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The Almanian

April 7, 1998

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 23

News Briefs

World News

Ex-CIA Worker Faces Spy Charges

A disgruntled spy fired by the CIA was charged with espionage and extortion on Friday. Douglas Fred Groat is accused of giving highly sensitive information to two foreign governments after the United States refused to pay him more than a half-million dollars. He could face the death penalty if convicted.

Microsoft Co-Founder Sued

Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen has been sued for sexual harassment by a former employee who claims she was fired for rejecting the multimillionaire's advances. Allen denied the charges that Abbie Phillips made in a lawsuit filed on Thursday.

U.S. Opposes UN Death Penalty Action

The United States joined 13 other countries in opposing a UN Commission on Human Rights resolution against the death penalty, 26 countries voted in favor and 12 governments abstained. U.S. Ambassador George Moose said the United States could not support the resolution because a majority of states had chosen to keep the death penalty.

Campus Happenings

Tonight at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center Presbyterian Hall, Alma College is presenting "Sterling Winds."

Alma College is hosting the **Pre-College Orchestra**, the region's finest young orchestra, who will be presenting works by Bach, Beethoven, Mozart and Vivaldi on Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center Presbyterian Hall.

Anthony Patterson presents "A Birthday Concert" featuring Kristina Belisle, Will Nichols, Raymond Riley, Carl Donakowski and Anthony Patterson on Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center Presbyterian Center.

Natalie MacMaster will be presenting an evening of lively fiddle music on Friday at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center Presbyterian Hall.

Residence Halls will be closing for break at 5 p.m. on Saturday and re-opening Sunday, April 26 at noon.

Students recognized through Honors Day

By Missy Crossnoe
News Editor

Honors Day was a "definite success" this year according to senior Michelle Massey, co-chair of the Honors Day student planning committee.

The aim of Honors Day, which began last year, is to celebrate the liberal arts. The day consisted of numerous student presentations.

Also, Alma's annual Honors Day Convocation was held to recognize students and faculty for their achievements on campus.

"Both the Honors Day planning committee [chaired by Dave Clark, professor of biology] and the student planning committee [chaired by Massey and senior Becky Tansy] worked hard this term to plan Honors Day," said Massey. "I personally was really pleased with the way things turned out; the day was very successful. A lot of students presented and a lot of students came to watch."

The events for Honors Day began on Wednesday evening with the Honors Day address given by Martin E. Marty who was presented by Alma with the honorary degree of doctorate of letters.

On Thursday, classes were canceled to enable students to attend the presentations of their fellow classmates.

Between the sessions of student presenters, Honors Convocation was held to award many deserving students and faculty. Recognition was given to all students who belong to honor societies along with individual students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership or academic skills. Faculty also received awards for their outstanding accomplishments.

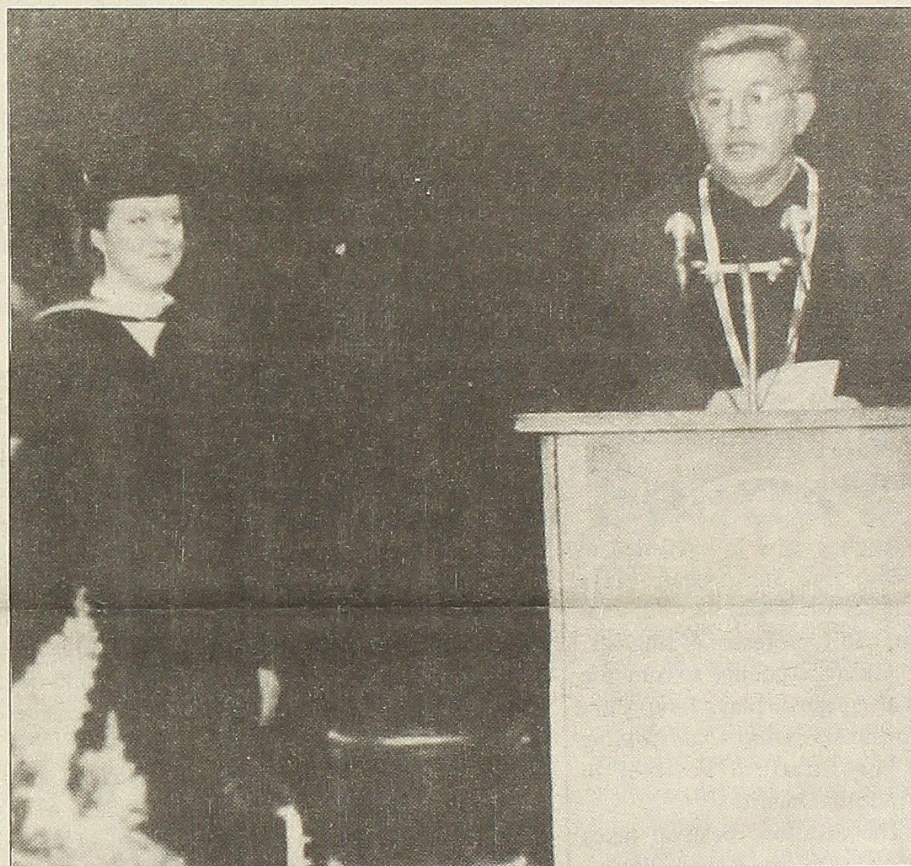
This year's Barlow Trophy, which is the most prestigious award given by Alma, went to senior Brandon Miller.

Miller's qualifications included excellent academic achievement, various internships and study off-campus, participation in and leader of the nationally recognized Model UN team.

Miller said that he was "really thrilled to receive the Barlow Trophy. It was quite an honor just to be nominated and to stand up there with two other people who were so eminently qualified."

Other students also received awards for their academic achievements.

Sophomores Kathryn McDougal and Heidi Grantham were two of the four recipients of the McGregor Scholars Award which is a monetary award given to students to conduct research in their field of study. McDougal's research will focus on isoforms of titin in muscle while Grantham's will explore how three-dimensional imaging software appears to be diminishing the boundaries between multimedia presentations and traditional two



Barlow candidate Julie Wilson (98) listens to President Stone share her accomplishments with the campus. Brandon Miller (97) won the trophy. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

dimensional graphic design.

Both were excited to receive the award. Grantham stated, "I am very honored to have the opportunity to research for the college in a field that I am interested in."

Seniors Jennifer Bade and Eric Reed also received a monetary award, the M.J.J. Smith Society Scholarship, which each will use to finance law school. The requirements for this scholarship include graduating with honors from the department of history, acceptance to a professional or graduate school and strong academic achievements in a minor or second major.

"I had no idea I would get the scholar-

ship," said Bade. "I was really happy and I felt like all the hard work I put into my history major has paid off."

Besides academic awards, leadership awards were also presented at Honors Convocation.

The Outstanding Senior Leader Award, presented by the Alma Leadership Alliance, was given to Dan Scripps for his achievements in Student Congress.

"I was thrilled to receive this award, the other five nominees were probably just as qualified as I," said Scripps. "It was an honor to get it among such great company."

Honors Convocation Award Winners

Outstanding Senior Leader Award:
Dan Scripps (98)

Student Congress Excellence Awards:

The Class of 2000, Student Congress
M.J.J. Smith Society Scholarship:
Jennifer Bade (98) and Eric Reed (98)

McGregor Scholars Awards:
Kevin DeGroot (99), Heidi Grantham (00), Brandon Klump (00) and Kathryn McDougal (00)

Outstanding Faculty Awards:
Humanities—Joseph Walser,
Natural Sciences—Murray Borrello,
Social Sciences—Michael Yavenditti

President's Cup Winners:

Class of 2001—
Erica Bachman, Michael Baysdell,

Rebecca Burkett, Benjamin Coffman, Eva Hecht, James Kuhl, Laura Latham, Stephen Nadeau, Karen Naile, Laura Opperman, Michelle Sharpe, Beth Siewart, Stacy Turschak, Kerri Wendling, Adel Wentworth, Jaena Wisniewski and Staci Wollenslegel

Class of 2000—
Kelly Battles and Melissa Desjarlais

Class of 1999—
Eric Brands, Jenny Buhl, Christopher Gayer and Shannon Nielsen

Outstanding Senior Award:
Beth Knapp, Brandon Marsee
Barlow Trophy Award Nominees:
James Blum (97), Julie Wilson (98) and recipient Brandon Miller (97)

New media heads selected for 98-99

By Amanda Long
Freelance Writer

Alma College's Communications Committee, which consists of faculty and students, announced the three new media heads for the upcoming 1998-1999 school year. The new media heads, who were interviewed and selected by the committee are junior Missy Crossnoe, first-year student Megan Thurber and sophomore Ben Shoemaker.

Missy Crossnoe, who is the current news editor of *The Almanian*, has been selected as the new editor in chief.

"I wanted the position because I'm planning on going into the field of journalism," Crossnoe stated.

"I'm excited that I got the job," she said.

Crossnoe intends on making several improvements to *The*

Almanian. She hopes to change the staff, student and faculty perception of the newspaper by improving the quality of writing.

"I want to work with the staff writers on ways to improve their writing," she said.

Also, in the fall, Crossnoe is excited to begin the new on-line version of *The Almanian*, which will be available for anyone who is on-line to read. She feels that the on-line version is a step in the right direction for *The Almanian*.

Megan Thurber, will be the new editor of Alma's yearbook, *The Scot*.

"The position was open; I did yearbook in high school; I could see improvements that could be made, so what better way then to become editor?," Thurber said. Presently Thurber is the editor of the senior section of *The Scot*.

Thurber would like to make several changes to the yearbook,

including a more efficient staff and creating a yearbook that is more appealing to the student body overall.

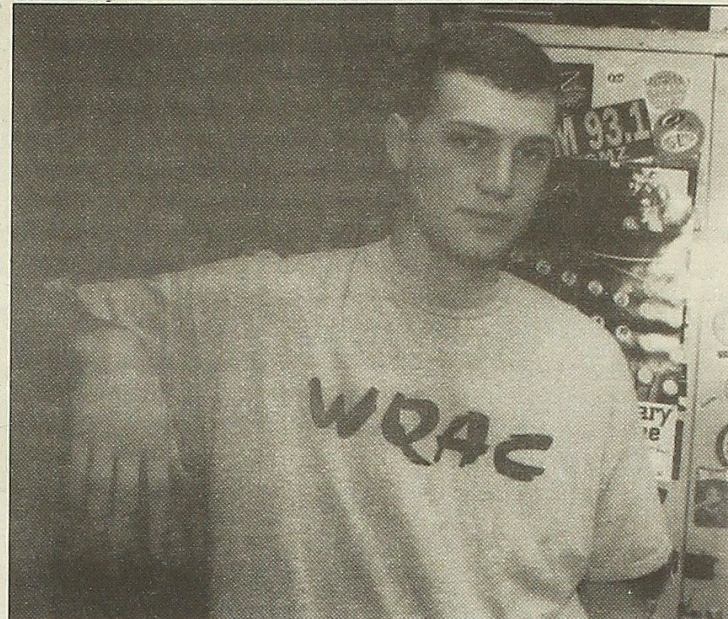
"I want to make a book that students will want to look back on and help them remember their years here at Alma," Thurber said.

Finally, the new general manager for Alma's own radio station, WQAC 90.9 FM "The Duck" was announced.

Ben Shoemaker, who is currently the business director at The Duck, will be taking over as general manager for the 1998-99 school year. Shoemaker wanted to see the station go in a different direction and felt there was no better way to do that then to take over.

Among other things, Shoemaker would like to see the station become more fun.

"I'd like to see the Duck become a radio station people like



Junior Ben Shoemaker poses for a picture in the WQAC station. Shoemaker will be taking over as general manager for the 1998-99 school year. Photo by Beth Rosenow.

to turn on," said Shoemaker.

The feelings of all three new media heads seemed to be

summed up when Thurber said, "I'm not sure how it's going to go, but I'm excited."

