

The  
*Scot*  
Alma College









# The SCOT

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**HANNAH BILLIG '18**

This was Hannah Billig's second year as Editor-in-Chief for The Scot after stepping up from the Copy Editor position her freshman year and being Editor-in-Chief for her high school yearbook. She is majoring in Integrative Physiology and Health Science (IPHS) and Spanish but is completely unaware of what she will do with those. She enjoys napping, painting and smothering her cat with love by dressing her up and taking pictures, even if her cat doesn't enjoy either activity.



**STEVEN LUOMALA-KIPP '17**

"This was my second year as Copy Editor for The Scot Yearbook, and let me tell you: it is a TON of work, and we do not receive enough monetary compensation or congratulations for our effort, but that isn't the point. The relationships and skills I have fostered while working long hours on this book is worth so much more than money. Who am I kidding? Money would be nice."



**JORDAN HAYES '18**

Jordie Hayes is this year's Photo Editor. This was her second year holding this position and third year on staff. This is her fifth year working on creating yearbooks. She is an Elementary Education major with minors in Language Arts and Mathematics. She worked for the Athletic Department as a photographer and is a member of the Alma College Cheer and STUNT team.



**NICK VANDUSER '17**

Nick VanDuser is the yearbook's first Business Manager and this is his first year as a part of the yearbook staff. He is a Secondary Education major with an emphasis in Business Administration and English. Along with being a part of the yearbook staff, Nick worked in the Admissions Department for three out of his four years at Alma, as well as being a part of the Football Team.



# Book Matters

After completely reorganizing the set up and look of the book the last two years, this year we had the goal of building up our foundation and sharpening our skills to bring you a book that we are proud of. Starting off this year was easier than the last, as we had more returning members and a set of new comers with strong skills. As a staff, we had weekly meetings to teach and develop the tips and tricks of how to create a yearbook and find the "story of the year" while the editors met twice a week with the adviser to make a plan and make sure the book was running smoothly. With so much campus involvement in clubs, it has been difficult for us as a staff to give each club their own page and find that "story." To help with this, we have designed club spreads which bring together different groups on campus to feature their most important memories. As we continue to improve the quality of our yearbook, we continue to showcase the Alma Scot pride throughout the book from cover to cover. The pinecone is proudly displayed on the cover and the tartan on each page with a single color highlighted to separate each section. When you open this book and flip through the pages, the Scot staff hopes you enjoy all the stories, memories and pictures for years to come.



Hannah Billig

## STAFF

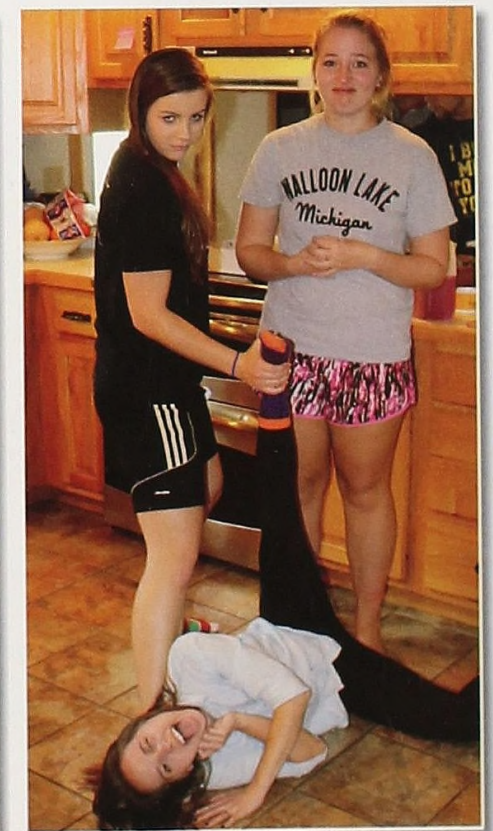
**Front Row:**

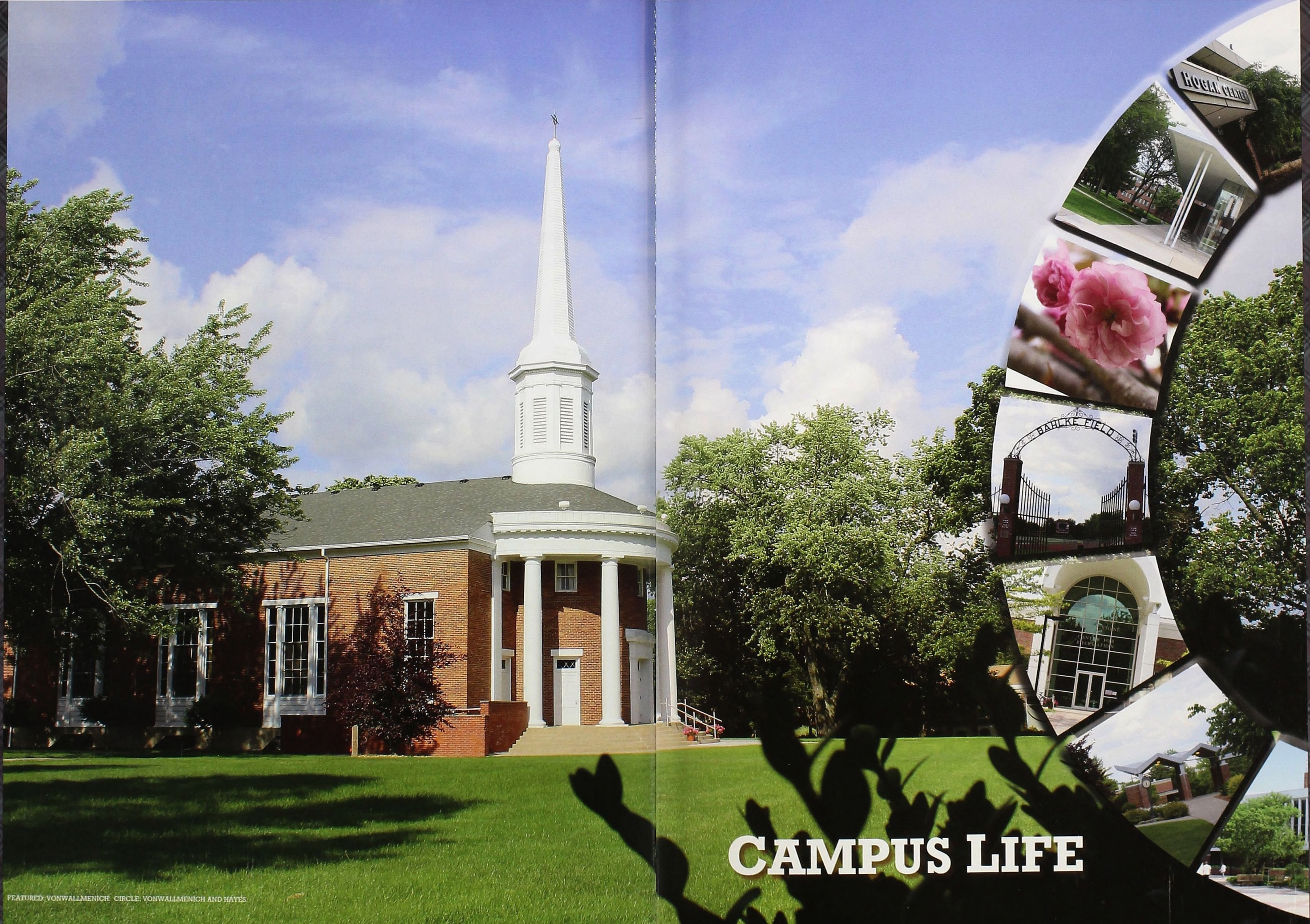
- Jordan Hayes '18
- Abigail Schaitkin '18
- Lea Ziolkowski '20
- Aeriel Stroven '18
- Jessica Morr '18

**Back Row:**

- Steven Luomala-Kipp '17
- Hannah Garn '18
- Hannah Billig '18
- Claire Stancroff '19
- Natalie Murrey '18
- Rebecca Gielegthem '20
- Nick VanDuser '17

Laura Von Wallmenich (adviser)



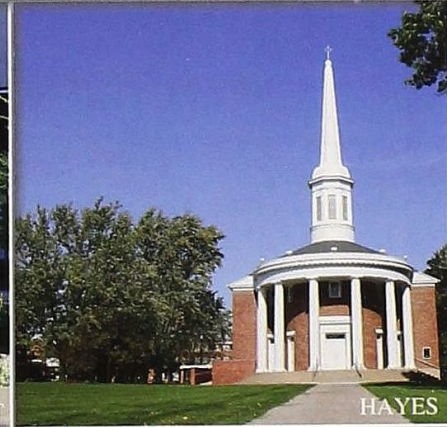


# CAMPUS LIFE



# Waves of Change

Continuing with the yearly tradition of adding on to Alma's small historical campus, numerous areas of the college received a facelift. One of the most noticeable changes came to the Hogan Athletic Center. Pictures of student athletes line the walls and the addition of the wall of fame sparked the interest of alumni and families. Students, faculty and alumni from far and wide came back to campus for Homecoming and were excited to see the newly remodeled Sherman Strength and Conditioning Facility. No matter how long alumni have been away from campus they still reminisce about the beauty this campus holds at any season of the year. With the ever growing class size of incoming freshman, the college continues it's goals in adapting Alma College's campus. Current constructions plans are underway to finish the remodeling of Gelston Hall. Along with one dorm being finished, Mitchell Hall and Bruske Hall are also expecting changes. No matter where a student may end up, it is easy to feel like Alma's campus is a home away from home.



Page by Liz Putti '18

MCTAGGART

HAYES

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HAYES

**CENTER FOR STUDENT OPPORTUNITY**

By working at the Center for Student Opportunity, or CSO, Ijanea Riggs '20 hopes to learn business skills to help her in her future career. Riggs creates a professional environment in her day to day operations. "I help students with questions about our programs, set up mock interviews, resume editing and meetings with Nate Payovich, so they can get ahead in their academics." These duties also give Riggs the beneficial experience in working with and alongside other student coworkers and Alma staff. Riggs stated, "This job allows me to work with people of all ages, while simultaneously helping me to be professional. I get the real-life office feel from it."



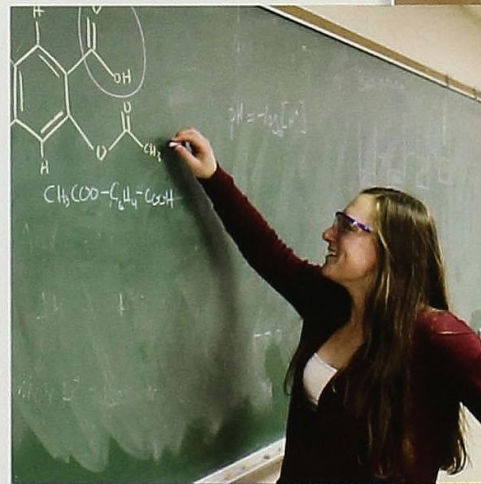
**THE STONE CENTER FOR RECREATION**

Working in a campus facility open to the public allows Jackie Vyskocil '17 to create relationships with the Alma community. "We get quite a majority of elderly people," Jackie explained. "One elderly man had just lost his wife and told me his entire life story. It made my day, and I think it made his too being able to share stories like that. Since Alma is smaller, it's nice to make connections with the town." Along with the tasks of "cleaning the equipment, making sure everything is tidy, renewing memberships and folding laundry," workers in "the Rec" are able to provide their patrons with a variety of activities, while creating a communal atmosphere.



**TEACHING ASSISTANT**

Having a job that focuses on the area of one's study is a key reason that Katherine Lehman '19 accepted a position as a Teaching Assistant, or TA. "Being a TA helps me to review all the past chemistry skills I've learned and apply them to courses I'm taking now," explained Lehman. Grading papers and running the lab is just one part of Lehman's job. "I make sure the lab is set up safely, and that the students are doing the right things and following rules, while helping them with chemistry and their calculations." Because of her TA position, Lehman is able to learn the expectations of guiding students through labs and perform what is expected of her in her job. These skills allow her to gain a better edge when applying to graduate school.



**ALMA COLLEGE BOOKSTORE**

"Click. Click. Boop," goes the register. Emily Danks '17 has been working at the bookstore since she was a freshman. Initially, she got the job in order to help fund the various experiences that Alma has to offer, as well as, help her meet more of the community. "I got this job to pay for opportunities like spring term and to meet a lot of people," Danks stated. Meeting the Alma community is not the only benefit of Danks' job, she also is able to learn valuable business skills, such as customer interaction and communication.



**OPPORTUNITY**

**CAMPUS JOBS**

According to Heidi Holland, the college's payroll specialist, 51% of Alma College students have a job on campus. These jobs provide students a way to generate income, as well as meet more people on campus and within the Alma community. There are many options, so students can find a job that best suits their interests or future career. For example, Holland stated that the Center for Student Opportunity has 224 active positions that students are currently filling. For students, such as Peter Jonsson '19 who works in the mail room, various jobs create opportunities to learn about customer service and interaction. "I like to work with people," explained Jonsson, "and this job is a good way to meet a lot of the Alma city and college community." Along with benefits for the employee, jobs at places like Starbucks also create a positive impact on the community, according to employee Lizette Shirley '18. "Starbucks creates a good sit down coffee place for people to relax at," she stated. "Because of this, I'm able to connect with the customers more. One customer always has me make his coffee because he says his wife likes my Caramel Macchiatos the best." Starbucks is a new addition to campus this year and provides many students, including Shirley, a warm environment to work in. On-campus jobs also work around student's schedules and allow them to balance their classes with their employment. "I tend to work later in the day, which is helpful because then I don't need to miss class, and I can go work whenever I have free time," explained Annie Burns '19, who works with the Anthropology department helping them with their research. "It's a great way to get experience with professors and other students in the field that I want to study," she stated. Many other students, such as Burns, take advantage of the benefits that on-campus jobs offer, which in turn will become an asset for them in their future endeavors. Job experience allows students to become more marketable when applying for prospective jobs or schools.



Page By Claire Stancroff '19

**ALMA MAIL ROOM**

A job in the Alma Mail Room presents students with the opportunity to learn the inner workings of campus. "Students learn where campus offices and departments are, along with the process of working with mail," commented employee Linda Collins. Beyond learning more about the how the college operates, it models "a real job in the future. You have to communicate with your coworkers and be polite to patrons while helping them with their daily business," offered Ashten Stambersky '18. The mailroom provides a practical space to practice communication skills central to the liberal arts.





# TRANSITION

## FRESHMAN YEAR

Shopping together for their dorm room, Bailey Barns '20 and Rachel Hannah '20 plan for a great year at Alma college together. Moving into college can be difficult, especially when it means living with a stranger for the year. The transition from college can either be easy or hard depending on whether roommates' life styles match up. "I wasn't scared, but I was definitely anxious about my roommate. You never know how things are going to work out, if you're going to be two completely different people, or if you're just not compatible as roommates," Barns stated. Luckily for her and Hannah, they were the perfect match. "We met up to shop for our room in the summer, so I wasn't scared to live with her at all!" Hannah said. "We clicked instantly and it felt like I had known her for forever! If soulmates exist for friendship, Bailey is mine, and I thank our decision to attend Alma for bringing us together." Having that support system by your side can make transitioning to college easier. You spent countless hours together in the dorm room and maybe more outside of it.... I don't think everyone gets this amazing experience with their freshman year roommate, but I'm thankful I did," Barns said. "Rachel is quirky, fun, and a really good person and I could't have picked a better person to share my freshman year with!"

Page by Lea Ziolkowski '20



During the Special Olympics basketball tournament at Shepherd High School, Lars Murray '18, and Cam Ramirez '20 sign autographs and meet the athletes who are competing. "I loved this experience! It was fun being able to make their day. They let us know how cool they thought we were and how they looked up to us and it's rewarding to know someone looks up to you," Ramirez stated.



Dressed up for their video game-themed indoor show, piccolo players Heather McNett '17, Nadia Swieckicki '20, and Rachel Dobyns '18 picked a duck hunt costume. The concert featured themes from a selection of beloved Nintendo video games. "I wanted to continue playing music, but also continue being a part of a family, which I definitely got coming here to Alma," Swieckicki said. "I loved the indoor show the best because it shows how much fun band can really be."



Huddling together, Kyle Costigan '20, Garrison Mast '20, Kendra Smarsty '20, Madison Rebolt '20, Torston Holland '20 and Jacob Phillips '20 enjoy the amazing art displayed at Art Prize. Art Prize is a week long art exhibition held in Grand Rapids. "Together we took a road trip to downtown Grand Rapids. It was tons of fun as not all of us have been there before, even with the weather being so iffy," Phillips stated.



Supporting the Wings for the last time in the Joe Louis Arena, Noah Canlas '20, Tanner Parrett '20 and Garrison Mast '20 take their picture in front of the Gordie Howe statue. "It was really fun seeing Justin Abdelkader play in one of the last games at the Joe because he's from my high school," Parrett said.



Attending a KCP event, members LaShawnda Lampley '20, Tabatha Henderson '20, Kimberly Gray '19 and Sadie Gelb '19 carve pumpkins. Lampley stated, "I was able to make a lot of friends and people to help me throughout my freshman year no matter what the problem was!"



While visiting the United Nations Building in New York, Rose Cyburt '20 and Morgan Bradford '20 gain political experience through Model UN. "Even with the lack of sleep, model UN is one of the best teams and experiences I could ever be a part of," Cyburt stated.



After the President's Dinner, Alexandra Raden '20 and Whitney McGill '20 prepare to take care of their new trees. "The dinner is another great chance to get to know your classmates and eat some great food!" McGill said. "Its also very cool that everyone gets a pine tree to watch and grow with us at Alma."



Holding their sorority letters proudly, Jenny Ochs '20, Alexandra Raden '20, and Alison Fox '20 help raise money during their annual Light It Up Blue game. "Joining a sorority really changed my freshman year! I was able to make lots of friends I now call sisters. I loved the game because I was able to support such a great cause (autism speaks) and bond with amazing AXiD girls," Ochs said.



Spending time in the nice weather, Jessica Hatcher '20 and Jacob Headlee '20 build a loving relationship. "We lived in neighboring schools throughout high school and without Alma we would of never of found each other!" Hatcher said. "We first met at the freshman orientation in the REC and somehow I convinced him to watch the vow with me." For Headlee, a new relationship was an important part of the transition to college, noting that "Moving on to college can be hard, but finding her made it easy."

# LIVE AND LEARN

"I can't imagine not being here at Alma. It is my home and I will never forget the memories I make here."  
ANNIE BURNS '19



### EMMA VROOMAN '20

"My roommate smells like stinky cheese, which is great because I love cheese!"



### JORDIE HAYES '18

"In the fall, my hall went to Phillips Orchards and Cider Mill to take a much needed study break."



### HANNAH RUKKILA '18

"I really love the family atmosphere of the dorm life. I feel like I am home."



### CAN-JAM.

On a warm Spring Saturday, students like to gather outside to do various activities. One of these activities is Can-Jam. The game involves four teammates, two frisbees, two cans, and lots of laughter. The object of the game is to either hit the can or slap it in the can, for two points. Students Thomas Carey '20 and Austin Spartley '21 show us how it's done.



"Wherever we are, it is our friends that make our world."  
NATHANIEL FRYER '19



### THERAPY DOGS.

Stressed out? Need a break from the studying and homework? Well, one solution for you might be the lovely therapy dogs that visit campus every other Thursday. These dogs provide excellent stress relief during the weeks here at Alma. "I love it when the dogs are here! They make my day one-hundred percent better," explains Becca Bale '18.



# SOUTH CAMPUS

### EMILY BECKWITH '19

"My favorite part about living on South Campus is how quiet and nice it is to sit and do homework outside."



### MAX STEPANETS '19

"I love the culture in the building and the residence. It is a great place to study and very friendly."



### KIRA LEACH '17

"I like the connecting bathrooms and how quiet south campus is. It makes it easy to do homework and study."



What really makes dorm life here at Alma so exciting are the events each hall puts on. For example, each Residence Assistant (R.A.) provides an event that students can attend to take a break from homework, studying, classes, or just life in general. R.A. Emma Heron '19, top left, provided a spectacular event featuring Harry Potter potions and a viewing of the new movie *Fantastic Beasts*. The R.A.s of Bruske choose to show off their true colors on the right. While some events put on are fun, others are informational and educational. Featured on the bottom left, R.A. Seth Davis '18, provided an informational meeting on how to set up a LinkedIn profile.



