

Watch out for goblins and ghosts tonight! Learn all about the history of Halloween on page 5.

# The Almanian

Issue 6

Serving Alma College since 1907

October 31, 2000

## Evergreen plan materializes

By JENNIFER GIBSON  
News Editor

Alma College's Evergreen Plan is about to become more than just words on paper.

On Wednesday, Nov. 1, Alma College President Alan Stone will submit a detailed report to the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools outlining Alma's achievements in keeping with the Evergreen Plan and its goals for future implementation of the plan.

"The purpose is to try to specify those things that we need to be doing under each set of goals, as well as identify who needs to be involved, what resources we need and what type of timelines we need to implement those plans," said Provost Reginald Avery.

The North Central Association is a non-profit organization responsible for accrediting elementary, secondary and postsecondary institutions in 19 states. Accreditation from the organization means that a school has met the association's standards of developing and maintaining high standards of excellence.

During their visit last fall and in their subsequent report, the North Central Association's comments included the need for Alma to turn abstract goals into concrete objectives and required that Alma submit a report by Nov. 1, focusing on what tangible steps the school will take to achieve each of the six goals laid out in the plan.

The report also stated that the North Central Association would be returning this year for a focused visit to see how the college was doing and if it had made progress in implementing the North Central Association's recommendations. Stone, however, was able to convince them in a meeting this summer in Chicago to delay the focused visit until Spring 2003.

Stone admits, that although the school compiled the report and objectives because it was required, the end result has been positive.

"In the beginning I thought it was just time consuming and that it was for their purposes, not ours," stated Stone. "But, as we got into it, it turned out to be more helpful because it gave us the first good overall

look at the plan since it was adopted a little over a year ago. It enabled us to track all of our gains and look at the things still to be done."

### Evergreen Plan Goals

**Strategic Goal 1:** Enhance the intellectual quality of the academic program by expanding opportunities for engaged learning, including student research and by strengthening inquiry as a primary pedagogy.

**Strategic Goal 2:** Enhance the quality of intellectual activity by expanding opportunities for off-campus study and by establishing globalism and multiculturalism as central to learning.

**Strategic Goal 3:** Enhance student learning through expanded Service Learning, civic engagement and volunteerism.

**Strategic Goal 4:** Strengthen Alma College's commitment to creating an ethos of quality for its students.

**Strategic Goal 5:** Strengthen the sense of diversity, community and involvement among faculty, staff, alumni and friends.

**Strategic Goal 6:** Increase Alma College's quality as a national liberal arts college by enhancing human, physical and financial resources.

In order to develop these concrete proposals, last May Stone created six task forces, one for each of the plan's six goals. The aim of each task force was the completion of their designated goal and its subgoals within the next three years.

Each committee began meeting this fall and was asked to develop a report by Oct. 25 detailing what Alma was going to do to implement the goal, when it was going to do it, who was going to carry it out and what resources were necessary.

Avery believes that so far the

task forces are going really well, although meeting time has been a factor.

"Everybody is very busy and finding the time for everyone to meet was not a problem, but definitely an issue. I think the enthusiasm and commitment were there, just finding a time for everyone to meet was difficult. It sometimes meant meeting at 7:30 in the morning," said Avery.

According to Stone, each committee is responsible for deciding whether or not they will continue to meet after the Nov. 1 deadline.

"Some of them have decided they should, but I can't say that it is true of all of them. Some of them saw the process as helpful and wrote their reports in a way that ensured that they would continue meeting," stated Stone.

The Evergreen Plan's statement of vision for the campus is one built on the "principles of mutual respect, democratic governance, cultural and intellectual diversity, informed discussion, and principled argument."

The plan lays out six goals essential to the accomplishment of this vision, including the enhancement of the intellectual quality of academic programs, the quality of intellectual activity for off-campus study, and student learning through service learning.

The goals also include strengthening Alma's commitment to creating a quality ethos, strengthening the sense of diversity and community involvement and increasing Alma College's quality as a national liberal arts college.

### In this issue . . .

Alma's Crime Stats are in.

News, pages 1-3

Halloween Special! Feature, pages 4-6

Men's Soccer takes Calvin College. Sports, pages 7-9

Issues of the election. Opinion, pages 10-12



Happy Halloween!

## Crime stats question campus safety

By RACHEL KUHL  
Staff Writer

As is required by law, Alma College released a copy of its Campus Crime Statistics to every student last week. The requirement is part of the Student Right To Know and Campus Security Act of 1990 and includes the statistics on incidents occurring both on campus and on nearby campus grounds.

"These are items that have gone through some type of judicial process," said James Kridler, Dean of Students. "However, students did not necessarily commit the crimes listed in the report."

One of the statistics to noticeably increase involved liquor law arrests and judicial cases involving alcohol violations. From 1994-1997 there were only 5 incidents. From 1997 to last semester, there were a total of 32 liquor law arrests and 154 judicial cases involving alcohol.

According to Kridler and Associate Dean of Students Martin Stack, the increase is somewhat misleading.

"One factor contributing to the increase is that the Zero Tolerance Act went into effect within the last year. The police have been much more effective in handing out MIPs (minors in possession)," Kridler said.

Stack adds that, as listed in the report, 6 of the incidents involved 5 or more people. "It just happened that when the Resident Assistants addressed the issue there were more students involved," he said.

This semester Alma students have received e-mails concerning two incidents on campus that raise questions about safety within the Residence Halls. The first incident involved a male intruder in the Newberry Hall bathrooms while a female resident showered. The second incident involved a possible male intruder standing in

See CRIME on page 3



Bryan Waugh

The volleyball team defeated Concordia College last Thursday with a 3-2 win. See page 8 for full story.



Students bring politics to campus

By DONNA PAPPAS  
Staff Writer

Republican Senator Mike Goschka and Democrat Representative A.T. Frank addressed the political issues that they felt were most important to this community in light of the upcoming elections at the Town Hall Forum in the Heritage Center last Wednesday, Oct. 25.

The forum, mediated by junior Matt vandenBerg and senior Jared Fritz, began with a brief introduction by Marjorie Margolies-Medsvinski, the Woodrow Wilson

Fellow who was present on campus last week. Medsvinski's focus was on the lack of voter turnout in America.

"I've been in countries where people have lined up for days to vote... die to vote. We don't vote," said Margolies-Medsvinski.

Margolies-Medsvinski also addressed the 1960 election, which depended on each and every precinct. She feels this year's election will be just as crucial.

A panel of Young Democrats was present, including Co-chair Amy Plackowski (02), Treasurer Chris LaCroix (02) and Publicity Manager Cardell Johnson (02). The

College Republicans included President Stephen Shepherd (02), Second Vice-President Andy Oleszkowicz (02), and Gelston Hall representative Lori Hawkins (04).

The forum began with each of the college representatives stating their respective party's platform. Afterward, Goschka and Frank were given a chance to make comments of their own, in an attempt to best represent the ideals of each party. The audience was then allowed to pose questions to either of the groups.

The main concerns of each of the parties were expressed through the Senator and Representative. Although they could not speak for either Bush or Gore, the Senator and Representative attempted to give their best representation of each party's platforms.

Frank stated that he believed health care, education, campaign finance reform, and continuing the prosperity of our country were the highest concerns on Gore's agenda. Goschka stated education, social security, military strength, health care and the energy policy were Bush's top priorities.

The two proposals that will be decided on by Michigan voters on election day, Proposal 1 on "School Choice," and Proposal 2 on "Let Local Votes Count," were also addressed during the forum.

Both candidates expressed their opposition to the passage of both proposals.

The forum was ended with a final question from the mediators: "What if there is no budget surplus?" The two groups attempted to answer this question without trying to speak for the presidential candidates.

"If the surplus doesn't materialize, I think saving social security would be the highest priority. The tax cuts and paying down the national debt would be two items that would have to be looked at," said Goschka.

The Young Democrats took on this response. "Vice President Gore has many issues that he wants to deal with, with the surplus being so large. Obviously if the surplus is down played, I think he's going to take his priorities, which were education, health care and tax cuts for middle class citizens and they just might not be so drastic. It's going to be a scale back from the system that he has put forth," said LaCroix.

"The goal was to help 18-24 year olds not only to vote but to make an educated decision about their vote. Instead of just covering the presidents, the Representative and Senator we're able to cover Proposal 1 and 2, which are important, especially to people in this area," said Fritz.

Bats, witches and ghosts!

By OLGA WROBEL  
Staff Writer

Something unusual is going on right now and people are acting unbelievably strange, walking around in ridiculous outfits and handing out tooth-decaying goodies. Many students are probably wondering why this week is so unique.

It is not hard to explain - Halloween is here once again. The time of year when even college students can act like they are five years-old again. This fun-filled holiday is not about to be forgotten, and there are many campus activities planned to make everybody's Halloween a fun one.

According to Claire Brady, assistant dean of students, Alma will be offering a lot of Halloween events this week. Most took place in Mitchell Hall on Oct. 26. All the halls participated in trick or treating, and children walked from room to room for candy. Students Offering Service will be in charge of leading the kids around the corridors.

"This is a great way for kids to trick or treat and at the same time stay safe and have fun. It is a very positive idea, and should be done every year," said first-year student

Julie Fantone, a Mitchell Hall resident.

This is not all that Mitchell Hall will be offering for Halloween. The lobby will be decorated in a carnival theme, and the basement will be turned into a Haunted House. The Haunted House will be available to both children and students, but in a scarier version.

Trick or treating for children will also be offered in Bruske, Gelston and Newberry Halls. Sigma Chi had a Haunted House at their fraternity house on Friday, Oct. 27.

Halloween is a very exciting and fun filled time of year, but there are also many dangers associated with it as well, especially for small children. Three sororities on campus, Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Xi Delta, and Phi Sigma Sigma were involved in a Halloween Safety Fest that took place on October 25th.

The Safety Fest was hosted by Consumers Power and served as a great way to recognize the unnecessary dangers that Halloween brings with it. It included a haunted house, games and students dressed up in a variety of costumes, all aimed at entertaining the kids in attendance, while also providing them with safe Halloween fun.

News

'At a glance'

**Cleanup of toxic spill underway**  
INEZ, KENT. - The cleanup of an Oct. 11 toxic sludge spill began last week with 250 workers, four dredges and numerous vacuum trucks. The 210 million gallons of sludge contained poisonous heavy metals including mercury, lead and arsenic and covered bridges, roads, fouled lawns and clogged municipal water intake pipes along the Kentucky - West Virginia border. It is being termed as one of the worst ecological disasters to hit the southeastern United States and started by breaking through a wall of a slurry sediment pond. The force of the sludge collapsed an underground mine causing it to flow into nearby creeks and entered the Ohio River 60 miles away.

**Teens charged in pizzeria killing**  
NEW BALITMORE, MICH. - Three teens were charged Friday in the execution-style killing of 16-year-old worker Justin Mello in a Mancino's Pizza and Grinders restaurant. Matthew Daniels, 16, Jonathon Kaled, 18, and Frank Kuechen, 19, all of New Baltimore called Mancino's from a pay phone, put in a fake delivery order, then headed to the restaurant. There they proceeded to rob the register of \$300 to \$400 and shot Mello in the head and left him to die in a walk-in freezer. The teens are also charged with armed robbery, conspiracy to commit armed robbery and felony weapons counts.

**Final list of road projects released for 2001**  
MICHIGAN - The Michigan Department of Transportation released its Build Michigan III road projects for 2001 on Friday. It includes work on major freeway projects including I-94 in Detroit, I-75 in Oakland County, and U.S. 23 in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties. To see the list and other projects go to [www.mdot.state.mi.us/communications/press](http://www.mdot.state.mi.us/communications/press).

**Prospect of peace is fading away**  
JERUSALEM - With a 133 dead and thousands wounded in the month of fighting between the Israelis and Palestinians, the fighting may continue for many more. Palestinian frustrations are still running high but they refuse to quit despite heavy economic tolls. Some have even called for Palestinian statehood next month, while Israelis are assessing a unilateral separation, which could include staking out borders and placing strict limits on Palestinian workers in Israel. At a news conference President Clinton expressed frustration over the continued killings and said violence will have to stop before resuming peace talks.

The Almanian

Serving Alma College since 1907

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Statement of Purpose:

The Almanian is a student publication of Alma College and strives to fulfill several objectives: (1) to provide timely, unbiased coverage; (2) to inform students of events and policies otherwise unpublicized; (3) to voice concern over campus and world events through well-researched, unsigned editorials representing the majority opinion of the editorial board; (4) to allow individuals to express concern through signed opinion articles while reserving all editing rights; and (5) to provide interesting, informative and thoughtprovoking articles on non-timely subjects.

