

NEWS

- * Financial Aid, p. 2
- * Make a Difference Day, p. 2

FEATURE

- * Chris Musick, p. 4
- * London Spring Term, p. 3

SPORTS

- * Soccer, p. 5
- * Cross Country, p. 6

OPINION

- * Staff Editorial, p. 8
- * Campus Viewpoints, p. 7

The Almanian

October 20, 1998

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 6

News Briefs

Michigan Briefs

Youth Urban Convention kicks-off

DETROIT — On October 27, schools from throughout the region will bring students to Cobo Hall to discuss issues of importance to them, their families, schools, communities, regions, the nation, and the world. Sponsored by the Youth Urban Agenda Project, this is a civic literacy program committed to the education and empowerment of all people. Its purpose is to energize young people to be active members of the American Democratic Process.

National Briefs

Cult leader, followers turn up missing

DENVER — The leader of a doomsday cult vanished along with about 50 his followers. The cult, Concerned Christians, which predicted the destruction of Denver, is led by Monte Kim Miller. Miller and his followers sold their belongings and abandoned their homes. The Detroit News reported that "cult watchers believe the group may be headed to Jerusalem because of Miller's belief that he would die there in December 1999 and be resurrected three days later." Police are concerned because they believe the disappearances could be linked to a mass suicide.

Georges most costly storm for Red Cross

WASHINGTON — Hurricane Georges was the most costly disaster in Red Cross history. American Red Cross President Elizabeth Dole stated that the agency has spent \$104 million to aid victims from the storms that damaged parts of the Florida keys and then slammed into the Gulf Coast of Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, and north Florida.

International Briefs

Thousands of students call for reform

PARIS — Tens of thousands of high school students took to the streets of France last week to pressure the leftist government to cut class sizes and purchase more technological equipment. Over 200,000 students took part in a dozen cities, smashing windows in Paris and Rouen. There were four injuries and 82 arrests reported.

Typhoon skirts Taiwan and heads for Japan

TOKYO — Typhoon Zeb missed Taiwan but headed for Japan after pounding the Philippines. The disastrous weather touched off floods and mudslides, drove tens of thousands to shelters, and killed at least 28 people.

By DONNA PAPPAS
Staff Reporter

Campus debate informs community

Alma College students and the community participated in an on-campus debate between the candidates for Michigan's 33rd senate district on Monday, October 12. The event was hosted by Alma, Students United for Nature, and the Public Affairs Institute.

Republican Mike Goshka and Democrat Barbara McDonald each gave their opening statements and were then asked to answer three questions that were presented by Burnet Davis, professor of political science. After the debate, the floor was opened for individual questions.

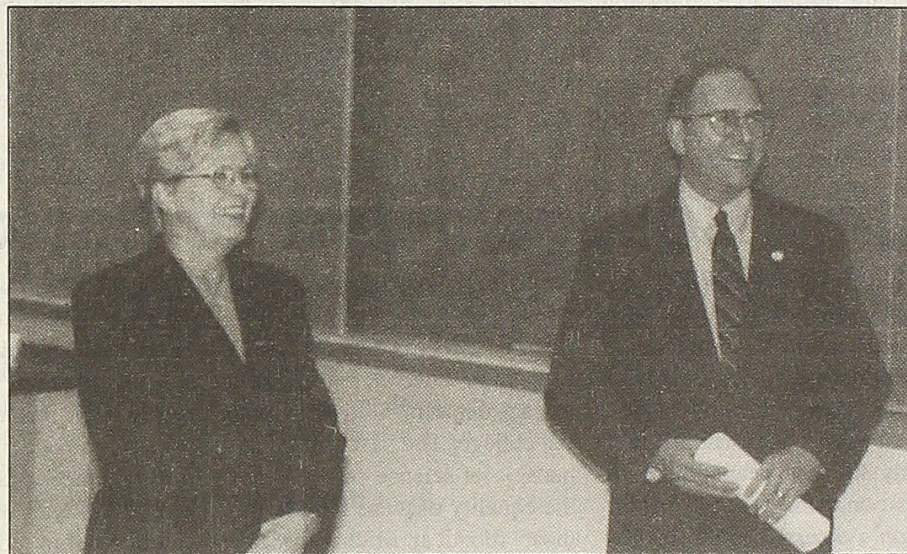
McDonald began with her opening statement. For the past ten years she has served on the Board of Commissioners of Saginaw County, which she chaired for three years. She was also a volunteer member of the Saginaw Housing Commission, and St. Mary's Hospital Advisory Board and the Board of Directors.

"I've learned a lot about county government and I've enjoyed it. It's been a wonderful experience for me," said McDonald.

Goshka, a self-proclaimed everyday, average guy, graduated with a four year degree from Cornerstone College. Goshka ran for office 4 times before he won a seat in the Michigan House of Representatives.

"I've learned to never get discouraged. If you've got a message, it's your job as a candidate to get out there, work hard, meet people, and talk about the things you believe in," said Goshka.

The first question proposed to the candidates asked for their position on school choice, creation of charter schools, and possible use of vouchers to allow students



Barbara McDonald and Mike Goshka were both present at the on-campus debate for the 33rd district senate seat. Photo by Adam Jackson--Morning Sun

to receive state funding to attend any school of their choice.

McDonald is against vouchers and feels that charter schools should have similar standards of public schools, and that we should make sure they are working before more are created. Goshka said he supports vouchers, charter schools, and school choice. He believes parents should have the authority over the education of their children, not the state.

The second question dealt with the issue of Michigan being too soft on polluters. The candidates were asked if they felt there was any basis to this charge, and to explain their position.

Both candidates stated that they were strong supporters of the environment, and that Michigan is too soft on polluters. McDonald and Goshka both said, "Polluters must pay."

The third question asked the candidates

what they would do to solve the problem of prison and jail overcrowding for the state.

McDonald stated that she feels punishment and preventive measures should be balanced. She also mentioned her involvement in the problems of jail beds in Saginaw County. According to her, without raising tax payers dollars, eighty-eight new beds were added to the county jail.

Goshka believes that money should be directed toward the schools, or else the corrections budget will increase. He also feels strongly about prisoners serving the full term they are sentenced.

After these three questions were addressed, the audience was asked to participate. The first question dealt with the extent of the candidates support for their parties nominee for governor.

agrees with a lot that Feiger has to say, See Debate on page 2....

Dress and Dine for Success provides answers

By AMY FRALEY
News Editor

The Center for Student Development, the President's office, and the South Complex Residence Hall Staff is sponsoring Dress and Dine for Success on Monday, October 26, 1998 in VanDusen Commons at 6 p.m.

The event is aimed to help prepare Alma students interviewing for their first jobs, graduate school programs or internship experiences. Speakers include Dr. Jonieta Stone, Carolyn Schneider, and Lynn O'Rear. O'Rear is a 1994 Alma College alumni who is currently employed by Electronic Data Systems in Troy, Michigan.

These presentations will explain the proper attire for office, educational, and graduate school settings and will focus on the fit of the clothing, rather than the actual outfit itself.

The goal is to help students feel comfortable and confident in presenting themselves during the interview process. Mindy Sargent, associate director of student de-

velopment, stated that when students feel comfortable they are better able to present themselves, their academic ability, and their skills. If a student is not confident in their appearance it is obvious to interviewers, thus the goal of Dress and Dine is to help alleviate some of those fears.