Ottenhoff organizes student, faculty trip to Stratford

By Sara Bickler
Staff Reporter

Anyone who is interested in seeing live Shakespeare plays may get the chance this fall. John Ottenhoff, professor of English, is taking students to see the Shakespearean plays *Julius Caesar* and *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Stratford Festival in Stratford, Ontario.

The Stratford Festival takes place in Ontario, Canada. It usually features a wide range of works from various playwrights, but it

is famous for its Shakespearean performances. Ottenhoff said, "I think that it's one of the greatest theaters in North America."

The trip is open to all Alma College students, faculty and advisors. There are approximately 40 spots available. The cost is \$90 for students and \$125 for nonstudents.

The group will leave on September 25 and will arrive in Stratford in time to see a matinee. They will also attend an evening show. The next day they have the opportunity to go on backstage

tours. They will also go sightseeing in Stratford before returning to Alma that night.

There are no class prerequisites required in order to participate in this trip. According to Ottenhoff, it is a valuable experience that he felt should be open to the entire Alma College campus community.

To help stir up interest among the class of 2002, this coming August Ottenhoff will be teaching a Preterm class on Shakespearean literature.

He handed out flyers and

drummed up enthusiasm for the trip while advertising the course at pre-orientation last week. The class will cover *Julius Caesar* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Ottenhoff said, "My hope is that the Preterm kids will come along too."

This is not the first time that the school has sponsored this trip. It was held two years ago when Alma College students and staff went to see *King Lear* and *The Merchant of Venice*. Previous trips have also seen *Measure for Measure*, *The Tempest*, *As You*

Like It and *Macbeth*.

Ottenhoff stressed that this is a great experience all around and that it is important while on the trip to "soak up the culture of Stratford." He said that there is nothing like eating breakfast in a restaurant and seeing an actress from the play you saw last night seated at the table next to you.

All in all Ottenhoff presented this trip as a great experience for Alma College students. "It's always a lot of fun. It's a good deal and a great educational experience," he said.

Charges against Grossberg reduced

By Wendy Holmes
Freelance Writer

A Delaware judge reduced charges this week against Amy Grossberg, the New Jersey teenager who was charged with first-degree murder in November 1996, to second-degree murder, guaranteeing that Grossberg will not face a death sentence.

In the fall of 1996, Grossberg and then-boyfriend Brian Peterson, both 18 at the time, were arrested and charged with the murder of their child. Their newborn baby was found dead in a trash bin outside the Delaware hotel where Grossberg, then a first-year student at the University of Delaware, secretly gave birth.

The two, who originally pleaded not guilty and spent two months in prison before being released on \$300,000 bail each, remained a couple until last summer. They had promised to help each other survive the situation they had trapped themselves in.

Last month, the nation was forced to remember that not all the promises made during the midst of teenage love are kept.

Grossberg and Peterson's story

became newsworthy again on March 9, when Peterson cut a deal with prosecutors and pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of reckless manslaughter. Peterson, who admitted to being the one who placed the newborn boy in a gray plastic bag and took him outside to the trash bin where Delaware police found him a day later, will testify against his former girlfriend in exchange for the lesser charge. Reckless manslaughter carries with it a maximum of 10 years in prison; sources say Peterson will most probably serve less than two and a half.

How the baby died remains a mystery. Peterson's lawyers deny their client had a hand in killing the boy. They claim Peterson, who never meant any harm to his son, thought the baby was already dead.

Grossberg's lawyers have also hinted that they plan to argue the child was stillborn, although a coroner's investigation revealed the child had been breathing.

The investigation also revealed the cause of the infant's death: blunt-force impact, combined with shaking. The child's brain was bruised and his head had several surface fractures and depres-

sions. Speculation holds that perhaps the infant's skull was fractured when he was thrown into the garbage bin.

Another important argument in the case will be in determining when Grossberg became aware of her pregnancy. Although Grossberg has continued to deny that she ever felt any of the usual symptoms associated with pregnancy, friends say that she began hiding her pregnancy during the summer of 1996, wearing baggy layers instead of her usual form-fitting outfits.

The 6-pound, 2-ounce baby boy, who was never named, was buried last March 14th in a ceremony attended solely by Grossberg, her parents and a funeral director. The nameplate on his grave says simply, "Always in our hearts," though many believe that he, the real victim, has been forgotten, as members of Wyckoff, NJ, rally around Grossberg and Peterson, believing they are simply two teenagers who got stuck in a bad situation.

How the court will see their situation is unknown. Currently, the two live in Wyckoff, where they both hold down part-time jobs as they await trial.

Classifieds

Students enrolled in the college's Pre-med curriculum are eligible for consideration for a Roberta Swanson Pre-med Scholarship. If you are interested in applying for this award and have not already received application materials, please stop by the Student Financial Aid Office for the information. Completed applications are due on April 15, 1998.

HELP WANTED, Preterm '98: Looking for an opportunity to try out your instructional skills? Computer and Media Services is looking for Preterm instructors. Interested students can call x7303, e-mail franich or mail a letter of interest to Computer and Media Services.

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April 7, 1998

NEWS

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Student Congress officers announced

By Cheryl Lenard
Staff Reporter

As the school year draws to a close, so do the weekly meetings of the Student Congress. This year's executive council officers, as well as the many student organizations' representatives will soon be turning over their positions to the new officers and group representatives.

The executive council officers for next year will be junior Amanda Schafer, sophomore Kevin Main, junior Mike Heying, and first-year student Melinda Messmer as president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary, respectively.

Student Congress consists of the executive council and representatives from 59 campus organizations over a quarter of which receive no budget from Student Congress. The representatives are then supposed to serve on one of four committees including the student affairs, budget and fi-

nance, constitutional review and contingency committees.

In the last year Student Congress has made many improvements in groups on campus and within their own group as well. "We did quite a bit especially compared to previous years. We tried to improve Student Congress itself," said current president Dan Scripps. "[We believe] that student organizations as well as the individuals who belong to them all have a role in maintaining the college's quality ethos....[therefore], we tried to make all other groups stronger."

To reward groups for improvements over the year, Student Congress and the student affairs committee generated a new award which was given out at Honor's Convocation last Thursday.

The two awards were voted on by the student affairs committee and were given to the groups which the committee felt made the most significant improve-

ments within their group through the year.

Student Congress was one of the recipients of this new award. Examples of some of the im-

“We did quite a bit especially compared to previous years.”

—Dan Scripps, (98)

provements and advancements which Student Congress made over the last year are the new rules regarding student organization and Student Congress constitutions, student organization budget reallocation, and the issue regarding the library and its resources.

"I'm most proud of [our work] on the library issue. Student Congresses at other colleges and uni-

versities routinely take up issues of significance, [and] it's up to the entire campus community [to make these changes]," commented Scripps. "A lot of trustees were impressed by the job done by Student Congress saying that it was nice to see true activism on the part of the students."

In addition, Student Congress hosted many more speakers this year than in other years. Some of these speakers include Vice President Finance Jon Groteluschen, Jim Kridler, dean of students, Alan Stone, president, Ken Feldt, a representative from the City of Alma and Bob Hall, a visiting speaker.

Scripps was quick to point out, however, that these improvements were not a "top-down" operation. "The [executive council] and the reps worked together," he said. "For example Brandon Miller took the opportunity that Student Congress offers to introduce the library issue [to the cam-

pus]," he added.

Several groups joined Student Congress this year and worked and "did a great job," according to Main.

The Alma College Table Tennis Association, the Alma College Gaming Association, Trinity Bible Fellowship and Phi Sigma Sigma are just a few of the groups who now have voting representatives at Student Congress.

According to Main, Student Congress hopes to continue the improvement made this year and work on better communication networking, better attendance at Student Congress meetings, and active participation on the four committees for next year.

"Student Congress is the most powerful student organization on campus and it should be treated that way. People don't take it seriously enough," said Main. He added that although only group representatives can vote, Student Congress is open to the entire campus community.

Fischer, Coe named as 1998-99 India Fellows

By Sara Bickler
Staff Reporter

For Jason Fischer (99) and Jim Coe (98), next year will be very different from the rest of their undergraduate years. They will be teaching students in India through the Global Service Fellowship.

The program consists of two students traveling to India to teach. They teach at the Methen Mappilai Memorial Public School in Theodical. The classes that the students instruct can range from English to science, depending on

where the interest is and where teachers are needed.

The Indian students range in age from approximately 4 to 14. At the school, English is spoken and the classes are taught in English. The fellowship lasts for six months.

The application process consists of filling out an application, and getting letters of recommendation from professors and fellow students. The applications are reviewed by a committee comprised of the international program director, faculty, administration and when possible a former

India fellow. Then the applicant is interviewed by the committee.

Fischer said, "The interview was the most interesting interview I have ever been in. They asked the hardest and strangest questions." After the interview the committee makes the decision and the winners are notified.

This year Fischer and Coe were chosen to represent the school. Lynda Ludy, professor of education said, "We selected these two because we think that they have the attitudes that will allow them to do a really great job."

The fellowship started in the 1960s when one Alma College student each year would travel to Nigeria to teach students. When the political environment became to dangerous, the program was moved to India near the area where Bishop Makarios grew up.

Last year Ludy took a sabbatical and accompanied the students to India. She got to see first hand the value of the experience for the students selected.

She said, "It really is a wonderful program for students to have."

Incidentally the 5th and 6th

graders of Alma Middle School are pen pals with students at the Indian school. This allows for prolonged contact between the cultures.

Coe and Fischer seem very enthusiastic for their future experience. Fischer said, "I am excited, this should be a great opportunity, but I also have a nervous apprehensive feeling. I am confident in my ability to handle it but at the same time this is a real test. This will probably be the biggest challenge of my undergraduate career."

OAK leader of the week

Omicron Delta Kappa (OΔK), the national leadership honorary, chooses one outstanding leader from the Alma College community who exemplifies outstanding qualities of leadership for the college. This week, OΔK has chosen to honor senior Joy Engblade.

Engblade has been involved in Alma College Dance Company, Chi Epsilon Mu, the Chemistry Honorary and Gamma Delta Alpha, the woman's honorary.

She has also been busy running, winning MIAA first team and all-region honors in 1997 for Cross-Country and won All-MIAA honors for Track in 1997. She is also a track captain for the 1998 season. Off-campus she has volunteered as "a friendly visitor" at the Masonic Home and

as an observer to study Physical Therapy.

After graduation, Engblade is looking forward to traveling around Europe in May and will eventually seek a job in Chemistry.

Of her contribution to campus, Engblade says she is most proud of her leadership for "leading by example. I'm not involved in that many organizations and don't hold many leadership positions, but I do work hard and care about what I do."

Engblade adds, "My philosophy is that actions speak louder than words and I try to set a good example by what I do."

Because of her attitude and exemplary leadership, OΔK has chosen to honor Engblade as this week's OΔK Leader of the Week.

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

U.S. District Judge Susan Webber Wright delivered a 40 page decision Wednesday dismissing all three counts in Paula Jones' sexual harassment and employment discrimination lawsuit against President Clinton.

In her decision, Wright stated that Jones' allegation fell "far short" of what was required under the law to support her claims.

Wright's decision came less than two months before the case was scheduled to go to trial.

Her surprise decision was a major legal victory for Clinton, whose lawyers filed for a summary judgment motion in February to have Jones' lawsuit dismissed.

According to Burnet Davis, professor of political science, "Summary judgments are done very routinely by defense attorneys, particularly at the end of discovery."

In essence, a summary judg-

ment motion states that the action, if it occurred, did no legal injury to the plaintiff, nor were any laws broken.

Despite this ruling, Clinton still faces a criminal investigation by Independent Council Ken Starr concerning allegations that the President had a sexual relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and asked her to lie about it.

"In January, the Attorney General and the special division assigned us to investigate a variety of matters. Judge Wright's ruling today has no effect on our authority, and we will continue working to complete the investigation as expeditiously as possible," said Starr.