Staff Editorial Policy:

Opinions expressed weekly in the "Staff Editorial" reflect the views of The Almanian Editorial Board. 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 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 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 editors at ALMANIAN@alma.edu or address letters to Newberry Hall, Alma College.





Bryan Waugh

*The sisters of Gamma Phi Beta pose for a picture during their annual Halloween party, Goo Phoo Boo.*

(CRIME from page 1)

the doorway of a female's room in Bruske Hall.

"The Alma Police have done a few things to address these incidents. They have taken steps based on the description given from the Newberry incident," Kridler said.

Kridler and Stack also add that the hall lights in all Residence Halls are now being left on all night long.

"We have looked into computerized security measures for the residence halls, and as new building renovations take place we will probably implement them," Kridler said.

As for safety outside the Residence Halls, Alma College is con-

tinuing to address campus concerns. According to Stack there have been new lights added to the campus every year for the past ten years.

"People always complain about the lighting but when you actually look for a dark spot they are hard to find," Stack said.

The new Student Recreation Center will add lighting once it is built, and until it is finished there will be temporary lights put up near that area. The campus phone was also installed earlier this year and has yet to be used.

"The important thing is to be smart about it, lock your doors and make sure to walk where it is lit," Kridler said. "We are all responsible for everyone's security."

# Alma hosts Political Science Conference

By AMY TAYLOR  
Managing Editor

The 32nd Annual Political Science Conference hosted by Alma College kicked off last week with John Devens' keynote address Thursday night. Devens is the former mayor of Valdez, Alaska and Director of the Prince William Sound's Regional Citizens

Advisory Council, an organization developed in response to the oil spill in 1989.

Political Scientists from higher education institutes from across the state of Michigan attended the conference which contained panel discussions on various topics related to the field. The panels took place Friday and included discussions such as globalization, environmental policy, Michigan ballot proposals, democratization, the Supreme Court, and term limits.

Each of the panels had a chair which organized it by choosing a topic and finding he people to sit on it.

"It is a fairly big group. There were about 75 different people that attended," said Edward Lorenz, professor of political science/history.

The College hosted the conference because Lorenz is the organization's President Elect and President for the 2000-2001 year. The experience is no surprise for Lorenz since he was elected the President in 1993 as well.

His responsibilities as President included organizing this conference, including making arrangements for speakers and meals and a winter meeting of the executive committee to plan the following year's conference. Lorenz is also responsible for presiding over the political science section of The Michigan Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Community members were invited to attend the address by Devens and the discussion on vouchers by the Michigan's Citizens Research Council.

"Students are encouraged to attend the conferences by some members. I saw several students, faculty and staff in attendance at the Proposals session by the Citizens Research Council," said Lorenz.

The structure of the organization includes political scientists from higher education institutions in Michigan, those working in government and those who have ties to the state.

"Every higher education institute in the state can be a member by paying a fee," said Lorenz. "Alma is a member so every Alma political

science professor can attend."

University of Michigan-Dearborn hosted last's years conference and Aquinas will be hosting the 33rd Conference in 2001.

"Students are encouraged to attend the conferences by some members. I saw several students, faculty and staff in attendance at the Proposals session by the Citizens Research Council."

**-Edward Lorenz,  
professor of political  
science**

## Chrysler unveils new car

By Sean Wilson  
Staff Reporter

The Daimler-Chrysler Corporation announced last Tuesday that it would be introducing a new model of the Dodge Durango with a hybrid powertrain in the 2003 model year. The SUV incorporates both a standard 3.9-liter V6 engine, which drives the rear wheels, and an electric motor powered by a battery pack, which provides power to the front wheels. The system, called a Through The Road hybrid system (because the only connection between the two systems is the road itself) will improve fuel efficiency.

The technology Daimler-Chrysler has developed provides the same power, and is in fact slightly faster from 0-60, than the standard V8 model Durango, but it improves gas mileage by about twenty percent. It gets about 18.8 mpg in city driving, as compared to the 15 mpg of its conventional counterpart.

While the hybrid Durango is considerably more expensive than its less-environmentally-friendly counterpart, new legislation introduced will give consumers who choose to buy hybridized vehicles such as the new SUV a tax credit of up to \$3000, which will effectively negate the extra expense of purchase. Further, the vehicle is expected to save its owners up to a quarter of a million gallons of gas annually.

This sort of pioneering in the realm of environmental friendliness is no new thing to Daimler-Chrysler. They have developed fuel-cell hybrid vehicles, such as the ESX line of so-called "mybrids," or mild hybrids, which utilize extreme lightweight body and frame materials and combine lithium battery packs with a complex fuel cell that converts hydrogen into electricity and water. The ESX vehicles are Chrysler's development for its program in conjunction with the federal government, called Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicle. The program sets goals for automakers in terms

of developing affordable, efficient alternatives to gasoline powered vehicles.

It also built the Jeep Commander concept vehicle, the world's first driveable hybrid fuel-cell automobile.

In addition to this, the company has also developed what it calls "smart cars," which are standard vehicles whose components are up to ninety-nine percent recyclable.

The corporation brought all of these vehicles to a press conference in Lansing on Thursday, Oct. 19. The various merits of each vehicle were explained by an engineer who played a chief role in its development, and then the media was permitted to drive laps in a park with the designers, giving a chance for further questions to be answered and for driving impressions to be gained. The media present found that while the new Durango hybrid rides exactly like one expects an SUV to, it is a little noisier in acceleration, as the motor kicks in to assist the combustion engine.

*Alpha Gamma Delta*

**An Evening Under the Stars**

**Fall Formal**

**Open to all students**

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**When: November 4, 2000**

**8:00 PM**

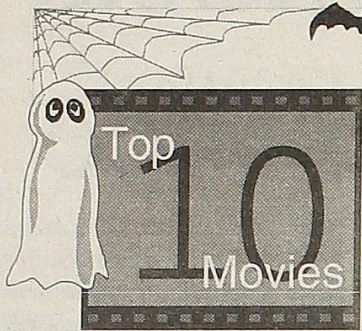
**Where: Jones Auditorium**

**Cost is \$7.00 per person at the door**



## Almanian Staff Top Ten Halloween pics

# The history of Halloween



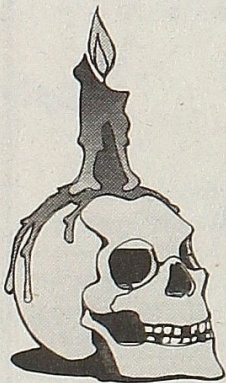
### Top Scary movies

1. *Seven* (tie)
1. *Scream* (tie)
2. *The Sixth Sense*
3. *The Shining*
4. *Pet Cemetery*
5. *Kiss the Girls*
6. *Blair Witch*
7. *Halloween*
8. *Evil Dead II*
9. *The Exorcist*



### Top Ten Most memorable Childhood Costumes

1. Princess
  2. Witch
  3. Clown
  4. Pumpkin
  5. Cheerleader
  6. Hobo
  7. Luke Skywalker
  8. Catholic School Girl
  9. Ghost
  10. Frankenstein
- (Other memorable picks: Smurfette, Tax Accountant, Al Gore, Caesar and a Gumball Machine)



### Top Ten Scary Books

1. *It* by Stephen King
2. *The Shining* by Stephen King
3. *The Tell Tale Heart and Other Stories* by Edgar Allen Poe
4. *Salem's Lot* by Stephen King
5. *The Celery Stalks at Midnight* by James Howe
6. *Interview with the Vampire* by Anne Rice
7. *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* by J.K. Rowling
8. *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
9. *Dracula* by Bram Stoker
10. Any Hardy Boys book

By AMANDA LONG  
Editor-in-Chief

Running from house to house collecting candy, most of us remember Halloween with a certain fondness. Dressing up in our favorite costumes we went to Halloween parties, went trick or treating with our friends and family and spent weeks dreaming up the perfect way to scare our siblings. Yet the history of Halloween, a holiday we associate with ghostly goblins and scary movies, is a day steeped in religious tradition and prayer.

The word Halloween has its

origins in the Catholic Church. The word is a contracted version of "All Hallows Eve," or "All Saints Day," on Nov. 1 where Catholics honor the memory of saints.

Halloween earned the date Oct. 31 from the Irish Celts who celebrated "All Hallows Eve" on Oct. 31, the last day of summer in fifth-century B.C. The Celts believed that on All Hallows Eve the spirits of those who had died throughout the year would come back in search of bodies to possess. The Celts were so afraid of possession that on Oct. 31 they would all gather in the village

in scary costumes, to frighten away spirits that were looking for a body to possess.

Halloween as we know it really began with the Romans, who adopted the Celtic practices of dressing up and wearing goblin, ghost and witch costumes. The costumes served as a sort of ceremony rather than a way of scaring away evil spirits.

Anyone's favorite part of Halloween, trick or treating, came about in the ninth century with the early Christian custom of "souling." Christians would walk from village to village going door to door begging for

"soul cakes." They believed that praying for a person would send them to Heaven quicker. They promised those giving out soul cakes that the more they received the more they would pray for their loved ones speedy journey to Heaven.

Despite this long history, Halloween did not hit America until the 1940's when Irish immigrants feeling the famine came to America.

Combining customs from throughout the ages, kids dressed up in scary costumes, went door to door asking for treats and hoping that scary goblins would stay away.

## The Exorcist: 27 and still scaring audiences

By OLGA WROBEL  
Staff Writer

When a classic and well-liked movie is re-released in theaters long after its first showing, it is often a success again. Following the fashion of *Star Wars*, *The Exorcist* has been re-released in theaters, digitally enhanced and uncut, for the Halloween season. It is known as one of the scariest movies of all time, and it is definitely more frightening than most horror films that are released nowadays. Originally released in 1973, *The Exorcist* stars Linda Blair in the role of Regan McNeil, a little girl that becomes possessed by the devil. The film starts at an archeological dig in Iraq, where a priest finds a small icon of Satan in the sand. This finding foreshadows a disaster worse than anything imaginable.

Regan is a well-behaved child who lives

with her mother Chris (Ellen Burstyn). After hearing strange noises from the attic, Regan begins acting in a severely different way. She becomes extremely rude, vulgar and violent. Her mother is shocked by her behavior and takes her to doctors to see what the problem is. Regan's weird behavior is blamed on ADD, and then a brain lesion and finally on mental disorders. However, it is not any of these problems. Not only is she acting horribly, there are also unexplainable occurrences happening around her, such as her bed shaking wildly and strange sounds coming from her body.

When Regan begins yelling out Satanic curses and turns a

strange shade of green, it is obvious that there is more wrong than meets the eye. In fact, she has been possessed by the devil. The only treatment for this kind of "disorder" is the ancient method known as exorcism, where a priest ejects the evil spirit from the innocent victim. Regan's mother has two Catholic priests, played by Max Von Sydow and Lee Cobb, perform the procedure.