South Complex students will be modeling proper formal and informal business attire. Models include Rick Brands (99), Chad Wisniewski (99), Chris Dawson (99), Chef Eric, Jill Georges (99), Sarah Abbey (99), Liz Siefert (00), Katie Bunker (99), and Heather Hillier (99).

Sargent said that "attire is very important, you always want to dress for the job you are applying for." She also stated that "first impressions are important, you want to be neutral if not positive."

The event will also stress the importance of knowing proper dining etiquette by serving a formal dinner. The courses will include French onion soup, a side salad, chicked topped with dried cherries, and a dessert.

South Complex Assistant Hall Director,

Peter Muccio (99) said, "every Alma College senior can benefit from the program in their quest for post graduate success." He also said, "I hope students take advantage of this program."

Dress and Dine is open primarily to juniors and seniors, however seniors will be given priority.

To register for the Dress and Dine for Success event students can complete a registration form available in the Center for Student Development Office and return it with a \$5.00 registration fee and permission to use board credit by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21. Students can also register on-line at www.alma.edu/officeservices/csd/dressdine.html.

For more information or further assistance with job searches, internship opportunities, resume and cover letter writing, interviewing skills, jobs fairs, or any other career related concerns or questions visit The Center for Student Development, located in the lower level of Hamilton Commons, or contact a staff member at extension 7225.

Children's book drive hopes to make a difference

By MICHAEL MURPHY
Staff Reporter

It is time to make a difference. On Saturday, October 24, Alma College is participating in this year's Make a Difference Day with a Children's Book Drive during the football team's home game against Hope College. There will be collection boxes for any new or used children's books or monetary donations, with those donating getting free admission along with the possibility of winning prizes.

Since 1992, *USA Weekend* and the U.S. government have nationally sponsored the event. This

weekend's issue of *USA Weekend* will be dedicated specifically to Make a Difference Day, as it will feature articles on several different events that people are doing around the country to make a difference in the lives of people living around them.

Service Learning Coordinator Anne Ritz, Assistant Service Learning Coordinator Amanda Schafer (99), and Coordinator for Students Offering Services Heather Hodgson (00) have all collaborated to get the book drive up and running.

According to Schafer, this is the first year that Alma College is doing a major project. In past

years, different groups would rake leaves or fix up local houses. Now, all the groups can work together.

"Student Congress will be distributing flyers encouraging organizations to donate children's books," said Schafer.

Schafer said that the idea to have the children's book drive came from brainstorming last year, with work on it being performed since the beginning of this school year.

The books will be donated based on need to the Alma AmeriCorps Literacy Projects, Women's Aid Service, Gratiot County Reading Program, and the Gratiot Community Hospital.

Although the football game will be during mid-term break, Schafer said that collections will also be taking place beforehand. Anyone with children's books can drop them off during the week of October 19 in the Service Learning Office, located in the basement of the Monteith Library.

"We hope to collect over 1,000 books," said Schafer. "The local Burger King and Wal-Mart have already donated prizes and money to the drive."

The idea to participate in Make a Difference Day has drawn positive remarks from the campus community.

"I think Make a Difference Day

is very important to making life better for those around us," said Nicole Gentry (01).

First-year student J.R. Logan agreed, "I think it is a good idea. I am going home for the weekend and will bring some children's books up to donate. It is also smart to have the option of donating money as well."

Schafer is encouraging any student that has well-conditioned children's books to donate them, or to at least give a little monetary donation.

"It will help make a difference to the children living around Alma," said Schafer.

Alma College listed as Barron's Best Buy in education

By TONYA SCHAFFER
Staff Reporter

Alma has been listed as a "Best Buy in College Education" by the Barron's book of the same name.

Only 300 four-year colleges in the nation qualify for this honor. Barron's determines the recipients by compiling information from students and instructors at American secondary schools. Questions focus on such areas as the student body profile, academ-

ics, facilities, programs and life on campus.

Best Buys author Lucia Solorzano cites Alma's strong science department as an asset to the college. The \$10 million expansion of science facilities and the equality of these facilities to those found at Michigan State University or The University of Michigan garnered praise. Said Solorzano, "[the science department's] program is a sure prescription for success."

Barron's also praised Alma's business program. The educational backgrounds of its professors and the high job placement records for business graduates earned accolades, as did the Political Science department, whose Model UN team won the world championship competition in New York City in 1995, 1997 and 1998.

Alma was also commended for its tuition and graduation rates and high student morale.

Quotes from students were incorporated directly into the text of the book. Many had positive comments about their school. Scots praised the willingness of professors to assist pupils. In addition, the intermingling of the faculty and students in social and recreational situations was commended. Said one student, "If one were trying to avoid his or her professors, it would be virtually impossible to do here."

The newly-released Barron's

book is the fifth-edition of this series. It promises to present parents and students with information that "will get the most for [their] educational dollar." Both private and public schools are included in the volume.

Charlotte Schmidtke, media relations editor, said the colleges inclusion in Barron's new edition is a privilege. "This is third-party validation of Alma College's strengths and is a real honor," Schmidtke stated.

Financial aid now available for off-campus Spring Terms

By TONYA SCHAFFER
Staff Reporter

The Financial Aid Office has begun preparations for the distribution of monetary assistance to students who plan on studying abroad for Spring Term.

According to Director of Financial Aid Chris Brown, this program of dispersal is only a few years old.

"It was initiated because it is important that students have the opportunity to experience life in other countries. Also, [an over-

seas trip] fulfills the "S" Course requirement for Spring Terms," said Brown.

Financial awards are limited to students who are travelling overseas. This, according to Brown, is due to the much higher costs of such trips as opposed to domestic or on-campus classes. Awards range from approximately \$500 to \$1,000 and are distributed based on the trip's cost, the student's financial need, and whether that student has already completed the "S" course requirement. Anyone interested in receiving Spring

Term financial aid should sign up in the Financial Aid Office by the November 2 deadline. At that time, Brown said, "we will evaluate the students we have [had sign up] and award the money. The award is contingent upon the fact that the student will register for the class. If he or she doesn't register, there will be no grant awarded." Brown stated, however, exceptions may be made in the case of an unforeseen event or tragedy.

Because a limited amount of money is available to distribute,

it is likely that not every student who applies will receive financial aid. Brown said he hopes to release the final decisions before initial deposits for the trips are due.

Faculty response to Spring Term financial aid has been positive. "More faculty have built into Spring Term opportunities overseas because of the availability of financial aid," said Brown.

One of these faculty members is Scott Hill, Associate Professor of Chemistry, who is heading a spring term seminar in Russia. "As a

faculty member involved in taking a class abroad, I am particularly pleased that the college has been able to provide some additional financial aid to deserving students in support of international travel," Hill said.

According to Brown, the distribution of monetary assistance to scholars traveling overseas has had a beneficial effect on the school. "It's great that students realize that the college is communicating and implementing programs to help them with this," he said.

Debate (cont. from page 1)

agrees with a lot that Feiger has to say, especially the personal attacks upon the government. However, she plans to support the governor who is elected. She said the government needs to work together in a bipartisan manner.

The two candidates gave nearly the same response to each of the following questions. How do you feel about unfunded mandates? Both agreed that these types of mandates are unfair. How do you feel about Proposal B (Legalized Assisted Suicide)? Both said they will vote NO on this proposal.

They also agreed that pain management is the real issue here. Do you support tax cut proposals? Both answered yes.

The last question was addressed to Goschka. The public has been made aware of an investigation by the attorney general's office about Goschka's mileage. An anonymous allegation was made

that Goschka was actually in house session, while claiming at the same time to be collecting reimbursement for his mileage.