A new event this year was the Sodexo Hawaiian send-off dinner. This was a meal full of delicious Hawaiian food, dancing, lawn games, and engaging conversation. Although the day was quite chilly, many students enjoyed the fun event and food. "Saga should do more things like this. It's fun event to be at, just wish it was warmer," stated Maria Ribadeneira Del Corral '18, featured in group photo on the bottom. At the same time of this Saga event, R. A.s of Gelston Hall hosted games for all students to be entertained, featured on top right. "We put on these events to create a great atmosphere for all students—plus they are fun," explains Hunter Sharrard '18.

# FAMILY

## CHAPEL

Students gather for the Sunday evening service and sing praises alongside the student-led band. Chapel provides a safe place for students to explore their faiths and become involved with a community of believers outside the classroom. A team of Student Ministry Coordinators make chapel a reality as they plan the evening service as well as community and campus-wide events. Noel Snyder, who had served as the Alma College Chaplain for four years, announced his departure at the end of the year for a position as Program Manager at Calvin College's Institute of Christian Worship. Snyder noted that it was a "privilege to be able to listen and come alongside [students] in both good times and hard times." He encouraged students to continue to wrestle big life questions and to reach higher levels as they explore what they each believe.



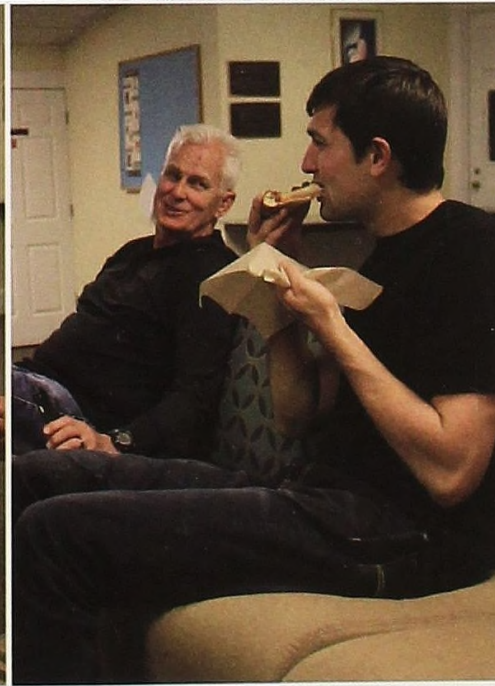
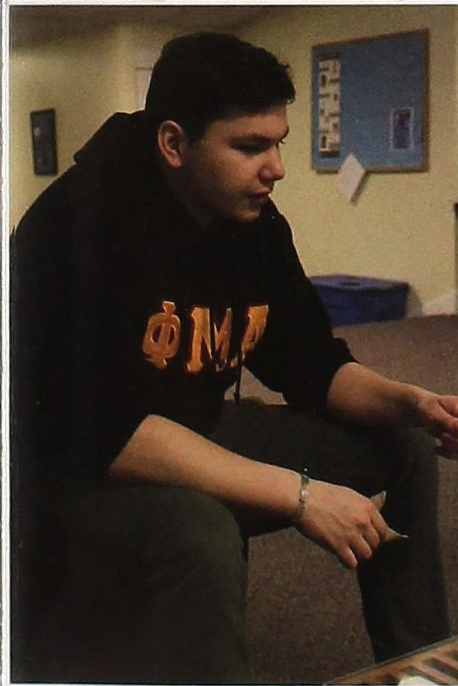
Page by Hannah Garn '18

### INTERFAITH COUNCIL

Jordan Triner '17 discusses common misconceptions of various cultural groups. Interfaith Council focuses on promoting understanding of different cultures and religions through dialogue. The group hosts a Holiday Traditions dinner every fall to share stories and traditional foods.

### NEW LIFE

New Life leader Christopher Nolan '19 laughs with Luke Bent '17 as they dive into scripture. The group focuses on helping students learn what it means to be a Christian when their faith is tested each day, while bringing people together to create bonds which might "transcend the four short years at Alma College," said Nolan.



### FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

The young group of Christian athletes attempt to "un-tangle" during a team-building activity to begin their meeting. Fellowship of Christian Athletes is led by Jared Fleming '19, who first experienced FCA during high school and felt called to take a leadership position. FCA acknowledges the growing need for ministry and a supportive environment based off biblical principles for students involved in athletics. Those involved with FCA share a common love for others and for God. Fleming elaborated on this relationship, saying "What we have is special to connecting Christians and common-thinking people."

### TEA TIME WITH GOD

The women of Tea Time gather for a group picture after a night of discussing what God represents to each individual. The group gathers every Wednesday night to explore the Word as well as each one's personal faith. The group has emerged on campus as a small community where women are able to encourage one another and share their struggles. On occasion, Tea Time brings in guest speakers and holds special events to help further take minds off the stresses of studying.

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Quinton Cook '17 jokes with a community member at the group's final meeting. Men's Bible Study was reformed during the fall of 2016 after Cook and Chase Schultz '18 saw a need for a focus on the Word of God among like-minded believers. Although the young men have found it difficult to work with students' busy schedules, they realize the need for Christian fellowship. Cook stated he hopes the members will be able to "tackle hard life questions and doubts with one another" while striving for individual growth and building a "brotherhood" with trust and accountability. The group hopes to progress in individual faith and continue its outreach and growth to the men on campus.



# ENGAGEMENT

## ALUMNI

The biggest way Alma alumni engage others on behalf of the college is the Alma Ambassador Program. The program started in 2015 and now has over 1,900 ambassadors—Alumni, students, friends, family, faculty, and staff—who interact with students and Alma College in different ways. The ambassadors help Alma College with student recruitment, engagement, retention and career assistance. In recognition of the program's impact, the Ambassador Program earned a gold award for the "Best Collaborative Program" in the Pride of CASE District V Awards Program competition. This competition is sponsored by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) which honors universities that have implemented innovative and effective advancement programs. Since the program began, it has given students job and internship opportunities and brought more referred prospective students than ever. Through the Prospective Student Referral program, ambassadors have referred more than 1,000 students to Alma for the 2017-2018 school year, and these students will receive a scholarship of \$1,000 per year if they enroll in and attend Alma. This program has helped boost enrollment immensely.

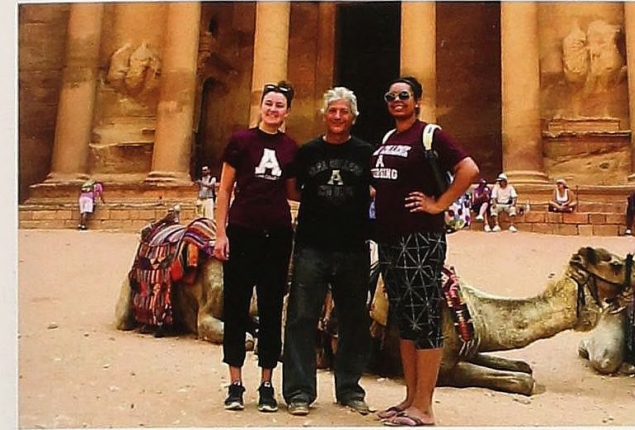


Page by Hannah Billig '18

Pictures by Alma College Communications and Marketing



"We believe that Ambassador is now the largest and most impactful engagement program of any liberal arts institution in the United States."  
**-MATT VANDERBERG '02**  
 Vice President for Advancement



### MICHAEL ALTMAN '80

A business administration and accounting major, Michael Altman '80, is now the CEO of Flying Doctors of America which helps to provide medical and dental care in developing countries. After the addition of the nursing program at Alma, Altman created a scholarship fund with his organization to give current nursing students the opportunity to travel to Jordan and Israel and experience what Flying Doctors of America does. For his efforts, Altman has won the Distinguished Alumni Award for bringing merit to Alma by embodying our mission in his work and life.



### CHRIS ANDRUS '02

After receiving a liberal arts education that sparked his interests and developed a disciplined attitude, Chris Andrus '02 of Grand Rapids, Michigan realized what his city and his own life was missing: baseball, vintage decor and craft beer all in one place. Thus, Andrus and his childhood friend, Max Trierweiler, set out to open The Mitten Brewing Company. In 2015, The Mitten won the President's Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals for their creation of the charitable giving program. Since opening in 2012, The Mitten has raised over \$100,000 for local organizations.



### DR. GREGORY BECHILL '89

After going in for a medical procedure as a child without having an explanation from the doctors, Dr. Gregory Bechill '89 wanted to find a way to do better at explaining the body and how it works. This fueled his drive to learn when he attended Alma College. Bechill found that a Liberal Arts education was exactly what he needed. He studied medicine and sociology to understand how both the body and people work and is now using this at Gratiot Family Practice in Alma.



### JAMIE BLOW '84

Director of the Pest Management Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense and head of the Armed Forces Pest Management Board, Jamie Blow '84 has worked on the front lines to protect troops from illnesses transmitted by insects. She has traveled the world over the years to work with diseases and uses her critical thinking skills she developed at Alma College to help her think outside the box and keep the troops safe. The last time Blow visited Alma, she gave a speech on the effects of vector borne diseases on global public health.





FEATURED STROVEN CIRCLE PUTTI, HAYES, VANDUST, HARR, AND GUNNELL

# EVENTS

# GRIT

## HOMECOMING

The Alma College football team played against Hope's Flying Dutchmen in front of a roaring crowd full of students, both past and present. Coming off a three game winning streak and an MIAA win against Kalamazoo, the Scots looked to keep momentum going with their eyes on Hope for another win. "All we had to do was go out and play our best in front of one of the biggest crowds some of us would ever play for," said Linebacker Colton Tyson '18. The game started in the Scots' favor with some early turnover issues for the Flying Dutchmen, but Alma's offense, uncharacteristically, struggled to move the ball in the first half, allowing Hope's "ground and pound" strategy to wear down the defense. The Scots ultimately fell to the Dutchmen by a final score of 35-19. Despite the loss, the game included numerous season bests, including 20 total tackles for linebacker Zac Peterson '18. Team captain and running back Nick Sullivan '17 also noted that it was "nice seeing some of the former players that we played with come back and support us." Despite the loss, the crowd never failed to support the Scotsmen and their achievements throughout the game and season. Colton Tyson '18 recalled, "They were a good football team, but we were better. We just didn't play to our potential that day."



**ABOVE:** The Scot's offensive line prepares for the next play with Dakota Jelinek '20 as their center. **RIGHT:** Wide receiver Essa Kellah '19 evades Hope's grips as he receives a screen pass from Dylan Zaborowski '18. Kellah would finish the day with three total catches for 33 yards.



• • •  
Page by Hannah Garn '18

### PROTECTING HOME FIELD.

The women's soccer team defended their home field against Albion over the homecoming weekend in front of a roaring crowd of students and alumni. The Brits managed one goal on the Scots, but senior Macayla Greiner '17 tied up the game with a goal for Alma. The lady Scots extended their unbeaten streak to 5 games with the 1-1 tie, and junior goalkeeper Kelsey Postema '18 reflected on the importance of that game, stating, "Every game, we play for more than just ourselves, we play for the team and all of the players who have played before us." The team would go on to extend their winning streak to 8 games.



**TOP.** Junior Drum Major, Sarah Jacobs '18, salutes the crowd before the pre-game show. **BOTTOM.** Pit member and clarinetist, Jill Kemper '17, diligently watches the drum majors to stay on the beat as this year's show heavily relies on its pit musicians.

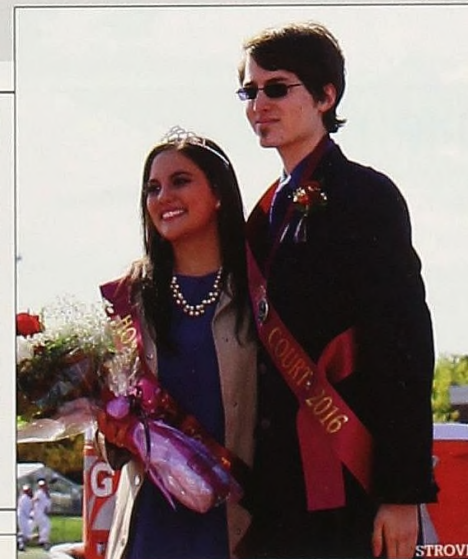
"Energy, work ethic, and tenacity."

# GRAVITY

The 94th edition of the Kiltie Marching Band performed their half-time show, Gravity, under the direction of Dave Zerbe in front of a crowd full of Alma students, friends, family, and alumni. The marching band performed the show throughout the season, which was comprised of three pieces that incorporated special sound effects and visuals symbolic of a galaxy. The marching band and pit worked diligently to prepare the show for their most important performance and "pushed past expectations to become even better musicians and performers," senior drum major, Emily Danks '17, recalled. The show included music from Gravity and Interstellar, as well as, original compositions, which relied heavily on the pit. The Kiltie band has been held to a high level of esteem for many years and much of its success has relied on the talent of each member. Two year pit and pipe band member, Jill Kemper '17, stated, "Despite some inevitable flaws, I've seen and heard some amazing things come out of this show." The Alma College pipe band, under the direction of pipe instructor, Drew Duncan, also performed in front of the homecoming crowd. The band, composed of both pipers and drummers, performed a set of tunes that was also performed at the Alma Highland Festival. Expectations for the marching and pipe bands were high and both delivered those in front of their home fans.

# QUEEN

MariaPaz Ribadeneira '17 on her international court crowning: "I had wonderful people around me since everything started, and I am so thankful to know that I have found a huge family in my home away from home. I am truly grateful for each and every person who contributed to this amazing day." Ribadeneira is a student from Quito, Ecuador majoring in German and Psychology.

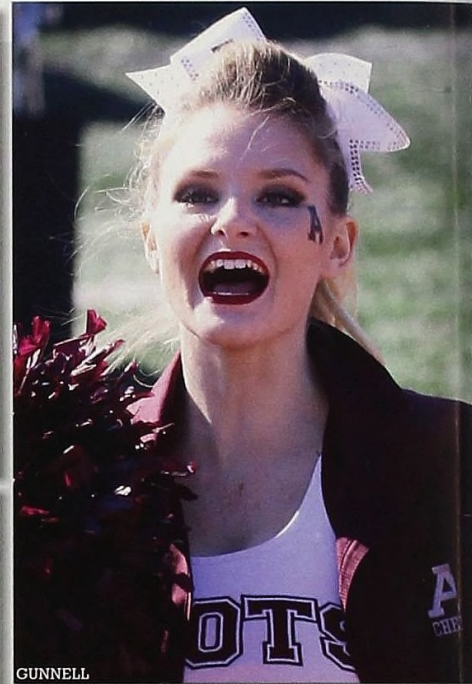


# KING

Charles Fales '17 on his humbling court moment: "Being crowned Homecoming King was a deeply touching experience, as it showed me that Alma does not care whether you are an athlete, gamer, member of Greek life, or anything in between. What Alma cares about most is the content of your heart and mind." Fales is from Olivet, Michigan, and majors in Psychology.

## FLYING HIGH

The Alma College cheer team opened the season with their first indoor performance on Homecoming day before cheering at the football game. Led by Coach Michelle Sabourin, the nationally recognized cheer team worked diligently every day and every practice perfecting their routine in order to be performance-ready as the homecoming weekend approached. Jessica Hatcher '20, described each member's individual preparation, stating, "Everyone was physically and mentally prepared and ready to perform to our highest ability." The team's hard work and dedication to their program was evident in front of the large homecoming crowd as the cheerleaders showcased their routine. Flyer Erica Kuiper '18 recalled, "This performance left our team feeling excited and ready to work toward accomplishing our goals for the rest of the season." The six-member Alma College dance team, led by Coach Tracy Burton, also performed their routine in front of the expectant crowd, showcasing their preparation and ability as they flowed through each motion. The dance team showcased their premier performance Homecoming day, as this is the first year Alma College has recognized and organized the sport. The dancers performed again at the football game in front of the roaring crowd full of students, friends, family, and alumni.



"After we finished, I felt truly united with our team and hungry for more to come."

-JESSICA HATCHER '20

**TOP.** Jessica Hatcher '20 leads the crowd in cheers during the Homecoming football game.

**BOTTOM.** Flyers Kamryn Pacholski '20, Julia Mocere '19, and Erica Kuiper '18 pose during their indoor performance before heading to the football field to perform at the game.



## SPIRIT

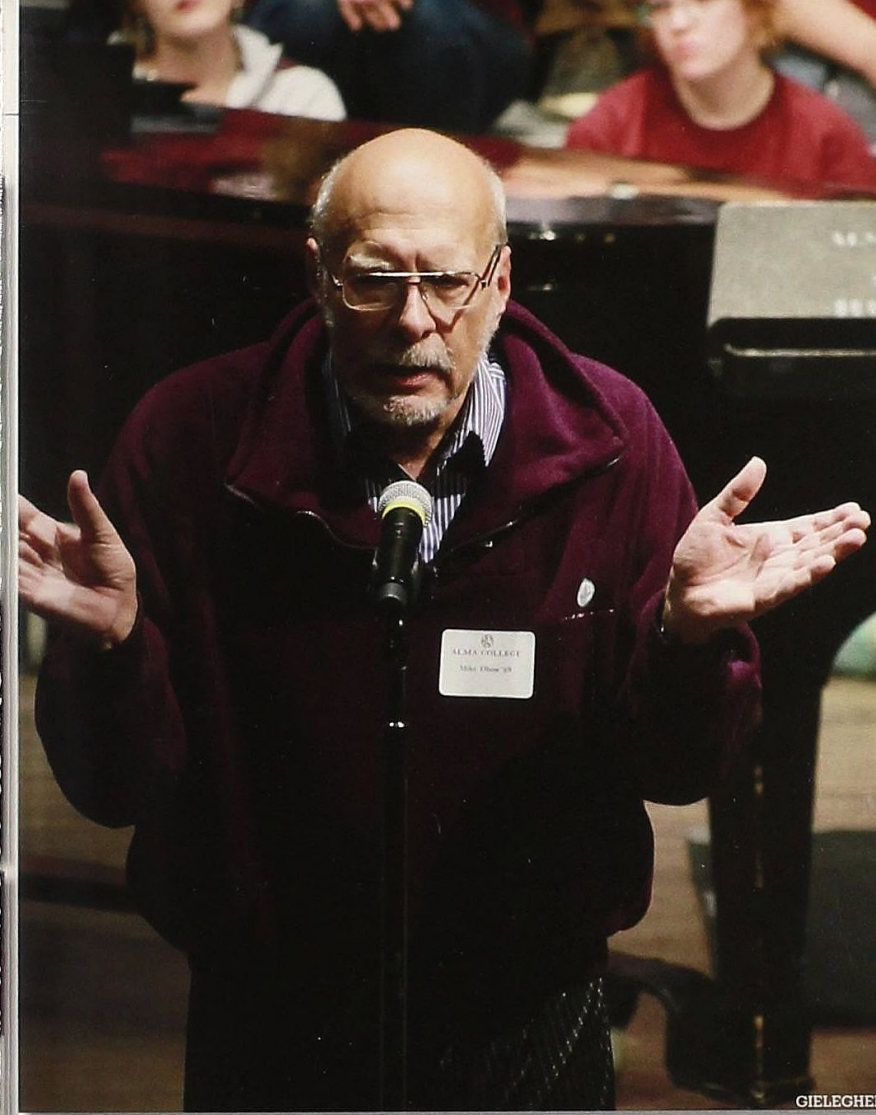
The highland dancers took to the streets in the Alma College Homecoming Day Parade, which consisted of numerous city and campus-wide organizations, clubs, and ensembles. The parade kicked off the main homecoming festivities for the weekend, while this year's parade drew hundreds of community members, alumni, and students to the streets of Alma to view the heart and morale of Alma College.



# ONE VOICE

## CHOIR CONCERT

Alma choir alumnus Mike Olson '69 returns for the homecoming weekend and performs a solo piece, "Children of the Heavenly Father," as the choirs behind him turn into a second audience. The Alma College Choirs, directed by Dr. Will Nichols, performed a number of pieces in the Heritage Center in front of a full auditorium on Homecoming night. The choirs were joined by over 70 alumni on stage and, as is traditional, sang Loch Lomund (a Scottish original) and the school's Alma Mater. Less traditional pieces were also performed, which included: "Fight Song," composed by Alma alumnus Brendan Lodge of the class of 2014, who sang alongside the choirs during his song's world debut. The alumni were recognized for their continued dedication to the program as they took their places next to the current Alma College choir members. The choir concert on Homecoming day has always provided an opportunity to celebrate the school and its students, both past and present, in the spirited, yet serene language of music. Members of the choirs unite for one evening a year and become a community as current students and alumni grace one another with the memorable experience of a unified choir. Alma Choir member, Zacc Bell '17, reminisced on the evening, saying, "People put a lot of effort into making Alma a great place, and it is really nice to see what people have given back to us."