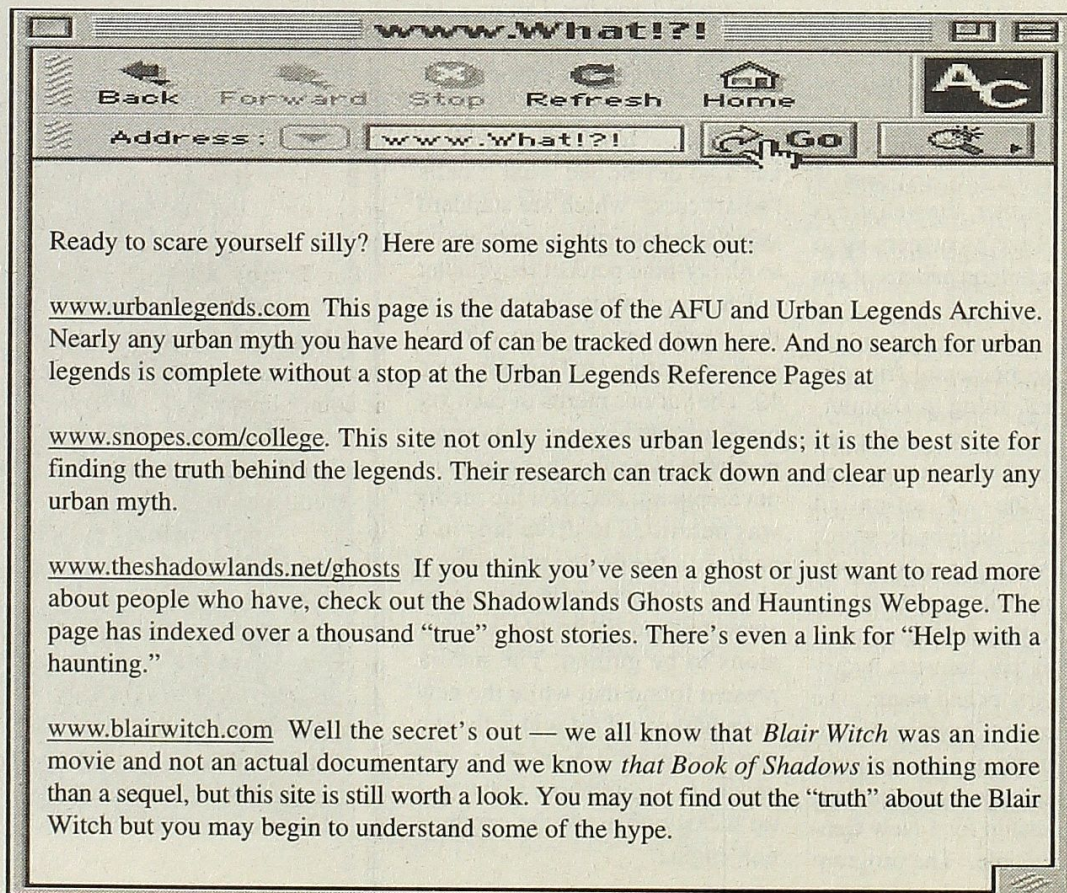
The exorcism becomes the most exciting and frightening part of *The Exorcist*. It is a truly thrilling film, because the terror is not only visible to the viewer, it is also psychological. *The Exorcist* is not cliché or half-witted like most horror movies made today; it has a good mix

of blood, special effects and of course, suspenseful theme music. It is also more frightening than other films because it focuses on a genuinely scary topic — evil spirits and religious traditions. Being possessed by the devil seems bizarre and impossible, but after seeing *The Exorcist*, people may find themselves thinking twice about what kind of supernatural phenomena really exist. Linda Blair is the main reason for this; as a very young girl, she does a wonderful job as an evil demon, and each of her screams sends chills throughout the audience.

Another good quality of this re-released version of *The Exorcist* is that new scenes were added. One of the most notable of these is the "spider walk," an unnatural position that Regan is put in when Satan is in control of her body. The special effects are excellent for a movie made 27 years ago, but even more effects are added in the new version.

*The Exorcist* is not a perfect film — there are a few noticeable poor points. The main flaw is that a lot of the story line drags out, and the viewers often find themselves impatiently waiting for something major to happen. Some scenes are not even really needed in the movie, if they were cut then it would actually be less than two hours long, which would make it easier to enjoy.

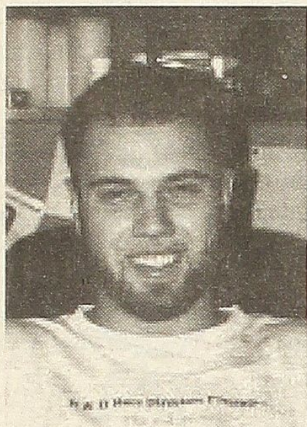
Overall *The Exorcist* is a great film to watch this time of year; it is a classic horror film that will make anyone jump, young or old. Trying to remake this movie would be a very foolish idea; nothing will ever be able to recapture the terror it portrays. However, re-editing the movie was a good idea, because it only enhances the unforgettable scenes in this legendary horror film. **Grade: B+.**



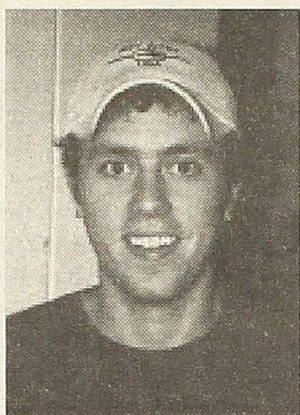


## Viewpoints

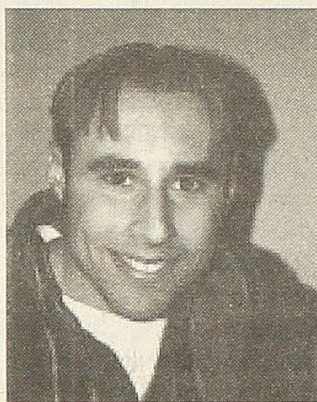
The Almanian went around campus and asked students what their most memorable Halloween costume was when they were younger.



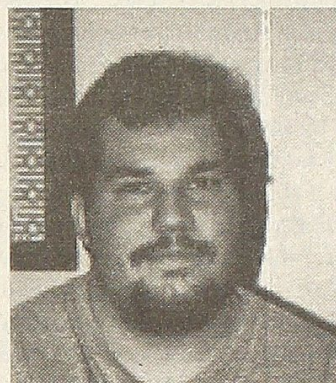
"French maid" ~Ken Donoghue (02)



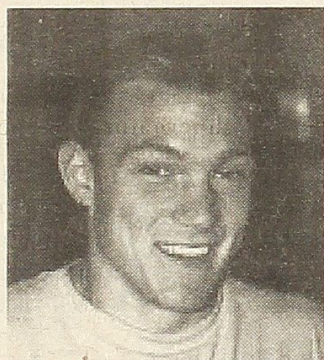
"ET" ~Chris Andrus (02)



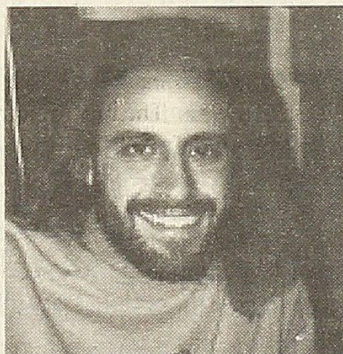
"Sarah Michelle Gellar" ~Jason Vesey (02)



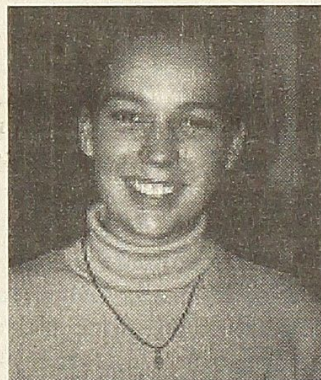
"Ghost sheet" ~Tom Darnell (01)



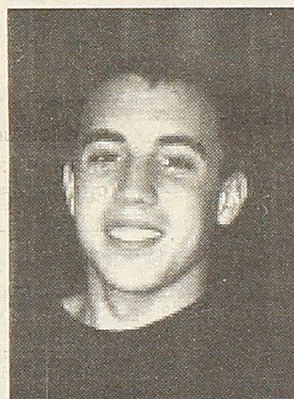
"French maid" ~Chris Harrington (01)



"Harrington as the Incredible Hulk" ~Ryan Sherman (02)



"Cow suit" ~Aimee Williams (02)



"Vampire" ~ Scott Brooks

## Massacres, kidneys and dead roommates . . .

### The birth and death of the most famous urban legends

By GINGER DAVIS  
Feature Editor

It's that time of year again – time for goblins, pumpkins, black cats, ghosts and, of course urban legends. Not *Urban Legends* as in the really bad horror movies, but the stories spread from one campfire to another that everyone has heard "really happened, to like, this guy who's friends with this girl I like, know!" College students have their own legends, and here are some of the best:

**The Myth: The MSU Massacre.** In fall of 1998 (October 21, to be precise) a rumor swept the Michigan State University Cam-

pus that a psychic on Oprah had predicted a mass murder would take place on Halloween in a large building that was either shaped like an "H" or whose name began with that letter at a "Big Ten" school in Michigan.

Other details about the prediction varied – the massacre was rumored to be in the form of bombing, the building was supposed to have a morgue in it and be located near railroad tracks.

Others heard there would be no bombing and the massacre would be committed by a psycho with a knife who would more than likely be dressed as Little Bo Peep.

**The Truth:** The result? Not massacre, but panic. The school and Oprah's show were swamped with

call from students, parents and the twisted and merely curios.

Oprah's show denied the prediction and, at last check, the only panic inducing occurrences on the campus have been in the form of riots. No bombs went off and any grisly men walking around campus with knives dressed as Little Bo Peep were probably arrested on a host of other charges.

Although the MSU version of this story is one of the newest, and caused quite a scare, versions of this story have been circulating at colleges across the country since the 1950s.

**The Myth: The Dead Roommate.** It's widespread fact that if you're roommate takes his or her

life, you will get an automatic 4.0 G.P.A. – do not study, do not pass go, do not collect \$200.

**The Truth:** Although colleges and universities do try their best to help students cope in such circumstances they use things such as counseling, room changes and forms of psychological intervention to help the students.

No colleges have a rule that rewards roommates of a suicide with high grades.

**The Myth: The Missing Kidneys.** A party-going college student awoke one morning after a night of a little too much fun to find both of his kidneys stolen by Chinese Organ Thieves (an uncommon brand of thievery, but scary

nonetheless).

**The Truth:** The story, which surfaced as an e-mail forward designed to scare college students away from partying, spiraled out of control. This was all over the Internet in 1997 and after much searching never resulted in anything. (One journalist reportedly called every hospital in the U.S. and the National Kidney Foundation requested that anyone whose kidneys were removed without their permission come forward).

Apparently this now "kidney-less" kid had time to e-mail all of his friends about his fate, but never made it to a hospital. If this is true, we'd be better off looking for him on the Darwin Awards Webpage.



# Koontz’s *The Funhouse* offers little entertainment

By LAUREN ELIASON  
Staff Writer

What do carnival workers, religion and a possessed child have in common? This question is answered in the horror novel, *The Funhouse* by Dean Koonz. Whether or not the answer to that question is worth discovering is another story. This novel, a mix between *Rosemary’s Baby* and *Big Top Pee Wee*, tells the story of a mother and her children, whose lives are haunted by a mistake that the mother made in the past. While many horror authors add a bit of suspense to the book to make it slightly realistic, Koonz does not even make an attempt to do this. The first chapter tells of the mother, Ellen, who had managed to run off with a traveling carnival, marry a “carnie” in an odd ceremony involving a merry go round and give birth to a child named Victor who is half human and half monster. Ellen takes it upon herself to kill the child

in an attempt to save her life and the lives of others. This takes place in a long, drawn out battle with the six-week-old infant Victor, who is powerful enough to come close to winning before he is disgustingly crushed by Ellen. She is filled with guilt after this act but is also ashamed that she produced this evil child. Ellen’s husband, Conrad is also evil and cannot forgive her for killing his child, so he kicks her out of their trailer. He vows to take revenge on any other children Ellen has, and so her problems begin. Fast forward 25 years—Ellen is the mother of two children, Amy and Joey, and lives in Royal City. She is a serious alcoholic and a religious fanatic—quite a combination! She lives in fear that her kids will turn on her as Victor did. In the meantime, Conrad is searching for Ellen’s children in every town the carnival stops in. He now has another son, Gunther, who is as evil as Victor was. Gunther has a thirst for blood and Conrad does not stop him from his

killing spree. As luck would have it, the lives of the two families intertwine when the carnival stops in Royal City and Amy and Joey are “mysteriously” drawn to the carnival, where the real terror (to use the term loosely) begins in the carnival’s funhouse. Although this novel was mildly entertaining, it was a bit too farfetched to really frighten anyone. There is no need to check your closet for monsters or sleep with the lights on while reading this novel. To give Koonz credit, it was not the worst, nor the corniest horror novel ever. It just did not rise to the level of being spectacular. After a while, the descriptions of gore and carnie rituals got to be a bore, and nothing else was much of an attention getter. This books is one to pull out on a rainy day when you have *absolutely* nothing else to do – otherwise, do not bother. **Grade: C-.**

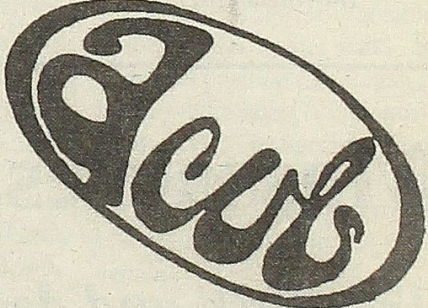
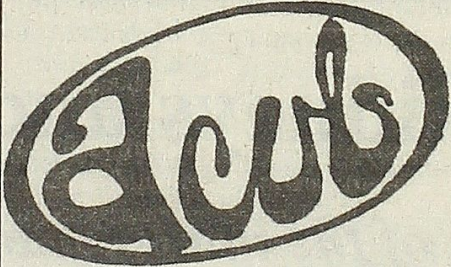
## Life in Australia by Scott Timmreck