Goschka denied these charges. He pointed to McDonald and the democratic party for "continuing to investigate these faceless allegations."

Finally, the candidates gave their closing statements.

McDonald was first, as she noted all the ways in which she disagrees with the direction of Goschka's support in the past. She then mentioned the need for more attention directed toward the Pine River. McDonald stressed the nonpartisanship that is needed in the to fight work together to serve the constituents.

Goschka closed by stressing the importance of the voting process. He also mentioned the need for involvement, especially in situations such as the Pine River.

"I felt that I got at least a majority of my values across during the debate. It's hard when you have a time limit and an absence of inter-play back and forth between the candidate and the constituents. But I think it basically gives a good idea of what the candidate is about and what their personality is, and how committed they are to doing what they feel is the right thing for the constituents," said McDonald.

"I was pleased with the debate because I think that anytime that you just merely rely on print media there is no emotion, there is merely words. In a debate, you can communicate passion, vision, and a real sense of being in touch with and connecting with people. I felt really strong that I was able to get across my priorities with the turnout attracted by this debate," said Goschka.

Dave Vink (00) said, "I think it's great that so many people

were able to attend this debate because far too often people ignore state politics. This event gave people an opportunity to experience politics at the local level."

"I was glad to see this event come

to Alma. Public debates are a great way to make an informed decision between candidates. It would have been nice to hear them answer a few more questions," said Laura Nelson (01).

Check It Out The Almanian Online

<http://cicero.com.alma.edu/almanian>

Updated weekly on Tuesday evenings.

E-mail The Almanian with questions or concerns at:
ALMANIAN@alma.edu

Proctor new diving team coach

By AMBER BRAND
Freelance Writer

The Alma diving team is making a big splash this year in more ways than one. Fifth year senior Marisa Proctor said she's "moving off of the diving board and onto the deck" to coach this season's team. As a member of the team for the past year and a half and the Alma High School swim team coach, she offers the divers' a lot of experience.

Marisa attended Tecumseh High School in Tecumseh, MI. She was a member of the team there and at Western Michigan

University Club. In her senior year she won the state championship and still holds a state record. After graduating in 1994 she accepted a diving scholarship to the University of Maryland, and after two years transferred to Alma to major in English.

Coaching two different teams takes a lot of time said Marisa. The high school team meets for two hours every afternoon, and the college team has a morning and an evening practice, but Marisa enjoys it. She said she loves it when the things she teaches them are played out on the board. She stated it is impor-

tant "to see the girls having fun."

Marisa is concerned about the fact that some of the girls she is coaching were former teammates and good friends.

"I hope that all of these things come together to work positively for the team," she said. This year she said she hopes to watch each diver grow as an athlete and as an individual.

Giving numerous hours of each day to coaching does have its benefits. It helps her to think fast. "I've learned so much about myself and about how other people work that can apply to anything in life," she said.



Senior Marisa Proctor is busy this term coaching the Alma College diving team and the Alma High School Swim team. Photo by Steve Nadeau.

Spring term in London to feature Shakespeare

By STEPHANIE POWELL
Staff Reporter

Alma College students will have the opportunity to spend spring term in London, the city Professor John Ottenhoff has dubbed the "greatest literary city of the English-speaking world."

The course, which can be taken as English 183 or English 383, will focus on the theater in London, specifically current productions of Shakespearean and other Elizabethan drama. Students enrolled in the course will read and discuss a play and then see it in performance.

"The real academic focus is going to be plays, texts, and performance," Ottenhoff said. "We're going to concentrate on Shakespeare. London is the one place where we will be able to see

that many performances, really good performances, of Shakespearean plays."

Students will be expected to complete reading journals and performance reviews. Those who choose to enroll in English 383 will be expected to complete a larger research assignment with resources available in London.

Ottenhoff said the secondary aim of the trip is for students to learn about the English culture. "I want them to understand something of the context of Shakespeare's plays. I hope we get a sense of London as a literary center and, if we can, recapture the sense of Elizabethan London."

"We'll get that in part by going to The Globe, for instance, and St. Paul's Cathedral, which was rebuilt after Shakespeare's day but was certainly a center at his

time," Ottenhoff added.

Ottenhoff said he hopes the class will be able to see a play at the Globe, but that class may be too early for the season's beginning in late May.

"The Globe is an amazing structure. It will provide insight to how the texts work. Standing in front of the stage with the groundlings is a great experience," Ottenhoff added.

Another highlight of the trip will be a week in Stratford-on-Avon. There, students will experience the talents of The Royal Shakespeare Company at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, The Swan Theatre, and The Other Place. "And of course," Ottenhoff said, "we'll visit Shakespeare's birthplace, Anne Hathaway's cottage, and Warwick Castle."

Other short trips are being con-

sidered but, as Ottenhoff said, "It's still in the planning stages, definitely Cambridge, maybe Oxford."

Aside from the required course outings, Ottenhoff said he will allow ample time for exploring London. "It's an incredible cultural city. I'll probably spend a lot of time in bookstores, and certainly the British Museum is something we'll want to see. They have an incredible set of literary resources, like Shakespearean manuscripts and old Bibles. Maybe we can get a tour and see some of the rare books they have in there."

The enrollment limit of this course is 15 students. If more students apply, Ottenhoff said he will screen the applicants, giving preference to juniors and seniors, English majors, and students who

seem most prepared to contribute to the class.

The estimated cost of the class is \$2300. The fee is inclusive of airfare from Detroit to London, transportation in England, lodging costs in London, on class excursions and class trips to theater events. The fee does not include most food costs and personal expenses for food and gifts. Ottenhoff recommends students budget an additional \$600-\$800 to cover such expenses.

A non-refundable deposit of \$200 is due by Nov. 2 in the Business office. The remaining balance is to be paid in three equal installments on Jan. 19, Feb. 19, and March 16, 1999.

For more information contact Ottenhoff at X 7138 or by e-mail (Ottenhoff@alma.edu).

Global Auction to benefit India fellowship

BY TONYA SCHAFER
Staff Reporter

The annual Alma College Global Auction, an event to raise money for the Global Service Fellowship program, will begin at 6:30 p.m., November 5, in Jones Auditorium. Co-sponsored by the Office of International Education and the Global Service Committee, the auction will sell objects obtained from various foreign

countries as well as handmade items and baked goods.

Each year the Global Service Fellowship gives two Alma students the opportunity to teach English at the Mathen Mappilai Memorial Public School in India. The trip is all-expenses paid; part of the cost is covered by Student Congress and the Office of International Education. The remainder is provided by the auction.

According to Director of International Education Chris Musick, students who participate in the Global Fellowship are given an amount of money to spend on items in India that will later be auctioned off; the participants in last year's Global Fellowship, Laura Gornicki (98) and Luba Manko (98), will be present at the auction to sell items they obtained during their trip. In addition, donations are accepted from community members who have taken foreign trips or who possess a knack for crafting.

The items to be auctioned off are easily affordable for college students. Gornicki said, "Luba and I wanted this to be a students auc-

tion, so we bought inexpensive items. If someone brings in five dollars, he or she should be able to go home with something. This ability to purchase unique foreign items while maintaining a limited budget has prompted Gornicki to call the auction, "one of Alma's best-kept secrets."