"Legally they are two separate issues," said Davis, "but politically and psychologically [the ruling] did not help Starr." Starr might not longer have a case, at least according to public perception.

Clinton denied these charges, as did Lewinsky in a sworn depo-

sition taken in the Jones case.

Many have speculated that Jones might appeal the decision. However, since court costs have already put Jones in debt, the possibility of an appeal seems slim.

"[Jones' attorneys] can appeal to the Circuit Court that the judge was wrong for blocking her day in court," said Davis.

"Appellate courts do reverse decisions from time to time," he added, citing that Wright's ruling that a sitting President could not be sued was overruled by the Supreme Court.

Starr also has the option of trying Lewinsky for perjury, then naming Clinton as unindicted co-conspirator.

Despite the ruling, many are still skeptical of Clinton's innocence.

"I think [since] there are allegations from a lot of people that there must be some truth," said senior Becky Tansy.

"I believe he did [it]," said senior Kelly Straughen.

ASO, Choirs combine for *Carmina Burana*

By Wendy Holmes
Freelance Writer

The Alma College Symphony Orchestra (ASO), under the direction of Douglas Scripps, concluded its 38th season by presenting *Carmina Burana* in conjunction with the Alma College Choirs and three soloists last weekend.

The soloists were Diane Penning, a soprano and adjunct teacher at Kalamazoo College, Robert Bracey, a tenor from Michigan State University and Will Nichols, a baritone, who is a Secrest Professor of Music at Alma College and also the director of the choir.

The piece, an ode to spring composed by Carl Orff in 1936,

is separated into three parts: "In Springtime" and "On the Green," "In the Tavern," and "Courts of Love."

Contained within these three parts are 25 poems based on a 13th-century manuscript discovered in a Bavarian monastery. The piece is performed entirely in Latin and old German, which meant choir members had to learn correct pronunciation. Most audience members appreciated their effort and said it did not matter that they could not understand the words.

Choir member Meg Colingsworth (01) said, "It was kind of hard to learn all the pronunciations, especially the tenth century German, but it was so much fun

to sing. It was a blast."

The hour and a half concert, beginning and ending with the well-known "Fortuna" (Fortune, empress of the world) chorus, was a triumph for all involved. As the last strands of "Fortuna" echoed off the walls of Presbyterian Hall, the audience leapt to its feet, and the choir, symphony and soloists received a standing ovation, as the crowd, consisting mostly of non-college students, showed its appreciation for the piece.

Many who attended liked the fact that the choir and the symphony performed together and thought the combined effort was impressive.

Brad Walworth (01) said, "I like the way the choir and the

symphony work together. It's very obvious that they've spent many hours in rehearsal—it's really turned out nicely."

His sentiments were echoed by another audience member, Eric Packwood (01). "I thought it was really cool. The mixed orchestra and choir—I thought they performed well together. It was more interesting than just the choir doing the piece or just the orchestra doing it," he said.

Joseph Walser, chair and professor of religious studies and a member of the ASO Society Council, was already praising the show at intermission. "I think it's wonderful. The sound is so huge it just fills you up. It's lovely, just lovely, and the flute solo, Cheril

Lin [Abeel-Wescoat], is doing a beautiful job," he said.

Those involved directly in the concert seemed to have just as much fun as the audience.

Kevin Main (00), a first-year member of the men's choir, said, "It's a different experience for me because it's my first time ever singing. I've never done anything like this, but I'm having so much fun. I like the whole performance aspect of it, and I think we sound pretty good."

Second Violin Sara Brockdorf (01) said, "I really liked playing with the choir—I thought it was a lot of fun. It makes you feel really powerful because [the symphony and the choir combined] are really loud."

— Movie Review by Julie Wilson —

Mercury Rising entertains audience, lacks originality

It seems that Bruce Willis (*Die Hard*, *Pulp Fiction*) is creating for himself a formula for type-casting, for in his latest film, *Mercury Rising*, Willis adds the ingredients that have made him successful in previous films: intrigue, testosterone and guns.

Mercury Rising, directed by Harold Becker, is the latest film for both Willis and Alec Baldwin (*Prelude to a Kiss*, *Malice*). Supported by a cast of lesser-known actors, the action focuses on the fight for justice between Willis' character, FBI undercover agent Art Jeffries, and Baldwin's evil National Security Director Kutrow.

While their performances were admirable in the way that any

action-suspense movie performance can be (meaning, if they can do a decent glare and look good bloodied, it's a respectable performance), the movie was truly rooted in a superb performance by newcomer Miko Hughes, who plays a nine-year-old autistic boy named Simon.

His excellent acting was pivotal; the entire plot focused on and around him. The movie opens with an unnecessary view of Jeffries involved in a bank robbery, held up by militia members from South Dakota. A young kid is killed and Jeffries reevaluates the "necessary" deaths of young Americans who step in the way of FBI official business. Really, the only purpose of this scene is to

somehow allow Jeffries to be affected by this young kid's death so that we can see why he is so intent on protecting Simon.

As an aside, some actors try to portray being distraught by contorted facial emotion or strong dialogue, but evidently that wasn't in Willis' contract, so Becker relied on distracting flashbacks.

Here's the basic gist of the plot: autistic Simon manages to solve a "supercode" that was stupidly included in a *Games* magazine book by some of NSC's stereotyped "supergeeks." They find out this kid in Chicago knows how to solve the government's most elaborate coding device and the rest of the movie follows Jeffries as

he tries to protect young Simon from the evil government people who are trying to kill them both.

This movie isn't a total waste of time. But if you are the type who likes a realistic plot, go elsewhere; it is unlikely that the government would publish their supercode in a pop culture magazine or that governmental assassins kill one of their own in a crowded Chicago square.

If you like good relationships between characters, try again. In fact, there are only a few speaking parts for women (the main one being a young woman who

decides that it is a good idea to allow a stranger to sleep over with a young kid—very street-wise) and the friendships between men are not fully developed.

At the same time, *Mercury Rising* earns points for NOT creating a love story where there is no need for one. If you like suspended reality and some bloody climactic scenes, give it a whirl. It's not a bad film, although slightly too long, and Hughes gives a commendable performance as Simon, but it's not going to win any awards for originality.

WQAC  Music Review

The Duck features music from variety of cutting-edge metal bands

If you've spent any time at all listening to one of WQAC's five heavy metal shows it would be apparent that in between our standard music (Iron Maiden, Judas Priest, Pantera), the bands people call in to hear, is a growing pack of bands that you may not be able to name. They are part of the newer, more energetic heavy metal movement that many say is threatening to push the genre back to the forefront of popular music.

Already in previous weeks, WQAC has provided you with information about our top two new metal bands, Pist*On and Sevendust, so they won't be mentioned here.

However there is another band that has gotten almost as much airplay, although in the national picture they are hardly recognizable. Acid Bath is their name, their second album *Pagan Terrorist Tactics* was released in late 1996 on Rotten records and is a great example of the direction that heavy metal music is and should be moving in. Guitar players Mike Sanchez and Sammy Pierre Duet combine to create

dark and moody atmospheres in which tempo changes and lead guitar playing rule. Duet also joins up with lead singer Dax Riggs to create manic vocals which range from an Eddie Vedder type mumble to a black metal scream leaving the listener off balance, without destroying the groove of the song.

From New York, WQAC offers up one of the underground's hardest working bands NOK. Although they have yet to sign a record deal, their self-released debut can be found in selected record stores, such as Media Play, across the country. They're even offering free NOK hats to the first 200 people who send in their recites. Musically they are reminiscent of Pantera, but in a more up tempo way and moving away from the extreme direction that Pantera is headed in. If you dig power groove metal then this is a band worth checking out.

Another unsigned band who is gracing our airwaves is Florida's Seasons of the Wolf. Although they are not as well distributed as NOK they are working on releas-

ing their next album *Lost in Hell* on an as of yet unnamed record label and should quickly catch on throughout the heavy metal community once these means are established. Listing their influences would take too long, since they can't even list them all. But to put it simply, their music is a progressive, gothic, new age-metal that could be enjoyed just as easily by fans of Iron Maiden as fans of Blue Oyster Cult (whose new album is incredible). They have a great web page at: <http://members.aol.com/bloodtree/index.html>.

One last band of note is Max Cavallera's Soulfly. The former Sepultura lead singer has put together a furious new line up that picks up right where Sepultura left off. Heavy guitars and angry vocals lead the charge and illustrates not only what it was that made Sepultura such a popular band but also where the soul of that band was located.

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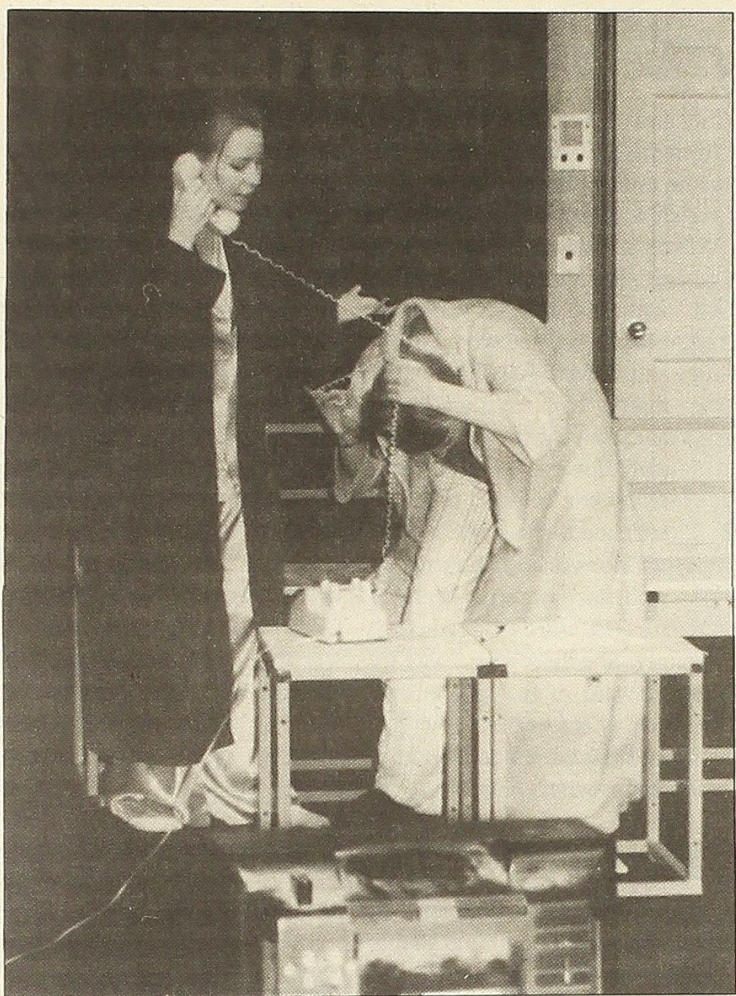
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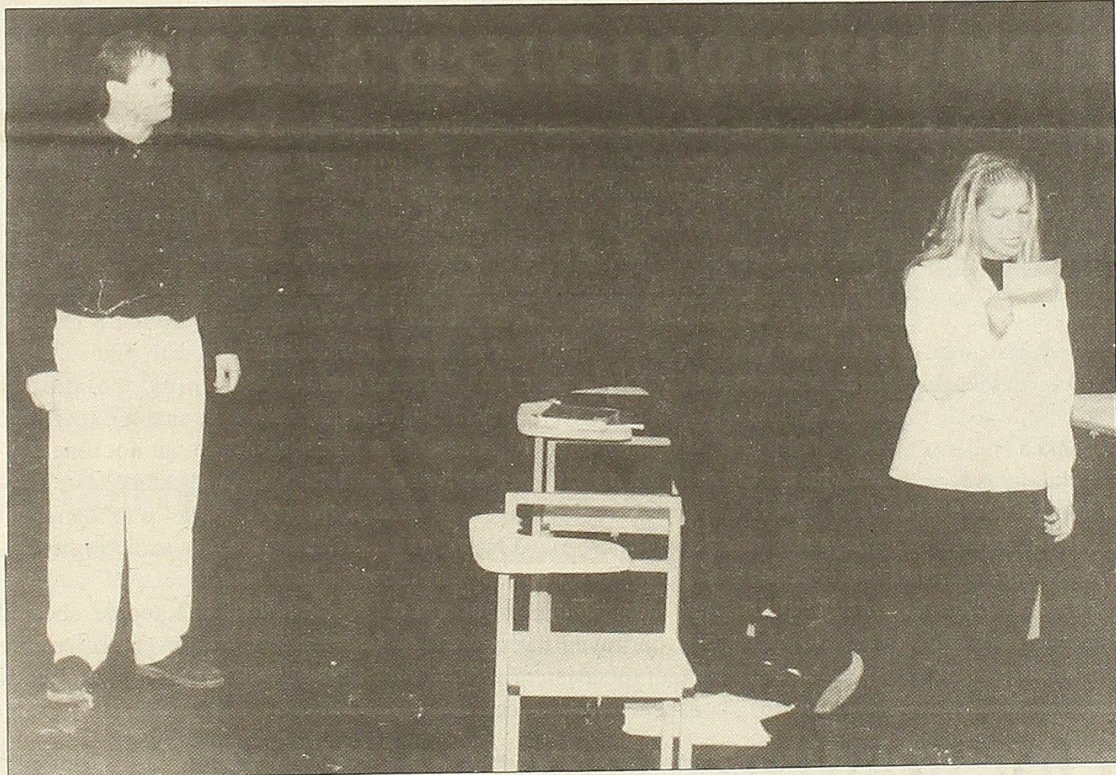
April 7, 1998