# Canberra--an obscure city with a rich history

Like any democratic nation, Australia has a capital. And like almost anything of note in Australia, the capital has some sort eccentricity about it, tightly wrapped in architecture, design and the reason the place exists at all. The city of Canberra is the capital and has the distinct pleasure of being a planned city, much like the heart of New York with its sequential streets. The planner was Walter Burley Griffin, a contemporary of Frank Lloyd Wright who won a contest to make his plans a reality. After officially breaking important ties with England in 1901, the Commonwealth of Australia came into existence. And of course, the first thing any nation needs after breaking ties with a mother country is a capital city. So, with city officials of Sydney and Melbourne fighting about which city was more important and deserved to be the capital, key leaders that you have never heard of quietly opted to construct the capital halfway between the two most populous cities in Australia. Apparently these key leaders could not properly measure distance, as Canberra now sits 190 miles from Sydney and 406 miles from Melbourne. In any case, the city is modeled after Washington DC and therefore does not exist within its own state but is its own state. Strangely, although Canberra is approximately 100 miles inland, a tiny town on the Pacific Ocean 150 miles south of Sydney is considered part of Canberra because greedy officials wanted their very own port even though they never had any reason to visit it. With the location established, Griffin went to work, and he did a fine job. First of all, Canberra scores points because it is a city, a rarity in Australia. Secondly, it is a city with buildings other than a post office and a pub, also a rarity in Australia. And finally, it is a city with a gigantic artificial lake plopped in the middle of the metropolitan district, certainly a rarity in Australia and probably the world. Canberra has been honored with the distinction of “one of the most symmetrical capitals in the world,” a credit most places do not have but probably do not care about anyway. Like the Reflecting Pool and Washington Monument in DC, the Australian War Memorial, the Australian Parliament House and the Australian Old Parliament House line up perfectly, creating an aesthetically pleasing effect good for photographs. Also showcased in the city’s tourism propaganda are the Australian National Art Gallery, the Australian National Library, the Australian National Archives, the Australian High Court of Justice and the Australian National Capital Planning Exhibition. Old Parliament House has a wonderful

display on the country’s social history and gives people complete freedom to walk into any room or chamber without the burden of a guide reciting a speech about what is on your left and what is on your right. The building saw its last government session in 1988, as officials opted to move operations to the current Parliament House in favor of more office space and a nicer layout. Seeing that the United States’ system worked pretty well, Australians adopted the House-Senate form of government but named it after the system our ancestors work under in England. Consequently, Parliament House has two chambers, one predominantly colored green and the other predominantly done in red. No information was available on why the colors of the western world’s most festive season were chosen, but the move might be an attempt to coincide with the Christmas tree-shaped flagpole on top of the building. This ridiculous structure provides a rather stark contrast to the conservative building it sits on top of, but it is also the largest aluminum structure in the Southern Hemisphere, giving Canberra another fine claim to fame. Speaking of claims to fame, the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex lies about thirty miles outside the city civic center and is home to the satellite dish that sent the pictures of Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin’s historic moonwalk to television sets all over the world. The complex also

houses the “largest steerable parabolic antenna in the Southern Hemisphere,” something the place seems to be quite proud of. Yet Canberra’s obscure facts are merely parts of a leafy and clean city that calls to mind an affluent American suburb. The current prime minister of Australia, John Howard, refuses to live there and only commutes from Sydney when he is required to. So, either he knows something the tourist commission does not tell visitors, or



Congratulations to  
Reneé Bourgeois for being  
selected  
at ACUB’s Rep of the Month  
for October

SONGFEST Applications are  
now available in the ACUB and  
Student Affairs office.  
They are due on NOV. 3rd by  
5:00 and MUST be turned in at  
the student affairs office!!!!





# ELECTION 2000



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An Almanian Special Edition

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## Understanding the Electoral College *Why your vote does count!*

As the 2000 general election looms near, the media continue to focus on the fact that voter turnout has been at historic lows in the past few general elections. In the 1996 Presidential election, less than fifty percent of eligible voters actually voted in the election. With this in mind, the parties and candidates cannot help but wonder what voter turnout will be like for this forthcoming election.

There are many reasons why a citizen with the right to vote may not: not enough time, forgot to register, do not understand how the voting process works, or maybe they just feel like their vote doesn't really count.

The latter is not true. Our country's system for Presidential elections is not decided by direct popular vote. Rather, we use a "unit rule" where the popular votes for each state are totaled and the candidate receiving the most popular votes will take all of the electoral votes for that state. It is a "winner take all, loser take nothing" kind of approach.

The number of electoral votes each state receives is equal to the number of senators and representatives that state has in Congress. This means that every state, no matter how small in population, will have at least three electoral votes.

Alaska, one of the most sparsely populated states, has three electoral votes. In comparison, California, one of the most populated states, has fifty-four electoral votes. Michigan is very much in the middle, with eighteen electoral votes. This is what causes candidates to campaign more in different states; the larger states have more electoral votes which makes them more valuable come election day.

This is not to say that states with smaller populations are not important. If a candidate wins only one large state, with the opposition

winning all the smaller states, they could easily lose the election.

The senators and representatives in Congress are not the individuals who actually vote in the electoral college. Each state will send the electors chosen by the candidate who wins the state. Say for example Gore wins a majority in Michigan, then the 18 Michigan electors would be Democratic party faithfuls chosen by Gore and Michigan party leaders. The electors are free to vote for whomever they wish, however it is assumed that they will vote for the candidate with whom their loyalty lies.

With the electoral college system, it is possible that in close elections, the candidate with a plurality of all the votes may not win the office. It is also possible that if a third party is strong enough to win several states, then no candidate may have a majority of electoral votes. In this situation, the Constitution gives the decision to the House of Representatives. The House acts as the official arbitrator of the decision and each state delegation has only one vote.

It is important to remember the electoral college system of electing a President was set up for a number of reasons. It has two types of advantages. The first is to small states because they are allowed over representation in the electoral college, the ratio of voters to electoral votes is much lower. The second advantage is to large states, as a candidate can win the state by just one popular vote and receive all of that states electoral votes.

Overall, the electoral college system is set up to provide checks and balances in the difference between states' size and population. It helps to put states on equal grounds and make the best decision possible when electing a new President.



# Meet the Candidates

## Vice President Al Gore



**Born:** Al Gore was born on March 31, 1948, and is the son of former U.S. Senator Albert Gore, Sr. and Pauline LaFon Gore.

**Education:** Gore received a degree in government with honors from Harvard University in 1969. After graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served in Vietnam. After the war he returned to Tennessee and studied religion at Vanderbilt University while working as a newspaper reporter with the Tennessean in Nashville. Gore attended Vanderbilt Law School.

**Public Service:** Gore began his career in public service in 1976 when he was elected to represent Tennessee in the U.S. House of Representatives. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1984 and was re-elected in 1990, when he became the first statewide candidate in modern history to carry all 95 Tennessee counties. A candidate for the Democratic nomination for President in 1988, he won Democratic primaries and caucuses in seven states.

**Family:** Gore is married to the former Mary Elizabeth "Tipper" Aitcheson, an author, photo-journalist and activist who now serves as President Clinton's adviser on mental health policy. They have four children: Karenna, Kristin, Sarah, and Albert. Al and Tipper Gore own a small farm near Carthage, and the family attends New Salem Missionary Baptist Church in Carthage.

**The Gore Kids:** Al and Tipper Gore have four children: Karenna Gore Schiff, 27, is a recent law school graduate. She and her husband, Dr. Drew Schiff, are the proud parents of Wyatt Gore Schiff, Al and Tipper Gore's first grandchild, who was born on July 4, 1999.

Kristin, 23, is a comedy writer. Sarah, 21, is a senior in college and Albert, 17, is a high school senior. The Gore family have a black labrador dog named Shiloh, from Clarksville, Tennessee, and a mixed-breed dog named Daisy that the children found, injured and abandoned, near Center Hill Lake in Middle Tennessee.

obtained from [al gore.com](http://al gore.com)

## Governor George W. Bush



**Born:** George W. Bush was born July 6th, 1946 in New Haven, Connecticut. His father was still a student at Yale when he was born. He grew up in Midland and Houston, Texas. He is the son of former president George Bush and Barbara Bush. After George H.W. Bush graduated from Yale in June 1948, the young family moved to Odessa, Texas, where the Governor's father began work in the oil business.

**Childhood:** George W. Bush spent his childhood playing baseball, a love which he continued through his college days when he was a pitcher for Yale. Bush was one of six children—Neil, Jeb, Marvin, Robin, and Dorothy.

**Education:** Bush received a bachelor's degree from Yale University and an MBA from Harvard Business School. He served as an F-102 pilot for the Texas Air National Guard. He began his career in the oil and gas business in Midland in 1975 and worked in the energy industry until 1986.

After working on his father's 1988 presidential campaign he assembled the group of partners that purchased the Texas Rangers baseball franchise in 1989 and which later built the Ranger's new home, the Ball park at Arlington.

**Marriage:** Bush met Laura Welch at a dinner at the home of their mutual friends, Jan and Joe O'Neill in the summer of 1977. The couple married three months later, on November 5, 1977, at a small service. They spend most of the first year of their marriage traveling as he campaigned for Congress.

**Public Service:** He served as managing general partner of the Texas Rangers until he was elected Governor on November 8, 1994, with 53.5 percent of the vote. In a historic re-election victory, he became the first Texas Governor to be elected to consecutive four-year terms on November 3, 1998 winning 68.6 percent of the vote.

obtained from [georgebush.com](http://georgebush.com)



# The Game of Issues in Presidential Campaigns

The issues in a presidential campaign play many different roles in the process of decision-making for voters. They can be the deciding factor, informative, or not very useful for the voting population. Voters may make their selection for a candidate based on a single issue, several issues or no issues at all.

Issues can also take the role of providing voters and nonvoters with knowledge of what the successful candidate will be like once in office.

Throughout the campaign, many of these issues have been discussed, some more exhaustively than others, by the different candidates. Only the citizen can know individually what the issues introduced in the game of presidential campaigns mean to them. The following descriptions are the candidates' stance on issues that seem to be a concern for the citizenry of the first prespreelection in the new millennium.

## MEDIA VIOLENCE

**Gore's Guess:** If Hollywood does not cease fire in the marketing of violence and sex to children than he will ask for more federal control over the media.

**The Survey Says:** If parents continue with the onslaught of pressure, the president could bully the industry for change.

**Bush's Guess:** Wants Hollywood to change on their own and believes that the parents should have control over what their children watch.

## COLLEGE TUITION

**Gore's Guess:** Wants to have \$10,000 of college tuition be tax deductible, and would allow \$2,500 per year in a tax-free education savings.

**The Survey Says:** Both plans offer similar amounts of money for tuition. They also want an increase in grants for low-income students.

**Bush's Guess:** His plan lets parents put up to \$5,000 a year in an account which will allow tax free withdrawals for education expenses.

## POLLUTION

**Gore's Guess:** Will urge a ratification of the Kyoto treaty that he helped negotiate. The treaty will require a major reduction in emissions.

**The Survey Says:** Gore wants to strictly crack down on polluters while Bush wants to persuade them.

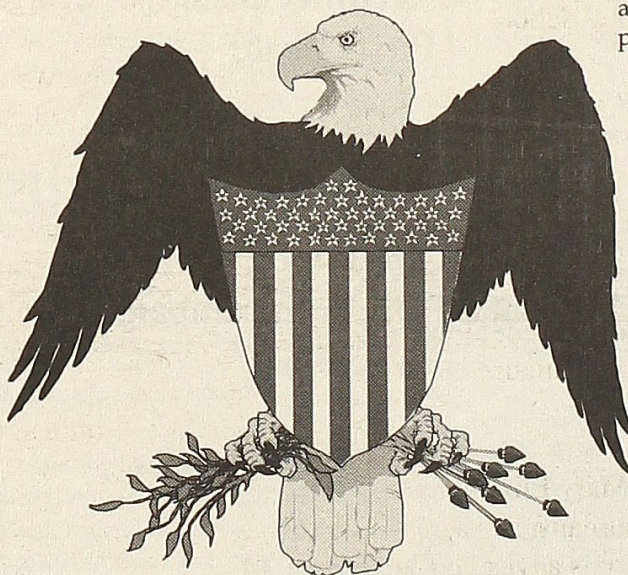
**Bush's Guess:** Prefers that states have flexibility on cleanup and prevention. Would also like to see companies voluntarily lower pollution.

## EDUCATION

**Gore's Guess:** Promises to close failing schools, lower class size, recruit more teachers, and give more money for after school programs.

**The Survey Says:** Gore wants to spend money on resources while Bush wants to spend money on accountability.

**Bush's Guess:** Supports vouchers for students of failing public schools, increase funding for charter schools, teacher testing, and wants more money for character and abstinence education.