The Global Fellowship was established thirty-five years ago as an African Fellowship. Participants were sent to Nigeria until that country became too politically unstable. The current location in India, according to Musick, fills a gap in the college's catalog of trips. "Many students travel to Europe; Asia is overlooked. Here, students can become immersed in a program where they live by themselves in a foreign country. It's a good opportunity for those who want to travel off campus," Musick said.

This program, Musick stated, is not just for education majors. Any student can apply for the fellowship before the February 15 deadline. Participants are selected based on their commitment to the program, their will-

ingness to teach, academic excellence and personal maturity.

In future years, Musick hopes to expand the fellowship program by including trips to Nepal and China. The increasing costs of such a plan, he said, have him hoping for a large community turnout at this and further auctions.

Volunteer opportunities are available for those students and faculty wishing to assist in the Global Auction. Runners are needed to display items as they are auctioned off and to relay pricing and buyer information to the checkout tables; auctioneers are also being solicited. In addition, the International Office is accepting donated items that can be sold at the event.

The Global Auction is an integral method of raising money for the India Fellowship. Musick expressed enthusiasm for this fundraiser and the program it supports. "For an eighteen to twenty-two year old, there are few opportunities like this in life. The fellowship allows students to experience the richness of an-

What's Happening On Campus?

Thursday, October 22

*Fall Break Begins
*Kwaai Piano Sale begins, 8 p.m. The Heritage Performing Arts Center

Friday, October 23 through Sunday, October 25

*Fall Break

Sunday, October 25

*Daylight Savings Time begins, 2 a.m.

Monday, October 26

*Classes Resume from Break at 8 a.m.
*Start of 2nd seven-week classes
*Fellowship of Christian Athletes Meeting, 9 p.m., Chapel

Tuesday, October 27

*"Achieving Success at Job Fairs Workshop," 4 p.m., Center for Student Development

other culture and to find out what it is like to be a minority. It will be the most important experience in a student's life."

Classified

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The Leighton United Methodist Church of Caledonia, MI is seeking a Director of Music Ministries. 20-30 hours weekly. Send resumé or contact staff/parish relations committee 3160 Beatrice, Middleville, MI 49333 or call (616) 795-9682

Director of International Education has high goals

By LONNA LUTZE
Staff Reporter

Some Alma College students may have already noticed the International Office's move to the lower level of the library. However, the office itself is not the only thing that has changed this year. Chris Musick has joined the Alma College faculty as the new Director of International Education.

Musick started at Alma in September of this year and has been busily working to get acquainted with the college and to make changes and improvements to the program. He said he has liked it here so far, especially the "small-town friendliness and safe environment."

Musick said he decided to come here for professional reasons. He liked that he would have the opportunity to work with foreign students and students wanting to study abroad.

Musick has high goals for the Alma International program. He said an ideal goal was "making the Alma program number one in the nation and having every Alma student to have at least one overseas experience before graduation."

Realistically, Musick said he wants "Alma to be a leader in the nation for international education and to have at least 50% of the student body participate in a study abroad experience." He also has goals of increasing the number of foreign students on campus, the number of foreign faculty and the number of intercultural programs offered (diners, speakers, and an International Club). Measures are already being taken to form the international club, and if students are interested, they can contact him for more information.

Attempts to obtain these goals can be seen in the changes the International Office has already undergone. It is not only the actual office that has changed; improvements have already been made in the programming as well.

They are working to expand the number of programs Alma offers. An agreement has been recently signed with Lanzhou Commercial College in China's Gansu province. Global service learning currently offered in India will hopefully soon be expanded to include Nepal and Lanzhou as well. Musick also said he wants to develop internship opportunities in foreign cit-

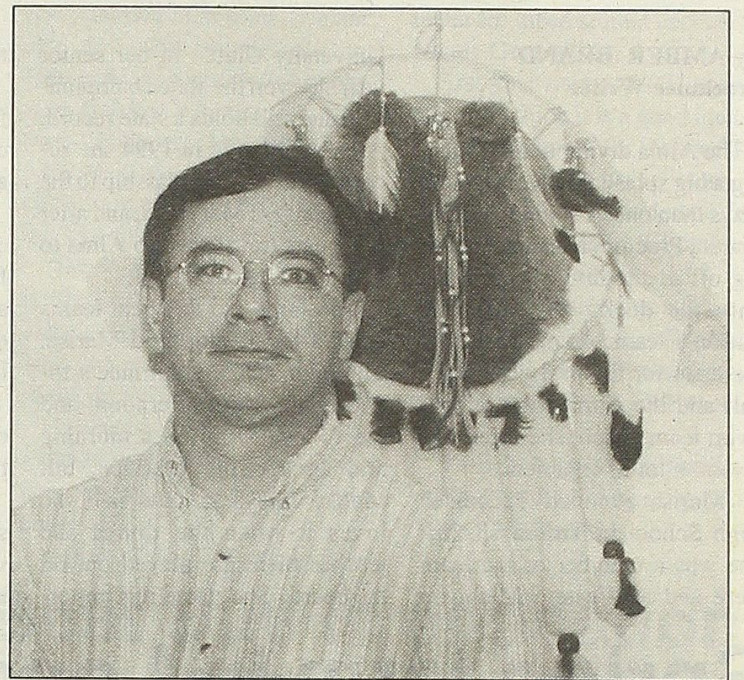
ies.

They are also working on developing a more extensive study abroad library. They are updating the Alma International Web page. They have ordered many books to make research easier for the students, and hope to have a computer in the office where students can research programs.

There are goals to expand faculty opportunities to participate in international study and research. Musick wants more faculty to have the chance to go overseas and see new sights for spring term events.

Musick himself has extensive experience overseas. While attending Ball State University, he participated in the London Centre Program for which he stayed in Europe four months. He also received a Rotary Scholarship, which was a world-wide competition to study in Japan for two years where he attended the International Christian University studying intercultural communication. He has degrees in a variety of different things ranging from philosophy and anthropology to university administration and intercultural communication.

His own experiences overseas gave him the opportunity to see



New Director of International Education Chris Musick is new to Alma College this year. Photo by Maya Mackowiak.

how important a study abroad experience can be to students. He said, "It changes your life. It opens doors to self understanding and understanding your own culture and country. You perceive your own country from a different perspective: you love your country, but we are not always right."

Musick said he had a desire to give good service to students. He

said if anyone has ideas on how to make the college's program better he wants to hear them.

Musick encourages students to come look at the programs the college offers. He also asked students to come to the Annual Global Service Auction held on Nov. 5 and bid on exotic items. The money will go to raise part of the money for the India trip.

Pine River Anthology provides opportunities for publication

By LINDSAY ROBINSON
Staff Reporter

For three decades, the Pine River Anthology has provided the opportunity for students of Alma College to submit literary and artistic works for publication.

The fine arts literary magazine is circulated yearly. It features literary works, including poetry and fiction, and some essays and research papers. It also includes student art pieces, including photography, sketches, pictures of sculptures, and other pieces. The anthology publishes the works of Alma students only; no outside works or submissions from professors are included.

William Palmer, professor of English, and Sandy Lopez-Isnardi, assistant professor of art and design serve as the faculty advisors for the publication. Palmer suggested different ways students can submit their literary works to the publication.

"In the past, we have called for the submissions in fall term through the college writing contest. We thought we'd do it differently this year. We will have two submission periods," he said.

Students may submit their publications by October 28 to meet the first deadline. The second deadline comes at the end of the fall term. Also, student pieces submitted for the writing contest will be considered for publication. The writing contest will be announced in upcoming weeks.