FEATURE

5



Sophomore Quintessa Duffield attempts to untangle the phone from Hallie Bard's (00) hair during the one-act play *My Cup Ranneth Over*, directed by junior Karl Snyder. Photo by Derek Warner.



ACT presents one-acts

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

From April 2 to 5, members of the Alma College Theatre could be seen acting and directing four one-act plays. The plays were split into two series: Series A on Thursday and Saturday and Series B on Friday and Sunday.

Series A included the plays *Spittin' Image* by Stephen Metcalfe and *Graceland* by Ellen Byron. The play *Spittin' Image* was directed by Matthew Singletary (00). The play involved two characters, Bucky, portrayed by Jeremiah Lee (00), and Megs, played by Joe Johnston (97).

In the play Bucky is a college student during the post-Vietnam era. He receives a visit from the truck driver, Megs, who was a Vietnam Vet. After much interaction between the two characters, it becomes known that Megs had been buddies with Bucky's brother who had died in Vietnam.

The second play of the series, *Graceland*, was directed by first-year student, James Kuhl. The play revolves around two Elvis-obsessed women Bev Davies, played by Nicole Bartell (98), and Rootie Mallert, played by Jill Gunter (00). While waiting in

Duffield (00), is a writer who thrives on rejection mail from *Cosmopolitan*. Her roommate, Yucca, portrayed by Hallie Bard (00), is a singer who suddenly hits the big time. The two bicker about Yucca's newfound success and Paula's jealousy. Both learn by the end of the play to compromise with one another.

The second play, *You Can't Trust the Male*, was directed by Scott Harman (99). The play focused on the characters Harvey Kessel, portrayed by Brian Papendick (98), and Laura Spivey, portrayed by Kristi Sariha (00). Both enrolled in a Spanish night class which somehow had changed times without either "knowing" about it. However, as Laura learns, her being there at the wrong time was fixed by Harvey, her mailman. He had fallen in love with her and wanted the opportunity to ask her out. So he read her mail and found the most opportune moment. Laura sees that Harvey is more trustworthy than her old boyfriend whose Dear John letter Harvey read.

The plays were hilarious and displayed much hard work and talent. "I really like watching the one-act plays because they're put together by students," said senior Lydia Nichols.

"I really like watching the one-act plays because they're put together by students."

•Lydia Nichols (98)

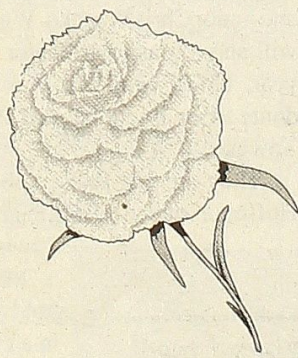
front of Elvis's home three days before it is scheduled to open to the public, Rootie and Bev spend time getting to know one another.

Series B included the plays *My Cup Ranneth Over* by Robert Patrick and *You Can't Trust the Male* by Randy Noojin. The first play was directed by junior Karl Snyder.

The play is centered on two roommates' struggle with success. Paula, played by Quintessa Duffield (00), is a writer who thrives on rejection mail from *Cosmopolitan*. Her roommate, Yucca, portrayed by Hallie Bard (00), is a singer who suddenly hits the big time. The two bicker about Yucca's newfound success and Paula's jealousy. Both learn by the end of the play to compromise with one another.



We love our seniors,



Amy Batch	Sara Markes	
Mandy Bowler	Katie Mitzner	
Stephanie Craig	Julie Wilson	
Tricia Hannig	Heather Alverson	
Jill Hopkins	Jill Braun	Sarah Heyd
Sara Jefferson	Kristi Didocha	Galina Martin
Emily McDonnell	Kristine Kuhna	Carrine Miller
	Kim Irish	Carolyn Whyte

Love,

The Sisters of Gamma Phi Beta

Summer Camp Staff
Wanted!!

Indian Trails Camp, a residential summer camp program for children and adults with physical disabilities, seeks staff for the dates of June 6 to August 15. Positions available include female and male counselors, aquatics staff, activity leaders, nurses, kitchen, and maintenance. Salary is between \$1600 and \$1800 for the entire summer, depending on position. Please call (616) 677-5251 for additional information or an application.

Cheers, boos accompany dessert theater

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

Last Monday an audience of Alma College students, faculty and community members were able to demonstrate their booing and cheering abilities at a performance of Raymond Hill's *The Drunkard*. It was not that the performance did not go over well. Rather, the play was a melodrama that encouraged participation from the audience.

The Drunkard, a hilarious musical, was performed by actors from the Alpha Omega Players. The four actors travel around the United States for ten months performing plays. The group is equipped to perform three plays, one written by Neil Simon, a

whodunit and *The Drunkard*.

The Drunkard opened with a song informing the audience of the rules of a melodrama. Whenever the hero came on stage the audience was instructed to cheer and clap. However, when the villain appeared the audience was told to boo. Whenever the audience wished to hear the villain's dastardly plans they were to just hiss.

The play revolved around four characters living in a New England village in the 1800s. Mary Wilson, played by Rebecca Gallatin, and Mrs. Wilson, Mary's mother, was played by Tania Fritz. The two just found out their landlord, who had so kindly allowed them to live in his cottage without paying

rent, had died. His son, Edward Middleton, portrayed by Jason Borokowski, was their new landlord.

However, the women were un-

guy and plans to take the cottage from the Wilsons while at the same time marrying Mary.

Cribbs planned to reinforce the Wilson's distrust of Edward by turning him into a drunkard with rum. However, Cribbs's plans are foiled when Mary and Edward fall in love and marry. The play then leaps ahead a year showing Mary and Edward living in poverty while Edward remains attached to the bottle.

Cribbs once again tries to woo Mary away, but her love for Edward beats too strongly. She discovers a way to cure Edward of his alcoholism and the day is saved.

The Drunkard features fun and witty songs which help illustrate

the actors' talents. The play was also very funny and raised much laughter from the crowd. The actors displayed their many talents by easily falling in and out of character and ad libbing often. They knew what they were doing and demonstrated their ease with performing with each other.

"I really enjoyed the melodrama aspect of the play. I really enjoyed the villain and ended up rooting for him," said senior Neil Hunt.

Before enjoying the show which began at 8 p.m. in Van Dusen Commons, the audience was able to partake in dessert and coffee. They chose from sweets like cheesecake and phyllo cups filled with raspberry mousse or fresh fruit.

"I really enjoyed the melodrama aspect of the play. I really enjoyed the villain and ended up rooting for him."

•Neil Smith (98)

sure of Edward's character and planted their trust in Edward's lawyer, Cribbs, played by Christopher Lewellen. Cribbs, as the audience finds out, is the real bad

Mitchell, Bruske program shows drinking consequences

By Joey Mead
Staff Reporter

Imagine a night of alcohol that turned into a disaster. Downing a couple beers results in everything from write-ups to life sentences in prison. Last Thursday the Drunken Experience took Alma College students through a night such as this to illustrate the possible consequences of drinking too much.

The night started out with attendees stepping into the middle of a party with plenty of alcohol for everybody. Friends, already well under the influence, handed out fake beer and more fake beer to those entering through the doors of the chapel.

About five minutes into the first party the Drunken Experience guide remembered that there was a better party in the basement of the chapel.

With music pumping and the keg ready to go, the alcohol kept coming. One of the partiers, after

doing a keg stand, ran to a nearby toilet and experienced the first step of the drunken experience.

As the guides led the intoxicated students out of the party, a police officer dropped by and hauled off one of the students, who was under the influence of alcohol. Thus experiencing the second drunken experience.

All but one drunken student escaped the police officer's cuffs into the guide's dorm room. As the partiers watched *Star Wars* and consumed more alcohol there was a sudden knock at the door. The third drunken experience was a write-up from the Resident Assistant (RA).

Senior Jim Alspaugh, who played one of the RAs said, "Half the people would take the RA seriously. [The others] knew the little tricks to get around an RA. On the other hand, this is a small campus so we are able to look in a PIG book [to identify those giving

false names]."

"I think it went really well. The reaction we got from everyone was very positive. Everyone that went through had a good time. It had a good effect on people,"

"Everyone that went through had a good time. It had a good effect on people."

•Jim Alspaugh (98)

added Alspaugh.

The guide, distraught by his write-up, took the rest of the drunken students to the chapel's backdoor where students were sent to one of three destinies.

The first destiny was being hit by a car on the way to 7-11 to get some food. The ambulance came and determined the condition of the drunken student.

The next destiny was a trip to

the hospital for a not so pleasant time of stomach pumping, so the drunken student would not die of alcohol poisoning.

The third destiny was to face the stone cold stare of a judge, portrayed by Dean of Students James Kridler, who sentenced the drunken student to life in prison for vehicular manslaughter and driving under the influence of alcohol.

Ending the night of alcohol was a trip back into the Chapel to stare face to face with over one-hundred photos on the Michigan Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Drunk Driver Victim Memorial Photo Board.

Overall the Drunken Experience was a scary wake-up call.

Sophomore Dave Jordan said, "I felt the program went very well. In my opinion it successfully portrayed the positive aspects of social interaction and the consequences of excessive alco-

hol consumption. Bottom line I felt the entire experience was boss."

The planning committee for the Drunken Experience project consisted of Mitchell RAs Dan Holmes (98), Jeremy Williams (99), Chris Tapley (99) and Pete Muccio (99). Both Mitchell and Bruske RA staffs were present for the program.

"We did several brainstorming sessions on the basic idea of having kind of a haunted house, but instead of trying to scare people it was trying to show them what might happen during a night of drinking," Muccio said.

The planning committee wanted the Drunken Experience to be different but not time consuming. So the haunted house set up worked great. It took most of the term to plan and bring everything together.

About 50-60 people showed up for the Drunken Experience which was a big success for Bruske and Mitchell staffs.

MEGA provides support for first-year students

By Charlotte Grant
Feature Editor

Each year, approximately 100 first-year students get a hand adjusting to Alma College life through the program Mentoring Enhances Growth at Alma (MEGA).

MEGA is a organization that matches incoming students with upperclassmen mentors, who help them settle in. According to MEGA coordinator Amy Hoffman (98), this arrangement gives new students a "buddy to turn to if they have any questions or problems."