**ABOVE:** Scots on the Rock, a mens ensemble composed of Alma Choir members, performs a comedic composition, "Search 4 Chords Song."  
**LEFT:** Choir director, Dr. Will Nichols, directs the Chorale during one of the many pieces performed.

Page by Hannah Garn '18

## IN WITH THE NEW.

The Zeta brothers celebrated the anticipated construction of their new house with brothers both past and present. The current Zeta House has been a home to the brothers for over 30 years, and with the ground breaking over homecoming weekend and future construction of a new and updated house, the Zeta Sigma Fraternity will be able to continue the growth and development of its organization and its members, young and old, for many generations. Zeta brother Jeff Schlicker '18 shared his thoughts, "The progress we're making toward the Zeta Sigma Scholar House is a step in the right direction. We've been in need of a new house for a long time and hopefully it will foster the growth of our organization for years to come." The new house will be built on the plot previously occupied by the Chapel house.



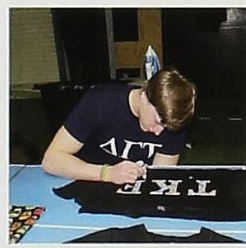


**JAIL AND BAIL.**

The brothers of Phi Mu Alpha raise money for Alpha Xi Delta's "jail n' bail" fundraiser by continuing to serenade the crowd at Relay For Life.

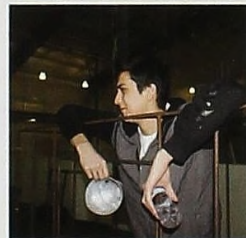
**RELAX, REFRESH, RELAY.**

Members of Delta Gamma Tau set up a table with video games, snacks, refreshments, and letter making for relayers to enjoy throughout the day. "I really enjoyed being involved at Relay, hanging out with brothers, and making letters with friends all day," offered Seth Alexander '18.



**HECKLING FOR HOPE.**

The Jail and Bail table set up by Alpha Xi Delta drew in many who arrested their friends in order to raise donations. Sophomore Jonathan Alfaro was arrested, but felt happy to be involved, stating, "It is great to set a day aside that focuses on the needs of others rather than yourself or own groups."



**KARAOKE FOR A CURE.**

In the evening relayers were able to take part in a karaoke session. "I think it's great how Relay For Life allows people to let loose and have fun while raising money and awareness for a great cause," Aaron Leonard '17 offered. "Cancer affects almost everyone and it's good to see so many involved."



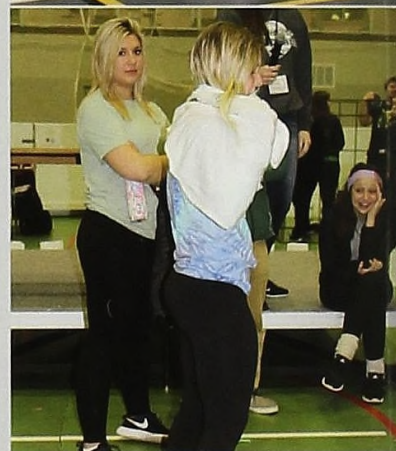
**ENTERTAIN FOR GAIN.**

Relay For Life was filled with a 16 hour long schedule comprised of both competition and entertainment. Relayers gathered to compete in limbo and wing eating contests in the afternoon. Later on in the evening, the entertainment committee gained the crowd's attention as the hypnotist worked his magic, the chemistry club showed their demonstrations, and the band presented by ACUB performed a concert.



**FIGHTING ALL NIGHT**

The Fight Back Ceremony is one of the final and lasting impressions at Relay For Life. Each year offers a new physical representation of the fight back against cancer, this year being dodgeball. This ceremony symbolizes both the attempt at dodging the disease as well as fighting to beat it. Four teams participated in a total of three games, allowing various groups ranging from greek organizations to athletic teams to participate. Participant Jenny Fisher '19 offered, "Different organizations coming together to fight for a great cause is such a rewarding experience. I spend all day there because it is such a great event to be a part of and to represent."



"Relay is something that really hits home for me. Aside from the fact that it supports a great cause, it's also a wonderful time and environment."  
-DANIELLE BOSS '18.



**NO PLACE LIKE. HOPE.**

Relayers across campus and the community come together each year at Alma College to help fight back against cancer and end it once and for all. On March 25th students, faculty, family, and friends came to donate, honor survivors, remember lost loved ones, and to spread the feeling of "no place like hope." This phrase was inspired by the Wizard of Oz themed decorations set up throughout the building. Colleges Against Cancer's (CAC) decoration chair, Deve Wishart '18, made the theme come to life and offered another inspiring phrase, "if we only had a cure." Throughout the day CAC members ran ceremonies offering hope and inspiring others to fight to find that cure. Participants took that fighting spirit and competed all day in various events to raise money. Competition was fierce during the egg toss, the musical chairs, minute-to-win-it games, hungry, hungry, hippos, and tug-a-war. While few people could win first place in these contests throughout the day, each relayer contributed to Alma College's big win. The campus' 2017 Relay For Life proved to be another successful year, raising over \$26,000 and a hope that will not die down until cancer does.

Page by Abby Schaitkin '18

"Seeing the community come together, especially for a cause as amazing as saving lives, is a beautiful thing."  
-NAJELLE GILMORE '19.



**TOP:** The Colleges Against Cancer committee members gather around to commemorate their successful day long event.

**RIGHT:** Relayers from across the community gather to play musical chairs. The performers were sponsored through ACUB to perform a concert in addition to the music for musical chairs.





# ACHIEVE

## 21ST ANNUAL HONORS DAY

As it has for the past 20 years, the Alma College community sets aside a spring day to recognize and celebrate a fundamental aspect of a college career. Student research is a vital part of a college education. It is also a day for every department to show off their works for the year. As the students share the outcomes of their work, they give insight to new emerging knowledge and topics in the liberal arts education. For Naria Ford-Thompson '18, it was her second time presenting on Honors Day. She explains her research, "The Real Life CSI," noting that "this was my second year doing forensic science research with Dr. Melissa Strait. My research has been more of an introduction to what forensic science is and some of the basic methods and principles used today. This is extremely useful for me as it's solidified that this is exactly what I want to do when I graduate!" Speaking about her poster presentation Ford-Thompson says, "to me, it's a great honor and experience to present on Honors Day in front of your fellow peers and the faculty members." No matter what field of study students are interested in, there is something exciting for them to learn about on Honors Day.

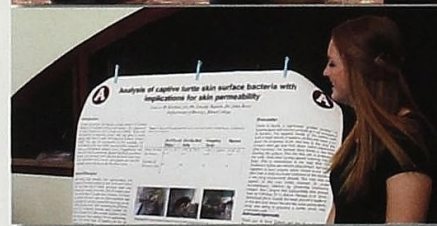
Page by Liz Putti '18

### On The Flip Side

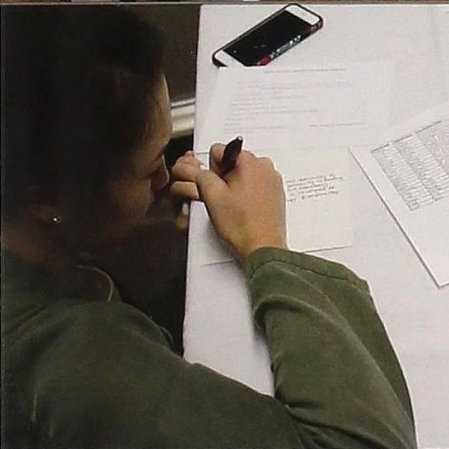
Honors Day isn't just for the students to show the Alma College community what they have been working on; it is also a day for professors and faculty to be on the other side of the classroom. It is an opportunity for them to learn about the work going on in all departments. Dr. Luetkemeier explains that he loves Honors Day. "It's very rewarding to watch your advisees become experts in their field. It's also fun to take the day off of teaching and learn about the unique research happening on our very own campus."



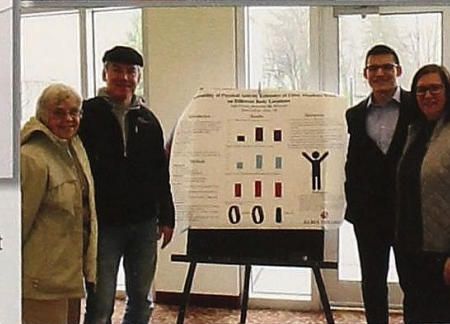
**POSTER PRESENTATIONS**  
Junior, Naria Ford-Thompson presents her research on "The Real Life CSI", an introduction investigation into forensic science, to her peers at the poster session.



**LEFT:** Charles Oswald '17 explains his research, "Do Liberals and Conservatives Speak Different Languages?"  
**TOP:** Lauren Kucharzyk '19, presents her summer research.



**TOP.** Junior Matthew Wiersma presents his research on Fit Bit monitors and their use of heart rate to determine caloric expenditure.  
**BOTTOM.** Junior Dorothy Beuning writes a thank you card to her donor at the Donors Brunch.



## DONORS BRUNCH

The second annual Donors Brunch, held in North Van Dusen during the lunch break on Honors Day, encouraged Alma alumni and community donors to come to campus and be involved in Honors Day. It allows the Honors Day presenters to meet with their sponsors and get to know them. Donors learn more about their student's research and how important it is to the development of their professional career. "The brunch was really cool because it let me meet the sponsor of my research opportunity and personally thank them," explains Lars Murray '18. Along with learning about the exciting research happening for Alma students, donors who attend the lunch learned about new additions to the campus and got to hear some highlights from current students' internship and Posey Global experiences. This helped the alumni and community members who supported the college see how their sponsorship enabled transformative experiences that come from the kind of individualized learning that is a cornerstone of an Alma education.

## Student Pannel

The Alma College Writing Center Panel held an open ended question session in the Clack Theater. The staff of the writing center led the conversation on "Tips for Writing Essays." Paige Daniel '18 explained that "our staff put on this small presentation to help the current students of Alma know what resources are available to them and how helpful they really are."



# CONNECT

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Kilties are performing in the annual Homecoming parade that travels through downtown Alma. The Homecoming parade was just one of many special events that the whole campus participated in this year. From intramural sports to cats and dogs, there is always something happening on campus. The yearly calendar is full of speakers that challenge campus to think about social issues and performances that make us laugh and cry. Organizations across campus offer events that bring students together to explore their common interests or a new perspective. Whether they aim to educate or entertain, these events bring students together and create bonds that people will remember forever and take with them when they leave. "My favorite event was the ACUB paint party. It was fun to meet new people and make new friends," Emily Weiss '20 said. In the end, it is through working, thinking, playing together that we become a community. "My friendships have grown so much," Katie Kalamaras '18 said. "My fellow dancers have made me into a better dancer as well as a person, and my brothers are the best thing that ever happened to me at Alma and have accepted me as part of their family forever- and I can't thank them enough for that!"

Page by Rebecca Gielegem '20



**NEVER QUIT.** Students are playing in the IM basketball tournament at the rec center. Teams consist of all ages and allow all students, whether athletes or not, to get to play and be active. The teams played regular season games and then went into tournament play. Freshman Braxton Platt said, "I played intramural soccer and basketball. I really enjoyed it because it was stress relieving and a fun way to spend time with my friends."



**ALL ABOUT THE STUDENTS.** Students enjoy a St. Patrick's Day party thrown by ACUB. Besides running the student lounge, ACUB sets up many events around campus or students to participate in. The St. Patrick's Day party included dancing and games.



**SWING.** Alma students of all ages are learning a new style of swing dance with the group called the Hepcats. This is a swing dancing group that anyone can join. They met once or twice a week and learned new styles of swing dance and would host dances for other people to come out and learn as well.



**SAM LINDEMAN '20**  
"I like participating in different events because I love campus and it is always a good opportunity to meet new people! GO SCOTS!"



**MONICA KUNOVSKY '18**  
"Greek life was something I didn't want to get into, but at Alma it's a perfect opportunity to network with cool individuals, a chance to gain leadership skills and try to make a difference on this campus and challenge the stigmas against Greek life."



**BAILEY KNUTH '20**  
"I want to make a positive impact on my community, as well as represent Jesus Christ wherever I go. Having ways to serve and live like he would while an campus let's me know I am making an impact for the right reasons."



**JOCELYN SWEENEY '20**  
"Alma offers a very welcoming and friendly environment, the more I got involved on campus, the more people I met and the more at home I felt!"



**FURRY FRIENDS.** Freshman Travis Moyer plays with a kitten to de-stress during Kitty Fun Night in the rec center. Alma brings in cats and dogs around midterms and finals to help students relax and take study breaks. Freshman Travis Moyer said, "I liked going to the kitten nights because I really enjoyed petting those little furballs and I love animals!"



**GOING GREEK.** Gamma Phi Beta sisters run out to welcome their newly pledged sister. Recruitment happened during the winter semester. Students meet brothers and sisters from all the fraternities and sororities and attend events to then choose which fraternity or sorority they would like to join. "Initially I saw a poster for free food. However, during the process, I fell in love with the people and the organization. I realized this sisterhood is something I really wanted to be apart of!" Jordan Gasby '20.



Ecuador in the middle of the world  
**LATITUDE: 00° 00' 00"**  
calculated with G.P.S.

# ACADEMICS

FEATURED: GILBERT, ELMER, BROWN, SUTHERLAND, VANDUSER, HERRON, LADUKE AND PUTTI



**HEXOSKINS**

Hexoskins are a new Under Armour tank top that help you monitor your heart rate and breathing rate while exercising. As an IPHS Major, Joseph Mitrzyk '18 was able to work with Alma's newest professor Dr. Alex Montoye to test out how well they work. Over the summer, the pair did research on Alma's campus working with the next generation smart clothing. They were working on validating the accuracy of this equipment with the help of 32 local participants. Mitrzyk described his summer as: "A great thing to have on your resume, especially as an undergraduate. Not many students experience this type of opportunity." As a special bonus, Mitrzyk presented his research in Fort Wayne Indiana at the Midwest American College of Sports and Medicine Conference to show other students what he had learned.



MITRZYK

**FREE ART**

As a part of their free art days, Annamarie Williams '18 helped her organization by going to youth shelters and making different art projects available to them. The children loved the face paint the most. Free Arts Minnesota is a nonprofit organization located in the heart of Minneapolis that serves impoverished youth: any youth who are homeless, experiencing poverty, or any type of mental health crisis. This was the perfect Internship for Williams, who plans to go into art therapy. Along with having free art days, each volunteer was also assigned as a mentor with 27 different partner sites. Williams worked with the Hopkins Center, a mental health facility for youth between the ages of 12 and 18. "The most impactful thing was working at Hopkins because I really got to connect with the kids and develop a positive relationship with them every day," stated Williams.



WILLIAMS

**ARTHROPODS**

Alma college offers grants to students through the "Core" program to help them do research with a professor for the summer. Abigail Fergus '18 used this funding to help Dr. David Clarke finish a research paper on spiders. They were looking at Arthropods to see if the prey they were consuming correlates to their webs being convex or concave domes. Another part of her summer was spent developing an interactive citizen trail at Forest Hill Nature Trail. Posts are set up with QR codes to allow people to find out useful information about the specific area of nature they are in. "Only a small part of my summer was spent doing traditional research. I think it is important for a scientist to practice how to communicate with people outside of their field, so it was a good learning experience figuring out how to simplify scientific jargon into understandable concepts," explained Fergus.



FERGUS

**SUPERCOMPUTER**

With an interest in Math and Chemistry, junior Chase Schultz found a way to combine both of these majors. Schultz worked with Dr. James Mazzuca and his research on Physical Chemical Theory. With budget support from University of Illinois, Schultz was able to log onto the Blue Waters Supercomputer every day. This research was looking at the quantum effects involved in Biological systems. Schultz has been working with Dr. Mazzuca since his freshman year at Alma College and now that he has research experience, will be working towards his doctorate to be a professor at a school like Alma. "Dr. Mazzuca is one of the biggest reasons that this is the field that I want to go into. He has been such a great mentor that I would love to be that resource for someone else," said Schultz.



BLUE WATERS

# EXPERIENCE

## RESEARCH & INTERNSHIPS

Working as an intern over the summer can be a very rewarding job. Senior Aaron Leonard was able to spend his summer working as a Marketing and Public Relations Intern for Mackinaw State Historic Park on Mackinaw Island. When he was a junior, he started looking into internships that would allow him to work on a national or state park, similar to Yosemite National Park. He chose the job in Mackinaw because a lot of the projects he was able to work on coincided with his new media major. Every day was different, whether it was taking photos for a state park event like a fourth of July picnic at Fort Mackinaw, or watching a vintage baseball game held behind the fort. He was able to work on the island and on the mainland at three historic locations: Fort Michilimackinac, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park, and the old Mackinaw Point Lighthouse. Some days were spent assisting media crews that would come to island. Any time a news station was there, they would give them any piece of information that they needed. It was usually tips on spots where crews could film and record the best quality footage to create a better promotional video for the state park. Leonard shared an office that overlooked downtown Mackinaw Island with the marketing public relations officer of Mackinaw State Historic Park. Leonard was given a lot of free reign to do what he wanted with the projects, such as creating promotional videos for the state park. "Everyone loved being there. It was really cool to see the new people that would come to the island every day, so you got to interact with new people all the time." As a side job, he worked as an adventure tour guide with Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park by giving people nature tours of the trails, canopy bridge, zip lines, and Rockwall. After his amazing summer experience, Leonard commented, "If there were ever an opening in the marketing department there, I can definitely see myself applying for it because it was kind of my dream job working there."



LEONARD

Page by Aerial Stroven '18

**ANIMATION**

This picture is a piece of storyboard animation created by Emily Allison '17 while she was at the University of Dundee in Scotland. Allison was part of the very first four-week summer program that allowed art students to internationally travel to Scotland and create a work of animation. The group would go on two field trips a week to local art museums, and then spend the rest of their time working on their projects. Allison's tale was about a magical novice who lived in Scotland and met mythical creatures. At the end of the program, they had a Gallery opening that displayed every student work in a storyboard format and had the animation playing on a computer.



ALLISON

**IMMERSION**

Study abroad experiences throw students headfirst into new and exciting cultures. During the fall semester of 2016, Sarah Straney '17 studied abroad in Segovia, Spain. She traveled independently and took classes completely in Spanish. Living with a host family offered a unique experience which opened her eyes to different facets of life in Spain. While abroad, Straney expanded her experience and also traveled to Norway, Italy, Poland, and Morocco.



STRANEY

**CLASSROOM**

Straney explained that every moment in the classroom in Spain was an opportunity to strengthen her knowledge and confidence in her language skills. These opportunities proved beneficial in the classroom on Alma College's campus as well. Upon her arrival back to campus, Straney offered advanced Spanish vocabulary and different viewpoints regarding architecture, current events, and politics. Because she had studied in Spain, her perspective on all of these issues was broadened and changed, and that meant she had new things to contribute to her classes here.



STRANEY

**REALITY**

Living with a host family ensured that senior Sarah Straney received the full Spanish experience. "I lived with an 81 year old woman named Nati," Straney said. "She loved to watch Spanish reality tv, so every night when we would eat dinner, we would laugh together watching the Spanish versions of Big Brother and the Voice. It became a weekly routine for us and we made sure to never miss an episode." She noted that this experience caused her to gain a whole new understanding of culture and everyday life outside of the United States.



STRANEY

**BEYOND ALMA**

The opportunity to travel and step off of Alma College's campus was life-changing for senior Sarah Straney. "There is a life outside of the United States and I encourage everyone to get out and see it," says Straney. She adds that improved confidence in her language skills were secondary to the improved confidence in herself due to her traveling. Her eyes have been opened to new cultures and she says she was given the opportunity to see a portion of the amazing things this world has to offer. The benefits of her experience are immeasurable and she looks forward to the opportunity to expand her knowledge further and visit Spain again.

# EXPANSION

## STUDY ABROAD

For Senior Erika Zenchak, there was no where better for her study abroad experience than Segovia, Spain. She most enjoyed the chance to explore different parts of Spain while traveling to other cities on the weekends with friends and classmates. "Eating the local cuisine, and seeing all of the beautiful history, architecture, cities, and mountains" are the things that made her semester abroad truly special. Zenchak enjoyed her experience abroad and appreciated bringing back her new knowledge to Alma College's campus.