Palmer said that having these

two submission periods will allow for the student staff to look over the submitted works more carefully.

In order to be considered for publication, students may submit their literary works to Palmer in his office, located in SAC 340.

To have art pieces published in the anthology, students must have taken an art class at Alma either last term or currently, and their works must have come from last winter term, spring term, or the current fall term.

"The submission criteria are a little different for the art pieces. The pieces considered for publication are those included in the student [art] show. The judges for the art show [walk through the gallery to judge the art], followed closely by those who consider entries into the anthology," according to Lopez-Isnardi.

The anthology's editorial staff only contains students. The main editors for the literary publication are Jennifer Zumpf (01) and Laura Timm (00).

Timm believes that the Pine River Anthology creates a wonderful opportunity for students.

"[The Pine River Anthology] is a great opportunity to show talent from all over campus. The creativity is all over the place. It gives students with writing talent the opportunity to display their works, something that normally isn't easily accomplished," she said.

The student editors for the art portion of the anthology are Erin

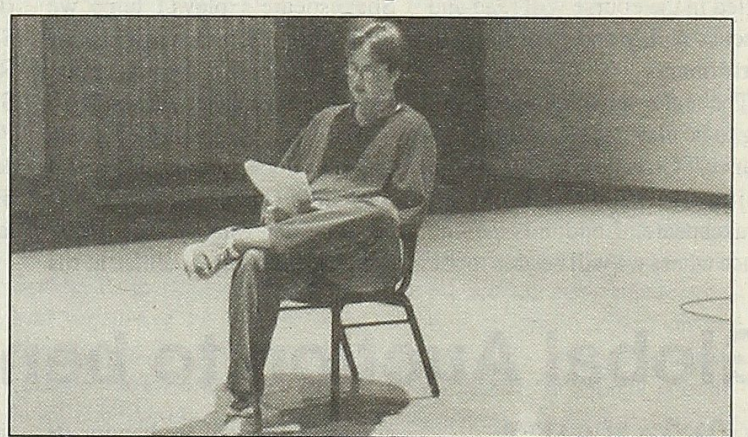
Freeland (00), in charge of photography, and Heidi Grantham (00), art director.

Lopez-Isnardi spoke of her goals as an advisor for the anthology.

"I would like to see the standard rise to match those of other colleges. The anthology is a great resume-builder but can only be great if it meets high standards. I would also like to see more diversity--both the dark and bright aspects of human nature and more global themes," she said.

The anthology, which is free for all students, will be available during the winter semester.

"Last year we were able to distribute copies of the anthology on



Senior Andrew Downs reads a selection at the literary reading held on October 15. Photo by Maya Mackowiak.

Honors Day, during the reading. We would like to keep that tradition going if possible," Palmer said.

"In the past, there have also been copies available for students to pick up in the food commons," Palmer added.

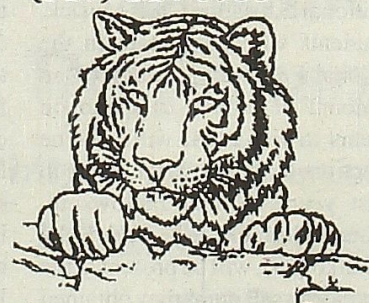
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Soccer teams have rough week

By JOEY MEAD
Sports Editor

The winds blew the wrong way for men's and women's soccer as both teams lost in two major conference games last week.

Women's soccer traveled to Holland last Wednesday to match up against Hope College, but failed in their attempt to stop Hope's Gretchen Schoon from scoring 2 goals and assisting a third, ending the game 3-0.

A great effort to hold Hope off was put in by first-year goalie Julie Belanger, who had 11 saves. Regular first-year starting goalie Paula Schwarz was injured during warm-up.

After this loss, the Scots sit in fifth with a record of 2-4. The Scots play Olivet College at home Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. It will be their last conference game before the MIAA tournament.

Sophomore Anne Fortino said, "The minor breakdowns that hurt us in this game are the things we are going to work on. We just need to learn from this game and

focus on finishing our season strong."

The men's soccer team was up against Kalamazoo College last Thursday and fell in overtime, making it a 2-1 victory for the Hornets. K-zoo is currently ranked number one in the conference with a MIAA record of 6-1.

The Scots and the Hornets went head-to-head for the whole first period ending with a 0-0 stalemate, but a minute into the second half the Hornets slipped one by junior goalie Jon Cullen. Then 10 minutes later the Scots responded when sophomore Mike Lovati put one in off the assist by senior Ryan U'Ren. The score held at 1-1 for the rest of the game and on in to over-time. At the 15 minute point in over-time, the Hornets put one in the net to win the game.

"We played well enough to win. I thought we created the better chances. But the bottom line is we didn't put it in the net. They were dangerous. Jonny came up with a couple big saves," head coach Scott Frey said, "We played the game the way I would like us

to play. We possessed the ball, we created well, we did the things we needed to do, except put the ball in the net."

Cullen said, "We played well; it wasn't really like something was missing, but we couldn't put it in the net. Coach said it best when he said, 'The team that should have won didn't.'"

The Scots are ranked fourth for the time being, but there is still a big chance that the MIAA standings will undergo a drastic change. The first round of play is over, now the Scots go through and play everyone again.

Frey said, "I think the game that is really key is that Kalamazoo plays Hope the second game of the round. If Hope can knock them off that will bring everyone back to a game and a half."

Last year the Scots were in the same position K-zoo is in now. The Scots had a 2 game lead on the rest of the conference records until they lost to Calvin and put themselves right back in harms way.

"[The standings] can go real quick in this conference. But for



Sophomore soccer player Anne Fortino keeps the ball away from a Kalamazoo player during last Wednesday's game. Photo by Steve Nadeau.

us to be in it we have to be clean; we're going to have to run the table," Frey said.

The men's soccer conference competition is on fire right now. It is still anyone's conference.

Chris Alexander (00) said, "I

am just hoping that we continue to play hard and improve because we are far from out of it."

"There are so many teams that are very capable, it's going to be who can get hot and stay hot," Frey said.

Men's golf finishes season in 5th place

By KELLY McDONALD
Staff Reporter

The men's golf team took 5th place at the Calvin tournament and 4th place at the Kalamazoo tournament to conclude their Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) play. The guys fought through rain and bad weather at the Calvin meet and went to Kalamazoo to find a beautiful day with lots of sunshine.

On October 5, the team compiled a score of 436, good enough for 5th place at Watermark Country Club (Calvin). Junior Jon

Chapel led the way for the Scots with an 83. Seniors Chris Dawson, Ryan Fahler, and Tim Shunsky all shot an 86, while fellow senior Kevin DeGroot and first-year student Drew Rummel followed with a 95 each. Rummel was also named WMLM 1520 Radio's Player of the Week.

The team traveled to the Kalamazoo Country Club on October 12 for the last match of the year. Alma College holds the team record from 1979 with a score of 383 on this course. They placed 4th with a team score of 413. The Scots were led by

Dawson, who shot a 76; followed by Shunsky with an 81; Rummel, 82; DeGroot, 84; Fahler, 90; and junior Dirk Harris shot a 99.

"We had strong leadership with the four seniors. It was a frustrating season when it came to the way we played on the course both teamwise and individually. But we had fun, especially off the course," said Dawson.

Although the men's golf team has often heard comments like "golf is boring because there's no defense, it's no fun," according to them, the sport is challenging and fun.