For the first half of the first term, mentors meet with their mentees at least half an hour a week and for one event a month. After that, Hoffman explained, "it's up to them."

Hoffman was never a mentee, but became a mentor her sophomore year. "It was pretty fun just

getting involved," she said. Hoffman has had a few mentees in the past years. Her most valuable advise was telling new students what to bring and what to expect of resident hall life.

For the past two years, Hoffman has been one of MEGA's three coordinators.

The coordinators are responsible for making the matches between mentors and mentees, as well as handling any problems that arise. Hoffman said she puts in a few hours a week on the job most of the year, but she added, "at the beginning of the year we put in much more time."

The other two MEGA coordinators are senior Andy Goodman and junior Chris Washko. Washko will stay on as coordinator next year, along with first-year students Erica Bachman and Holly Townsend.

"They are just really upbeat," Hoffman said of Bachman and Townsend.

MEGA holds numerous yearly events that are open to the entire campus. Every fall they ca-

noe on the Chippewa River in Mt. Pleasant. Other get-togethers include a trip to Uncle John's Cider Mill, a trip to the Meridian Mall in Lansing and a Snow Day.

Hoffman emphasized that these

"[We] definitely need more mentors. It's important that the first-year students get support."

•Amy Hoffman (98)

Cool Internet Sites

When you're enjoying your Post Fruity Pebbles, do you ever stop to think about what abuses Fred Flintstone suffers on a daily basis? Well, someone did. <http://users.mboard.com/~needle/galleria/cereal.htm> is a site dedicated to documenting the various abuses suffered by cartoon cereal mascot, such as the starvation of the Trix Rabbit.

Have you ever caught yourself taking one of the magazine quizzes that purports to assess your personality? <http://www.sh.com/tests/personality.phtml> is a page full of such tests. You can gauge your self-esteem, find out if you're a "social animal" and even test your "garbage IQ."

Tips for buying in-line skates*

Learn the terminology

- **Wheel terms**
 - Diameter
 - Maximum wheel size
 - Durometer
 - Rockering
- **Bearings and ABEC ratings**
- **Braking systems**

At the store

- Bring the right socks
- Ignore the sales hype

Trying on skates

- **Things to look for**

Linerfit

- Smaller than shoe size
- Same as shoe size
- Larger than shoe size
- Closure systems
- Buckles only
- Laces only
- Buckles and laces
- Shell design
- Sturdy?
- Vented?

Wheels and bearings:

- Diameter: _____ mm
- Durometer: 76A 78A 82A
- Max wheel size: _____ mm
- Rockering: yes no
- Bearing rating: ABEC-1
ABEC-3 ABEC-5
- Lubricant: Greased Oiled

After you buy

- Test out your skates on carpet
- Make sure nothing is broken

*tips courtesy of <http://www.skatefaq.com>.

Warm weather gets wheels rolling

By Chris Tapley
Co-Editor in chief

As old man winter relinquishes his icy grip from the state, more and more people are out not walking or running but rolling. That's right it is that time of the year when the in-line skaters outnumber walkers on the sidewalks.

In-line skating is rapidly becoming one of the most popular sports in the country. However, buying skates and getting into the sport can be an expensive venture. For those thinking about buying in-line skates there are a lot of choices and lot of different prices out there.

"You're best bet is to go armed with information and to know what each skate feature means for you and your skating. Don't listen to the hype," said Tony Chen at <http://www.skatefaq.com>.

One of the key things which Chen suggests is to learn the terminology of the industry before going to the store. It is likely that any salesperson will be able to throw terms around and it is up to the buyer to decide whether they know what they are talking about. Definitions of different terminologies can be found in various magazines dedicated to in-line skating or any of the numerous web sites on the Internet that are dedicated to the sport.

Other advice given by Chen is to decide on what type of skating is going to be done with the skates.

"Before you put a single big toe inside the store, answer these two questions first. What type of skating will I want to do? and What's most important to me in a skate?" Chen said.

There are numerous types of skates including multipurpose skates, hockey skates, speedskates and component skates. Each of the different types of skates are designed for different styles of skating and

it is important to buy the correct type.

One of the most important aspects of buying skates in most peoples' minds is cost. People do not necessarily want to buy \$300 skates if they are not sure they are going to like them. This leads many first time buyers to invest in lower priced skates.

Chen warns that while a \$300 dollar pair of skates is not necessary there is a minimum price range which it is dangerous to go below. "Skates retailing under \$110-\$120 usually aren't worth the money. You'd be a whole lot better off putting that money towards a good pair of \$150-\$250 skates," said Chen.

Once the buyer gets to the store it is important to keep several thing in mind.

The first and most important is to wear the same type of socks that will be used for skating. At the store it is important to try skates on and the types of socks worn can have an impact on the way the skates fit.

According to Chen trying on the skates is one of the most important parts of the buying process. In-line skates do not always run the same size as shoes so it is important to try skates on of various sizes to get a feel of what really fits.

Another thing to look for in a skate are the liners, closure systems, shell design, wheels and bearings, wheel size and replacement part availability. Information is available on all of these things in the resources listed above.

Run Hard!



The Alma College softball team runs sprints during practice. The softball team defeated both Kalamazoo and Albion last week in MIAA conference action. File photo.

Women's, men's tennis teams continue to improve

By Michael Murphy
Freelance Reporter

The men's and women's tennis teams continued on their path of improvement as the tennis season rolled along this past week.

The men's team, coached by Bob Harrison, lost on Tuesday to Hope 9-0, but bounced back with a convincing 9-0 trampling over Adrian College.

"Hope is very powerful, and Adrian is just the opposite," said Harrison.

Senior Chris Ahn, Alma's top tennis player, paired with junior Bill Zeedyk in doubles to give Hope a major challenge.

"Bill is excellent in doubles," said Harrison.

"We are stronger in doubles than in singles and we gave them a run in doubles Number 1," he

added.

Harrison believes that the team still has some things to learn and that each individual will continue to improve quite a bit.

"Team-wise, they know what they have to do and they are working on it and improvements depend on them," said Harrison.

With two first-year students, one sophomore and two juniors, Harrison knows that the tennis

team is quite young and will continue to improve. This continual improvement by the underclassman will lead to a very strong Alma team in the following years, according to Harrison.

In the MIAA conference standings, Alma stands in the middle of the pack. Harrison feels that Hope and Kalamazoo will be the two teams battling it out for the conference championship. Alma's fate in the MIAA standings is pending on how well they do against Calvin. If the team beats Calvin, then Alma's men's team should place higher in the standings.

Alma's women's team also had a week that saw them on both sides of the table.

This past Thursday, Alma traveled to Grand Rapids to take on Aquinas College, losing 7-2. First-year student Taylor Campbell played well, beating a player she had previously lost to. Campbell also teamed up with Marisol Diaz (01) to win No. 2 doubles.

On Saturday, the team rebounded to defeat Defiance (OH) 9-0.

Coach Darlene Finnegan said, "They were weak and we were strong."

First-year student Amy

LaGuire believed that the win was extremely important.

"I thought it was great to get a good win under our belts. Hopefully we'll be able to keep improving and add more wins to our record," she said.

Finnegan is looking for slow and steady progress. She believes that they will have their troubles with the top teams of Hope and Kalamazoo, but sees a contender with time. As of now, the women's team is fourth in the MIAA, but is still working tremendously hard to improve their standing.

The thing that stands above everything is the fact that the team is mentally tough and carries a high mental attitude. Finnegan sees this as an advantage that Alma holds over other teams, noting that, "Tennis is 90 percent mental."

This week, the women's team will play Hope on Tuesday at 3 p.m. at home, Kalamazoo on Thursday at Alma High School, and will travel to St. Mary's on Friday for Saturday's match. Finnegan sees the upcoming matches as being tougher than this past Saturday's match.

For the men's team, Alma travels to Albion on Tuesday, and will conclude the week by taking on Aquinas at home at 3 p.m.

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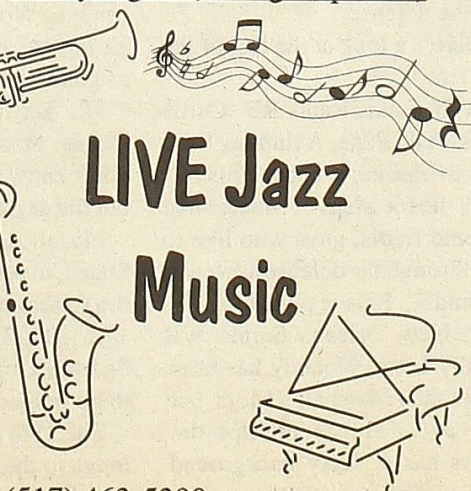
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Lacrosse team dominates Hope 19-5

By **Joey Mead**
Staff Reporter

Alma College lacrosse team earned another win last Wednesday when they defeated Hope College 19-5.

Senior John Zielinski, the lacrosse team's president and student coach said, "The problem with Hope is that they were undermanned. They only had one sub. They had a strong team last year, but between this year and last year they graduated seven of their starters. So they are working with a virtually new squad—a lot of the guys had never played before."

Starting off, what would be an embarrassing day for Hope, was first-year student Dan Sweetman with a goal in the first quarter. After that the points piled up.

Scoring leader for the game was once again senior Jay Swan with five goals. Junior Craig Wasen followed close behind with four goals; Sweetman had a total of two goals; both senior Matt Wandrie and sophomore Zach Workman had two, and junior

Tim McAleece, first-year student Justin Modrzynski, first-year student Eric Nguyen and senior Jason Squires scored one goal. The Scots fired a total of 63 shots on Hope's goalie.

Swan said, "Scoring five goals was all right. It was nice we had some guys score that hadn't before."

Squires said, "We set a personal record for most goals scored, and a lot of people got a lot of playing time. They experienced what it is like to play in a game. Everyone got to play, and it was a big win for us."

"The first game this season we beat [Hope] 9-2. Last year they beat us both times they played us. We have come a long way since last year. We are a lot more competitive," Squires added.

Assists for the Scots included Wasen with three; Workman with two; sophomore John Chapel with one and sophomore Eric Didocha, sophomore Jeremy Higgins and Wandrie had one assist as well.

Chapel said, "It started off pretty evenly matched for the first

quarter, but over the season I think our team has discovered it's strengths and we just put two and two together. There were obvious gaps in their defense, and Wasen and Swan just weaved right in between them. It was so weird because for them it seemed so easy to score."

Chapel also said, "I think each player on our team knows their role in the field. Like I don't shoot, I am a more pass and assist player. Then there are Wasen and Swan who take the majority of the shots."

Goalie, "The Dominator" McAleece, had nine saves and stepped out in the fourth quarter to let Swan step in to get four saves.

"McAleece wanted to play some attack, so I figured I'd give goalie a shot. It was just to have some fun," Swan said.

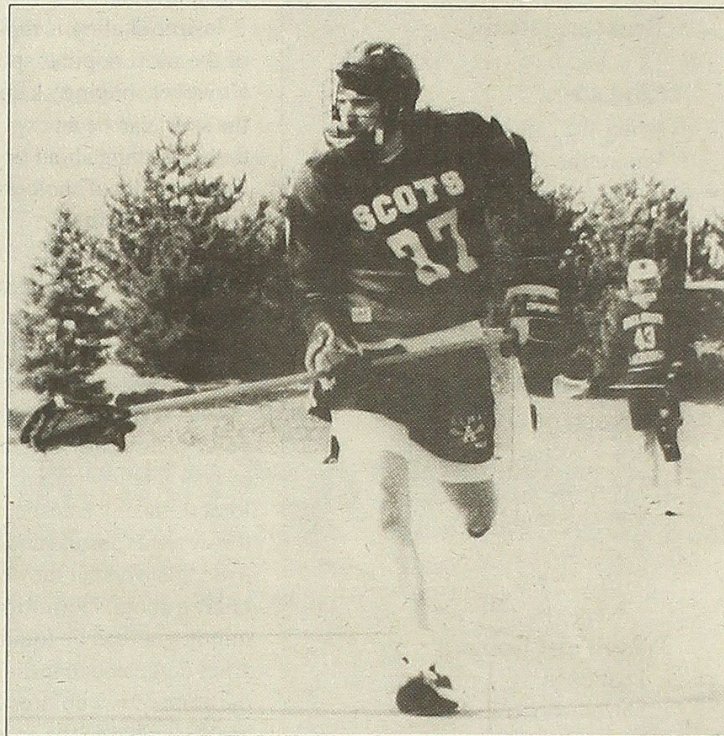
The Scots have continued to *Senior John Zielinski runs down the field in the lacrosse team's game against Ball State University. The team defeated Hope in recent action. File photo.*

improve their level of play with a record of 4-2-0.