ZENCHAK



ZENCHAK

Page by Natalie Murrey '19

**RETURN**

Study abroad experiences are often very meaningful to the students that have the opportunity to go on one. Erika Zenchak was no exception. She stated, "My semester in Spain was one of the best experiences of my life." She not only gained knowledge about the Spanish language and lecture material, but she also learned important life skills as well. "I learned how to travel independently, take risks, and balance classes with leisure," Zenchak noted. The experience Alma College provided Erika is one that she will cherish forever.



ZENCHAK

**WOMEN, WORK, AND CALLING**

During their time in London, Dr. Catherine Fobes' class focused on studying the vocational journey of two women: Dame Cicely Saunders, founder of the Modern Hospice Movement, and Dorothy Day, founder of the Catholic Worker Movement. The class took a day trip to St. Christopher's Hospice in South London and to Oxford where they toured Oxford University. The class also spent 3 days at the Catholic Worker Farm in Hertfordshire. Students appreciated Dr. Fobes's energy in teaching her subject, as well as the relevance of the subject to their own lives. "My favorite part of this trip was getting the opportunity to explore a new city," said Becca Bale '18. "We were able to interact with many of the locals and get an understanding of their daily lives. Living in flats made it feel like I was actually living in London instead of just being a tourist."



BALE

**BACKPACKING THROUGH ITALY**

During their time in Italy, NMS majors and non-majors explored cinematography under the guidance of Professor Anthony Collamati. They studied both the techniques of film making and the power of film to capture the culture, diversity, and landscape of Italy, as well as the experience of traveling there. This class backpacked throughout Italy, filming and editing their own videos. Senior Zach Kribbit noted that the whole class was excited to tell their stories and share their films. "My favorite part about the trip was simply having the freedom to explore a new area and landscape while experiencing a different culture from my own. We weren't really restricted in any ways, and could therefore have our own individual experiences along with a group experience," said Kribbit. It was an unforgettable experience that produced both memories and documentary footage.



KRIBBIT

**INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION**

For Joanne Gilbert, professor of communication, there is no better way to study intercultural communication than through international travel. Traveling with students throughout Ecuador and the Andes region makes the class's subject real. Whether they were taking the class for the major or just for fun, students were struck by both the beauty of the land and the activities and interactions they had with the local community. "My favorite part about the trip would have to be visiting Bellavista, the cloud forest! It was like walking through a rainforest with waterfalls with lots of hiking in the mountains! The nature was beautiful and we saw lots of insects, birds, and plant life," stated Lindsey Lloyd '17. During their time there, the students got to work closely with young children in a local school. Lloyd explains, "I will never forget the relationships I have made and the kids. They were amazing and so was this trip. A once in a life time opportunity,"



LLOYD

**STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP**

To learn how to lead, students dressed up and connected with different alumni every day, including Senator Gary Peters, pictured here with the class. It is a class designed to network with successful alumni while also learning how to lead people in the business world. The class explored Detroit, Birmingham, and Grand Rapids while accompanied by alumni. They visited a winery in Grand Rapids and had an adventure in a box at a Detroit Tigers game. "My favorite part of the Spring Term was our week in Detroit/Birmingham" claimed Thomas Miller '17. "I had the opportunity to meet some incredible alumni and enjoy exploring the cities with classmates."



# "SNAP SHOT"

## SPRING TERM

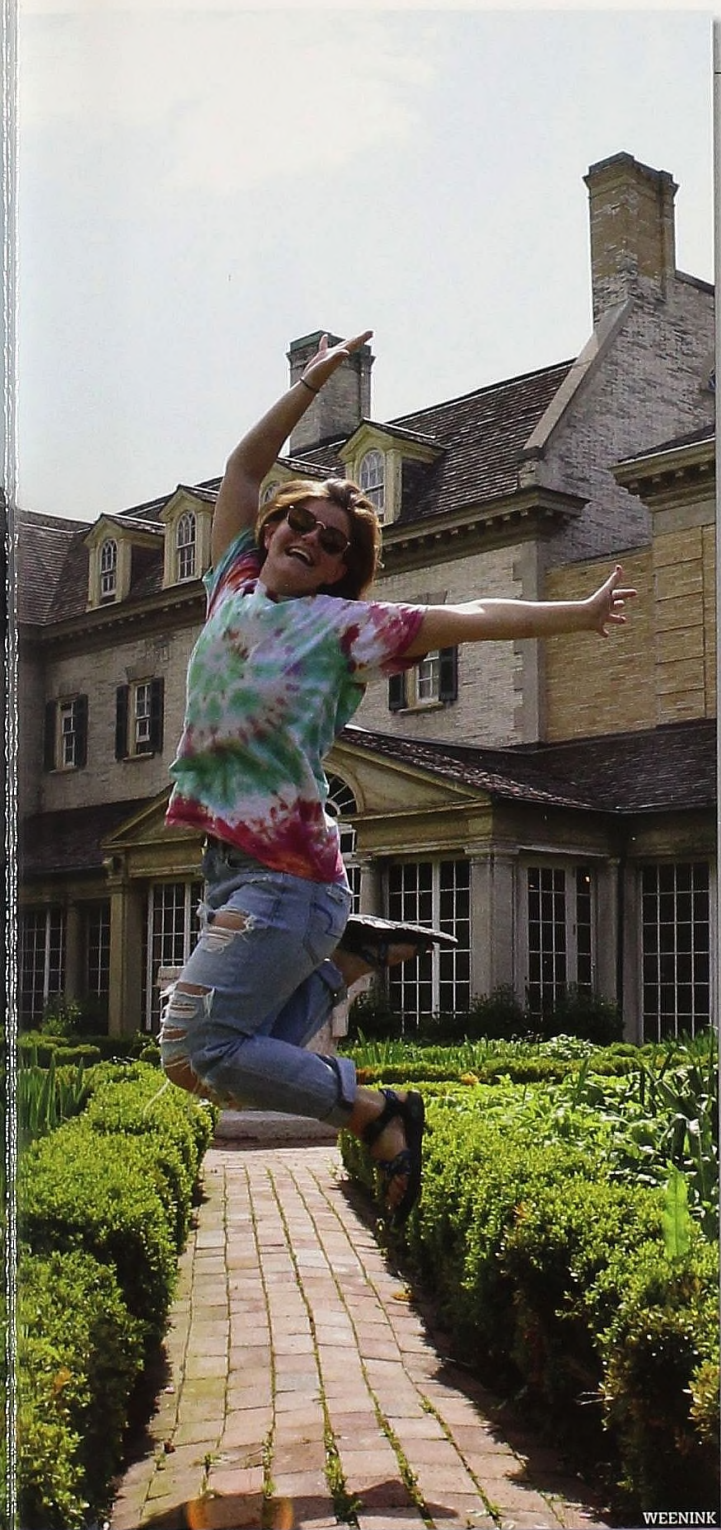
Jaime Weenink '20 jumps for joy in the lovely gardens of the George Eastman House. Her class, History of Photography, learned all about the history and evolution of photography throughout the week at the Eastman House. Professor Sandy Isnardi-Lopez created the perfect atmosphere of seriousness and fun for the students. While studying there, students had a chance to meet a man who has had a profound impact on the history of photography. "My favorite part about the trip was being able to meet and talk with the inventor of the digital camera, Steve Sasson," explains Weenink. Sasson's first digital camera, created for Eastman Kodak in 1975, began the revolution that changed how we take pictures. The class also got exclusive access to antique cameras, chemicals, and photographs. Although the workshops were long, the students learned about the history of photography in a very detailed way. The class was based in Rochester, New York, but they also explored the busy city of New York, New York. While in New York City, this class visited many art museums—including The Whitney, The Metropolitan, The New Museum, The International Center of Photography, and The Brooklyn Museums—to expand their understanding of the art world. They had the chance to get a taste of the life of a true New Yorker, see iconic sites like Time Square and Central Park, and explore the food and people of the Big Apple. While many of these students were art majors, some just went for the love of photography. "I took this spring term because I have an interest in photography. I knew I would learn a lot about my camera and I knew I would be taking great pictures of a beautiful city," says Weenink. While each student had a different experience in New York and Rochester, the class was very excited to share all they had done throughout the weeks of traveling. "This was a trip of a life time," said Isnardi-Lopez, "and I will never forget this amazing time we had here in New York City."



Page by Jessica Morr '18

**ZIP, SPLASH, BUBBLE, BUBBLE**

Annika Gurrola '18 encounters a beautiful sea turtle while snorkeling. On the beautiful islands of Kauai and Kona, Professor John Rowe's class studied the coral reef ecology and sea life. Many students took this class to expand their knowledge of ocean and coral reef systems and to have the chance to scuba and snorkel. Others took this class to either further degree or explore new places in the world. "I loved being able to snorkel and scuba dive with sea turtles, sharks, and many diverse fish while studying their behavior and environment," stated Gurrola. "My favorite part of the trip was going on a night dive and seeing the different animals than we would normally see during the day."



WEENINK



GURROLA

**ENERGY**

In the classroom and out, Professor of Modern Languages Julie Arnold brought energy to every situation. Whether she was teaching or out exploring one of her many other interests—including invasive species in the woods and playing her "dulcimer in music jams at 3:00 in the morning"—Arnold made an effort to excite her students and inspire them to try their best. Arnold graduated with a bachelor's degrees in French and English from Alma College in 1979 and returned to campus as a professor in 1981. As an Alma College alumnus, Arnold's passion for Alma College was evident. During her last semester she brought many French books to the library to donate to students that would enjoy and further their learning with them. Students and faculty will miss Professor Arnold's energy as she takes time to pursue her outside interests.



MARKETING

**ROCKING THE LAB**

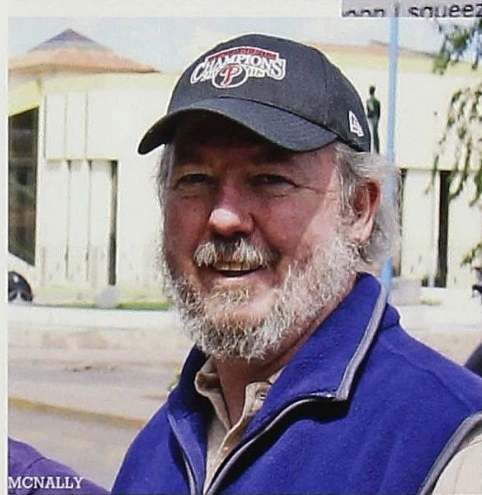
Professor Joe Beckmann has a reputation amongst his biochemistry students as a man who really knows his stuff. Tough but supportive, Beckmann has shaped the direction of Alma's biochemistry program since his arrival in 1996. Students over the past twenty one years have consistently praised both his passion for his subject and his taste in classic rock. Beckmann, a talented guitarist, continues to perform across Mid-Michigan with his blues rock band, The Right Wrong Band. Music was also a part of Beckmann's teaching style, since classic rock provided the soundtrack for many biochemistry labs. For some alumni, their defining memory of studying biochemistry was the challenge of a passionate and knowledgeable professor, but for others, it was the recollection of titrating an acid while listening to Aerosmith and Pink Floyd.



BECKMANN

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

The legacy of Professor Myles McNally is clear when reviewing all of the students' lives he has touched. From taking students to Jamaica to building and developing new programs, McNally's impact on Alma College is immense, especially within the computer science and artificial intelligence fields. As colleague Professor Andrew Thall noted, "A pivotal element in Myles's work has been his interest in Artificial Intelligence and robotics. He developed and ran a state-wide, High School robotics competition." His robotics seminar influenced both upper-level students and first year students. He even helped students brand new to Alma College through being "a key player and co-PI on the STEM education grants that created the ASPIRE/PRISM programs." His expertise is data structures, algorithm visualization, artificial intelligence, and cognitive science.



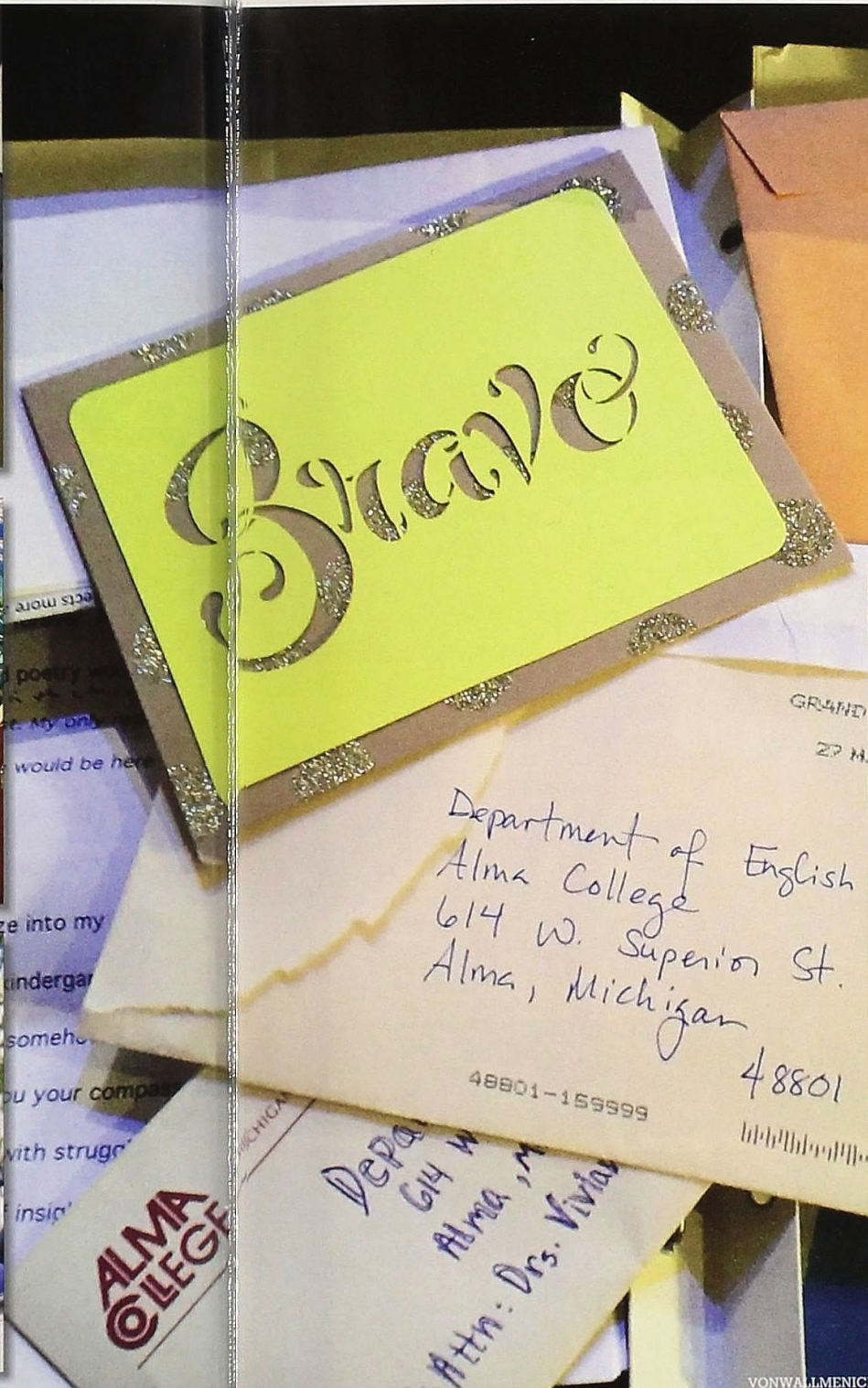
MCNALLY

**A GUIDING HAND**

Fellow English faculty member Professor Robert Vivian describes Dr. William Palmer as "quietly intrepid in the classroom, even at one point taking his creative writing students to the cadaver lab" so that they could observe and write about life, death, and spirit. Professor Palmer inspired everyone he was near: students and fellow faculty. As Professor Laura Von Wallmenich commented, "He has been a tremendous inspiration to our student writers and fostered a love of poetry in all who work with him." Students described him as patient and gentle, but still challenging. Colleagues praised his supportive role and his guiding hand within the department. As Vivian stated, "Dr. Palmer's influence will last as long as Alma College is indeed a college."



VONWALLMENICH



VONWALLMENICH

# GRATITUDE

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Every year, the faculty of Alma College line up to form a gauntlet for the graduating seniors as they leave the commencement ceremony in the Hogan Center. This parting ritual is matched by another set of farewells, those we say to the faculty who retired and joined the ranks of Emeritus Professor. This year, four faculty retired. Collectively, these four have 124 years of service to Alma College and have taught thousands of students. Whether they arrived in the late 1970s or in the 1990's, generations of alumni still share stories of their teaching.



WIEDERHOLD

Page by Natalie Murrey '19

**POETRY AND SONG**

As part of its celebration of the retirement of Professor William Palmer, faculty in English and Music collaborated on a concert that featured music composed by Professor Murray Gross. Gross's symphony consisted of several movements, each one a poem set to music. According to Professor Gross, it was in Dr. Palmer's poem "A String of Blue Lights" that he found his connecting theme. In preparation for the event, hundreds of alumni wrote and emailed, sharing their memories of the lasting impact of Dr. Palmer's teaching, as well as their own poetry and prose written in honor of his retirement. Professor Robert Vivian presented these letters and poems at the concert.



VONWALLMENICH

# INSPIRE

## ACADEMICS FEATURE

Senior Rachel Nemeth received the Kapp Award at this year's Honors Day. Students at Alma get the amazing opportunity to pursue their academic passions outside the classroom. For Nemeth, that meant exploring social and educational challenges faced by "third culture kids," children who are growing up in a culture different than that of their parent's home culture. Nemeth was only one of the many who were in the running and won a Kapp Prize. Other recipients were Ethan Akins, Samantha Kulhanek, Cameron Spitzfaden, and Annamarie Williams. Each individual researched something unique to their area of study. These topics were mad-cow disease, migrant rights, and domestic violence along with Nemeth's third culture kids. Each received a Kapp Prize. Nemeth explained why she chose her area of research by saying, "I chose to research the education of TCKs because I want to teach overseas after I am done at Alma, and a lot of my students will be TCKs." Each student spent countless hours gathering their research and then compiling it into a their final projects. "I was not expecting a Kapp Award, so I am humbled and grateful for the recognition." Nemeth said.



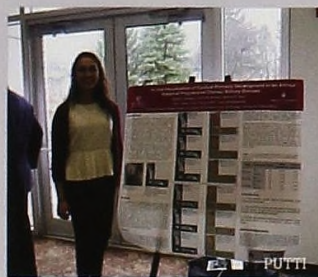
**SLAM DUNK**  
Najelle "Jelly" Gilmore '19 performs her original poetry before a packed crowd at the annual Hilson Poetry Slam. "Although the competition was tough, in the end, Jelly Gilmore took first place for original work when she brought the house down with her combination of clever wordplay and stylish performance," Dr. Von Wallmenich said. Demetri Christian '18 earned second place for his original work.



**REWARD**  
Seniors Alia Jones and Ty Jensen are sit and enjoy a meal at Honors Day. Alia presented a project on dancers and how their level of flexibility either, promotes or inhibits injuries. Alia said, "My favorite part about the research for my thesis was collecting the data and either seeing a positive or negative change, or no change at all! Also, working with dancers in relation to a scientific study was exciting!"



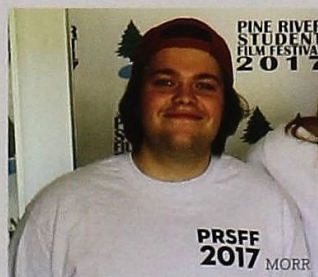
**MELODY**  
The concert band performs their spring show in the Heritage Center. Alma College has many music majors and has many bands that allow students to explore different music from different cultures. The bands also took some Scottish heritage to help influence their music selection this year.



**DOROTHY BUENING '18**  
"Being able to live in Indianapolis and assist a post-doctorate fellow with her thesis research was an amazing opportunity that really allowed me to get firsthand experience of what my next step after Alma may look like!"



**KELSEY DENNIS '19**  
"My favorite thing to learn on my trip to Germany was how different the culture was and how to dive myself into it."



**JOSEPH CASTLE '20**  
"One of my favorite things about Alma's academics is the ability to have professors who want to help you learn and grow gives students the opportunity to flourish and learn in a new way that's truly unique to Alma."