## GUNS

**Gore's Guess:** Wants all handgun buyers to obtain a state license and would try to stop illegal gun sales at trade shows.

**The Survey Says:** Bush wants the NRA vote, Gore wants the mother vote.

**Bush's Guess:** Defends the rights of the American gun owner but supports strict enforcement of laws and child-safety locks.

## ABORTION

**Gore's Guess:** Supports abortion and promises to protect women's rights.

**The Survey Says:** Whomever the candidates would appoint to the Supreme Court is vital. Gore will appoint pro-choice, Bush will appoint pro-life.

**Bush's Guess:** Wants to outlaw partial birth abortions and is pro-life.

## TAXES

**Gore's Guess:** The poor and middle-class will benefit most by his plan. The tax cuts are often credits or reductions for college tuition, childcare, and retirement.

**The Survey Says:** With Bush the huge tax cut for the wealthy will make it difficult to reduce the national debt but most middle-class workers will get more immediately. With Gore the plan is very complicated and targeted. Both support the reduction of the marriage penalty.

**Bush's Guess:** The wealthiest 1 percent will benefit most by his plan. Will cut marginal rates for all, pulling many lower-income families off income-tax rolls. Allows charitable deductions without itemizing.



# Road . . . to the White House



## Gore Both Bush

**August 7**

Gore Picks Lieberman  
as running mate

**August 18**

Democratic National  
Convention

**September 11**

Appears on "Oprah"

**September 26**

Visits the University of  
Michigan and appears  
on MTV's "Choose or  
Lose" program aimed  
at young voters.

**October 14**

Speaks about economy  
and middle class at  
Wayne State University  
in Detroit, MI.

**October 23**

Welcome Clinton's  
help in final stretch,  
but only to a point:  
"This is a campaign I  
am running on my  
own"

**September 14**

Argue over debate format

**September 16**

Reach agreement on debate for-  
mat

**October 3**

First debate

**October 5**

Bush and Gore both campaign in  
Michigan

**October 11**

Second Debate (Talk Show For-  
mat)

**October 17**

Final Debate (Town Hall For-  
mat)

**November 7**  
**Election Day!**

**July 25**

Bush picks Cheney as  
running mate

**August 3**

Republican National  
Convention

**September 12**

Drops "rats" ad, but  
denies it was planned

**September 19**

Bush appears on  
"Oprah"

**September 27**

Says education Bill  
would be first if elected

**October 18**

Barbara Bush and Other  
women begin "W stands  
for Women" tour in  
Michigan



October 31, 2000

## SPORTS

7

## Scots beat Calvin; tie for second in MIAA

By DARBY CORNELIUS  
Staff Writer

The men's soccer team has battled all season in hopes of returning to the NCAA National Tournament this year. Despite their 2-1 win over Calvin on Saturday, the Scots are now out of the running for national competition.

Competing at home this past Saturday against Calvin College, the Scots played a rematch of the 4-4 tie Oct. 4 game. The game began when senior Paul Aceto started the scoring early in the first half on an assist from junior Adam Sobczak.

With both teams playing aggressive offense, the score remained 1-0 in the Scots favor until the 78th minute when Calvin's Jason DeJonge put in the tying goal. The late tie marked a likely overtime battle ahead, but the Scots rallied with four minutes left to go as junior Jeremiah Roberts booted the ball past Calvin's goalkeeper on a Paul Aceto assist. The Roberts goal sealed the victory.

The win brings Alma's record to 9-6-2 overall, 6-2-2 in MIAA play.

"It still feels good to win," said Sobczak. "Even if it doesn't mean anything towards the playoffs."

Last Tuesday's soccer action left the Scots down as Kalamazoo dominated with a 2-1 win. The game took place at Kalamazoo College.

"We've worked as hard as we can this season and Kalamazoo has proved to be the better team," said Coach Jeff Bateson.



Bryan Waugh

*Adam Sobczak (02) gets past a Calvin player at Saturday's game. Their win over Calvin puts the Scots at 9-6-2 overall and 6-2-2 in MIAA play.*

Alma is currently tied with Hope College for second place in the conference. Kalamazoo is in the top MIAA spot which entitles the Hornets to a well-deserved trip to the National Tournament.

Against the Hornets, the Scots began the scoring with a Sobczak goal in the 35th minute off an assist from sophomore Marshall Gray to put Alma up 1-0.

In the second half, Kalamazoo answered the Scots by

putting up two goals, both in the last 10 minutes of the game. Kalamazoo's Andrew Upward scored in the 80th minute, while Aaron Thornburg scored in the game-winner in the 85th minute.

Senior goalkeeper Sean Byram posted 12 saves in the loss.

In soccer action during fall break, the Scots posted a 3-1 win over Adrian on Saturday, Oct. 21. The Scots were then tied for second-place with Hope (12 points). Kalamazoo defeated Hope 2-0 in other MIAA action on Saturday.

The Scots dominated the Bulldogs, outshooting Adrian 12-2 in the game. At the 14:10 mark, Shawn Soudek put the Bulldogs on the board for the first and last goal on Adrian's side. The Scots responded with two goals by Roberts at 18:28 and 24:56 to bump the score to 2-1 going into the half. At 44:05 in the second half, Sobczak stuck a ball in the net off one of junior Jeff Hosler's two assists.

"The strength of our team really showed to be our seniors," said Sobczak. "They have really guided us and helped the team this year."

Bateson is pleased with the Scots' performance this season. He said that their goal was the MIAA title, but it is hard to replace the ten seniors lost from the 1999-2000 season. The players have all improved throughout the season, with Roberts and sophomore Tom Aceto displaying standout progress from last year.

They next host Olivet College on Wednesday at 3 p.m. and end their regular season next Saturday at Albion College.

## Football falls to Kalamazoo

By AMY NOVAK  
Sports Editor

A Scot fumble with less than a minute left in the game dashed hopes for a victory and gave the Alma football team their second league loss of the season. The Scots fell 23-17 to league competitor Kalamazoo College last Saturday on the road.

Sophomore quarterback Steve Slowke completed 13 of 31 passes for 144 yards and two touchdowns before being replaced midway through the fourth quarter. Junior receiver Kris Ernst led the Scots with eight catches for 68 yards and a touchdown. Senior receiver Jeremy Haynie had five receptions for 75 yards and one touchdown, while junior wideout Brian Burgtorf had seven catches for 72 yards. The Scots were led in rushing by sophomore running back Laurence Trumble who had six carries for 37 yards.

"We had all the opportunities in the world," said Ernst. "But we just couldn't capitalize on enough."

The Hornets scored early in the game on a 36-yard field goal, but the Scots countered with a 50 yard touchdown pass from Slowke to Haynie. The Hornets fought back, scoring on a 12-yard pass to end the first quarter ahead 10-7.

Later in the second quarter, a 19-yard pass from Slowke to Ernst gave the Scots a 14-10 lead going into halftime.

A Kalamazoo touchdown but failed point after in the third put the Hornets back on top 16-14. The score remained the same into the fourth when a five yard Hornet run increased the Kalamazoo lead to 23-14 with just over twelve minutes left in the game.

A Scot field goal by sophomore kicker Matt Piccirilli with 2:06 left in the game cut the Hornet lead to 23-17.

The Scots recovered an on-side kick at the Hornet 46-yard line. Two first downs moved Alma to the Kalamazoo 29, but a fumbled snap by senior quarterback Brandon Wrobel was recovered by the Hornets; ending the Scot's drive and chance for victory.

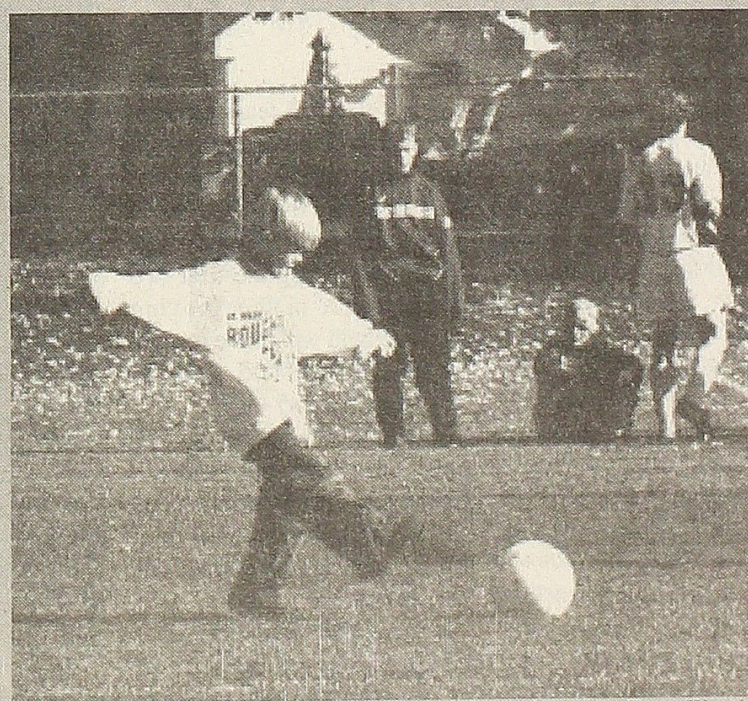
"This was a huge disappointment," said Ernst. "We expected to play way better and come away with a win."

Defensively senior linebacker Dan Price led the Scots with ten tackles and one sack, while senior Justin Harris had eight tackles and one sack.

"We're really disappointed with the outcome and the fact that we didn't win," said Price. "We all played hard, but sometimes it just doesn't turn out the way you'd like it to."

This loss marks the Scots second-straight league loss; they are now 4-4 overall, 1-2 in the MIAA. The Alma football team is 4-0 at home and 0-4 on the road. Alma is now two games behind league leader Hope. The Scots have their final home game of the season on Saturday at 1 p.m. when they take on the Adrian Bulldogs.

## Player of the week?



Bryan Waugh

*Soccer fans of all ages were out for Saturday's game against Calvin. The men's team plays against Olivet Wednesday at 3pm.*



Women's soccer ends season sixth in MIAA

By DARBY CORNELIUS  
Staff Writer

The women's soccer team ended the 2000 season with a 1-3 loss to Calvin College in Grand Rapids last Saturday. The Scots finished 6-10-1 overall and 4-9-1 in the MIAA for a sixth place finish in the conference.

At the 85:24 mark, sophomore Jessica Roberts scored the only Scot goal of the game. Junior Paula Schwarz posted 11 saves in the loss. Roberts earned MIAA Player of the Week honors for the week of Oct. 15. As a forward for the Scots, she has the most game-winning goals on the team with three. Roberts ends the season as Alma's leading scorer with six goals and three assists for 15 total points in 17 games.

"This season was an improvement from last season," said Roberts. "The whole team pulled together and played to win."

Last Tuesday's home contest against Kalamazoo set the Scots back 0-1, despite their strong defensive attack. The loss was a nine-goal improvement from the Hornets' 10-0 shutout on Sept. 30.

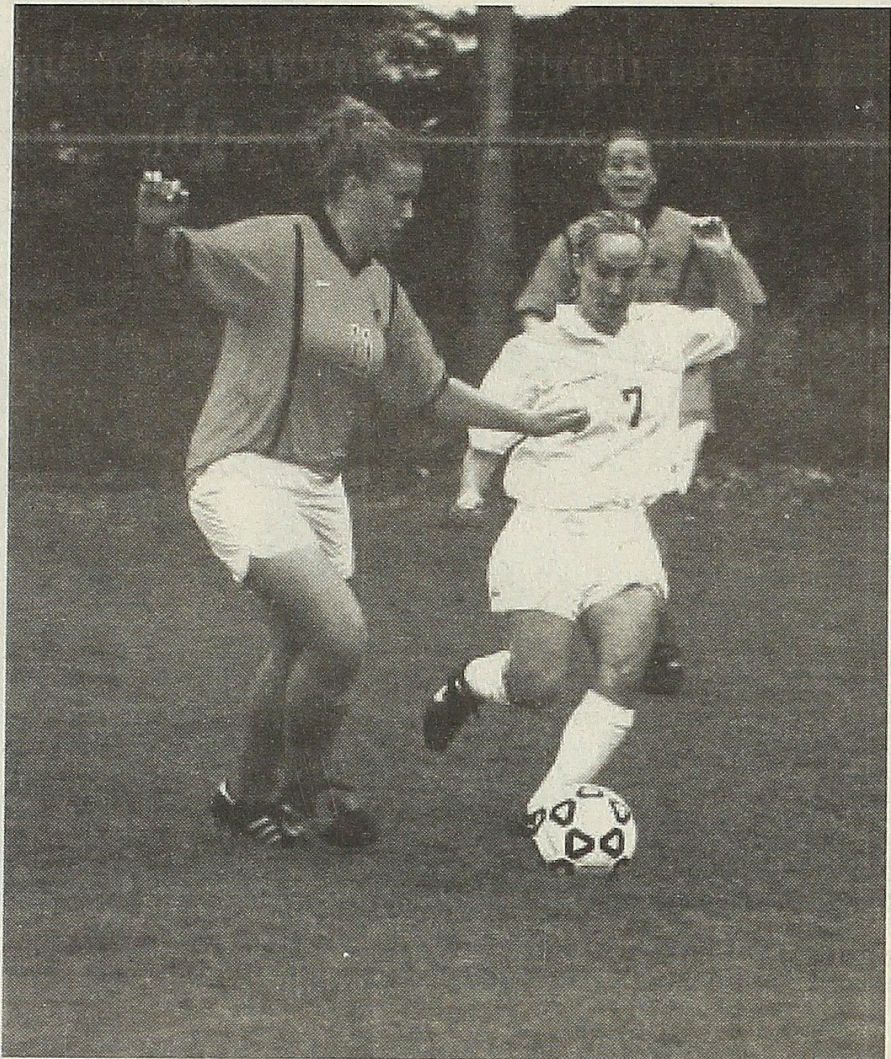
The first half was a scoreless battle as both teams kept on the defensive front. Schwarz had an outstanding performance in the goal, holding the Hornets scoreless until the 78th minute of play when Kalamazoo moved their offense forward and drove home a goal for the win.