"It's been a new experience for me. I've played well sometimes and played bad sometimes. That's how it goes. But we have had fun," said Rummel.

"There wasn't a team around that had more fun than us," said Dawson.

The final standings in the MIAA had Alma in 5th place overall with an average of 410.4 per course. Dawson ranked 19th in the individual standings and Shunsky was 24th for the season.

"As a team, the season was a little disappointing because the seniors thought we would com-

pete for a top place, but we finished 5th. We had a good chance but things didn't work out," said Rummel.

"This is a great bunch of guys. I appreciate that they let me learn with them and I had a lot of fun. This was a great experience and hopefully we'll do better next year," said head coach Mark Starkweather.

So, the men's golf team shows that it's not whether you win or lose but the way you play the game. This team may not have fared well in the standings but they sure had fun.

Football team brought down by Albion, 27 - 14

By SEAN BABBITT
Freelance Writer

The Britons sacked the Scots, literally and physically at last Saturday's game.

Quarterback Jason VanDerMaas was sacked six times for a loss of 40-yards, in the 27 - 14 loss to the Albion Britons in front of 4,100 people at Sprankle - Sprandel stadium.

Albion drew first blood in the first quarter when starting quarterback, Jason Whalen connected on a 15-yard pass to put the Britons up 7-0.

Then, late in the first quarter, VanDerMaas and the Scots responded by hitting senior wide receiver, Rod Barriger, for the first of his two scores to cap off a

seven play 67-yard drive. That knotted the score at 7 - 7.

Late in the first Albion scored again to put the Britons up 14 - 7. Then in the second Barriger caught his second touchdown on an 11-yard pass from VanDerMaas to once again knot up the score at 14 - 14. The touchdown pass was Barriger's fourth of the season coming on only his 12th catch.

That was when the defenses took over.

The two teams did not crack the end zone again until the fourth quarter.

In the meantime, the Scot offense was keeping the defense busy by turning the ball over.

"Our defensive team held us in the ball game because of all the

turnovers and the bad field position," said head coach Jim Cole.

"The only problem was that we gave them (Albion) a short field to work with each drive."

Albion finally scored in the fourth as a direct result of another interception at the Scots 38.

From there Albion back up quarterback, Jeremy Fellows, connected on a touchdown pass which would prove to be the game winning score.

"Albion's front four were the reason that our offense was not as effective. They put pressure on Jason without having to use blitzes," said Cole.

"That allowed them to drop seven into coverage and disrupt the running and passing lanes."

VanDerMaas, who had been

sixth in the nation in total offense by averaging 296-yards per game, had to gain them through the air. He only gained a net of 11-yards on the ground on 19 carries, but did cover 303-yards in the air.

Sophomore Greg Bowden had seven carries for 30-yards to lead the Scots. Alma only gained a total of 49-yards on the ground as a team.

"It was an outstanding game and our kids played hard. I am very proud because we played very courageous. Even in the fourth quarter we were right there with a chance to win," said Cole.

With the loss the Scots dropped to third place in the MIAA with a 3 - 1 record behind Albion and next week's opponent, Hope.

"We still have a chance to win

the championship but we have to win the rest of our games," said Cole. "Having a big game every week is what it is like at the top and we would rather be there than at the other end."

"I would just like to thank all the fans and especially the band who made the trip down to Albion last week. When I heard our fight song on the sidelines, I knew it lifted the spirits of our guys," said Cole.

The Scots will try to rebound this week when they meet the Hope College Flying Dutchmen.

The Dutchmen will come into the action with a 2 - 0 conference record and will be looking to bury the Scots title hopes. The game is at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Bahlke field.

Cross country teams running well

By **KELLY McDONALD**
Staff Reporter

The men's and women's cross country teams traveled to Chicago on October 3 to compete in the Loyola Lakefront Invitational and then to Kalamazoo on October 9 to compete in a Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) meet.

In Chicago, the men's team finished 15th out of 22 teams, including teams from Lake Superior State, Michigan Tech, Saginaw Valley State and Wayne State. The top five runners for Alma were senior Pete Muccio (27:37), junior Kyle Kristin (28:44), and first-year students Mark Penzien (28:54), Andy Kibbe (29:05) and Ryan McCallum (29:16).

Other runners who finished the race were Ken Donoghue, Brent Warner, Tom Arbaugh, Chris Porco, Bruce Haney, Jim Alspaugh, Reid McGuire and Adam Blair.

"The men's team has showed great promise at the beginning of the season. We started out a little

bit out of shape, but we had potential. We're looking forward to ending on a strong note with big meets coming up," said Muccio, one of the three captains. Kristin and Alspaugh are the other two captains.

The women also finished 15th out of 19 teams with 372 points.

Senior Dana Cole led the way for the Scots, finishing in 20:40. Right behind her were sophomores Stacy Turschak (20:43) and Shelly Maruszak (20:51), senior Amy Burns (21:08), and first-year student Lindsay Nederhood (21:49).

Other Alma finishers were Katie Rodgers, Sara Fisher, Christina McGrain and Rachel Retzler.

Oct. 9 was a nice day for running, sunny and 60 degrees in Kalamazoo. The men's team finished 17th out of 21 teams with a final score of 483 points. Leading the way for the Scots was Muccio, taking 65th with a time of 26:35. McGuire (26:58), Penzien (27:50), first-year student Ryan Rau (28:12) and Kristin (28:13) rounded out the top five finishers for Alma.

McCallum, Kibbe, Warner, Arbaugh, Porco, Haney and Alspaugh also crossed the finish line for the Scots.

"We have lots of potential for the years to come. [With the MIAA championship meet coming up] obviously we want to do as well as we can but we can only get 3rd because of our 5th place finish in the first MIAA meet. Things are looking good," said Penzien.

The women's team finished 19th out of 24 teams with 510 points at Kalamazoo.

The women ran well with many of them running personal bests. Cole again led the way, finishing 98th with a time of 19:39. Other Alma top finishers were Nederhood (19:58), Maruszak (19:58), Turschak (20:07), and Burns (20:43).

Rodgers, Fisher, Retzler and senior Brandi Hansen also finished the race for the Scots.

"We were really happy with our performance at the MIAA meet. We were particularly focused and determined and were able to make significant improve-



A pack of Alma College men's cross-country runners near the finish line during a conference race. File Photo

ments both as a team and individuals. It is exciting to see the amount of potential this team has," said senior Jennifer Nowaczck. This is her first year running cross country for Alma.

The cross country teams get ready this week for the Alma Invitational on October 24 at 11:00. The MIAA championship meet will be hosted by Alma this year on October 31 at 11:00.

Women's golf finishes season

By **DONNA PAPPAS**
Staff Reporter

Despite windy, cool weather conditions, the teams in the women's golf tournament were able to keep their scores consistent last Wednesday, Oct. 14.

"Our girls played really well as a team. Under the weather circumstances, the first place team, Hope, maintained an outstanding score," said Coach Charles Goffnett.

Alma placed third with a score of 366, behind Hope (337) and Albion (352). Defiance was close behind with a score of 380.

Five members of the team com-

peted in this match, which was hosted by Calvin at the Thornapple Point Golf Club.

Jennifer Peters (00) and Lindsay Carpenter (02) were two of the four members who contributed to the Scots' final score. They led the Scots with a total of 88 strokes, the seventh best score in the tournament.

Nicole Sears (02) finished with 91 strokes, and Julie Harris (02) had 99.