**KATIE KALAMARAS '18**  
"I really like the professors and their willingness to help. I have seen myself grow since my time here at Alma academically and as a person."



**CULTURE.**  
Students gather around the table at their German market. Alma allows for students to experience different cultures in new ways. From making and eating food, celebrating holidays, and even dressing in their clothing. Students from all different ethnicities come together to experience one.



**EXPERIENCE.**  
New Media Studies students use their knowledge from their classes to interview members of the different sports teams at Alma. T"BLT is a sports organization on campus that focuses on discussing and learning about sports and the elements behind the scenes of most sports. I enjoyed hanging out with everyone in the club. We all became pretty good friends and I will cherish the memories we made." Steven Luomala-Kipp '17 said.





# FINE ARTS

FEATURED: HAYES, CIRCLE, GIELEGHAM, STROVEN, AND MORRIS



**OBSERVATION.**

Fannette Burns '19, an Anthropology Major and Art History Minor, points to artist Amy Sacksteder's painting while she discusses what she thinks the painting is trying to portray.



**EASEMENT**

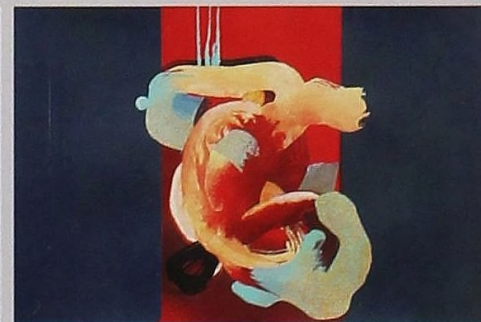
Zachary Meyer '18 analyzes artist Amy Sacksteder's work, featured in the in the Gallery from late February through early March. Sacksteder's art often focused on an object that represented fears, specifically fears that emerged since becoming a mother. The anxieties that drive her work are both global and personal in scope. She depicts phenomenons like global warming, fear of losing relationships, and threats to civil rights. However, each creation is also deeply personal, drawing from Sacksteder's experiences through out her life. Shows like this capture the value of having an art gallery on campus. As Fanette Burns '19 noted, "It shows artists' beautiful work and also lets us, students, broaden our spectrum of the world and how we portray everything around us."



"Human idealism can be expressed in all different forms of artistic beauty."  
-DR. CONNOLLY

**SCHOLARLY ART.**

In November, the gallery featured the works of Hope College art faculty Katherine Sullivan. Through grants from organizations like the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Sullivan has traveled to Venice, Mexico City, South Africa, New Delhi and London, and also taught at Jamia Millia Islamia, a public university in New Delhi. Sullivan's experiences influenced her most recent collection, called Docile Bodies, which combined Western European styles of painting along with motifs from India.



**QUEENS GALLERY SHOW**

The gallery is a place where professional artists, professors, and students can collaborate and show off their art work. At the end of every year, the senior class produces work of their own and shows it in the gallery. Following this, there are several presentations where they can explain what their work means, portrays, what inspired them, and much more. This year is a special case, due to the fact that it was an all women's show. "I think it's interesting it's just us women. We have such meaningful and powerful pieces that it makes me feel like we are the queens of art," explained Josie Sabo '17. All the seniors of this show created a body of work focused on something they were very passionate about, but that also showed their skills in their chosen mediums. The art work ranged from photography, animation or graphics, painting, drawing, and a thesis. Collectively, these women made art that addressed social issues and experiences of their own life. "This show is a really powerful one," stated Sarah Bishop '17. "My fellow students and I have had many different experiences that we are very passionate about, and I think this show will be great contributor in showing what we want people to see about us, as people."

Page By Jessica Morr '18

"Art is impactful for all who wish to be impacted."  
-EMILY ALLISON'17



**CREATING MOMENTS**

What is one of your personal favorite pieces?



REILLY GORDON '17  
"My personal favorite in my show is Inner Light because it was the first piece in this series and it really set the mood."



EMILY PRICE '17  
"My favorite piece from my show is Dew Drops. This is because I feel like the dew replicates jewels that enhance the leaf."



MARCELLA FLURY '17  
"I like the very first one in my series because it represents my family and it makes me smile!"



**NEW TRADITIONS**

This was the first year that the Choir performed during MLK Day. "Instead of the college just giving its students a half day, Doctor Nichols wanted to put together a concert that celebrated and honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his heritage," said Libbey Jones '18.

**LaKESHIA BORTZ '19**

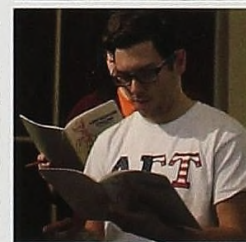
"Being a member during my years at Alma helped give me a sense of belonging. Choir members were my first friends on campus freshman year and we were still friends senior year. It was like a big family and I wouldn't trade my four years for anything."

**NARIA FORD-THOMPSON '18**

"Being a part of the Alma Choir has had such a huge impact on my time here at Alma and certainly my life. I have met some of the greatest people and had more experiences than I can count that I wouldn't have had if I was not a member."

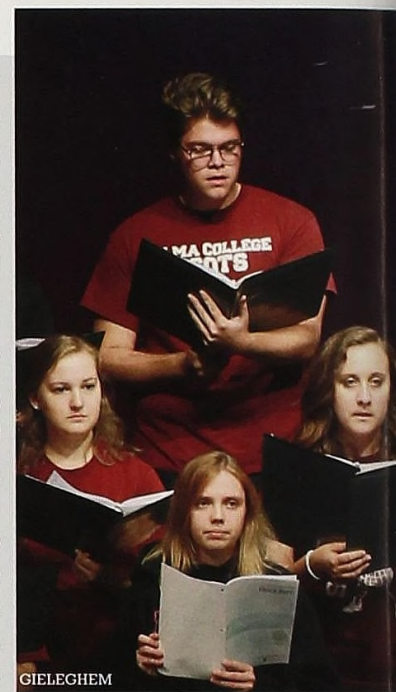
**JOHN KIMBALL '17**

"it has given me an outlet to enjoy music and throughout my years singing I have made many friends and memories that I will carry with me the rest of my life! Choir has given me opportunities like the ability to travel abroad and around the United States!"



**FIGHT SONG**

The Homecoming Concert is always a really fun and exciting event that takes place during Homecoming weekend. "A lot of people come to after the parade, football game, and other festivities going on that day," says Libbey Jones '18. A highlight of this year's concert was alumni Brenden Lodge's arrangement of Rachel Platten's "Fight Song." It was a huge hit not only for the audience, but for the members of the Alma College Choir. This concert is an exciting event for both alumni and current Alma College Choir members to look forward to. "The Homecoming Concert is my favorite concert of the year. Seeing all the alumni come back and singing with them is always so much fun! They are always willing to share stories from their time at Alma College and I love hearing them all!" said senior LaKeshia Bortz.



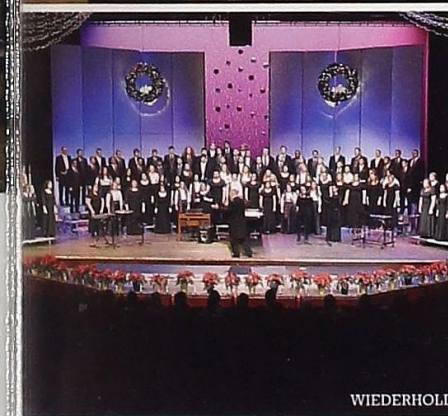
**"Choir has an amazing alumni base that meets us as we travel around the world, and I know that when I come back to visit Alma, I will always have a home with the choir."**  
**-ALEXA PIOTROWSKI '18**

**TRADITION  
IN THIS TOGETHER**

A goal for the Alma College Choir is to make every year important and give the students pieces of music that are important and worth singing about. This is something that the choir has done year after year. The program is built around a neat and well-organized schedule that has become tradition. It would be a mistake to think that the shows are what makes being a part of this progress fun; it is the singing. The students are naturally drawn to singing. The dedicated members practice every day and each rehearsal has moments that "reminds the students of why they dedicate this time in our busy lives for making music," says Choir Director Dr. William Nichols. The primary focus of the fall term is spent preparing for the Annual Festival of Carols. The members spent a lot of time working together to create a wonderful event for the Alma College friends, family, community members, and for the signers themselves. Alma College Choir community consist of three choirs: the women's glee club, the chorale, and the Alma Choir. The program is designed around the concept members start in the glee club or chorale and work their way up. The choirs rehearse and preform separately by themselves, but they also come together to preform great, big pieces that require all 120 voices to become one.

Page By Jordie Hayes '18

**"They have been nothing short of family to me."**  
**-RACHEL KALINOVIK '17**



**RIGHT:** All 120 voices combine during the Festival of the Carols performance. Junior Alexa Piotrowski states that "Doc (Director Dr. William Nichols) mixed the Alma Choir, Chorale and Glee Club up more than usual this year and I thought it was a nice adjustment."

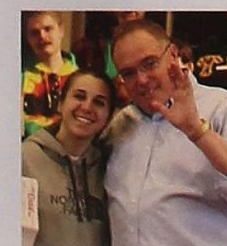
**SPRING TOUR.**

During spring break, the choir traveled up and down the East Coast visiting and performing in New Year City, Philadelphia, and Washington DC. They performed at the National Cathedral, the Capitol Building, and Princeton University. During their spare time, the members got to visit the bar from the TV show "How I Met Your Mother" in NYC, Independence Hall, and other historical sites in Washington DC.

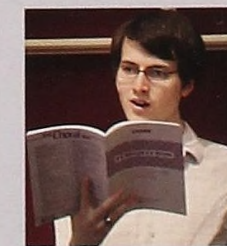


**CREATING MOMENTS**

What was your moment from this year?



**LIBBEY JONES '18**  
 "My favorite moment from the year was probably singing in a huge stone New York church on Sunday morning with their gospel choir and then exploring the city with some of my best friends the whole rest of the day on the choir tour."



**CHARLES FALES '17**  
 "My favorite moment would have to be singing at the Washington National Cathedral on the choir tour. Being able to see and explore such an exquisite place is a great treat, but what makes it truly special is being able to do that with your friends and to bring joy to people through the beauty of music—and only Alma Choir can give you that kind of opportunity."

# PIP

## STITCHES

Reminiscing on PIP, Grace Sutherland '17 noted that "It is so much less about what you're singing, and so much more about who you are singing with." Sutherland was able to debut her beat-boxing at the homecoming concert.



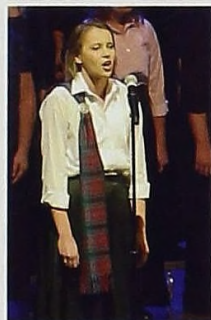
## TWIST & STYLE

For two-year leader of PIP Summer Eipper '17, "Alma Choir is great, but PIP is different because it is a closer group of individuals who meet to sing songs that we can choose and add our own twist and style to."



## FAITH

"I was a bit hesitant at first, but once I joined, I was so glad I took that leap of faith," said Alexa Piotrowski '18 speaking of her decision to join PIP. Piotrowski will lead PIP her senior year, a role she feels "honored" to have received.



Pretty in Plaid is a student-led vocal group comprised of young women in the Alma College Choir. Members of PIP are chosen through auditions that consider both personality and vocal ability so as to ensure a great group and a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Members of PIP put in countless hours of song preparation for each performance, including ACUB songfest, admissions events, and concerts, as well as numerous Alma community appearances. The group performed "Stitches" during the homecoming concert to kick off the year, and "Hallelujah" during the Alma Choir Spring Tour in February.



# SCOTS ON THE ROCKS



# SOTR

## RED IS THE ROSE

"Once we started singing and I took the first solo, it was awesome seeing my parents' faces light up. I'm pretty sure I made my mom cry from it," Aaron Leonard '17 recalled about his last performance in Hillsdale.



## APPLAUSE

Hearing the crowd cheer after each performance is what brings Bradley Olewinski '18 back to the stage. Speaking on the community SOTR has been for him, Olewinski stated, "I made friends, a family, and to me Scots is a home."



## TRADITION

Encouraged to join SOTR by its founder and his high school director, Billy Mulligan '17 stated, "I will always be grateful to the group of guys who let me in and let me make the memories we have made during our time here."



Scots on the Rocks is an all male, student-led ensemble that gives its members the ability to keep their options open when it comes to song choice and anticipated performance status at certain events. The group's membership is audition-based, and all members must also be part of the Alma College Choir. For Cameron Tahaney '17, being part of SOTR had been a goal since he saw the group perform during his senior year of high school. SOTR has been everything he expected: "a group of friends who get together, perform, and have a blast doing it," said Tahaney. SOTR performed "Shut Up and Dance With Me" during the Alma College Spring Tour.

## A BIG DEBUT

Vibrant Vocals made their debut under their stage name at the Festival of Carols in 2016, the first non-choir associated ensemble to do so. Vibrant Vocals is a co-ed group and not restricted to choir members. Still rooted in the a capella tradition, they performed a wide variety of pieces, some which fall outside of the typical concert fare.



## A NOTE ABOVE

Members of Vibrant Vocals pose for a photo at Farwell High. Photos such as this have become a tradition for the group which allows them to capture a memory for each performance. This year the group focused on expanding its audience beyond Alma's campus, including performances at a number of variety shows to help local music boosters raise funds for their own music programs.



# VIBRANT VOCALS



For student leader Shanell Ramos '19, Vibrant Vocals is not just the campus's newest ensemble; it represents a different way of thinking about a capella performance. Influenced by groups like Pentatonix and Straight Note Chasers, Vibrant Vocals has worked hard since its founding in 2015 to make a name for itself on and off campus. For Ramos, a central part of the group's success has been its approach to finding talent outside of those formally trained in choir. "If you have talent, if you have potential," Ramos stated, "you can be molded." The ensemble's fluidity and flexible membership has allowed it to grow quickly into an important new sound on the campus' music scene.



**INTERSTELLAR SOUND**

The Alma College marching band played their "Gravity" and "Interstellar" themed halftime show during the Homecoming football game.

**PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.**

Each season is a different group of band members, but the rush of playing remains the same. "My favorite part about the outdoor show is the rush from marching a show you put so much energy and time into," offered Chloe Ramsey '17.



**GOOD MUSIC, GOOD VIBES.**

The music selection brought band members good vibes this season. "The band seemed much more responsive to the music selection this year than last year. As a whole, I feel like that made us all more enthusiastic about the show," said Bennett DuBois '18.



**DRUM LINE CREW.**

This season, the drum line spent a lot of time playing, talking, and bonding with each other on and off of the field. "I haven't gotten to know other drum lines as well I have this year. We are all pretty close," Mollie Strunk '20 commented.



**FINALE FEELINGS**

The marching band evolves each year as seniors perform their final season and freshmen perform their first. The indoor show marked a bittersweet finale for all members of the 2016 season.

Senior Margaret Atwater shared this feeling, stating, "It was bittersweet because it was my last season, but I enjoyed being in the band and making connections with people I might not have otherwise." This sentiment was widely felt by students of all grades in the marching band. Junior Brianna Fitzpatrick agreed, "I knew seniors last year, but I know so many more this year, and I couldn't be happier with how this season turned out for our band." At the end of the day, this season left members feeling emotional, but also very content with their final performance.



"The indoor show is the last time we play our music, and we play together as a marching band."

**-BRIANNA FITZPATRICK '18**

**RESET.**

**STOMP. SMASH.**

During a season unlike the rest, marching band members transformed football game halftime shows and the indoor show. The season's musical theme for the outdoor set was "Gravity," in addition to the "Nintendo" themed indoor show. The music selection differed from those of previous years, but was enjoyed by the band members. "I'm a physics major, so space is definitely a passion of mine and to have a show called 'Gravity' is a dream come true," offered Brianna Fitzpatrick '18. Beyond the band's enthusiasm about the music, members were ecstatic to have bonded and formed strong connections as a team this season. The drum line established "Sassy Saturday" to dress up together during performances while the color guard also grew closer to the entire band as a whole. "I felt really involved in the band. Zerbe made sure we felt really involved and knew what was going on," stated Aubree Hooper '19. This season, the marching band demonstrated the full teamwork and involvement through each performance. "It was fun because we're moving around and there was more teamwork," reflected Andrew Ruggles '17. The close teamwork left an "out of this world" impact on all of its members.

Page By Abby Schaitkin '18



**ABOVE:** The marching band played their "Gravity and Interstellar" themed performance during the Homecoming halftime show. **RIGHT:** The color guard performed their uniquely choreographed routine during an outdoor halftime show, demonstrating their unity and creativity.

"It's been amazing to see all of our hard work come together."  
**-ERIKA ZECHAK '17**

**COLLABORATION GAME.**

During the 2016 season, the color guard's presence and performance opportunities increased, especially during the indoor show. "We would work for an hour on our routines, and then work with the band. It took a lot of outside work too," offered Aubree Hooper '20. With the extra practice time, the color guard was able to choreograph solo routines or collaborate on duet and trio routines.



**CREATING MOMENTS**

What was your favorite memory of the season?



**ERIKA ZENCHAK '17**  
"Having a senior shout out during the last game was both exciting and emotional—a true close to the season."



**LAURA CAMERON '19**  
"It was pretty fun choreographing. I had never choreographed with a flag before."



**RACHEL NEMETH '17**  
"It's so loud and heart pounding in Heritage. It was an amazing performance."

# EXPLORE

## MUSIC IS CULTURE

### CELLISTS

Two cellists in the orchestra help to bring the feel of the British Isles and Alma's Scottish heritage to the audience at the mid-winter concert.



### SPOTLIGHT

Even in the back, percussion members are still heard. Leading and keeping a consistent beat in the music to help keep the other musicians on tempo.



### STUDENTS SHINE

Freshman Sarah Garrod plays the cello during the mid-winter concert. "My favorite piece to play was Felix Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 3, "Scottish," because it proved to be difficult yet rewarding." Garrod said.



During the orchestra's mid-winter concert, Nathaniel Wilburn '20 plays the violin. Wilburn is a freshman at Alma College and is one of the few Alma students in the orchestra band. Orchestra is made up Alma students as well as other talented musicians who are not enrolled at Alma. This gives the ensemble diversity and allows the students to get a professional feel while performing. The music this season and a British Isle theme to it. The second half of the show showcased Alma's Scottish heritage by having choir professor, Will Nichols perform. He sang along to songs by Handel while the orchestra performed.



# SERENITY

## SWEET SOUNDS

### CONDUCT

Professor Dave Zerbe conducts the students during their performance. They performed eight different selections between the two ensembles.



### CONCENTRATION

The concert band members are all focusing on their sheets of music. Making sure they hit their notes at the correct time and range is what makes for a great performance.



### AS ONE

Members of the brass section, which include trumpets, trombones, and french horns, all work together to perform their best during the show.



The clarinet section of the Alma concert band performs during their spring concert. The concert band brings new ideas to their set every year. "One of the best things about concert band is the opportunity to grow as a section in new ways," Molly Bosek '19 said. The concert band pulls songs from all genres and eras to offer an all around experience during their concert. Having a diverse amount of instruments allows for endless musical possibilities. "My favorite piece we performed was 'Machine Awakes' because it was very different and diverse from the others that we performed." Natalie Murrey '18 said.



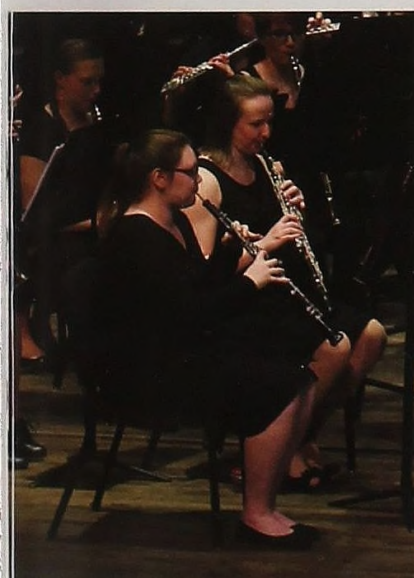
### ALL ABOUT CULTURE.

The focus of this year's mid-winter concert was the British Isles. Taking songs from a different region and culture to share with others who are not familiar with it was quite an experience. The band practices for hours to perfect the sounds and to sound as one while they perform.



### SCOTTISH HERITAGE.

The Orchestra keeps their performances interesting. The second half of the concert was planned around Scottish heritage. Choosing to perform three pieces by Handel and having Professor Will Nichols return to perform the Arias was a treat.