Defensively Kristin Shea warded off numerous Hornet attacks. Offensively for Alma, Sarah Fuson had two shots while Roberts contributed one.

Over fall break, the Alma women's soccer team won its third straight game on Saturday with a 3-0 victory over Adrian.

Following a four-game losing streak, the Scots had won three straight dating back to Oct. 14. Alma defeated Saint Mary's (2-1) on Oct. 14 and Hope (1-0) on Oct. 18.

Following a scoreless first half, the Scots struck at the 53-minute mark with Roberts



Kristen Kurzak (04) dribbles past a Kalamazoo player in an attempt to win the last game of the season.

scoring off assists by first-year student Alaina Stuart and Shea. Senior Kristy Hopper followed with a goal at 77:00 with an assist by Roberts to go up 2-0.

Hopper's goal was followed by another goal by Roberts at 86:30 with an assist by Angel Bushor to give the Scots a 3-0 victory.

"With such a young team, we really looked to the seniors for leadership," said Roberts.

"And they provided it."

The Scots wrapped up the season with a strong effort. Their cooperation throughout the season led to visible improvements and gained experience they will need for next year.

"We ended the season well," said Hopper. "We are all really happy about it. It was nice to see the team pull together during our slump and work our way out of it."

Scots face Adrian on Wednesday

By DARBY CORNELIUS  
Staff Writer

The Alma volleyball team defeated Concordia College in Ann Arbor Thursday. The 3-2 win (14-16, 10-15, 15-9, 15-13, 15-11) ended Alma's regular season with their seventh five-game victory in nine attempts.

Senior Meghann Devlin led the Scots with 15 kills and eight blocks in the win. Sophomore Megan Cook recorded 15 kills and nine defensive digs, while junior Jaime Lippert contributed 53 assists.

In Tuesday's volleyball action, the Scots lost a four-game battle to the Knights (13-15, 8-15, 15-11, 14-16). The loss at home is the first since Sept. 1 when the Scots fell to Wittenberg.

Lippert led the Scots with 46 assists while Devlin posted another 15 kills. Cook followed with 12 kills on the night.

Defense worked hard with Cook adding 16 digs, and first-year student Kim Towe posting

15.

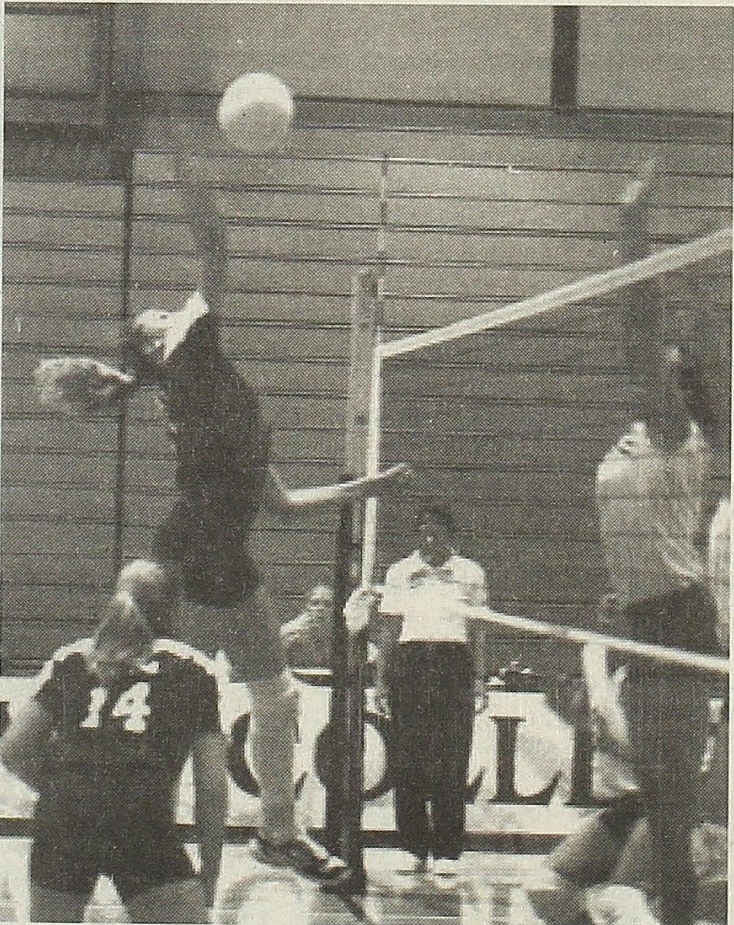
The volleyball team traveled to Adrian over fall break on Oct. 19. The Scots emerged victorious in a five-game match Thursday night. Alma came back after losing the first two games of the match, proving their strength with three straight 16-14 victories (11-15, 6-15, 16-14, 16-14, 16-14).

Devlin led the team with 18 kills and seven blocks. Sophomore Katie Moll headed the Scots' defensive play with 28 digs. Lippert scored 43 assists.

"The entire team has shown improvement throughout the season and we will step up to the competition," said Coach Allen-Cook.

The MIAA Tournament is up next for the Scots on Nov. 1-4. Alma is aiming to win the conference title.

The Scots will take on Adrian at home on Wednesday, Nov. 1 to start off tournament play.



A member of the Volleyball team fights for the ball in their last home game.

FAST Stats

Men's Cross Country  
MIAA Championship

1. Calvin	15
2. Hope	63
3. Albion	91
4. Alma	96
5. Kalamazoo	112
6. Adrian	177
7. Olivet	198

Women's Cross Country  
MIAA Championship

1. Calvin	16
2. Albion	81
3. Hope	83
4. Kalamazoo	106
5. Adrian	106
6. Alma	137
7. St. Mary's	222

Football

1. Hope	3-0
2. Albion	2-1
2. Kalamazoo	2-1
4. Adrian	1-2
4. Alma	1-2
6. Olivet	0-3

Men's Soccer

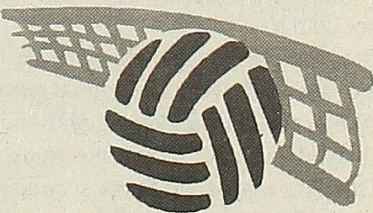
1. Kalamazoo	10-0-1
2. Alma	6-2-2
2. Hope	7-3-0
4. Calvin	5-4-1
5. Olivet	3-8-0
6. Albion	2-8-0
7. Adrian	1-9-0

Women's Soccer

1. Albion	13-1-0
2. Kalamazoo	12-2-0
3. Calvin	10-4-0
4. Olivet	7-6-1
5. Hope	5-8-1
6. Alma	4-9-1
7. St. Mary's	3-10-1
8. Adrian	0-14-0

Volleyball  
Final Standings

1. Hope	13-1
2. Calvin	12-2
3. Alma	9-5
4. Kalamazoo	8-6
5. Albion	5-9
6. Adrian	4-10
7. St. Mary's	3-11
8. Olivet	2-12





October 31, 2000

## SPORTS

9

## Cross country competes in MIAA Championships



Dan Joyce

*Cross Country hosted their only home meet of the season on Oct. 21.*

By **AMY NOVAK**  
Sports Editor

The men's and women's cross country teams competed in the MIAA Championships last Saturday to end their 2000 season. The men finished fourth overall, while the women earned sixth in the league.

The men totaled 96 points falling behind first-place Calvin, second-place Hope and third-place Albion.

The top finisher for the men's team was first-year student Ryan Triplett who came in 14th overall in the 8K course with a time of 26:48. Sophomore Garnet Johnson also placed high for the Scots, earning 20th place with a time of 27:08. Rounding out the top five for the Scots were sophomore Ryan Rau, junior Andrew Kibbe, junior Mark Penzien, junior Reid McGuire and sophomore Joe Bush.

"Everybody on the team ran exceptionally well this weekend," said Johnson. "We just fell a little short of our goal."

The women earned a total of 137 points, falling behind Calvin in first, Albion second, Hope third and Kalamazoo and Adrian tying for fourth.

Sophomore Amanda Dusendang finished 29th in the 5K course with a time of 20:16. Senior Stacey Turschak finished with a time of 20:17, earning 30th place. Rounding out the top five for the women were first-year student Emily Breszinski, first-year student Carly Day, sophomore Darby Cornelius, first-year student Jill Pfeffer and first-year student Emily Grantner.

## Scots earn player of the week Honors



**Jessica Roberts (03)**  
**Forward-Women's Soccer**

Roberts received player of the week of Oct. 15 - 21. She scored two goals and had one assist to help the women's soccer team to a 3-0 victory over Adrian during Fall Break. Roberts leads the team with a total of six goals and three assists in the season.



**Nate Segle (04)**  
**Punter-Football**

Segle also earned player of the week of Oct. 15-21. Segle has punted for the Scots all season and has earned Special Teams Player of the Week for his efforts in the 35-25 loss to Adrian over Fall Break. Segle had seven punts for 27 yards in the game. Segle's holds a season average punt of 34 yards, punting 43 times for 1,146 yards.

## Subway Series results in Yankees third-straight title

**LAUREN ELIASON**  
Staff Writer

For baseball fans, especially New York City baseball fans, the 2000 World Series was not your average competition. Entitled the Subway Series, the New York Yankees and the New York Mets squared off in 5 hard fought games. Due to the fact that both teams were from the same city, the sense of rivalry and competition had extra intensity. The Yankees got the best of the series in the end, defeating the Mets for the right to be champions.

The first game of the series translated into a late night for spectators, due to the fact that game lasted 4 hours and 51 minutes. The hard fought battle set a record for the longest World Series game ever.

The scoring began for the Yankees in the sixth inning when both Derek Jeter and Chuck Knobloch were driven home off a double by David Justice, but the Mets would soon retaliate.

In the seventh the Mets' Bubba Trammell hit a single and drove in two runs, followed by Edgardo Alfonzo crossing the plate off of an infield single.

Finally, the winner of the game was decided when Jose Vizcaino singled to send Martinez across the bag in the twelfth inning, to seal the Yankee victory, 4-3.

Adrenaline ran high in game two at Yankee Stadium, as

the benches emptied in the second, due to Yankee pitcher Roger Clemens throwing his bat and almost hitting Mets catcher Mike Piazza. Although he claimed it was an accident, Clemens had beamed Piazza with a pitch in a previous game, creating controversy between the two players.

In the first inning Justice and Bernie Williams crossed home plate for the Yankees, giving them a head start, and they never looked back.

The Mets would score 5 runs, but that could not keep up with the Yankees 6 runs.

It took until game three for the Mets to post a win, but the effort was better late than never. With a final score of 4-2, Benny Agbayani showed off his leadership skills when he drove in the game winning run, in front of the home crowd, forcing a game 5.

Yankee pitcher Orlando Hernandez boasted a 1.9 ERA for the playoffs, and although the Yankees lost, he had more strikeouts in a World Series game than any pitcher since 1973.

In game four, the Yankees came to Shea Stadium prepared to avenge their loss. The Yankees scored in the first three innings of the game, including a home run on the first pitch of the game by Jeter.

The Mets could not put together a strong enough counter-attack, scoring only 2 runs, both in the third inning.