Zielinski said, "In the future what any coach would want for their team is to have a winning record. And hopefully within a short one year period we are going to be able to do that. For the

long run it would be great for all the colleges in Michigan to recognize their [lacrosse] teams as varsity. That is something we are all hoping for."

Their next game will be Thursday April 9, at 4:30 p.m. against Calvin College at Calvin.



Women's track team overcomes Hope, Adrian

By **Cheryl Lenard**
Staff Reporter

Under windy, cold, and fortunately dry conditions last Tuesday, the men's and women's track teams competed Hope and Adrian Colleges. The women's team was successful in overcoming both teams; however, the men's team ended up losing two close meets.

The women's team ended up winning a close match against Hope College and rallied to win big over Adrian. In the field events, key team members were seniors Joann Brnjac, Sara Pette and Merideth White. Brnjac won

the shot put and javelin events and placed in the high jump and long jump events against both teams. White won high jump, and triple jump events, and Pette won the long jump and placed in the triple jump against both teams.

Rebecca Burkett (01) and Sarah Kampf (98) fared well in the shorter-distance events. Burkett won the 100 and Kampf was second in the 400 and anchored the winning 400 relay team.

"She's actually running very well," said Dan Gibson, men's and women's track coach, regarding Kampf's performance.

In the middle distance and dis-

tance events, first-year student Stacy Turschak and senior Kendra Edwardson swept first and second places, respectively in the 800. Sophomore Anne Grimaldi and senior Joy Engblade placed well in the distance event.

"Hope was probably our biggest challenge besides Calvin. Albion will also be pretty tough," said Gibson.

The men's team did not fare as well.

"The guys had some really good performances," said Gibson. He went on to explain that the team does not have as much depth as in other years. The team lost to Hope

by 16 points and to Adrian by 10.

The men placed comparatively well in the field events. Junior, Drew Broadus placed second in shot put and "threw very well and got a new [personal record]. It was the first time he threw over 42 feet," said Gibson.

In other field events, the men's team swept the high jump and triple jump with Paul Meek (00), Justin Stemple (01) and Jeremy Haynie (01) placing first, second and third in the high jump. Stemple, Don Jess (98) and Rick Edgar (01) dominated the triple jump. Joey Mead (00) and Jess earned personal records in the

pole vault, while Tom Arbaugh (99) won the javelin.

Junior Pete Muccio and sophomore Kyle Kristin also placed at the meet. Muccio won the 1500 and was second in the 800 and 5000 events while Kristin placed in both the 3000 and 5000.

"[The men's team] ran well, but we just came up short," commented Gibson. "I was pleased with the efforts but I wasn't happy with the results," he added.

The teams compete again on Wednesday against Albion and Olivet at home. The meet will begin with the field events starting at 2:30 p.m.

Hot Corner by Alex Chung

Manning, Leaf expected to be first picks in upcoming NFL Draft

The 1998 NFL Draft is just around the corner, and it appears we will have two quarterbacks taken with the first two picks. The question is, will it be Peyton Manning or Ryan Leaf who goes first?

With the first pick in the NFL Draft, the Indianapolis Colts are in a very admirable position. The consensus is that Manning will go number one.

An oddity in today's sports world, Manning elected to stay for his senior season at Tennessee. Just like last year, he will be the favorite to be drafted first overall.

It is really hard to say that the San Diego Chargers, with the second pick, will be disappointed with Leaf, the standout QB for Washington State, who led his team to a Rose Bowl.

Possessing better physical tools than Manning, Leaf could be a better pro in few years. With his pro-style high-flying offense at

Washington State and his impressive showing against Michigan—the scouts are saying this kid is franchise material.

The Arizona Cardinals want some defensive help and it appears that they will draft mammoth defensive lineman Andre Wadsworth, out of Florida State University.

If they do, their defensive line of Eric Swann, Wadsworth, Simeon Rice and Mark Smith could be the core of a playoff team in a year or two.

The fourth pick is where all the experts think Michigan phenomenon Charles Woodson will get snagged.

The Oakland Raiders, who own possession of the pick, have no quarrels with that. Woodson's flash, ego, attitude and ability is perfect for Al Davis' Raiders. Woodson proved that he could back up everything he said on the field, and it led to a National Championship. While he did not

handle some situations as well as he might have since the college season ended, Woodson is a Deion-type performer and was a great college football player, but he has all the physical criteria to be a great NFL cornerback.

Rounding out the top five is the Chicago Bears' pick, LB Keith Brooking, Georgia Tech. With all the help the Bears need, Brooking cannot be anything but a plus for the defense.

Here's a look at the rest of the top ten:

6. St. Louis Rams RB Curtis Enis, Penn State. A running back in a linebacker's body, Enis follows the footsteps of runners like Jerome Bettis, guys who like to run through the defense as well as around it. Enis is punishing.

7. New Orleans Saints WR Randy Moss. Nobody has more talent than Marshall's Moss, but, just as Lawrence Phillips did, Moss has a shaky background. The consensus is that he can flat

out play—but is he worth the risk?

8. Dallas Cowboys OLB-DE Grant Wistrom, Nebraska. The Cowboys need a replacement for Charles Haley at defensive right end, and Nebraska breeds them just as good as any.

9. Jacksonville Jaguars DT Vonnie Holliday, North Carolina. The Jaguars are interested in dealing up for Wadsworth or Woodson—personally, I hope they can snag Woodson, who can make an immediate impact for a team as good as Jacksonville.

10. Baltimore Ravens CB Duane Starks, Miami (Fla.). I don't know much about this guy, but the experts all say he is legit.

Flozell Adams from Michigan State University is slated to go to the Cincinnati Bengals with the 17th pick. The big man is the Spartan's only player projected to go in the first round.

The 18th pick of the draft belongs to the New England Patriots, who must replace the loss of

Curtis Martin to the Jets, will probably take Fred Taylor, out of Florida.

The Detroit Lions need more help on the line—with the 20th selection, expect someone like Nebraska DT Jason Peter.

The acquisitions of LBs Rob Fredrickson and Allen Aldridge changed Detroit's top draft need from linebacker to defensive line.

Other notables are running back Ahman Green, out of Nebraska, who is projected to be a late first-rounder.

Other picks who may go in the first are: Georgia running back Robert Edwards, Pat Johnson, wide receiver at Oregon, and Utah wide out Kevin Dyson.

The 1998 NFL Draft shapes up to be one of the deepest drafts in recent memory. Deep enough that the Patriots felt comfortable letting Martin go for three compensatory draft picks. Of course, only time will tell how good this draft will be.

April 7, 1998

WOMEN'S ISSUES

9

Untitled
by Annie Grover

cold
the hard-packed floor of the
Michigan basement
mottled my skin lilac and rose
and eggshell-blue
my plaid jumper
flipped wrong-side up
exposing winter-pale legs
and my knobby knees
my shirttails barely covered
my day-of-the-week panties
which seemed to slide,
sinuously,
sinuously,
to my ankles
of their own accord
a hand
rough, grimy, ragged
clamped over my mouth
terrifying pressure
in minutes
I had already learned
that screaming
led to blows

Violence
by Annie Grover

whimper
his pungent body crushes you
the floor is icy and damp
against your bared buttocks
You do not know what sex is;
you do not know what rape is;
time you learned, girly,
time you learned
his hands fumble with
his belt buckle, your clothes
his hunting knife gripped in
his teeth
that knife
so recently at your throat
he is warm,
hard and heavy and you are
too small,
too small
his poker buddies play cards
at the folding table
and drink beer
his card-playing goonies
guffaw
at his difficulty-
you are too small
until he shows them
how a man does it; you are
too small
but he has a knife
"now," he says, "now"
you are wet and warm and
ready
sticky with blood
you can't remember con-
sciousness
or unconsciousness
at the moment
he dives into you

NOW fights for equal rights

By Jennifer Tripp
Freelance Writer

When women in America feel the need to speak out and take action, one option is to join the National Organization for Women (NOW).

NOW is the largest women's activist group in the United States. The organization's overall goal is to take action to achieve full equality for women in mainstream America.

Since NOW's formation in 1966, it has grown to include a quarter of a million members. Since that time, NOW has tackled many issues that feminists consider crucial. For example, after one year, the organization became the first, nationally, to call for an end to unjust abortion laws.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), among others, also took up the cause of women's reproductive rights. The result was a clear decision by the United States Supreme Court in *Roe vs. Wade* in 1973.

In 1992, NOW rallied 750,000 women's rights advocates for one of the largest demonstrations ever held in Washington, D.C. With a strong voice, Americans gathered in the nation's capital to show continued and unequivocal support for the Supreme Court's landmark decision; legislating restrictions on a woman's reproductive freedom is unconstitutional, they reminded the country.

Unfortunately, NOW has often been labeled as "pro-abortion," which simply is not accurate. NOW stands for a woman's right to choose whether or not to carry a

pregnancy (occurring within her own body) to term.

The real questions being addressed by NOW are whether a woman's body is her own, and whether she should be allowed to adhere to her own values, concerns and/or religious convictions in making decisions with regard to it.

Often NOW's political activities provide a counterbalance to the "radical right" in this country who would limit constitutionally guaranteed rights in the name of sectarian moralism and superiority.

Presumably, NOW would contest with equal vigor a law which mandated pregnancy termination against a woman's will.

NOW is a non-profit organization that is not affiliated with any political party. The group strives not so much to influence standing politicians as to elect more politicians with a feminist agenda—that is, those with an interest in the rights of women to be full citizens under the law.

The 1992 elections in particular sent a large number of both female and male feminists to government positions with the backing of NOW. The organization uses grass-roots politics, as well as mass action and intensive lobbying to get its messages

heard.

The group also has a Political Action Committee that can endorse candidates running in federal elections.

Often NOW's political activities provide a counterbalance to the "radical right" in this country who would limit constitutionally guaranteed rights in the name of sectarian moralism and superiority.

With chapters in every state, plus the District of Columbia, NOW has taken positions on many key issues that affect females everywhere. From the beginning, NOW has addressed the issues of women in the work place through lobbying and lawsuits.

In a 1969 case, they won an important decision against sex discrimination, and they have continued to work against the "glass ceiling" faced by professional women.

Some of the other issues that NOW is involved with include ethnic and racial diversity, sexual harassment, violence against women, women in the military, lesbian rights and affirmative action.

These are topics that touch all women in one way or another, regardless of race, religion or age.

For more information on how to join the NOW contact their web site at www.now.org. The site also contains an extensive list of current issues, the organization's position on those issues and suggestions about what women can do to fight for themselves.

Women should exercise their choices regarding motherhood

By Debra Mott-Humphrey
Freelance Writer

Choosing whether or not to become a mother is one of the most important decisions a woman will ever make in her life.

It wasn't all that long ago that "nature" determined who would conceive and how many children she would bare. Unlike our sisters from the past, we modern 20th century women are afforded greater governance over our bodies and our minds.

Thankfully, we live in a day and age when we are able to *choose* whether or not we want to raise children.