### DIVERSITY.

The concert band is made up of students from many different ensembles in the band program. "I love that we have one concert band with both bands performing in one. I like that we have sectional each week to perfect what we work on in full band," Hannah Wallace '18 said.

### MIXTURE.

The concert band is made up of two ensembles, the wind and consort. Each ensemble performed different pieces. The wind played "Lauds," "Lux Aurumque," "The Machine Awakens," "President Garfield's Inauguration March," and "Rush." The consort performed "Ecstatic Fanfare," "Bandancing," and "Vesuvius."

# ON BEAT

## NEW CULTURE

### RING RING.

Senior Rachel Nemeth plays the xylophone at the concert. Nemeth just traveled to Rwanda to teach kids music and she hopes to continue that after she graduates from Alma.



### MATCH PITCH.

Senior Aaron Krause plays the electric keyboard. "I've been lucky to premiere one of my own pieces with the group entitled Seppuku" Krause said.



### STRUM.

Strumming the guitar during the Midwinter Concert, Jeremy Fieber '19 plays Alloy by Any Akiho. Jeremy is a member of Phi Mu Alpha.



During the percussion ensemble concert, Drew Bellanger '18 plays his drum set. "Ever since I was a kid, my parents would bring me to a festival in Holland and all I ever wanted to see was the drums," Bellanger said. "It was also the only instrument that I was good at." It is the percussion ensemble that allows students to work and share their passion. "The first half of our show is chamber music and the second half is steel band, which is more fun, upbeat pieces with some jazz and contemporary," Rachel Nemeth '17 said. This allows the students to get a mixture of percussion in different styles of music.



Professor Jeff Ayres makes sure that students' instruments are tuned before beginning rehearsal. It is no doubt Alma's Jazz Band is talented. The band performs a wide range of music and sounds to entice their audience and show their skills. "My favorite part of jazz band is being able to play great music with other talented musicians!" Orlando Reyes '20 said. The members of the band have been dedicated to the art for a long time. "Band has been such an integral part of my life for years. I've derived so much happiness and enjoyment through creating and performing music. I couldn't imagine going through college without it," said Bennett DuBois '19.



# RHYTHM

## RHYTHM & BLUES

### WARM UP

The saxophone members of the band tune their instruments and are warming up by practicing notes from the song selections for the show.



### INVOLVED

During Wednesday night rehearsals, Professor Jeff Ayres brings out his trumpet to help the students match pitch and to help them hear and stay on the right beat.



### SMOOTH SAK

Freshman Joshua Stepke plays the saxophone during jazz band rehearsal. Stepke is a music major at Alma.



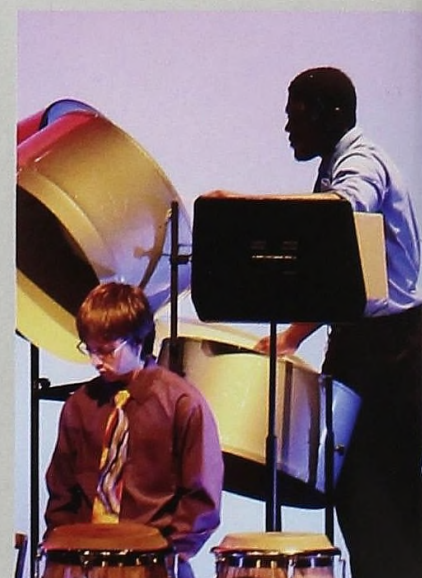
### TO THE BEAT.

Sara Jacobs '18, and Aaron Krause '17 are students in the Alma College percussion ensemble, and they are joined by David Fair, who is a percussion intern at the college. Alma is set apart by bringing in musicians who have other experiences, and it helps broaden the students' experiences.



### TOGETHER.

The students of the Alma College Ensemble perform one of their songs to showcase their talent and what they have been working towards during the first semester. The students put in countless hours of practice due to being involved in other bands, such as marching band as well as others that require just as much practice time as the percussion ensemble.

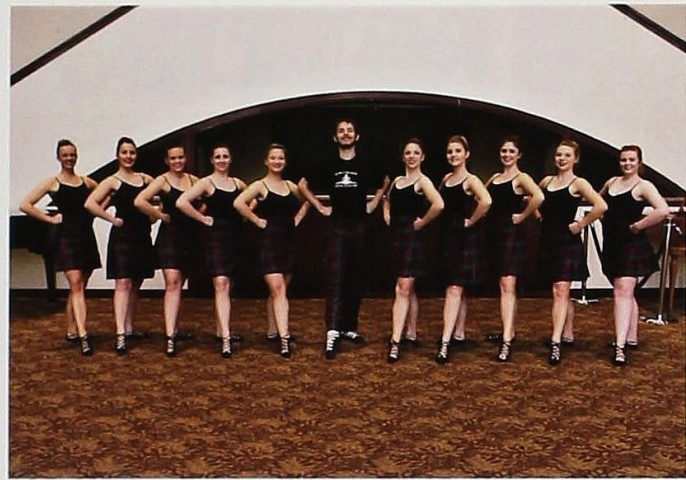


### ALL THAT JAZZ.

The trombone players are warming up to rehearse for their upcoming show. The band rehearses every Wednesday for two hours, but that is only a portion of their weekly practice. Most members are also members to other band ensembles, which practice just as often.

### RING.

Senior Aaron Krause plays the xylophone during jazz band rehearsal. Krause is a music major at Alma. The band is rehearsing their intermission riff for their spring show. Their spring show was called The Second Set.



**PLAID WORKS**

After the production of their Spring Show, the Kiltie Dancers gathered for professional photos. As a former Kiltie Dancer, Senior Mikahla Markhum takes the photos.

**CONCENTRATION.**

For Benjamin Elliot '19, "The most difficult part about playing the bagpipes is concentration. When you're in the circle, there's a million things you could be thinking about. Staying focused on the music is of most importance, and takes mental tenacity to do so."



WIEDERHOLD

**BURNS NIGHT.**

In honor of the late poet, Robert Burns, Alma created a night dedicated to him. Events of the night included Highland Art Performances and readings of Burns poems. Guests were also served traditional Haggis, which was piped in by the Pipers.



LOWE

**NOVA SCOTIA.**

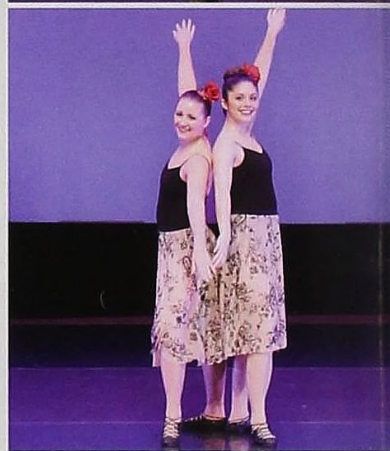
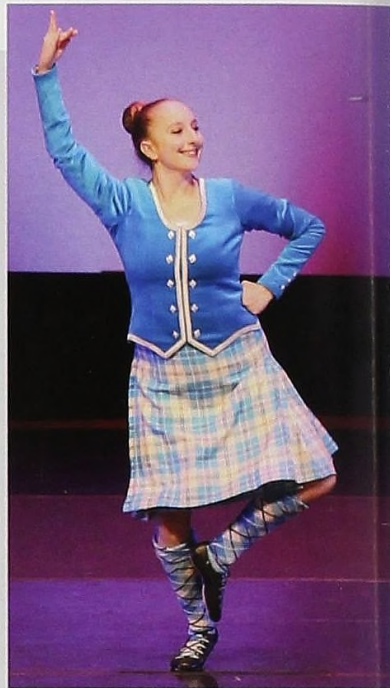
The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo is the worlds largest indoor tattoo. A tattoo is a military performance of music or display of arms. Sophomores Emily Brubaker and Emily Carter both attended, and were able to perform with people from all over the world.



CARTER

**CREATIVE FUN**

As a performer, the Highland Dancers are all about precision and dedication to their art. They perform two shows a year on the Presbyterian Hall stage. The Fall and Spring Shows allow the students to become the choreographers. Dancers create a mixture of pieces that incorporate traditional celtic steps to non-traditional music. Senior Morgan Pell commented, "I am going to miss being able to choreograph my own dances to non-traditional music. In competitions, dancers cannot compete with choreography and music that is not Celtic based. Creating dances in the program has been a wonderful way to express myself through Scottish Highland dance without having any restrictions." Each dance is unique and special to the creators, and always fun for the dancers.



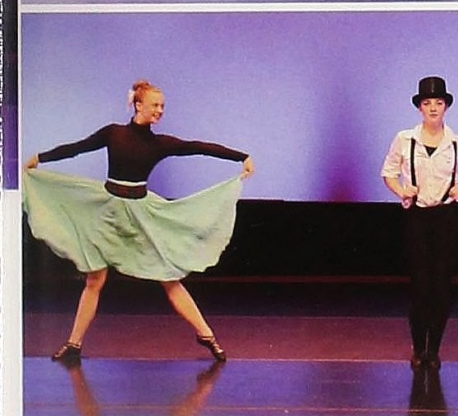
"I will miss the friendships the most. I love how we could all cooperate and pull a performance together in no time at all."  
-KATIA HAMAMOUCHE '17

**Tradition**  
**HIGHLAND ARTS**

Every year, the Alma College Kiltie Dancers and Pipe Band have been there to remind us of our Scottish traditions. On campus, both groups share their talents on the stage, on the football field, and at events like the Alma College Homecoming Parade. Each organization performs and practices year round, traveling to competitions in the summer. What helps the Kiltie Dance program continue its success is their passion for the art, exemplified in their mentor Katherine DeGood, an Alma Alumni. "There's something about highland that combines the grace of ballet in an athletic form of dance, and it's all about the strength," stated DeGood. Junior Laura Lowe explained, "I am passionate about Highland Dance because when I went to Scotland and told the locals that I was a Highland Dancer, they were so proud that their heritage and traditions are being taught all over the world. I want to carry on that tradition and continue to share the culture of Highland Dancing." Each program continues to grow, as more students hear about it. The Highland community is small, and with Alma's reputation, students are eager to come and expand on their Highland Art skills.

Page by Aerial Stroven '18

"Highland dance has truly shaped me as a person and given me so many wonderful experiences."  
-MATILDA ENNIS '18



**ABOVE:** The Kiltie Dancers Fall show included dances choreographed by faculty and by other students.

**LEFT:** This piece titled "Start a Fire" was performed by Jennifer Ochs '21 and Matilda Ennis '18. "As the choreographer, I felt very pleased with the end production." exclaimed Ennis.

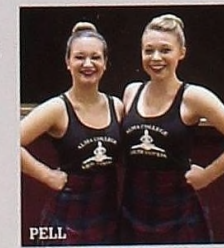
**CREATING MOMENTS**

What was your favorite memory of the season?



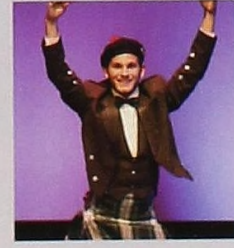
ASHTON

**LUKE ASHTON '17**  
"When we performed at the First Presbyterian Church in Bay City. We had a lot of fun at the event and really got to bond as pipers."



PELL

**MORGAN PELL '17**  
"I have loved being able to share my passion of the Scottish arts with other students in the program."



**LUKE ALCOT '21**  
"I enjoyed performing in two pieces for the fall show. It was a lot of hard work, but it was also a lot of fun!"





**BOUND.**

Choreographer Sadie Gelb '19 presents her dance 'Bound' for Alma's 2017 Honors Day. Gelb stated, "Presenting this dance for Honors Day forced me to analyze what I wanted this piece to say, and what I wanted the audience to get from watching it."

**BECOMING HUMAN.**

For the Fall Show, Ben Munisteri was able to create his first piece for the Dance Company. "Becoming Human was inspired by experimenting with different ways of walking and the qualitative changes that can contrast one gait with another."



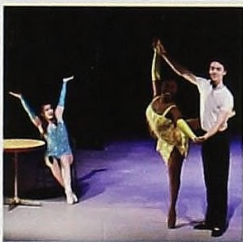
**ACDA.**

In March 2017, a group of dancers and faculty were given a chance to go to the American College Dance Association Conference. They took classes all day, watched other schools perform at night, and had two pieces adjudicated by judges.



**STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHERS.**

This annual concert gave the dancers a chance to be the choreographers. Each piece is unique and special to the creator. Ending the show was a dance by Senior Katia Hamamouche. "I wanted it to be humorous for the audience, and to go out on a happy note for my last show!"



**FAMILY IS FOREVER**

As the dance season came to an end, the company was also saying goodbye to Faculty Member Crystal Fullmer. After working with the department for two years, Fullmer made a personal decision to leave, but not before many tears and laughter were shared between her and the students. Vivenne Walton '17 noted, "Before Crystal came to Alma, I was close to giving up dancing. She pushed me to work hard and taught me to be strong, confident and to believe in myself." Fullmer explained, "What I value most as a dance educator is instilling in my students a firm understanding of the importance of detail. In dance, the smallest nuance of artistry, or the slightest change in body alignment, can have a profound impact by the way the audience perceives the movement. I believe I was very successful in creating the desire for detailed technique within the Alma College dancers that I taught during the two short years I was on faculty."



"She taught me the importance of having confidence in my dancing!"  
-EMMA MACDONALD '20

**Family DANCE**

Within the Dance Company at Alma, you will find students in every major and minor. To put on large production of a ballet, it takes time and motivation from everyone involved. Between numerous faculty members and students, the dance company put together five stunning shows this season: two productions on the Presbyterian stage and three inside of the Dance studio. New Faculty member Ben Munisteri stated, "I think the dances I created this year represent me well as a teacher, in that I'm mindful of sharing my thoughts with my students while I'm creating a dance with them." As the company and department continued to grow, students had the opportunity to work with guest choreographers. Guest Artist Jacquelyn Garcia brought new perspective into Alma's studio by teaching a salsa class, even inviting students from Alma's Spanish Department to come and join. The fundraiser MELT was put on again and helped raise money to send the dancers to the local ACDA Conference in March. Seniors will always be missed, but the fresh talent in the program is also welcome. The passion and dedication that each dancer brings to the company is what makes them feel like a family.

Page by Aerial Stroven '18

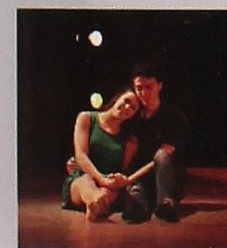
"I think my dances can get a lot weirder than the ones I created this year."  
-BEN MUNISTERI



**ABOVE:** Choreographer Katie Kalamaras '18 created a dance with two parts. One part based off of children's movements, and another part based around mental disabilities.  
**LEFT:** This dance was choreographed by Faculty Crystal Fullmer. It was performed during the Alma College Fall Show and at the American College Dance Association Conference.

**CREATING MOMENTS**

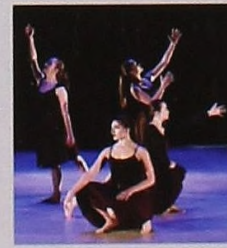
What was your favorite memory from this year?



**CAMERON SPITZFADEN '17**  
"Probably because we were all so tired, but life backstage during show week was my favorite. We all get so close during show weeks."

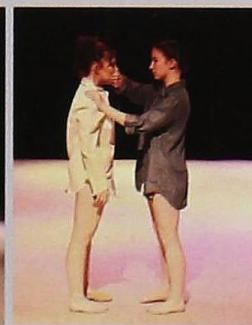


**MEGAN ISOM '17**  
"I loved dancing a solo to live music in the fall show. Everyone was very supportive about what I was performing."



**MIKAELA KITZMILLER '20**  
"I have never laughed more with another group of people than those in the Alma College Dance Company!"

**"Shift".**  
This season, Senior Haley Steuber created a six piece dance show for her thesis project. "The process for creating my show was very long. Each piece had a different personal process. The show was a timeline of my life so it was difficult for me at times because it was real things that had happened to me," commented Steuber after the successful weekend of her show.





**METAPHORICAL MARRIAGES**

Actors in *Our Town* perform a wedding scene representing the second stage of life, marriage, following youth and preceding the final stage of life, death.

**BUILT UPON A STAGE.**

"It was a huge undertaking to build the set for *Rumors*. We built an entire house in the theater. It was definitely challenging, but it was all worth it in the end. Not just because we could see the house we built, but because we had so much fun along the way," stated Francesca Beningo '18.



**REAL WORDS, REAL MESSAGE.**

"My favorite part of the show *The Laramie Project* was that not only is it a real story, but we used real words that were spoken. It was very cool to use the means of theatre to tell this story and begin this conversation [...] at Alma," said Mary Rose Benson '17.



**MAKING NEW MOVEMENTS**

"It was fun having a lot of new faces in the theater and getting to know and expand our family. Having them involved in *Our Town* was a great way to kick off the first show of the season and our first year with our new director, Scott," offered Haley Valente '18.



**STRONG STARTS**

The Theater Company at Alma College kick-started their season of productions with a more traditional play, *Our Town*. With a new director came a new direction of acting, involving students from each grade level and varying skill levels. Students from within the theater program and outside came together to put on the successful starting play. They demonstrated three key concepts throughout the three acts. During the first act, the actors demonstrated a concept of youth. During the second act, the main characters show that they have matured into the following stage, marriage. The final act demonstrated the final life concept, that of death. The entire act revolves around learning about one's self upon reaching the after life in the cemetery.



**"We got to see some talent from new people and I definitely think we pulled off a successful production."  
-KIRA SHEFFER '19**

**ONE HIT WONDER.**

Student run productions of one act plays drew in a broad group of actors, ranging from those in the theater program and beyond. Students with a passion for theater took a chance by stepping outside of their average boundaries to be a part of the magic. Actors expressed their passion through super hero themed action, burying a body with a friend, and facing an upcoming interview.

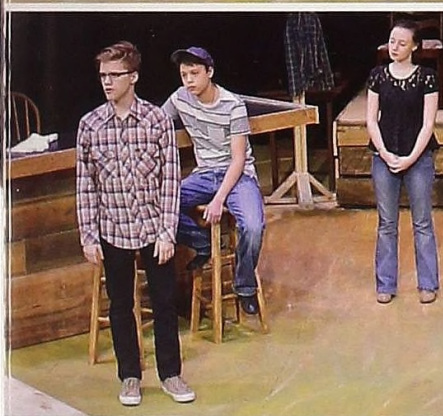


**FINALE  
FIRST ACTS**

The theater program welcomes the new program's director, Scott Mackenzie. With a new director this year came a new sense of style and change in production choice. In previous years the theater produced plays with traditional themes and concepts. However, this year marked a transition into more modern plays that demonstrate humor or offer a strong message. The Fall production of *Our Town* left its audience with a sense of uncertainty through the message that no one is able to control his or her future completely. Students demonstrated their personal control over the concepts they had studied through their *One Acts* production. This enabled students to direct their peers as actors, back stage managers, and more. The Winter semester gave way to more untraditional standards on the campus. The first production of the semester was a humorous play by the name of *Rumors*. The cast was comprised of thespians in the theater program and beyond. The play offered a mysterious evening of chaos and laughter, unlike the final production, *The Laramie Project*. This final play was based off of real events that portrayed the reaction of townspeople to unfair prejudices and left a message about equality.

Page b Abby Schaitkin '18  
Photos by Trent Wiederhold

**"I'm grateful for the friends I have made from our amazing casts."  
-JOSHUA ZEITLER '17**



**ABOVE:** Students actors perform a scene from their final production, *The Laramie Project*, portraying real witnesses to the case.  
**RIGHT:** Students narrate the plot's movement throughout *The Laramie Project* as actors transition from reporters, cops, and parents of the young people involved and effected by the case.