With this 3-2 victory, the Yankees were only 1 game away

from winning their third World Series in a row.

With only one win to go enroute to grabbing the World Series, the Yankees were able to put together the type of performance fit for a win. In game five Williams tallied the first run of the game in the second inning when he hit a home run in the direction of left field. That run ended a 0-22 no hit streak for him.

The Mets then retaliated with 2 runs in the bottom of the second by Jay Payton and Al Leiter.

In the sixth, Yankee shortstop Jeter sent his second home run in 2 games on its way to left field, tying the game. Jeter would later be named the Most Valuable Player of the series.

The deciding plays of the game came in the ninth inning when Mets catcher Piazza was unable to handle the throw to home plate from Payton, allowing Scott Brosius to score for the Yankees.

The Mets were unable to answer in the bottom of the ninth, enabling the Yankees to clench their fourth World Series title in the last 5 years.

Ironically, the Yankees sported the worst record of any of the playoff teams, and were fifth place in the American League standings at the end of the regular season. They came up with wins in only 3 of their final 18 regular season match ups.

Although ratings were down for the series, those who did watch saw a classic match up, one that will never be forgotten.



## Sports Track

## Sports reflecting us: the money issue

By MICHAEL MURPHY  
Opinion Editor

The past two Sports Tracks have discussed the relationship between sports and society. Certainly, sports and society have seemed to become inseparable over the past few decades.

Whether you live in the United States, where there are a plethora of sports that you can choose to follow and play, or whether you hail from the Andes of South America or the steppes of Africa, where soccer and running rule, you will find sports an integral part of society.

Having had this established, we must now look at the role of corporations, since they are such a huge factor in our society, in the world of sports.

At first, one may not think that corporations play big roles in sports.

This assumption is completely wrong. The role of corporations in sports is becoming more and more important as time inches

along.

Twenty years ago, you would have found stadiums named after a significant individual or even the team name itself. For instance, San Diego's Jack Murphy (no relation) Stadium or Tiger Stadium are such famous stadiums. Or, a catchier name would have been used to identify the stadium, such as Pittsburgh's Three River Stadium or The Seattle Kingdome.

Now, as most of us know, the stadium names are being bought with millions of dollars by huge businesses, such as Comerica Park, Cynergy Field, BankOne Ballpark and the United Center.

Another great example would be the impact of corporations on college bowl games. Only a few years ago, there was the Sugar Bowl, the Fiesta Bowl and the Orange Bowl.

Now, we have the Jeep/Eagle Sugar Bowl, the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl and the FedEx Orange Bowl.

Now let me ask you this: what the heck does a car company, a corn chip company or

a delivery company have to do with football?

Cold, crisp, clean cash.

This reflects how sports have not only become a pastime and hobby, but big business as well. Furthermore, it reflects our society's thirst for more and more money.

True, the major corporations are shoving huge amounts of money onto owners in order to get their name on the exterior of a stadium. However, this grants the particular company the total right for advertising with anything associated with the stadium or team.

This makes a completely different game than even twenty years ago.

Everything that matters in the business is money. If you win the World Series, you make more money selling merchandise; you make more money in selling advertising contracts; you make more money, period.

Wins are nice. Money is better.

And I truly believe that this is symbolic of the era in which we live in. Since society is so related with sports, sports simply

reflect the society in which it works for. Hence, we, for the most part, are all about the money.

Even our language is starting to reflect our obsession with the green stuff. "That's so money," "Sweet cash" and "Show me the money" are now all cliches that have developed from our hunger for cash.

I wonder about what sports will be like in another twenty years. I am assuming that it will be quite a bit different than it is now. Maybe it will become even more commercialized. Maybe there will be a sports team in every decent sized town across the country.

Maybe corporations will buy out not only stadium names, but the team name as well.

Who knows? In twenty years, we could all be cheering for the Comerica Tigers, the Daimler-Chrysler Pistons, the Ford Lions and the Little Caesar's Pizza Wings.

God save us all that day.

Please.

*His Story/Her Story*

## Should abortion be legal? Pro life or pro choice?

While the views reflected in these articles are meant to reflect differences in opinion between man and women in no way are the views meant to speak for all men and women, These are independent views of a very sensitive issue.

By DAN JOYCE  
Staff Writer

Abortion, more than any issue, is not one that can be grouped into a male and female view. There is no stereotyped or normal male or female view of abortion.

What would the world be like without your best friend? How about your brother or sister?

Who is to say that an aborted child would not have been the person who would have found a cure for AIDS or would have been the greatest president of all time?

Abortion should be illegal in nearly every case. No child should lose his or her life due to unnatural occurrences. There are very few reasons I would be able to imagine thinking of aborting an unborn child.

I realize that the unborn child is a part of the woman it is in. Yet, it is still a life. Why should a child, who never even saw light, be aborted?

Think about the experiences you have had. You have seen the sun rise and set, the moon in all of its phases, leaves on the trees change from green to an assortment of colors.

Now, imagine being born blind and not having seen these.

Now, imagine not being born at all. You would not have felt the warm sun or the tingle that runs down your back when you get the chills.

An aborted child does not have the chance to experience anything at all, nothing.

People should accept the consequences of their actions. If you want to have sex, you know the possible consequences.

Maybe making abortion illegal would lessen the number of unmarried and teen pregnancies.

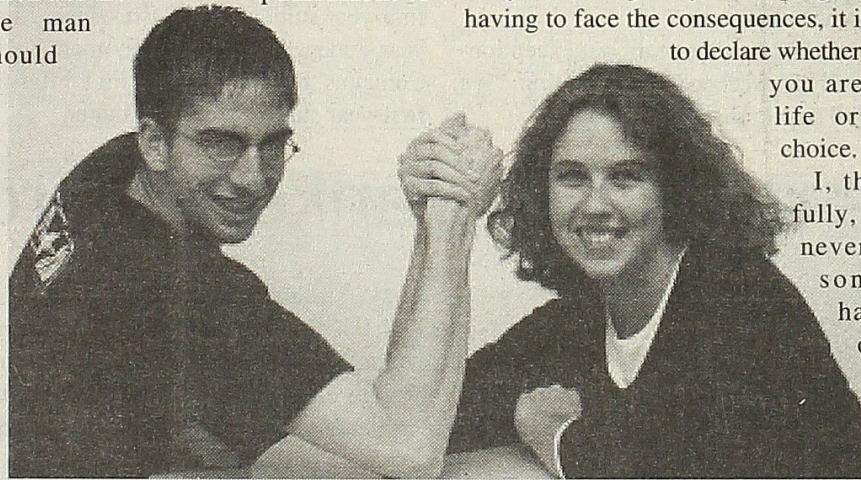
In the case of rape, I may be able to tolerate abortion. The child is not one that the woman wanted and had no control over its conception. Yet, should this child not be born

and given up for adoption?

I do not apologize for my belief that this is a living human.

The only times I could really come close to supporting abortion would be that of incest or if the birth has a very good chance of taking the mother's life.

In the case of incest, I believe that the mother should be allowed to make the decision and the punishment to the man should



be very severe.

If giving birth would threaten the mother's life, abortion should be discussed with the mother and the father. If both agreed, I would be okay with an abortion. The mother has a right to live and the husband would be emotionally wrecked if his spouse died. The child would have to live with the consequences of its birth for all its life. Abortion to save the mother should be allowed at any time during pregnancy.

These are the only situations that abortion should even be considered.

The child is part of the woman's body, but it is still a living being. It does not matter what trimester the development is in. Abortion takes a life.

About one million innocent children are aborted every year in America. You, me and a million others could be out a best friend.

By RACHEL KUHLE  
Staff Writer

The issue of abortion is a sensitive one, and I truly believe that both sides of the issue offer convincing arguments. I also feel, however, that it is easy for someone to say whether they are pro-choice or pro-life when they are an outsider looking in. When it is not you finding out you are pregnant and having to face the consequences, it is easy

to declare whether or not

you are pro-life or pro-choice.

I, thankfully, have never personally had to deal with that

situation. I know that at this point in my life, I would not choose to have an abortion. However, much of why I know this is because I also know the circumstances of my life. I know that it would be difficult for me to raise a child, but I know that I am strong enough and secure enough in myself to accept the responsibility. I also know that I would have support from the father of the child, my parents and others who care about me.

I recognize that there are many women out there who may not have that type of support or confidence in themselves and their abilities. It is for that reason that I am pro-choice.

The fact is, regardless of what my personal decision would be on the subject, I want the decision to be mine. I do not feel that it is the right of any politician or lawmaker to tell me what my decision has to be when it

is a decision I have to live with. The politicians and lawmakers do not know me. They do not know my situation or my life. They will not be the ones who must face the realities of the decision I make. I will be the one living with it everyday; therefore, the decision should be mine.

Do I think that there are other options to abortion? Yes, of course I do. I think that adoption is a wonderful alternative, but again, it should be my decision. Do I think that sexually active women should have to face the consequences of choosing to be sexually active? Yes, I do. However, I think that it is unfair to assume that women who choose to have an abortion are not accepting responsibility. It is a decision they live with everyday of their lives. Maybe they regret it or maybe they don't, but where is it my place to judge whether they should?

Do I think abortion is murder? I don't know. Maybe that's a cop-out answer, but it is an honest one. I think that if an abortion occurs, it needs to occur within the first trimester before the embryo becomes a fetus, but that is my own logic and reasoning. I understand why some feel that life begins at conception while others think that life begins after 10 weeks when the embryo becomes a fetus. I have never experienced pergnacy so I honestly don't know.

What I do know is that I advocate bringing children into the world. I advocate adoption. I advocate birth control as a prevention to pregnancy. I also advocate that people realize what is right for one may not be right for all. Abortion is a complex issue and a complex choice for any woman. While there may be some that use abortion for the wrong reasons, there are others who are trying to make the best decision for themselves. Only I know what my life is like. Only I know what having a child would mean. I am the one who will live with the decision; therefore, I am the one who should make the decision.



October 31, 2000

## OPINION

11

Point

/

Counterpoint

## Educating you on Proposal 1

By DONNA PAPPAS  
Staff Writer

Michiganians will be faced with an important educational decision next week at the polls with Proposal 1: the future of our children. Voting YES on Proposal 1 would initiate teacher testing, protect school funding and provide school choice. This would be in the best interest for some of our state's deteriorating schools.

In order to strengthen our schools, we must focus on the teachers who hold the future of our children in their hands. Regular testing in their academic subjects must be imposed on teachers. This way, Michigan can challenge its teachers to strive to be the best.

The \$800 million-dollar surplus in Michigan's education budget must be protected to ensure that education will always be a top priority for our state. Proposal 1 prohibits the legislature from making future budget cuts to the current level of per-child funding for public schools.

Additionally, this proposal offers an amendment to the State of Michigan Constitution that would alter the already existing section that says, "No ... tuition voucher ... shall be provided, directly or indirectly, to support the attendance of any student ... at any such nonpublic school ..."

This would allow parents in seven of Michigan's school districts to choose which school they will send their children with the use of state-provided vouchers. If passed, other districts could choose to enact this system as well through a vote by their local school boards.

A voucher is simply a piece of paper that allows parents to send their children to a non-public school if they believe it would serve them better. Vouchers represent half of a parent's tax dollars that are normally spent on their child.

There are children in Michigan trapped in school districts that cannot even graduate two-thirds of their students. Parents whose children are in these failing school districts would be enabled to use vouchers of up to \$3,150 for schools of their choice.

This would provide low-income families with the right to send their children to the school that they choose. And those taxpayers who send their children to private schools would no longer have to pay a double-tuition, as their money will instead be sent to the school that their child attends. This would put power in the hands of parents who are the rightful decision-makers of where their children should attend school.

There are a few myths that surround the issue of vouchers, including the idea that vouchers would violate the principle of separation of church and state. The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution says, "Congress shall make no law respecting an

establishment of religion." In no way would a voucher violate this provision. The state is not supporting any particular religion; instead, it is allowing a child to attend a school of their choice, be it religious or non-religious, with the money their parents have paid in tax dollars intended for education.

A second myth concerning vouchers is the belief that if a voucher system is applied,

By MICHAEL MURPHY  
Opinion Editor

Education reform is a major issue, not only in the presidential race but also on dockets in the form of Proposal 1, designed to allow families to collect a few thousand dollars from the government, in the form of a tax break, in order to pay for private education.

are going to serve the private interests under which they operate. This means that if the school is operated under parochial schools, the money is going to pay for schooling reflecting the religious beliefs of that particular school. Whatever happened to separation of church and state? This is a key Constitutional component jeopardized if public funding is spent for religious instruction.