Motherhood is not for everyone, and those women who opt for a more independent life should not be insulted or ridiculed for their choice any more than a woman who fulfills the American ideal: marriage (after graduating from college, of course), and motherhood (preferably composed of two kids, an older son and a younger daughter). One choice is not superior to the other; both should be equally acceptable.

Choosing birth control is no longer a moral issue for most women; it relieves us from the inevitable fate of motherhood and empowers us to exercise authority over our own lives.

We are free to prevent pregnancy; we are free to choose *when* to become a mother; we are free to obtain an abortion; we are free to adopt or to give a child up for adoption; we are free to change our minds. We have the right and power to determine our futures.

Just a few nights ago, a friend of mine

called me on the telephone. Her EPT (Early Pregnancy Test) was positive. She wants to become a mother eventually, but the timing is bad. She just graduated from college; she recently started her career.

Why, when women have never had so much freedom, are we not claiming it? Why do we continue to allow circumstances to determine our course in life?

We are educated women. We do not need to be reminded about how much it costs to raise children, about the inordinate amount of time children demand, about the sleepless nights and the endless feedings, nor even about the challenges of raising a teenager in world gone mad.

Most young women understand that choosing to become a mother will necessitate the most drastic life change they will ever experience, although the reality of such an awesome responsibility is truly difficult to anticipate.

Motherhood requires incredible sacrifices, but ultimately it can be an exceptionally rewarding experience.

We have the prerogative to make decisions concerning our lives that our mothers and grandmothers dared not even dream. We can have a top-notch career and raise our children too. We can have it all.

Perhaps, however, as Virginia Woolf suggests, we just can't have it all at the same time. It isn't easy to raise secure, well-adjusted, compassionate, independent, sympathetic, loving human beings.

Children require time and patience and commitment; they deserve our greatest effort.

Although motherhood is the most chal-

lenging responsibility in the world, its joy can be as unending as its labor. The choices belong to you.

A Personal Thank You
Kalindi Trietley

Women's History Month has come and gone. I hope it made some difference in the college community; it made a difference to me. Dr. Denise Johnson and I coordinated the activities, and we were aided by a group of enthusiastic students, faculty, and staff. Events covered the gamut: We had rousing music, wonderful speakers, films that were both fun and informative, quilt-making, drama, humor, poetry, a party to raise funds for the women's shelter, powerful t-shirt and poster displays, and great conversation. Jen McClain also designed outstanding t-shirts to commemorate the month.

To everyone who took part in any way, I say thank you for taking the time, opening your minds, and getting involved. I also want to offer a special thank you to the members of the Women's Issues Advisory Board and the following students who comprised the planning committee: Michelle Massey, Jennifer McClain, Colleen McGrath, Amy Batch, Kelly Bennett, Corrie Bradley, Becky Leonard, Mary Hess, Sarah Keen, Stacey Burdette, and Cindy Miller.

Sports Uncovered by Tim Caister

Professional sports system needs change

*Off the top of my head...***Changes are as follows:**

I think it is necessary to evaluate the past year in sports. Evaluation inherently means to determine successes and failures.

You have heard me complain on occasion about the state of sports today, well, here are some possible solutions.

The NBA is quite possibly going through one of the fastest and most dynamic metamorphoses of any sport in any decade.

This is both negative and positive. Professional basketball has turned into a complete business

where turnaround is high for players and coaches. Consistency has been lost in a sport that craves it.

With the Latrell Sprewell incident, the NBA and its teams need to look at supporting the coaches. Whether or not P.J. Carlesimo provoked the incident or not, other coaches are feeling the pinch.

Coaches are no longer the mainstay on a team. This is wrong. Coaches need to gain more power to help compensate for the enlarged egos sitting next to them.

This leads to another problem with the NBA. This metamorphosis has promoted the largest

problem in professional sports today—free agency.

Not only with the NBA, but with other professional sports, free agency is creating an environment which is all pro-player and agent, and no one else.

Stop the insanity. The leagues need to develop stricter rookie regulations to help combat this problem. Stop the problem before it starts and create an environment in sports where there is loyalty, not hostility.

Major League Baseball, in order to solve most of their front office problems that are trickling

down to the teams, needs to hire a commissioner! How long will the sport with the greatest tradition and excellence let itself spiral downward?

Leadership is the key; they just need someone who will hold it. Pseudo-commissioner Bud Selig of the Milwaukee Brewers is doing an average job. However, he cannot be asked to do much more due to his other commitments, which is understandable.

Here is where the problem lies. Since Selig is torn, MLB needs to hire someone who can commit 100 percent to this job. The league

is getting by, but how long will this last until baseball is left in ruins?

Finally, I would like to make one more suggestion—return sports to the fans. Remember the days when you could show up to Tiger Stadium an hour early and get free autographs? Many of the problems discussed in this column can all be traced back to this one problem.

Let us see more home-run derbies, more all-star games, more autograph sessions (free ones!) and more accountability. The fans deserve this and more.

Stupid Observations by Julie Wilson

Springtime weather sparks bizarre activity across campus

As most of you have surely noticed, the sun is setting later, the grass is growing greener and the hemlines are slowly rising. And people and things are getting weirder and weirder.

Maybe it's just me and those students that I have consulted about these strange springtime phenomena, but with rising temperatures comes rising bizarreness.

Okay, next time you are walking around campus, sporting the newly-dusted-off sunglasses, look down. Has everyone noticed the strange earth turds that have sprung up from the ground?

Allegedly, Physical Plant has "aerated" the soil in order to promote growth or to allow more water to seep into the soil. This is likely true.

But for me, I see these evil earth turds as a menace to my sandals when I feel little turds jump up from the ground and smooch between my barefeet and my sandals.

I think of how children frolic and play, barefoot, out in the spring sun. Do they not have to contend with earth turds? Or are we just now noticing? I do not know. And you probably don't know either. More importantly,

you probably don't care.

Next point I would like to discuss we'll call "shorts." I know this is something that many people have often wondered, especially those people who are as decidedly anti-daisy-duke as I am, but I just want to take this public forum to ask why this tendency occurs. Why do people break out the cut-offs as soon as the Bank Of Alma temperature gage reaches sixty?

If the temperature plummeted into this range in mid-July there would be a run on wool sweaters, yet we are all the willing to don the shorts when the sun rears its

shiny head in March. That's all fine and good for all of the girls want to start wearing shorts and be forced into shaving their legs daily. That's their prerogative. But please stop harassing those of us who want to wear pants well into Spring Term. Maybe I am just ultra-sensitive to the shorts issue since I haven't quite found the time to start tanning in preparation for the annual shorts unveiling. Maybe I am just in awe that some people think sixty degrees is warm. Or maybe I just want to embarrass myself by admitting in the campus newspaper that these issues perplex me.

On the last note, I just have to lament about the unfortunate creation of Daylight Savings times. I love springing forward and falling back, just as everyone else does. I love losing an hour of sleep when spring rolls around. And I love that my friends think it's funny to not remind me that the time has changed and that I was late for everything all day as a result. Not to worry, I didn't confess to my Daylight Savings ignorance. I just convinced everyone that I was late because I tripped over some earth turds and tore my daisy dukes. Such are the consequences of spring.

Annual Honors Day reveals true meaning of liberal arts education

By Brandon Edward Miller
Freelance Writer

The second annual celebration of Honors Day was a tribute to a year-long effort by students and faculty to engage in quality research and creation.

Students, for a day, were able to reverse roles with their professors and present material or projects that many had studied or worked on for several months and learned how difficult and probing questions from the audience can be.

It is a tribute to the administration, faculty and the student body that this day can be such a resounding success; most colleges do not devote an entire day to a "Celebration of the Liberal Arts."

The administration and faculty

(those who do not stoop to awarding students with extra credit) trust that the students will honor their challenge to support the efforts of their colleagues by attending their presentations and presenting their own work. The student body met this challenge and proved last Thursday that academic apathy need not exist at Alma College.

One of the best results of the program is the "cross-pollination" that occurs between the attendees. Students are able to see how their peers approach research or creation in different ways.

Ideally, connections between disciplines can be made and students will discover the true meaning of the liberal arts. Some of the most fascinating interaction

that occurred last Thursday was between faculty and students of different divisions and disciplines.

After participating, most students found the exercise much more valuable than simply practicing for future academic presentations.

While it is fitting that Honors Day is celebrated at the end of the school year, I hope that the Alma College community can begin to view it as a rite of reinvigoration—like spring, a time to renew our curiosity and desire to learn.

The celebration should not

only be seen as the culmination of a year's—or college careers—efforts, but rather as a starting point for a year of academic research, discourse and learning. These efforts are integral to the college's much touted "Continuing the Quality Ethos" plan.

It was very encouraging to see classrooms packed with faculty, students, administrators, staff, parents and friends of the college listening to students present topics as diverse as the liberal arts.

A couple of examples included "Stepping Out of the Closet: Marketing to Homosexuals,"

"Models for the Ferrous Active Site of Isopenicillin N Synthase" and "Funeral and Festival Dance in Ancient Egypt."

More interesting often than the presentations were the question and answer sessions and conversations that were held informally afterwards. Students presented their findings or creations in front of a different group of faculty and peers than they may have been accustomed to in their regular classes. Their courageous act of sharing allowed them to benefit from new criticism and perspectives.

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Term limits prevent incumbent dominance

By Shannon Casey
Staff Reporter

In 1992, Michigan voters adopted state-wide term limits that limited members of the Michigan House of Representatives to three two-year terms in office. The measure ended the practice of career politicians at the state level.

The referendum also limited the Governor and the Michigan Senate to two four-year terms. The legislators in Lansing did not put these restrictions on them-

selves. The citizens of Michigan put it on the ballot and approved the constitutional amendment.

The term limits amendment is coming under attack this year because 64 of the 110 State House seats will be open in the 1998 elections. Many believe this will lead to 64 inexperienced legislators taking charge of the state.

There are many flaws in this inexperience excuse. The political power exists in committee chairs and the seniority system. Although there will be at least 64 new House members starting in

1999, the legislators making the important decisions will be veterans of the system.

The rookies will have their chance to exhibit power in a relatively short amount of time because term limits will eventually weed out the veterans, making way for a new team of ambitious, ordinary citizens willing to do their civic duties. In reality, a legislator obtains all the experience he/she needs in the real world before entering politics. The real contribution an elected lawmaker brings to the table is a background

on the issues that will raise the level of debate.

Citizens of Michigan know from experience that term limits are the only thing that discourages career politicians from manipulating the system to their advantage.

The high re-election rate shows the incumbency advantage over would be challengers.

These challengers deserve to have a chance to represent their district. The only way to ensure that chance is to limit the amount of time a legislator can remain in

office.

Term limits may lead to a more effective legislature. Elected officials will no longer have to vote according to public opinion, they will be able to make the hard decisions that will be best for the state. They realize that they only have six years to accomplish their agenda; therefore, they must move quickly.

It is impossible to think that out of a district of 85,000 citizens, one is not willing and competent enough to represent the district's needs in Lansing.

Dismissal of Jones case acquits Clinton without trial

By Shannon Casey
Staff Reporter

U.S. District Judge Susan Weber Wright blatantly disregarded precedent by dismissing the sexual misconduct lawsuit filed by Paula Jones. By disregarding the precedent, she has offered President Clinton the equivalent of an acquittal without a jury trial.

In the best case scenario for Jones, the case will not be resolved until after Clinton is out of office. By postponing the trial, Wright has guaranteed that Clinton's coattails will remain strong enough for Gore to take advantage of them in the 2000 election.

Wright did not proclaim Clinton's innocence. In fact, she actually entertained that the allegations may be true. In her opinion she wrote, "although the governor's alleged conduct, if true, may certainly be characterized as boorish and offensive, even a most charitable reading of the record in this case fails to reveal a basis for a claim of criminal sexual assault."

Why does a judge, who happens to serve because of a presidential appointment, have the authority to decide whether or not allegations against a president have a basis for a civil infraction? This is why the United States guarantees a trial by jury.