**IMPACTFUL PROS.** How has the theatre program impacted you?



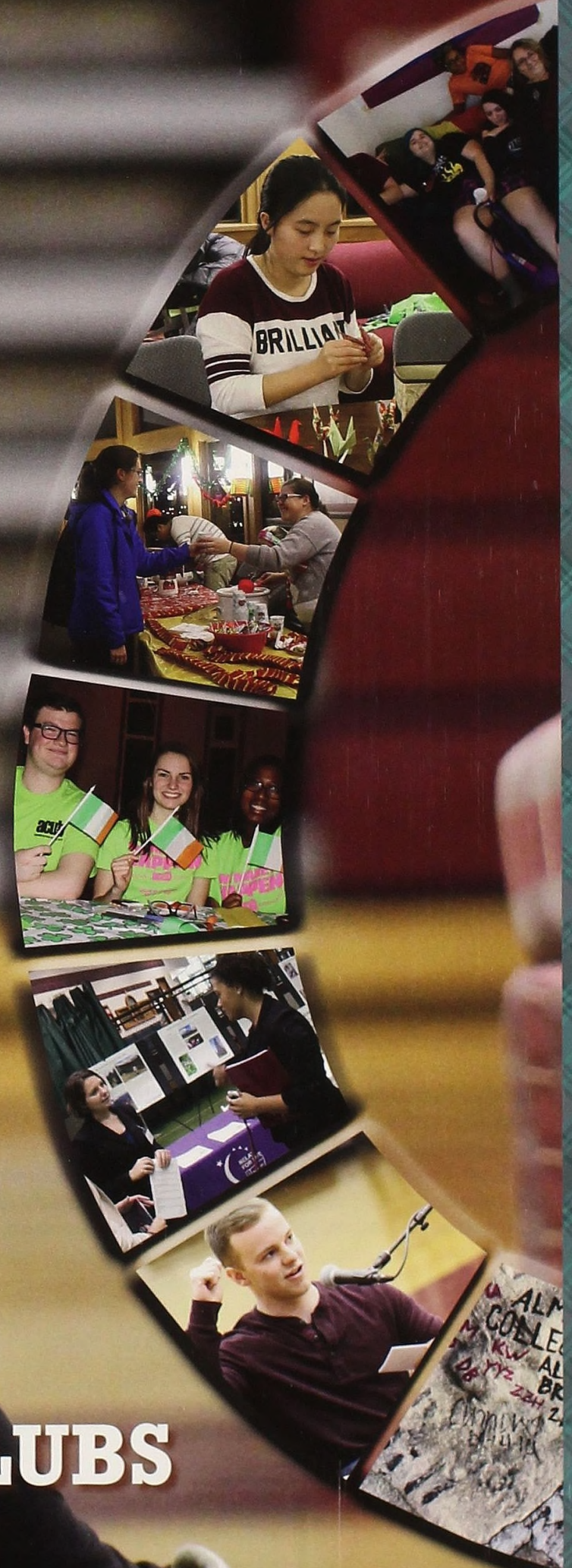
**KIRA SHEFFER '19**  
"This year was the first year in a while that Alpha Psi Omega organized the one acts. I got to be so much more involved beyond my role as an actor."



**JOSHUA ZEITLER '17**  
"There's a saying in theatre that there are no minor roles, and this was especially true of *The Laramie Project*."



**AMBER ISAACSON '17**  
"It was amazing to be a part of *The Laramie Project* for my final performance at Alma- something I won't forget."



# CLUBS

FEATURED: VANDUSER. CIRCLE: ACUB, MURREY, PUTTI, AND VANDUSER.

# CULTURE

## LANGUAGE CLUBS

Hispanic Coalition hosts an evening full of food, laughter, and dancing every October for Hispanic Heritage Month. "Fiesta Baile is such a fun opportunity for the members of campus and the community to come together to learn and enjoy Hispanic culture," said Senior Erika Zenchak, president of Hispanic Coalition. All of the donations raised at this event are put toward a philanthropy fund which sends money and school supplies to students in need. Hispanic Coalition is also proud of their scholarship, which helps an Alma College student purchase a Spanish textbook they will need for an upper-level Spanish course.



LESAUCE



ZENCHAK



MURREY

The language clubs come together to offer campus a culturally diverse event. Hispanic Coalition, Chinese Club, German Club, and French Club organized German Christmas Market. Each club served traditional foods and had different crafts and holiday games for students to try. Chinese Club president, Senior Morgan Pell, stated, "it's an opportunity to be engaged in the campus community and share the culture." Students from all of the individual clubs were in attendance, as well as students who are not involved with language at all. The goal of this event was to bring involvement of the Alma College community together and raise discussion of different culture in an enjoyable way. Each club hosts its own activities regularly throughout the year, such as movie nights, weekly meetings, and other events to spread cultural awareness.

"It's great to see the campus community interact with Alma in such a constructive way."

-CAITLIN DEZWAAN '19



MURREY

# CATALYST

## SCIENCE CLUBS

Elementary and middle school students visit campus to learn and experience new branches of science with Alma College students. Science Blowout is an opportunity for many of the science clubs to collaborate and form a large event that many younger students from the community look forward to. Alma College students work hard to prepare interactive presentations to engage the younger audience. This opportunity is mutually beneficial for the Alma College students and community students. Alma College students are given the opportunity to share their passion and knowledge, while the younger students are able to learn in a fun and interactive fashion.



Page by Natalie Murrey '19

"We have the opportunity to teach everyone about the things we love."

-KRISTA BOTTING '18



BOTTING



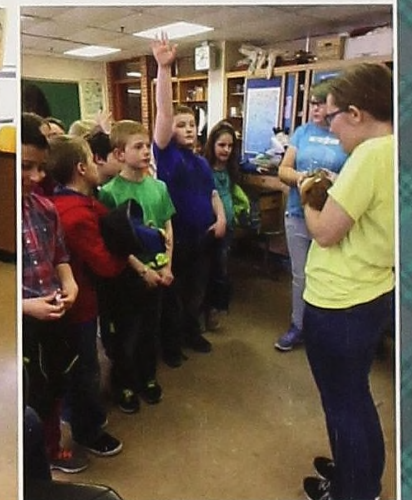
YODER



BOTTING



MCFEITH



Students from the Integrated Health Studies Institute (IHSI) organize an annual 5k race, the Scot Trot, formerly known as the Matt Reinke 5k run. The race was held during Homecoming and raised money and promoted an active lifestyle. Along with the annual Scot Trot, IHSI also travels to Alma Middle School to organize an after-school program to educate children about health and exercise. Senior Allison Brown commented on the various types of students involved in the institute. "There are many prehealth occupation students, but also many in the humanities that are interested in health," she said. These students travel at the end of the winter semester and engage in a service learning project. An example of this is a previous trip to the Gesundheit! Institute. The goal of IHSI is to educate the community on healthy lifestyles in a way that educates the members as well. The institute offers an opportunity for students interested in healthcare to collaborate and learn from each other.



# HISTORY

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS

During the summer of 2016, members of Alma College's Model United Nations team travel to India to teach younger students how to compete in the Model U. N. conference. Alma students formed an educational relationship with the students India. "The students caught on very quickly and were very well equipped," said junior Rebecka Bale, who was in one of two fleets of students to visit India during the summer. After a 10 day workshop, Alma students, with the help of other leaders, directed a conference in which the Indian students were able to participate. The students appreciated the opportunity to learn in a new way and compete in a conference in this form. This experience is insightful for Alma students as well, as it offers new perspectives on ideas and a different viewpoint to how the conference functions. Both parties use their time together to learn as much as possible.



"The biggest thing you learn is professionalism. Also, you gain a lot of global awareness."

-REBECKA BALE '18

The Model United Nations (MUN) team finished another National Model United Nations Conference in New York strong with both the Uruguay and Morocco delegations earning "outstanding delegation," the highest award at the conference. The MUN team is nationally recognized for their success, which includes 40 "outstanding delegation" awards, the most of any college or university in the 96 year history of the conference. Senior Megan Isom noted that other teams were aware of Alma College's previous success and took notice when Alma's team arrived. The members of MUN are from a wide variety of majors and are very active members on campus. "The variety of our members provides a new lens when working through problems," said Isom '17.



# TRANSITION

## STUDENT CONGRESS

Student Congress not only represents the students, but connects them to authorities and administrators. For President Jared Jacob '17, this was one of the best parts of the job. "Being able to hear concerns that the students have and working with all parties involved to get a resolution worked out, is very rewarding to me," said Jacob. The executive members of Student Congress were faced with multiple, unique challenges during the 2016-2017 school year. Through biweekly Student Congress meetings, students of Alma College were given the opportunity to voice their concerns, complaints, and suggestions about the removal of Pizza One from the Munch Money vendors. Executive members of Student Congress educated the student body and administrators about updates and ideas regarding the off-campus food option. Student Congress was also active in motivating change on campus this year. One important change that Student Congress made possible was the transition to new laundry facilities. While this transition did not occur under the current Student Congress Executive Board, they have successfully paved the way for the laundry facilities to be completely switched for the fall semester of 2017. Jacob '17 stated, "The most rewarding part of Student Congress is knowing that I am able to represent the students voice when it comes to actions taken at the administration level of the college." The laundry change is an example of the way he represented the desires of the entire student body to administrators. "So many students, including myself, did not like the current laundry facilities with broken machines and having to use quarters to pay. It was time that we upgraded the facilities and have it benefit the students," Jacob said. Many clubs with the potential to benefit the student body were admitted to Student Congress, as well. Some of these clubs include Alma College Action, Alma College Republicans, Alpha Psi Omega, Between the Lines, Business Professionals of America, Financial Management Organization, Rotoract Club, and Voices Enabling Equality Club. Student leaders of these organizations presented constitutions before the executive members of Student Congress as well as the representatives of other clubs in Student Congress. Those that passed the voting process are now considered official clubs on campus. This allows any student to pursue a passion and potentially receive funding for their club.



"I love every minute where I am able to have an impact for the benefit of the student body."

-JARED JACOB '17

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND REFUGEES**

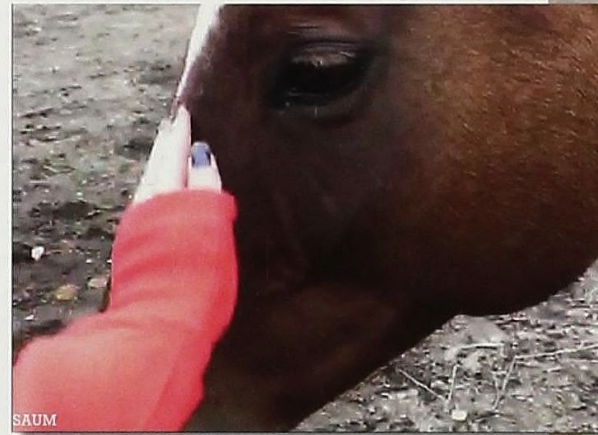
Working together with New American Pathways (NAP), Alma College students assemble meals for refugees. NAP is a nonprofit organization that assesses options to rebuild lives and create long-term success for refugees from around the world. "It was incredible to see and hear the journey these individuals made just to stay alive," Paige Bartkowiak '18 said. Organizations like this ease the transition and help refugees become acclimated to American culture. "I saw so many families smiling, and hopeful that they will find peace and prosperity in a new home," Bartkowiak said.



BARTKOWIAK

**EQUINE THERAPY**

Alma students learned how to properly brush and feed horses while working to help Hopewell Ranch. While grooming the horses and cleaning up from previous events, volunteers learned about all the different things the ranch provided for the children and the community. "It was very interesting to hear the different things they provide at the ranch," Gabrielle Saum '20 said. "Kids with disabilities would often go to the ranch and interact with the horses in many positive ways. Growing up in a city, I never spent any time on a ranch which made learning about all the different breeds of animals that live there very special." Hopewell Ranch believes that horses have the ability to understand how the kids are feeling and can be used as treatment.



SAUM

**CHILDREN'S HEALTH**

Helping families with their Christmas shopping, Kaitlyn Arnold '17 Dorothy Buening '18 and Joelle Fisher '18 organize gifts. After traveling to Nashville, Tennessee, the group worked alongside the the Ronald McDonald House to create a holiday store where the parents and children staying at the House were able to shop for free. The Ronald McDonald House provides a free or a low cost home away from home for families whose children are severely ill and hospitalized. The goal is to create a positive and family-orientated environment to help children heal by helping their families focus on supporting them. "It was touching hearing how grateful the children and their families were for our help, even though what we were doing was very minor in their big picture of care and treatment," Arnold said.



ARNOLD

**IMPACTING CAMPUS**

Alpha Phi Omega is Alma College's co-ed service fraternity. Its members seek to develop as community leaders while creating and maintaining meaningful friendships through participation in worthwhile service projects. "The Girl Scout Lock-in is one of my favorite events because it really allows you to influence young girls," President Emma Herron '18 said. "As a former girl scout myself, I know the impact that scouting can have on a person's life. so it's really awesome that I have the opportunity to continue to be involved with the scouting community." Alpha Phi Omega also focuses on building a community of people who respect one another along with building lifelong relationships. As Bridget Flanery '20 said, "I never expected to come on campus and find a group that so wholly represented what I strive to become."



FLANERY

**COMMUNITY**

**SERVICE CLUBS**

Cuddling her new rescue dog, Mandy Menosky '18 cherishes the time spent during her alternative break. Volunteers traveled to Horse Creek Wildlife Sanctuary and Animal Refuge in Savannah, Tennessee, to help around the animal shelter and to work with the dogs. By loving, walking, and playing with the dogs, volunteers made a huge impact on the animals' wellbeing. Since the property is very large and short-staffed, students helped clean all of the dog cages and performed lawn and maintenance work. Menosky, however, had a unique experience. She met a very special dog named Benji on the first day of the trip and fell completely in love, stating, "We had been wanting another dog at home, and I thought Benji would be a perfect fit for my family. So, while I was there I filled out all of the paperwork to adopt him, then last week (March 17th) I drove back to Tennessee to go pick him up." Many volunteers also have special experiences that drive them to continue volunteering their time. Joelle Fisher '18 started volunteering her time during her freshman year and has continued ever since. "I recommend everyone to become involved in at least one alternate break during their time here at Alma," Fisher said. "It is a unique and memorable experience that the college provides that leaves you and those that you helped happier and more appreciative."



Page by Lea Ziolkowski '20



MENOSKY

**KEEPING COZY**

Love Your Melon (LYM) is a nonprofit organization that sells hats, apparel, and other accessories, donating 50% of all proceeds to other charitable causes dedicated to the fight against pediatric cancer. Every time someone purchases an item, LYM donates a hat to a child with cancer. "As a LYM campus crew member, we try to promote hat sales so that we can get enough points to go to the hospital ourselves and give the hats to the children in person," Whitney McGill '20 said. Each delivery is an experience that is grounding and personal. "There are tears, hugs, laughs, and unforgettable memories. From racing down the halls to just sitting with a 17-year old girl for an hour on Pinterest helping her pick out a prom dress, Love Your Melon has touched my heart and changed my life," Monica Bussell '18 said. "Our goal is to raise awareness and really create a strong support base and source of inspiration for these little heroes." Bussell is still in contact with a family whose child is now in remission. He was one of her favorite visits as they had an extra special connection. "I put the hat on his head and he immediately lit up. Crouching down I asked if he liked his hat, and he hugged me saying he loved it because it made him feel like a super hero," Bussell said.



BUSSELL



BUSSELL

# CREATION

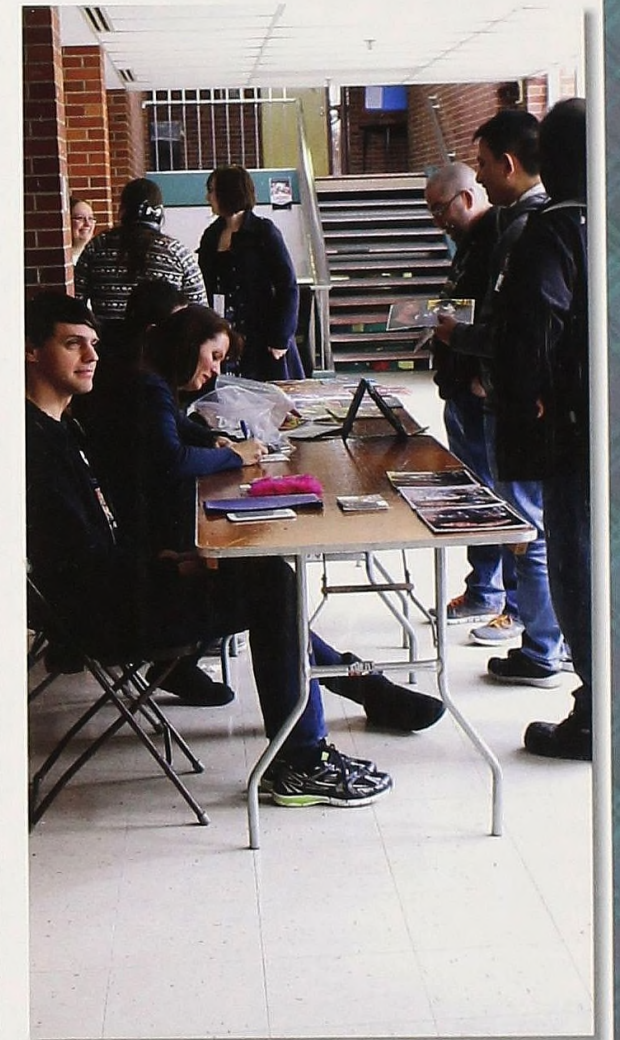
## ART & MEDIA CLUBS

Kappa Pi is a honorary art program designed for art students at Alma College. This year, Kappa Pi gained so many members that they were allowed to expand their volunteer opportunities. They formed a new program called Arts To Grow. Arts To Grow provides volunteer opportunities for all art majors and other interested students. "It has been great volunteering at the Masonic Home and for the Girl Scouts," art student Reilly Girdon '17 stated. "They all have so much to offer that sometimes isn't supported or found." Funding for art education programs in schools have been cut almost by half throughout the United States. Because of these funding cuts, art programs in public schools have been taken out of the curriculums. "If we do not provide these programs for these students, who will?" explains Anissa Keeler '19. Many art students are terrified that these cuts will not provide the artistic need for students. Most of the art students feel very passionate about this and are willing to help provide the creative necessity this world needs. "These girls and seniors are great and made me laugh the entire time. Engaging people in different ways can help improve themselves. Providing these programs for these kids and seniors are great because they are the future to our country," states Spencer Wehner '21.



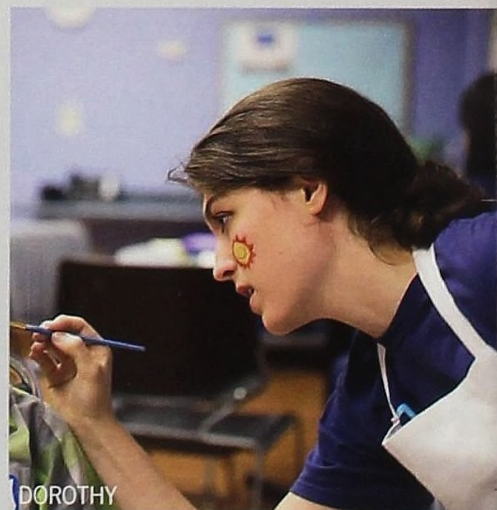
## ACOG

For the Alma College Otaku Gamers (ACOG), Almacon is their signature event. Almacon is open to the public and brings community members from around the state to campus. All donations AGOG receives from this big event goes towards Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society. "I love volunteering for this event because it is fun to see all the excited people," states Emily Allison '17. Over the three days, there are different events scheduled to involve all gamers and anime lovers throughout each day. "It is exciting to see all the people enjoy the anime productions," says Ana Torres '20. Featured on the right is the Adam and Comfort, seven-time Harvey Award nominated husband and wife duo, signing autographs for their fans. Every year, Almacon is seen with fantastic costumes made by hand, like Ally Chapoton '17 and Alyse Townsend '18 featured on the bottom left. "This years events were really awesome and unique," explained Ben Elliot '19; "There were voice panels and interactive panels. Those were fun because you could act like your favorite character and really be them."



## ANNAMARIE WILLIAMS '17

President Annamarie Williams '17, of Kappa Pi, demonstrates her painting skills with young children. Williams is a BFA major and psychology minor. Her ultimate goal is to become an art therapist. Williams has been passionate about art and concerned about funding cuts for art education and this made her a dedicated president for Kappa Pi and the Arts To Grow community. Williams favorite event this year was making clay ornaments at the Masonic home for Valentine's Day. "There are a lot of big hearts and brilliant people in this program. It is fascinating to have so many backgrounds and talents being taught to others," Williams stated. Williams hoped to see the program to expand even more with the Masonic Home and Girl Scouts, and that it continue to promote more youth involvement in the arts. "I would just like to say thank you to all who have supported me. For Sandy Isnardi-Lopez and for all of Kappa Pi and all the amazing people in it," says Williams.



DOROTHY

## LET'S DANCE

A first time event provided by ACOG this year was a masquerade ball. It was one of the Almacon events with the largest turn out. Costumes at this masquerade ball were very colorful, fun, and intricate. For many students, both fans and those new to the scene, this was the highlight of the weekend. "The ball was so much fun," said Annamarie Jenema '20. "All of the costumes were amazing and you could really be around friends that enjoy and have the same interests in anime as you."