Furthermore, voucher money may be going to private schools operating under the interests of the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis or other hate groups. Hence, public money may be used to educate children with principles that the foundations of our beliefs absolutely despise.

This voucher system is also threatening our schools' diversity. Children of various ethnic, socio-economic and religious backgrounds all currently attend our public schools. If Proposal 1 passes, various groups may flea public schools to attend schools reflecting their particular interests. Thus, various perspectives of children, something crucial in our education system, may be lost.

Milwaukee, one of two cities instituting a voucher system, is experimenting with 6,200 children educated with voucher funding. This drains \$28 million from the city's public schools per year. Imagine where that much money could go in order to improve public schools.

Furthermore, the city is still responsible for educating 98,500 students; 70 percent of whom are poor. Thus, the voucher system is hurting the poor who need as much quality education as they can get to emerge from poverty.

Moreover, voucher systems are still unproven. Experiments have been conducted to see how effectively the new system works.

Public funding for education is being lost and thus pumped into an unproven system that may not work. Worse yet, children immersed in these voucher experiments are essentially guinea pigs.

Finally, we must address the fact that the voucher system does not address our educational system's real problems.

Lack of funding, public disinterest, overcrowded schools, ancient textbooks, horrendous supplies and general distrust of schooling are major problems that must be addressed using public money for the public.

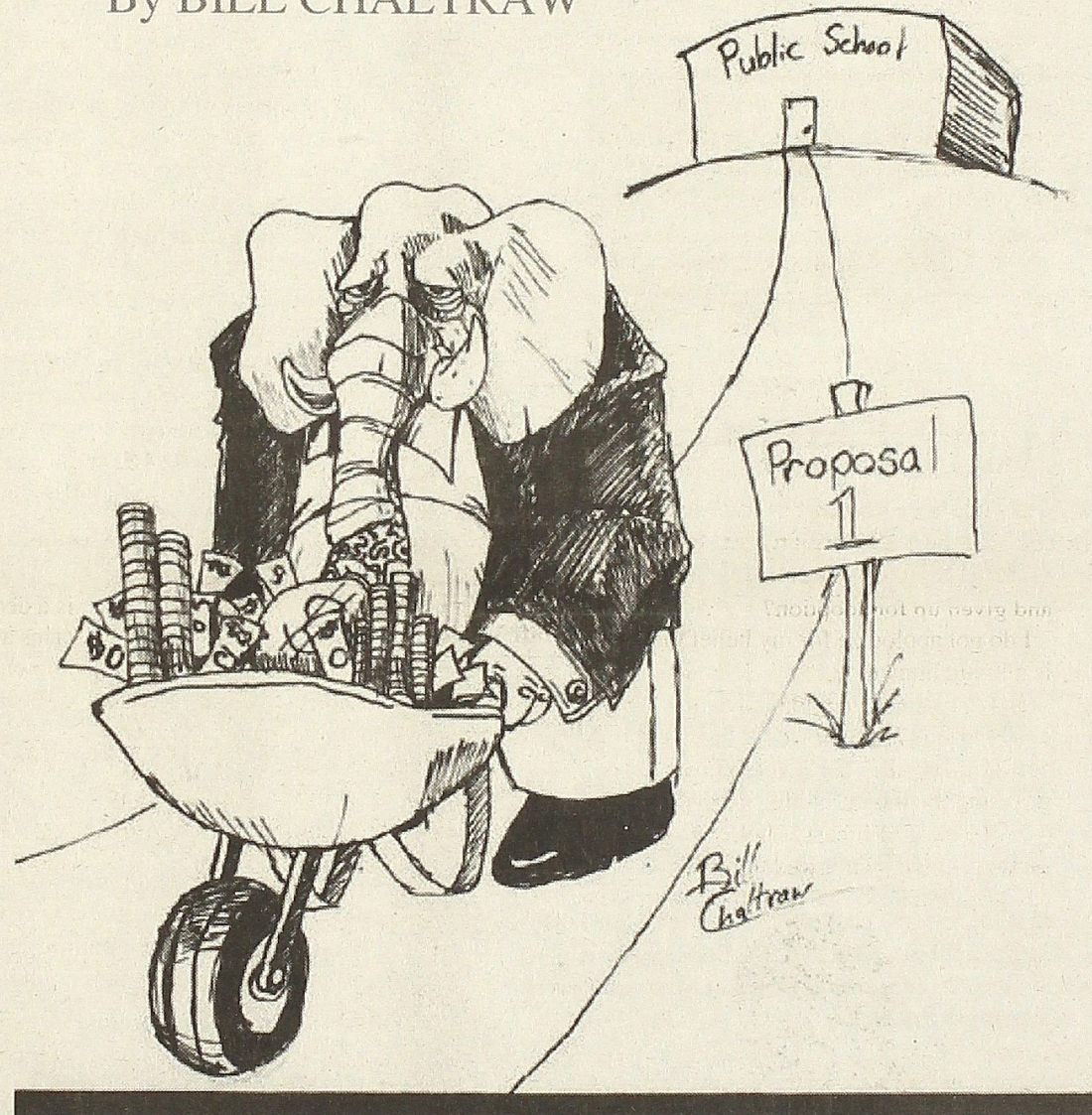
Vouchers will not solve our educational problem. They will only create more problems for our public schools, which are, after all, designed to create opportunities for all students to learn and achieve as much as possible, leaving not one child behind.

Something has happened with that philosophy, and we, as active citizens, must do something other than using vouchers to improve our public education system to be the best in the world.

So, for all of our children's sake, vote NO on Proposal 1.

## CARTOON CORNER

By BILL CHALTRAW



our already deteriorating public school system will be further negatively affected since government funding will be lost. Contradictory to this belief, however, public schools will only be forced to raise their standards to compete with the nonpublic schools. The voucher system will serve to improve our state's schools as a whole.

Another myth involves the question over whether or not accountability will be lost if Proposal 1 is imposed. That answer is no; education would instead become increasingly accountable to parents and taxpayers.

Michigan is not the testing ground for this type of proposal either. We are able to look to Massachusetts, Wisconsin and Ohio, whose inner-cities have adopted this policy. Scores in math and science have risen anywhere from 5.7 to 11 percent since their initiation. It is time for Michigan to also take a stand in furthering our educational system by providing an equal opportunity to all students in choosing which schools they will attend.

Voters, before you step into that voting booth next week, ask yourselves, "Who is able to make the best decision concerning the future of our children?"

In other words, parents fed up with their children's education, if the proposal passes, may soon be able to send their children to any school they wish using money returned from the government. At first, this may seem like a good idea. Parents should have the right to send their children wherever they want.

They should have the opportunity to explore various educational opportunities.

However pleasant these options seem, they are actually posing major threats to America's educational system.

First of all, the money given under the voucher system will be seized from money intended for public school funding. This is critical money departing from our public schools. It is money that can be used to pay for top-notch teachers, current textbooks, state-of-the-art schools, computers and so on. Instead, the money will be snatched away and given to private schools.

Where is this public funding going? Obviously it is going to private schools. This is a huge signal to ask what these private schools are going to do with this public money.

Schools formed under the voucher system



# Letter to the Editors

To the Editors:

I have written this poem for a class I am currently in and I offer it to you for publication. I realize that there is not much poetry published in your paper. It is entitled ask not what your country can do for you.

i don't think memorial day should be once a year.

i want three day weekends more often.

i don't care about elian.  
i change the channel until the game comes on.

i don't believe any politician.  
i trust my wife.

i don't vote.  
i complain when they raise

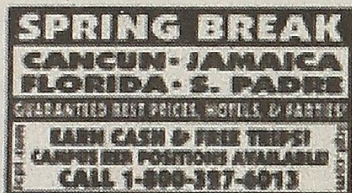
my taxes.

i don't think.  
i don't care.  
i don't believe.  
i don't vote.

i don't want.  
i don't change.  
i don't trust.  
i don't vote.

Jeremy Howe (01)

## Classifieds



Make someone happy! Advertise in the Almanian classifieds for only \$.10 per word. Wish a happy Birthday, congratulate a good deed, sell something you don't need, ask for something you do, or just share some words of wisdom! Whatever it is you want to say just contact Rachel Kuhl @ x8184 for more information.

GREAT DEAL! 1998 Ford Escort Z-X2, perfect condition, low mileage (only 18k), under warranty, CD player, air, 5-speed. Only \$8,350. Call x7290 or 681-2651

The Alma College Progressive Party is coming soon! Time and place to be announced!

Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday to Matt vandenBerg, the biggest party animal on campus!

Happy Birthday Cindy! "Just swallow your food dear" Love the big O.

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## Staff Editorial

### Looking for new AC president: Let your voice be heard

Choosing the next U.S. president is not the only important decision process that Alma College students should be concerned about this year: Alma is preparing to make a decision that will affect Alma for more than just the next four calendar years as we are nearing the selection of a new college president. Now is the time that we, as students, should be thinking of what kind of leader we want for our school. These are just some of the many qualities that we should look for in candidates for president:

1. Integrity. Alma needs a president who does the right thing not because the laws dictate it, but because this president knows and appreciates what is right, wrong and the truth. A president should be able to follow their heart and know that their heart will lead them to the right decision.
2. Long range vision. The next president of Alma should be someone who has the ability not only to plan for today and tomorrow, but to see how decisions will affect the College in decades to come. No president stays at a college indefinitely, and when our next president departs, he or she should do so with the knowledge that the Alma they leave behind is and will continue to be a great place because of their decisions.
3. Honesty. We need a president who is not afraid to tell the truth, one who is willing to communicate honestly and openly with the board, faculty and students.
4. Diversity. Alma should strive to find a president who wants to expand his or her horizons. We need a president who is diverse at heart; one who is more concerned with the people behind the numbers than the numbers themselves.
5. Passion for Learning. This college should have a president who enjoys learning. Education is an ongoing process not just for students, but for everyone involved in the process. We should seek a president who is excited to continue learning while leading Alma into a successful new millennium.
6. Enthusiasm. Above all, this college needs a president who truly wants the job. We need someone with excitement, ideas and enthusiasm for our school, the job of president and making Alma a greater college with each passing year.

We, the students of Alma College can sit by and watch this process (or not watch, for that matter), or we can participate. We can read the e-mails from the Presidential Search Committee and respond so that the committee is aware of what we seek in a leader. We know that the next president embodying these ideals will make Alma a stronger and better institution in years to come.

## Simple Thoughts

By Dan Joyce

# Being pulled in too many directions

How many times have you fallen behind in class because you are "too busy"? Are you really that busy?

College, many will argue, is a time for classes, little more. I disagree.

College, especially at a liberal arts school, is designed to prepare students for the "real world." This is also known as a career.

If you are here for technical training for a job and no more, you may as well save \$20,000 and go to a technical or community college. Liberal arts schools are set up to prepare students to think and explore.

One way of broadening a student's thinking and view of the world is the idea of distributive classes. These are classes in numerous fields that are not necessarily related to the student's major. By taking these classes, you have to learn to think in numerous ways.

For instance, if you are a political science major, communication classes could help you to better express your thoughts and views. Even biology may help you to think in a completely different way.

By learning various ways of thinking, you will be able to relate to and understand many people. The whole idea of taking classes that seemingly have nothing to do with your future is not just a waste of time. They should have some priority.

Classes in your major should weigh heavily on your priority scale. If you do not put a lot of effort into classes, especially those in your major, why spend so much money to go here?

Yet, as I have said, the focus of a liberal arts college is not only book learning. It is much broader.

Take for instance all of our student organizations. Each of these focus on putting your learning to use, but do not demand

too much of you. If you join one, you should place it on your priority list where you think it belongs. Keep in mind though that a group cannot survive without its members and their active participation.

Sports are also a priority. If you participate in a school sport, the team and coach expect you to be on time and put much of your time and energy into that sport.

Remember too that you are still at school and paying to learn, not to play sports. Also, as a division-III school, you are not even receiving scholarships for sports.

Intramural sports and other activities are also offered. Much like clubs, they depend on members of a team to be there and participate. Intramural sports are a great method of relaxation. Make sure to make some time to just have fun.

The final large part of many students' time is employment. Obviously, you have to show

up to stay employed. Most campus jobs work around your schedule. They know that your job is your number one priority.

Now, think about all the time you spend that is not covered in any of the above categories. Where is that time spent? Video games, movies, the mall? Everyone needs to have some leisure time, but too much makes mommy and daddy upset when grades are sent home.

Midterm grades should be a good indication of how well you have your priorities set.

If your grades are not quite up to what you would like and are capable of, think of how you could spend more time on your classes.

Next time you say you are too busy for your schoolwork, take a look at your priorities.