Although it is not unprecedented for a judge to dismiss a case, it is almost unheard of in high profile cases. A jury can only do its job if it is given a chance. A position of power, such as the presidency, cannot intimi-

date an independent jury like it can affect a district judge. In the Jones case, the jury is not given the chance to search for the truth.

Wright claimed that Jones' lawyers failed to prove "a claim of outrage under Arkansas law." She held that Jones could not prove a loss of work or employment discrimination because of the alleged

sexual harassment.

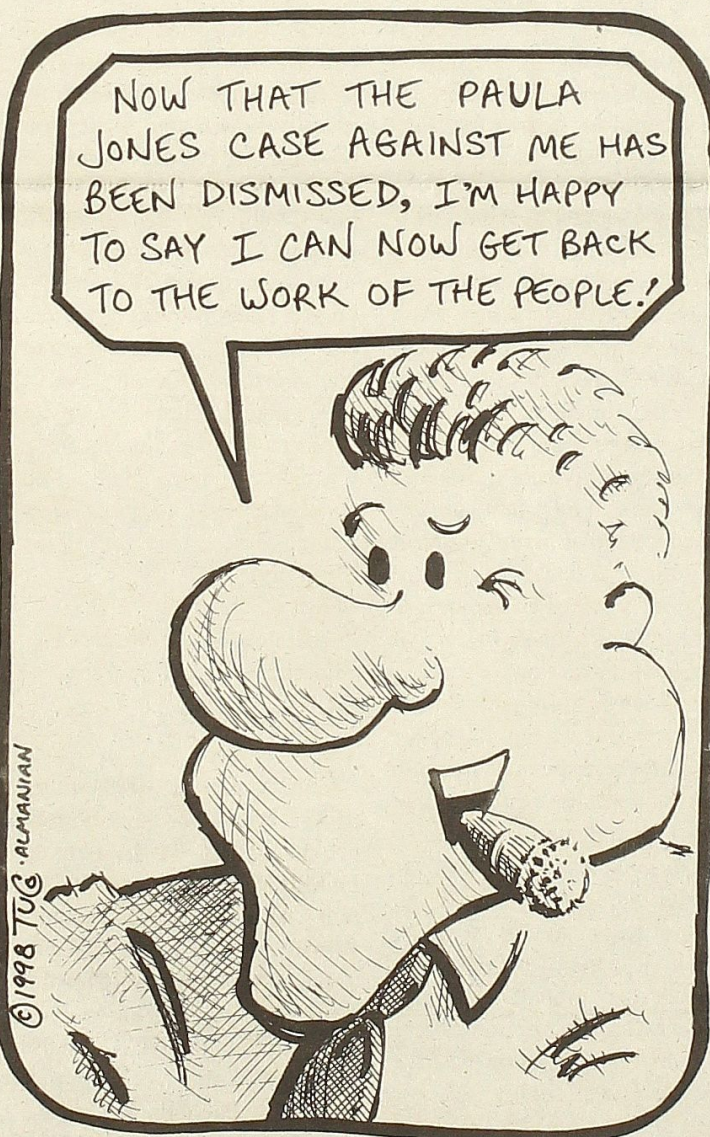
Where does this leave claims of sexual harassment in the future? Are the courts going to put an undue burden of proof on the victim? No one disagrees that there must be evidence, but a politically appointed judge should not single-handedly scrap a four-year legal battle.

What more evidence does Wright need to hear? The victim's emotional well being should be taken into consideration. Not everything translates into a loss of money.

If an appellate court concurs with Wright's decision, will the deposition be open to the public? If there is no evidence in this

deposition, why will Clinton's lawyer petition to see it becomes forever sealed?

The public has a right to see the lack of evidence that took their president off the hook. If a jury is not allowed to consider the evidence, the evidence should be made public for the American public to see.



The Almanian Judgement Calls



THUMBS UP to Mother Nature for giving us beautiful weather for Honors Day.

THUMBS DOWN to all of the students who spent all day outside and no time listening to student presentations.

THUMBS UP and congratulations to the class of 1998 for finally graduating.

THUMBS DOWN to President Stone for forgetting that it is the class of nineteen-ninety...uhh, eight.

THUMBS UP to Student Congress for creating an annual award that honors the outstanding campus contributions of two campus organizations.

THUMBS DOWN to Student Congress for giving one to themselves.

THUMBS UP to the class of 1998 for creating some fine-looking head adornments to entertain the campus community with their creativity.

THUMBS DOWN to the class of 1998 for embarrassing themselves with drunken buffoonery and embarrassing the campus community with their obvious inability to control their bodily functions.

THUMBS UP to Dr. Martin K. Marty for keeping his convocation comments short, sweet and to the point.

THUMBS DOWN for whoever decided to move Honors Convocation to an earlier time.

THUMBS UP to all of the students and faculty honored at Convocation.

THUMBS DOWN for it taking so darned long.

THUMBS UP to those students who dragged themselves out of bed to attend the 8 a.m. presentations.

THUMBS DOWN to the Honors Day Committee for scheduling presentations so darned early in the morning.

Staff Editorial

Honors Day fails to validate student work

On Thursday, Alma College students had the opportunity to share their original work with the college community through the second annual Honors Day: A Celebration of the Liberal Arts. At Honors Convocation, Leslie Ellen Brown, provost and vice president of academic affairs, announced that the college decided to make Honors Day an annual tradition.

While Honors Day is certainly a wise investment on the part of the college, its ultimate purpose must be kept in perspective. Honors Day offers an excellent chance for students to gain experience presenting, but it does nothing to validate the research presented. National and regional meetings are the only forums which are capable of providing such validation.

The college invests much time, energy and resources into Honors Day and strongly encourages students to participate. However, the college needs to provide similar support and encouragement in order to prompt students to present at national or regional meetings as well.

It is not that the college fails to provide any resources to such students; however, whether a not a student has this opportunity rests entirely on their faculty mentor.

Additionally, while the financial support that is offered to those students through both the provost's office and the individual department does help to defray the cost of traveling to such a meeting, the student is responsible for covering the remaining

cost. In the case of a national meeting, this can amount to hundreds of dollars. This cost denies a number of students this opportunity.

One would think that the college would have great incentive to provide such support, particularly to those students who desire to present at a national meeting. Such presentations obviously promote the college and better its reputation.

These meetings also expose students to the advances in their respective fields as well as providing them with valuable contacts which may lead to internships and even aid them in their graduate school searches.

The editorial board believes that the college should finance the airfare and hotel of those presenting, leaving just food to be purchased by the student. Funds for such support could be allocated in the budget for the provost's office or possibly be supplemented from the Student Congress activity fee.

The college should also take a more pro-active role in encouraging faculty to offer students the opportunity to present at these meetings. After all, such presentations benefit the reputation and scholarly interests of Alma College in the end.

The college needs to maintain the current focus of Honors Day and not forget that life exists outside of our campus community. Regional, and particularly national meetings, provide a forum for presentations which is much more constructive to both the students and the college.

Letter 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:

The assumptions in Mr. Scripps' article on the changes in the administration are incorrect. Contrary to what he says, both the vice president of finance and the vice president for development positions will be filled soon. Mr. Groteluschen's retirement is effective June 30; Mr. Biebuyck is staying on through the spring Board of Trustees meeting on May 9th. I expect both positions will be filled by the opening of school in the fall.

The fact that the Comptroller and Physical Plant Director will report to me temporarily is a necessary accommodation until a new vice president of finance is announced. I certainly have no desire to have more than the present five individuals reporting to me directly on a permanent basis.

Both Mr. Groteluschen and Mr. Biebuyck have made outstanding contributions over the years and we wish Mr. Groteluschen the best in retirement and Mr. Biebuyck every success in his new opportunity. Their shoes will be difficult to fill; but, we intend to do it soon.

Mr. Scripps' assumptions that the departure of Vice Presidents Groteluschen and Biebuyck somehow reflect my effort to consolidate "power" through more people reporting to me is wrongheaded. Mr. Nazario's new assignment as director of special programs reports to Mr. Seveland, vice president of en-

rollment and student affairs, and has no perceptible relation to the web Mr. Scripps tries to weave. A new director of admissions will be named when appropriate, but the office needs to get successfully through this recruiting season first.

As for community empowerment, please remember that I was the one who promoted student and faculty voting on the Board of Trustees in larger numbers than at any other college in the country; that during my tenure, students and faculty became permanent participants in the college's strategic planning process through the Evergreen Planning Task Force; and that faculty and students continue to have major roles in setting budget and annual goals on the President's Advisory Council. It is such participatory forums, along with Student Congress and its committees and the Faculty Senate and its committees that community governance lives. It is certainly livelier here than at most colleges.

Sincerely,
Alan J. Stone, President

...

To the Editors:

In response to Mr. Glegola's opinion article on the Center for Student Development's exit interviews I would like to offer some facts.

Mr. Glegola asked many questions in his opinion article. How can one form an opinion with so many questions? Mr. Glegola never came to the center asking his questions about exit interviews prior to advertising his potentially damaging opinion in *The Almanian*.

While I am in the beginning days of exit interviews I have received valuable constructive criticism regarding career services. Contrary to Mr. Glegola's

opinion, some of the best comments have come from a student who attended only Senior Sequence and an orientation. Furthermore, for the students who have not used our services, the reasons vary. Some knew their junior year what they needed to do. Others utilize the advice and guidance of their faculty advisors, and the Center has always supported the efforts of faculty in career development.

Mr. Glegola implied that the evaluations only help the Center itself. The exit interviews are designed to help us identify current and future student needs, and to tailor our services accordingly.

As for the timeliness of the exit interviews, the reason we conduct the interviews during this time is because students have a better sense of where they are with job offers and graduate/professional school acceptances. I would also like to make the point that the scheduled interview is only 10-15 minutes so as not to waste anyone's time. I am sure Mr. Glegola spent more than 15 minutes writing his opinion article that was much less constructive than any exit interview.

Mr. Glegola asked, "What if a student does not wish to share this information," such as graduate school applications. The center has never, nor would ever, force a student to provide any information that a student would not want to divulge. He also neglected to state, as in my letter that was sent to all seniors, that any information shared is kept strictly confidential.

And one final fact to answer one of Mr. Glegola's many questions. There are seniors out there who are either not ready to begin their job. There are seniors out there who are either not ready to begin their job search, or who are still deciding if graduate school

is where they should go. In the exit interviews I have been able to offer plans for job hunting, identify new resources for job postings, and provide a listening ear. Some seniors have been relieved to find out that our office is open for them to utilize our services in the summer, and beyond if necessary. Most seniors are unaware that we have and continue to provide our services to beyond graduation, or even your first job or graduate school. It is never too late to take action and make decisions about one's future.

Cordially,
Carolyn Schneider
Associate Dean of Student Development, Career Services

...

To the Editors:

In the March 31, 1998 edition of *The Almanian*, there was an article written on the Female Feud. I was glad to see an article written about this event as I am a part of the Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC), which helped organize this event. Although, SHAC did the majority of the work for this event only Panhellenic Council and the sororities were mentioned in the article. The members of SHAC put much time and hard work into the creation of this game. We came up with all the questions. We distributed all the surveys. We tallied up the results. The members of this organization deserve credit for this hard work. After reading this paper for four years I have come to realize that facts are not always reported as they should be but it would be nice if you at least mentioned the right organization!

Sincerely,
Lisa M. Radulovich ('98)

The Almanian

Newberry Hall
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Opinions expressed weekly in the "Staff Editorial" reflect the views of *The Almanian* Editorial Board, which includes section editors and the editors-in-chief. These views in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.

Letter Policy

All Letters to the Editors must meet the following standards for publication: signed, include the author's phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published as layout space allows and priority will be given to letters under 250 words. Submission of a letter does not guarantee its publication. We reserve the right to condense letters for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. Address letters to: The Editorial Board, *The Almanian*, Newberry Hall, Alma College, Alma, MI 48801, or e-mail at ALMANIAN@alma.edu.