Harris is a new addition to the team. She was added in response to a loss of team members due to academic conflicts. She is also a member of the JV Volleyball team at this time.

Because of academic conflicts, the team was unable to participate in the Kalamazoo match. This will leave the Scots at the bottom of the MIAA standings, even though their current average score places them in third.

"We all know we can play better. As a whole, the season's been disappointing although we have not been playing that bad. It's disappointing that the season is over, we were just starting to get comfortable playing together," said Carpenter.

The women played their last match of the season on Saturday, which was hosted by Defiance at the Kettenring Country Club.

College Football Scores

Saturday Oct. 17

TOP 12 SCOREBOARD

Final		Final	
Wisconsin at	37	Oklahoma at	6
Illinois	3	Missouri	20
Final		Final	
Minnesota at	15	Oklahoma St. at	20
Ohio St. 45		Kansas St.	52
Final		Final	
Vanderbilt at	6	Auburn at	3
Georgia	31	Florida	24
Final		Final	
Arkansas at	41	Purdue at	13
S. Carolina	28	Penn. St. 31	
Final		Final	
Temple at	28	Virginia at	38
Virginia Tech	24	Georgia Tech	41
Final		Final	
Texas Tech at	17	Syracuse at	42
Colorado	19	Boston College	25

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McDonald's principles needed

By MANDY LONG
Feature Editor

As the November elections draw near, one candidate that voters should keep in mind is Democrat Barbara J. McDonald, candidate for District 33 of the Michigan Senate. McDonald, who is running against State Representative Mike Goschka, offers citizens education, experience, and a willingness to fight for their beliefs.

First and foremost, McDonald offers citizens education and experience. A graduate of Delta Community College, McDonald has served on the Saginaw County

Board of Commissioners for the past ten years. She is also a member of several organizations including the Michigan Association of Counties, Michigan Hospital Association, the Saginaw Bay Substance Abuse Advisory Board, St. Mary's Hospital Board of Directors and the National Association of Counties.

McDonald will bring this experience to her position on the Michigan State Legislature and fight for the views of the citizens she represents. In areas such as education, the environment, health and social issues, the state budget and taxes, welfare and crime, McDonald is willing to

work hard to change the systems that work against citizens.

In education, McDonald supports an increase in state funds for professional development of public school teachers and administrators and encourages private and corporate investment in public school programs. She also supports expelling students who physically assault others on school grounds.

"We need to deal severely with gang-related crime. Violence in schools should not be tolerated," stated McDonald.

McDonald also supports several programs and requirements concerning the environment, including the use of cleaner burning fuels to prevent pollution, funding for recycling programs in Michigan and cost/benefit analyses to determine the economic impact of proposed environmental regulations before they are implemented. The entire state of Michigan, including this district in particular, needs strong environmental policies to protect everyone.

Health issues also haunt Michigan residents. McDonald is in favor of "Support MI Child," a program to provide access to health care insurance for unin-

sured children, as well as providing tax incentives to small businesses that provide health care to their employees. One of McDonald's primary concerns is making sure that Michigan's citizens are healthy.

Socially, McDonald would like to see increased state funding for programs to prevent teen pregnancy and the support of state funded programs for at-risk youth, such as guaranteed college loans, and job training and placement. Also, McDonald supports denying or suspending state-issued permits and licenses to parents who are delinquent in paying court-ordered child supports. Our children are the future, and programs are needed to protect them.

McDonald is also in favor of a slight increase in funding for grades K-12 and law enforcement for the state of Michigan, as well as decreased income taxes for those who earn less than \$75,000 per year.

Welfare is another issue that McDonald would like to see reformed. Requiring welfare recipients to sign a contract outlining steps they will take to become self-sufficient in order to receive benefits, providing tax incentives to businesses that hire welfare

recipients, providing child care for welfare recipients who work and increased access to public transportation for welfare recipients who work are all principles that McDonald supports. In order to help Michigan residents get off public assistance, the state needs to help make them independent.

Finally, McDonald is an advocate for crime reform in Michigan. In order to protect citizens, McDonald supports the strengthening of penalties and sentences for sex offenders and the implementation of penalties other than incarceration for certain non-violent offenders. Also, she would like to end the chance of parole for repeat violent felons, and inform communities when a convicted sex offender moves into the area. These are just a few of the steps that our state needs to take to make its citizens safe. McDonald is willing to do this.

It is time for change in Michigan. It is time for someone who is willing to stand up for the public, and Barbara McDonald is willing to do this. She offers us education. She offers us experience. But most importantly, McDonald offers a willingness to fight-for us.

Goschka works for district constituents

By SHANNON CASEY
Opinion Editor

Representative Mike Goschka and Barbara McDonald will be battling it out until November 3rd to succeed State Senator Jon Cisky in Michigan's 33rd district State Senate seat. The district, which includes Gratiot and Saginaw counties, is the only open Senate seat in Michigan. There is no incumbent running for re-election; therefore, both political parties are fighting hard for the seat.

It will be a long hard fight for both candidates, but, in the end, Goschka's experience will win out. Goschka has the background necessary to move into the State Senate and make a difference right away.

He is currently a State Representative in Michigan's 94th district. For the past six years, he has developed a strong record of serving his constituents. He is a proven leader in the House and has used his clout to cut taxes, protect senior citizens and cut down on crime. He will continue the fight for his constituents in the Senate.

Goschka is no stranger to hard work; he is a former forklift driver for Dow Corning Corporation and a member of the United Steelworkers Union. As a state legislator, Goschka has put nearly 300,000 miles on his car meeting with his constituents face to face. He knows the concerns of everyday citizens because he takes the time to ask, and he has the relevant background to relate.

Goschka has sponsored House Bill 5805, which will decrease the state income tax from its current level of 4.4 percent to 3.9 percent. He is leading the fight to let families keep more of their hard-earned money. After all, Goschka understands that families know how to spend their money better than bureaucrats in Lansing.

Goschka is the education candidate. He wants teachers to have more authority in their classrooms. He believes that disruptive students must be removed from the classroom and violent students must be suspended immediately. If teachers do not feel safe in their classroom, they can-

not teach, and if students do not feel safe, they cannot learn.

Alma College has become Goschka's second home. He has visited Alma College numerous times in the last year. While candidates are spending time knocking on doors, Goschka takes the time to come to Alma and ask college students what they think.

The lawn signs in Gratiot County say it all. Hardworking taxpayers know that Goschka will fight for them in Lansing.

As a result of being behind in the polls, McDonald has started an onslaught of negative ads. Debating the issues is one thing, but attacking a man's integrity is playing dirty. McDonald should be ashamed of herself for dropping to new lows based on her polling numbers.

Goschka will win the election on November 3rd because he is dedicated to serving the needs of those he represents. Fortunately for Alma College, Alma is in his district. He has spent a great deal of time at Alma and will return after the election as Alma's State Senator.

Campus viewpoints

Eight Alma College students were asked the following question:
Do you think that rookie quarterback Charlie Batch is the future of the Detroit Lions football team?



Taryn Kellom (02) - "No, because I don't know who he is. He's taking the place of Mitchell, I know that."



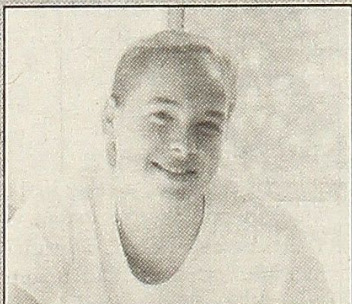
Michael Stoneback (00) - "The Lions will be good when they trade for the Miami Dolphin starting line."



