial

College infringes on students' breaks

As students begin finalizing plans for Mid-Winter Break in February, as people begin to confirming travel plans and reconnecting with employers to work for extra money, the question arises: what is the point in having a break from school at all?

It would be difficult to find a student who is opposed to a week of "free time," a week to travel to warmer destinations or a week to earn money to help pay for college expenses.

But more importantly, Mid-Winter Break is a prime opportunity to take a breather, to regain sanity during the average stressful college term. It's called a "break," so what is it a break from?

Looking at the vacations of this year, it appears that some faculty and staff of the college have forgotten the ideal meaning of the word.

Rather, the trend this year is to see any "break" as time where, since students will not be attending class, they will

therefore have time to do additional work.

Too often this year, the idea of any break being a respite from the confines of Alma College has been lost.

Over the past year, several people had lamented about the loss of Mid-Term break in the fall because of Homecoming's unfortunate placement on the calendar.

For the many students who were denied the option of leaving for a long weekend, like athletes, Resident Assistants (RAs), Kiltie Band members, and any of the numerous students who work to make Homecoming profitable for the college, this brief respite from campus life was lost. So too is the case for Winter Break over the holidays, for not only were athletes denied break for sports training, so were RAs, for whom break was cut a day short to return for additional training.

Granted, athletes and RAs have chosen to become involved in their respective activities and have no reason to lament about the

time commitments—be they during time when school is in session or when the school is officially "closed." But for students, classes are a different case—students, by definition, do not have the option of taking classes or not. When professors start seeing breaks not as a time for students to recharge (or work for pay, or relax, or catch up on haunting assignments from earlier in the term) then it is clear that professors have lost sight of what a vacation is all about.

This is what is happening to Mid-Winter break: with Michigan Academy being hosted by Alma College during the last weekend of our break, some professors are seeing this as a prime opportunity to infringe on break.

Even though the conference is being held when school is not officially in session, some instructors are requiring that their students return to campus early to see the presentations by both their peers and by scholars from around the state. It is clear that these instructors see break not as a break

at all, but rather a time when they know students will not be distracted by classes and will have extra time to devote to *their* class.

The aim in "encouraging" students to participate in and attend Michigan Academy is noble and fits well the ideals of a liberal arts institution but the problem is that this is but one further example of how the idea of a break from school is a foreign one for several voices of the Alma College faculty and staff.

It seems that if the general consensus of the institution is that breaks are fair game for students to honor requests from professors and various student offices, as has visibly been the trend this year, then maybe they will also argue that a break is unnecessary.

Or maybe just those breaks where free time is seen as just a time for more work and with a more expensive payment—Alma College student burnout.

Letters to the Editors

Letters to the Editors reflect the views of those who author them. These views in no way reflect those of *The Almanian* staff or the entire Alma College community.

...

To the Editors:

In his recent opinion on the cloning "debate", Mr. Scripps effectively demonstrated how institutions such as Alma College benefit society. However, Mr. Scripps created a two case scenario for his entire article by stating that "we can either attempt to stop it, or we can embrace it. And stopping it never works." He continued by equating the first position with immaturity and ignorance, which he also coupled with innocence. He concluded by stating that this issue "resolves itself by examining ourselves and why we are at Alma," and that through this process "we lose a little more of our innocence."

First, more than two scenarios exist. An obvious middle ground is legislated regulation of this technology. While many of us are not disturbed by Dolly, we must carefully consider application of the process to humans. What is the driving force behind it? To do it because it is there? Hardly. Cloning to reproduce genetically engineered animals that reliably provide valuable products, such as hormones, will be more cost-effective than repeating the difficult and sometimes unpredictable transgenic approach usually taken. The driving force is profit! So how might this apply to human cloning? Consider the potential profit to any professional sports team owner or various corporations. Must we embrace this

slavery for the sake of avoiding being labeled immature and ignorant by such as Mr. Scripps?

The second lapse in Mr. Scripps' thinking is equating immaturity, ignorance and innocence. These are three independent variables like x, y, z. Furthermore, the values given to each depend on the subject. More than the two types of people implied by his argument exist.

Third, it is entirely naive to think that we can resolve this "debate" by introspection and knowing our purpose on this campus. This is a societal and global issue, the outcome of which will depend on our careful discussion of possible scenarios. The technology is clearly very powerful. But we know how such power for good can be abused by those with selfish goals. Discussing and debating this technology beyond ourselves and this campus does not decrease our innocence, but rather protects it.

Joe D. Beckmann, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and
Chairman of Biochemistry

...

To the Editors:

On behalf of the Greek system, I would like to address several issues concerning Runouts, beginning with a recent article published in *The Almanian*. In the past, a quality job has been done on reporting Greek events and we appreciate this, but the article written by Ms. Missy Crossnoe is not of that same quality work. Walkouts and Runouts are our annual celebrations that focus on the introduction of new members to our organizations, so why was the focus of the article not about

those new members? The whole article seemed to be about how the groups liked the organization of the events, how well the security ran them and how alcohol was controlled. This was not the focus of the events.

The events are for the recognition of the new members and not one new member was interviewed about what they had experienced or thought about the events. The 47 women and 54 men that joined that night were the ones we were celebrating, not the security, IFC, Panhel or the organizations themselves. It was about men and women who made a choice to belong to organizations that hold themselves to high standards, beliefs and ideals.

In response to the editorial that was written about the "embarrassment" that the Greeks experienced at Runouts, I do agree that our image was tarnished that night and the behavior seen at Runouts will not be tolerated or go unpunished. The Interfraternity Council is going to use the IFC judicial system to hold accountable the organizations that had members violate IFC policy. Two fraternities are being brought to judicial for their actions as a group.

More importantly, it is each organization's responsibility to enforce its own standards, policies and ideals. If the IFC believes that an organization has failed to do this, then IFC Judicial can be utilized to sanction that organization. Since IFC can only hold groups responsible, it has notified those organizations that they had members adding to the embarrassment experienced at Runouts. These organizations

will be held responsible if they do not hold their brothers accountable for the actions that contradicted their own beliefs.

Will Deeds (97), IFC President

...

To the Editors:

I am writing this in response to something I saw two weeks ago. After attending a meeting Wednesday, January 14, I got out of my car in the parking lot near the student apartments. I was shocked to find that a couple of the cars had the words "Homo" and "Fag" scrawled on them in the snow. I understand seeing something like this might not be a problem for some students on this campus, but it was enough to offend this gay rights activist.

To the culprits of this childish antic, I wish to offer you some food for thought: what if that was your car, a friend's, a relative's? Let's face it, gay people have been around longer than you and I could possibly ever imagine, and could very well be your mother, father, sister, brother, or friend and you wouldn't even know it because of your ignorance. Life is too short to be prejudice. Hate crimes from as small as graffiti to as large as murder effect all people in the same way; it singles them out and causes fear of being themselves. I certainly will not put up with seeing others that I love being oppressed. The same goes for sex, race, age and religion as well.

I urge students of this campus to extinguish the fire of malignity with a simple gesture. If someone sees this in the future, wipe it off or report it. I know I will.

Jennifer Fish (00)

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