Susan Vander Putten (01) - "I think anybody is better than Scott Mitchell."



Jon Croff (99) - "I wouldn't rule it out as a possibility."



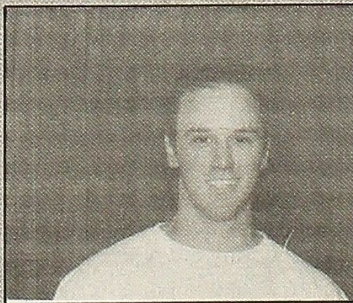
Tammy Acker (02) - "I don't know football. I have no idea who he is."



Heather Svejcar (02) - "He's awesome."



Dave Jordan (00) - "Yes, I do believe Charlie Batch is the future of the Lions. It's good to see them sit a good quarterback and have confidence in the rookie."



Greg McQuillan (99) - "Although Batch is young and talented, I do not think he will lead the Lions any further than they have been in the past years."

Data by Kelly McDonald

Photos by Steve Nadeau

The Almanian

is now accepting **Letters to the Editor.**

Submit letters to *The Almanian* office by 5 p.m. Friday.

Staff Editorial

Board makes appropriate decision

Students on the Alma campus have long been hearing about the changes that are planned. Many new buildings have been discussed; one of them being the Intramural (IM) building. It is planned to be built at the location of the old baseball field, and until October 2, the construction was scheduled to begin in one year.

On October 2, the Board of Trustees held a meeting in which they discussed issues of interest to students. A library proposal that was first brought before the board was voted on and, after about an hour of discussion, passed with a unanimous vote. This was a plan that would use

about \$4 million to improve the library holdings.

According to President Stone, Alma's technology is up to par with those of other small liberal arts colleges, but the book budget needs to be increased to improve Alma's holdings of books, CD-ROMs and other information sources.

This, however, affects the plans students have been hearing about the soon-to-be-built IM building. According to Stone, each project will take approximately \$4 million. In a good year Alma will raise about \$5 million, part of which is budgeted for things such as scholarships. Both projects could not be done.

The voting that took place put precedence on the new library initiative and put the IM building on temporary hold.

We think the Board made the right decision. We do agree that the IM building is important to the students here and in attracting students, and look forward to its arrival as well, but oftentimes students are discouraged by lack of material in the library. The library holdings were in need of attention, and improving the amount of information is of more academic importance than the intramural building.

At Alma College, we are proud of the high quality academics we possess: more than the sports pro-

gram and more than the size of the campus or number of actual buildings. We want employers to know Alma College as a source of intelligent, highly-trained, responsible individuals. This is done through continuing to strive toward improving the quality of education we receive.

The decision to improve the library will make it easier to do research and perhaps save some people from a trip to a larger university's library. It also shows the Board's priorities: quality education.

Thank you to the Board for the good decision and to the student associate trustees for representing us well.

The Almanian

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All Letters to the Editor must meet the following standards of publication: signed, include the author's phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published as layout space allows with priority 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. E-mail Letters to the Editor at ALMANIAN@alma.edu or address letters to: Newberry Hall, Alma College, Alma, Michigan 48801.

Murphy's sports track

By MICHAEL MURPHY
Staff Reporter



Taking professionalism to a higher degree

Professional sports players are egotistical arrogant jerks

who do not care about anything in the world except for the green stuff. Is this not the stereo-type of most, if not all, professional athletes?

Well, Chris Spielman has broken this stereotype in one of the classiest decisions that professional sports has seen in a while.

Spielman, who used to play for the Detroit Lions until they foolishly let him go, has decided not to play football this year for the Buffalo Bills. Instead of being a menace to NFL offenses, Spielman will be taking care of his cancer-stricken wife and two children.

In addition to quitting football for this season to care for his family, Spielman has set up a

fund for breast cancer research and awareness.

Withdrawing from the team for the year means that Spielman has to give up this year's salary.

It also means he cannot play the game that he has so passionately loved for his entire life.

Through his decision, Spielman has proven to the world that he knows what is more important in life. In a sports world that has unfortunately seen players choosing money and fame as their personal gods, it is refreshing to see Spielman making such a responsible and admirable decision.

Spielman, who is one of football's best middle linebackers, has chosen love for his family over love for a game. His decision to take a year off to care for his family puts sports in a whole new perspective.

It is just a game. Spielman realizes this.

One year from now, after his wife has healed from the chemotherapy treatment, Chris Spielman will once again be one of the most dominant defensive players in all of professional football.

Taking professionalism to a lower degree

Keep on playing with everything that you have until the play is all over, a famous cliché that has been engraved on the minds of every sports participant since the beginning of time.

The cliché was not to be found anywhere on Chuck Knoblock's mind during a crucial, albeit controversial, play in the 12th inning of the American League Championship Series, Game 2, pitting the New York Yankees against the Cleveland Indians on October 7th.

Cleveland's Travis Fryman attempted a sacrifice bunt to move Enrique Wilson from first to second base. The ball was fielded and thrown to first. However, the ball hit Fryman as he hustled down the first base line. Second baseman Chuck Knoblock was covering first base and watched the ball roll past him as Fryman was called safe by the first base umpire.

Knoblock, instead of going for the ball, was found standing on first base yelling for baserunner interference. He did not retreat to

get the ball, and this allowed speedy Enrique Wilson to score all the way from first on a mere sacrifice bunt attempt.

In all fair justice to Knoblock, the call for baserunner interference could have gone either way. Knoblock's non-hustle and immature way of handling the situation, however, cost him and his teammates a chance for victory, as the Yankees ended up dropping the game 4-1.

Knoblock, who is known for his hustle and blue-collar play, deserved to be booed by the Yankee Stadium crowd, as his miscue was purely unacceptable of a professional.

Once the ball hit Fryman, Knoblock should have raced after the ball to prevent Wilson from scoring and Fryman advancing to second base.

If he had stuck to the old cliché of playing until the play is called dead, the play would never have gone into baseball's archives as being one of the biggest blunders in American League Championship Series history.

Letter to the editor

Dear Almanian,

In the September 29 Staff Editorial, you requested feedback from students, so I feel must tell you that the "Judgement Calls" section of the newspaper frequently bothers me. I understand that these comments are probably not meant to be taken seriously, but this week's "judgements," particularly the negative ones, are bordering on careless.

For example, "Thumbs down to

the Business Office for making us stand in line there for registration." Standing in line may not be pleasant, but I doubt that it is the fault of the Business Office that the line was there. Also, blaming Marriott for the long lines due to over-enrollment is misplaced blame. Is Marriott responsible for how many students are enrolled? I'm sure they are doing the best they can with what they have, which is all any of us can do.

"Thumbs down to the students who did not attend [the All-Nighter]. Thumbs down to all the students who hid the fact that last weekend was Parents' Day." What about students who had to work, had other obligations, do not live in Alma or simply don't enjoy the type of entertainment provided at the All-Nighter?

Additionally, not all parents of Alma students have weekends free to venture to Alma for seminars, sporting events and a pic-

nic. Even if this is considered to be a fault, this is not the fault of the students or their parents.

Perhaps it is acceptable to be light-hearted and off-handed when doling out praise, but criticism is another matter. As we start a new school year, let's keep in mind that faculty, staff, administrators and fellow students do not deserve or appreciate such harsh judgement as these.

Sincerely,
Cheril Lin Abeel-Wescoat '99