"You shouldn't judge something without trying it first. Having a variety of experiences is what makes life worth living."  
-LETICIA DRACULAIR



# PASSION

## ART & MEDIA CLUBS

The Alma College Pine River Anthology club produces an annual publication created by the students involved with Art & Design, English, and New Media Studies. Music, a new addition to this year's publication, has allowed Pine River Anthology to showcase more of an effort towards the creative works of student involvement on campus. "We want to curate the best of the fine arts on campus and in order to do this, we publish student work both in printed publication and on the web to celebrate students' endeavors," commented Josie Sabo '17. Pine River Anthology creates an environment in which these students can show the pieces that they have worked on and this publication grants the students an opportunity to show off their hard work and talents. Each year the members come up with a theme to display their work. This year's publication titled "Synergy" represents the theme of talents that are put in by each of the departments of Alma College, and it illustrates the culmination of all of their works in one and how they work together to create something unimaginate. The annual theme for the publication seems to be an interest for some of the members. "It's always fun trying to pick out the annual theme for the publication because we find some really weird words that we can use to depict a creative theme," Sabo commented.



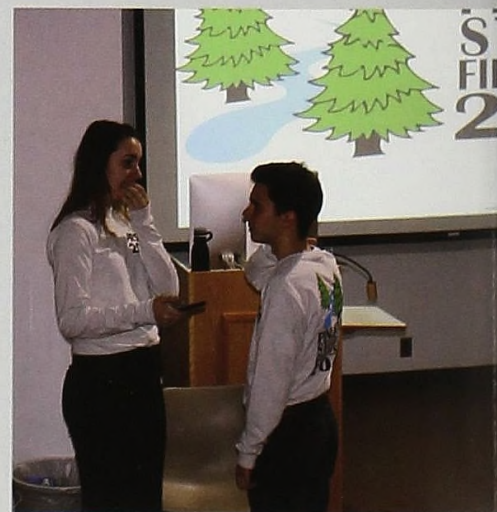
## SIGMA ALPHA IOTA

Sigma Alpha Iota (SAI) is an honorary Greek Organization whose involvement stems directly from the Theta Eta chapter of the National Women's Music Fraternity. This organization focuses primarily on promotion of music, not only throughout the community, but the entire country as well. The sisters of SAI had the honor of hosting several different annual performances such as the Holiday Musicale and A Celebration of Women in the Arts. This organization has made a tremendous impact on many of the members, and this impact will last a lifetime for most of them. "Becoming a sister of SAI was one of the best decisions I have ever made since coming to Alma College. Since joining during the winter term of my sophomore year, I have had an automated support system set in stone by my sisters and a place to share my love of music. SAI truly is a wonderful sisterhood and I am so proud to wear my letters!" mentioned LaKeshia Bortz '17. SAI has given a permanent home for many of the sisters within the organization and has allowed them to show their passion of music with other members of the same interests.



## PINE RIVER STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

Pirate Media hosted its first ever festival this year, the Pine River Student Film Festival. The festival offered student filmmakers the opportunity to showcase their short films. The Film Festival collected submissions from high school and college students all around the world. In its first year, the festival received an outstanding total of 277 submissions. "This year acted as a foundation for years to come" explained Patrick Mallet '17. "We had an excellent line up of films, but I hope with additional planning, more of the filmmakers will actually be able to attend in the future." Unfortunately, they were unable to meet some of the filmmakers, but the organizers were able to meet Luke Broyles, the director of "Welcome Home," and they were able to attend a Q&A where he talked about the film. "He went in to detail of how he came across this group of Vietnam Veterans that told their stories in his enlightening documentary," concluded Mallet.



## ALMA COLLEGE HEPCATS

Begun just seven short years ago, the Alma College Hepcats have thrived as a recognized club on campus. "The AC Hepcats have grown into an organization that shows a real presence within the campus of Alma College and community of Alma itself, and with that, our members have have the opportunity to experience many different events that they otherwise may not have been able to if they were not involved with Hepcats," stated Caroline Croom '17. Club members have had the opportunity to host events and live bands on campus, as well as being able to travel to different events all over the state of Michigan such as Lansing's Sugar House Blues, Grand Rapids' Underground Holiday Dance, Ann Arbor's Pirate Swing Weekend Workshop, and many others. This organization allows students of Alma College to share experiences and passion of dance with one another.





# FUSION

## NMS SENIOR SHOW

The murmurs of discussion can be heard around the gym as Jake Esselink '17 displays his senior project, "Unique Perspective." Esselink decided to focus his efforts on creating his own business opportunity in aerial photography with the use of a drone. Esselink's project was part of this year's New Media Studies (NMS) senior show entitled "Fusion." The class unanimously agreed that "We wanted our show's title to represent not only this year for us at Alma, but this year for a society as a whole. We want to come together to display our talents and work as one." The NMS program has exploded since Dr. Anthony Collamati started in the fall of 2013. This year's class boasted 20 students studying the major with a myriad of talents such as: photography, film, social media, set design, and post production. The event was hosted in Art Smith Arena where students set up their projects in a convention style. Guests were encouraged to walk through and talk with the seniors about their projects. Be sure to look for the NMS Senior Show next spring.

Page by Steven Luomala-Kipp '17  
Photos by Aerial Stroven '18

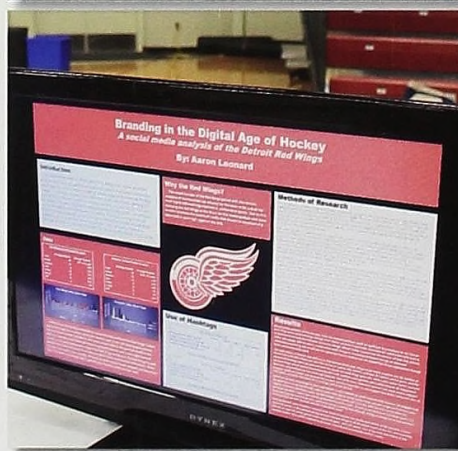


### UPDATING HOCKEYTOWN

The Detroit Red Wings have seen a decline in their on-ice performance over the last 5 seasons. Although they still have a loyal fan base, Aaron Leonard '17 discovered that the Wings could be producing better content for their fans on social media outlets. Leonard, an avid hockey fan and new media student, decided to combine the two in a content analysis of the Red Wings' media marketing strategies. He compared the Winged Wheelers with several other teams who have comparable success and fan bases to see where they differed. The results showed that the Wings not only need to update their arena, but also their social media strategies in order to better reach younger generations. Leonard presented his findings during the senior show.

### FEELING FRESH AND FIT

Senior Jade Garcia discusses her senior project with current students, family, alumni, and many more in attendance at this year's exhibition of New Media projects. Garcia's project consisted of filming and editing video for Endurance Fitness of Alma, where she is employed. The project began as a way for Garcia to practice client based work, but quickly molded into several "how to" videos along with original logo and graphic designs. Garcia was not the only new media student to perform client-based work for their final project as several other students decided they wanted to test their skills for after college.



# MEDIA MATTERS

## BETWEEN THE LINES

Senior wrestler Trent Hullet listens in as the categories are being read to him during Pyramid Scheme. Pyramid Scheme is a game show designed by Between the Lines that pits athletes against each other in a battle of wits and random information. The show is aired live on YouTube and garners the interest of athletes, students, and parents alike. This new platform of media has been made possible by the new student organization Between the Lines. Founded in the fall of 2016, its goal is to create synergy between athletics and campus allowing for a growth in information and skills used in pre and post production. Harrison LaLone '18, Co-Founder of Between the Lines, states that "we wanted to create an atmosphere that would allow students to learn how to use technology such as: cameras, audio equipment, lighting, and post production software. This group has allowed for a fun environment to discuss sports and hone these necessary skills for after school." The group went on to produce more than 50 video productions that covered such areas as: interviews, game shows, and athletic events. Between the Lines was accepted by Student Congress in the spring as a recognized club and granted a budget for the fall of 2017.

Page by Steven Luomala-Kipp '17  
Photos by Nick VanDuser '17

### NEW FACES FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The new Assistant Sports Information Director Zach Russo tightens the tripod for his camera as Between the Lines prepares to air. In his first year at Alma, Russo has already started to make his mark and develop a steady foundation for sports media on campus. He is the faculty supervisor for Between the Lines and is affiliated with the Communication program where he will be teaching a 300-level Sports Communication course in the fall. Along with helping create the media organization of Between the Lines, he plans to help nurture it in its further endeavors on campus which include creating a working space for meetings and projects. The group acquired the former radio station and are looking to expand into new projects.

### CREATING SYNERGY ON CAMPUS

The new Panasonic 4K camera focuses in on senior lacrosse player Darby Kahler as she sits in for the segment Hype or Naw. Between the Lines has been attempting to combine resources with media groups on campus and other departments as well. One department in particular is Communication and Marketing. With the help of Alma's own Ben Tigner and athletics' demand for new equipment, the school was able to provide brand new cameras, tripods, and various accessories for all to use. Between the Lines was a beneficiary of the much needed switch as they can use the updated cameras and equipment for filming.



# SUPPORT DIVERSITY CLUBS



STANCROFF

Candy McCorkle, the new Director of Diversity and Inclusion, works to cultivate an atmosphere of diversity on the Alma College campus. "My role is to do programming for students around the ideas of diversity and inclusion," she said. In her first year at Alma, she provided support and advice for a number of campus diversity clubs, as well as aided students with special circumstances on campus; "I help the LGBTQ and culturally or religiously diverse students. I also work with students with specific dietary needs," she noted. McCorkle has also become more and more interested in challenging the campus's understanding of diversity itself. "People have very narrow perspective on diversity," she said. "I want to help people understand what it is and how it effects us. Diversity is for all, not just certain groups." For McCorkle, student organizations play a significant role in opening up the dialogue between students, staff and community members on campus regarding various issues. "Our two goals with the diversity clubs are to give a community to minority groups where they can just go and be and to give others the opportunity to learn about people who are different from themselves." The diversity clubs brought in speakers and held events in order to cultivate conversations. The main goal was to create uncomfortable conversations within a comfortable environment: a space of inclusivity. McCorkle explained, "Students will have 'chihuahua' or wow moments, that are respectful, but where they step out of their perspective and into anothers and learn something. They see the world through another person's eyes. These moments make everything worth it."



Page by Claire Stancroff '19



DASSANCE



KOEHLER



MENOSKY

"These groups highlight something about everyone."  
-CANDY MCKORKLE



DASSANCE

## Gender and Sexual Diversity

Hoping to create an atmosphere of acceptance on campus, the Gender and Sexual Diversity Club welcomed all. "Our club is about coming together and accepting everyone's differences whether it be gender or sexual identity. We are a group that supports each other and can be social together," noted Ivy Walls. GSD's goal was to create a safe place for students to be themselves. This year GSD was able to obtain a house to serve the purpose of providing a safe zone along with having all of their officers safe zone trained.



KOEHLER

## Active Minds

The main goal of Active Minds is to raise awareness on campus about mental health and provide resources for students and staff. "Mental health awareness is something that people don't talk about or are afraid to talk about. We're trying to get the conversation started so people can help themselves and others," explained President Miranda Menosky '18. To accomplish this goal, the group held events on campus, such as the mental health cupcake event which gave students information about various mental illnesses such as depression, anxiety or ADD/ADHD.



MENOSKY

## Multicultural Student Union

With cultural competency in mind, Multicultural Student Union aimed to create a space where students learn about different cultures in a safe and respectful way. "We are in a predominately white culture," explained Tyler McClellan '19; "We are such a small group and we feel that it is important to share a space where people can better understand each others differences and coexist." In order to accomplish this, MCSU held informational events, such as a sit-in luncheon with local law enforcement to talk about police culture.



MCCLELLAN

# JUST PLAY

## SPORTS CLUBS

Although competition may be the most important part of many sports, the fun and experience that the students endure can be much more valuable. For the Alma College Ultimate Frisbee Club Team, this is the case. "We run a club where we focus on fun and learning, and not so much on the competitive side of things. Obviously most of us are competitive, but our program aims to give everyone an outlet after a long day, and a team that can teach them about character as much as it can about the sport," stated captain Spenser Congram '17. Meeting twice a week to play recreational games, as well as attending tournaments all around the state, this team has been able to create a sense of camaraderie that isn't seen in many other clubs. This camaraderie is the main force driving these students to have the fun that they have on a daily basis, and without it, it might not be the same for some of the members. Because of the fun that they are able to have, the team focuses on teamwork and sportsmanship to find the successes that are essential. "Teamwork is necessary to win on this team, and with us being so close, this is able to foster a better environment for us to work as a team. Also, sportsmanship is a must if you want to play ultimate frisbee with us. No matter what happens, you have to create a positive attitude to assist your teammates when they are down," mentioned Congram.



Page by Nick VanDuser '17



"If someone falls, pick them up; if someone fouls, call them out."  
 - SPENSOR CONGRAM '17



### HOCKEY CLUB

The Hockey Club at Alma College consists of students who share a certain passion for the game of hockey and would like to stay connected with the sport. The team meets up in Mount Pleasant to play their weekly late night games. This may have been the toughest part for some of the players, but for Goalie TJ Miller '17, this was different. "It was difficult meeting up there at night, but it allowed me to meet a lot of new people who have become friends. It also gave me a chance to talk to some of the guys I grew up playing with and playing against." Only playing for two of his years at Alma, Miller enjoyed much of experience on the team and loved every minute. "I would do it again if given the opportunity," concluded Miller.



"Just play. Have fun.  
 Enjoy the game."  
 -MICHAEL JORDAN

### ROCK CLIMBING CLUB

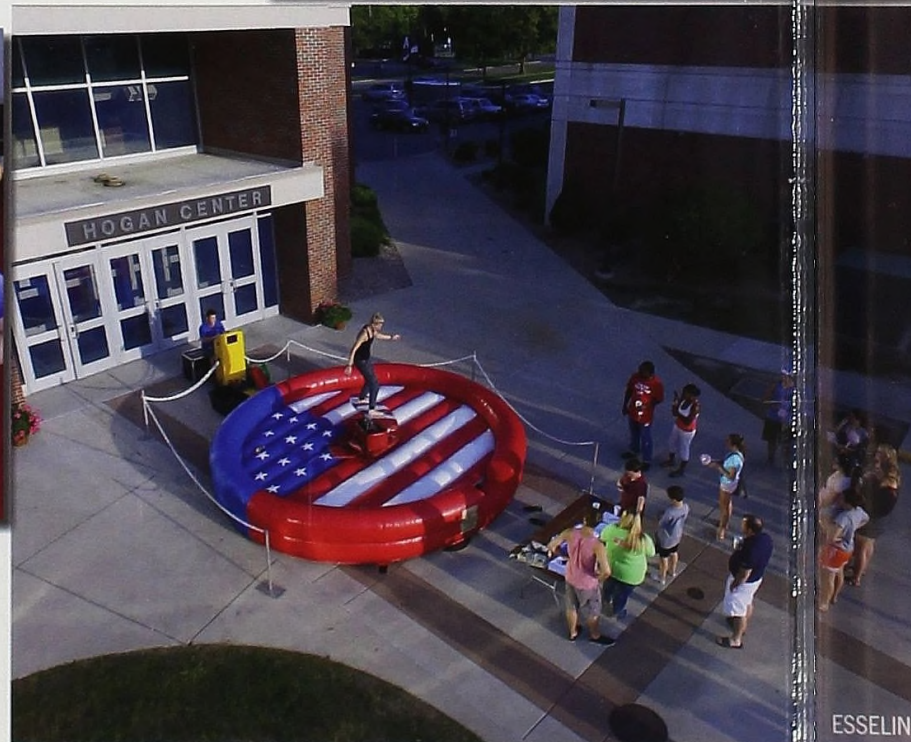
Being a part of the Rock Climbing Club allows its members to reach new heights. Not only are they able learn an abundance of knowledge about rock climbing, they were able to travel and literally reach heights they have never reached. "The trips have been some of my favorite college memories. I have been able to go to Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Alabama on eight different trips since being at Alma College, and each are presented a unique climbing experience different from the others, and this is something that I encourage all students to experience," mentioned Jonah Oberschlake '17.



# ENTERTAIN US ACUB

The Alma College Union Board, or ACUB, is an organization run by students that has a major campus responsibility—to entertain us all. They hire up to 15 students who form the executive board that plans events for all of campus to come together and enjoy. The programming is designed to enable all students to have a blast during their four years as a Scot. ACUB hosts many events on campus every year. Some of these events are meant to make us laugh. ACUB once again hosted the Chicago-based improv group Second City, whose show, "We are All in This Room Together," featured the signature combination of ensemble improv and audience engagement that makes the show such a frequent first step for actors who go on to perform with the cast of Saturday Night Live. Comedian Gibran Saleem brought his uniquely comic take on being Pakistani-American and navigating relationships in modern America. For music lovers, ACUB offered concerts with Jamie Lono and Tall Heights, as well as the acoustic musical poetry group, The Asia Project. For those that longed for a chance to dance and hang out with friends, there were events like the St. Patrick Day Party and the GlowRage Paint Party and film events, including The Rocky Horror Picture Show. While some events were new this year, some have become old favorites, like the annual Casino Night. Even when there is no event, there is always the Student Lounge, a place where students can relax and take a study break. Here the students could simply hang out while playing on ACUB's Wii System, Xbox 360, Xbox One, and board games— or sit back while watching Netflix on one of the many couches and TV in the lounge.

Page by Jordie Hayes '18

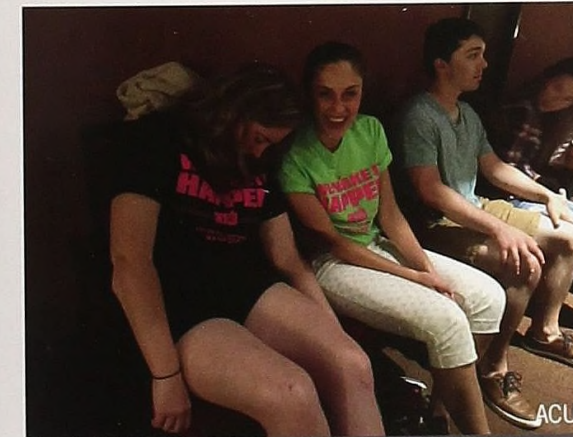


"We Make It Happen."



**NACA**  
Ever wonder how performers make their way to Alma? Every year members of the ACUB staff go to the National Association for Campus Activities Convention, or NACA, to discover new and exciting entertainment to bring to campus. At the conference, they have the opportunity to preview lots of entertainment options, as well as network with entertainers, educators, and other providers. Most of all, they get the chance to network with other colleges and discover what works and does not work on their campuses.

**Little Sibs Weekend**  
The 2017 Little Sibs Weekend was action-packed with its Super Hero theme. This weekend allows students to spend some quality time with their younger siblings while giving them a little piece of the Alma experience. Brandi Heider '19 stated, "Little Sibs weekend was amazing. I loved the theme this year and how supportive all the ACUB staff members were with making sure the little ones had fun. I also loved that the activities, especially the illusionist, were fun for both little sibs and big sibs."



**The Hypnotist**  
One of ACUB's most anticipated annual events is the hypnotist show during orientation. This event is a huge hit for all of campus. Freshman Mikaela Kitzmiller said, "Being hypnotized was easily one of the coolest experiences of my life. I got to go to a Drake Concert, Roller coaster rides, and became a Pokémon all in about 30 minutes. I also have never made more friends or have been the star of more snap chat stories in my entire life. Looks like my 15 minutes of fame happened at the ACUB Hypnotist Show and I'm not even mad!"

**Welcome Week**  
During Freshman Orientation Week, ACUB hosts a variety of events to greet the newest Scots and welcome back the upper classmen. Most events are dedicated to the freshman class. One event designed for this group is the Freshman Party. Jessica Hatcher '20 said, "It was really fun and definitely a party I will never forget. Getting to be together with your grade for the first time and having a blast is a great way to kick off our college years."





# ATHLETICS

# BIG KICK

## MEN'S SOCCER

In the game against Hope College, junior Sam Falardeau leaped up to head the ball away from Dutch defenders and towards his fellow Scots. Nothing was stopping the mighty Scots this season. For the the third straight year, they battled their way into the MIAA Playoffs and did not stop there. They fought their way to the championship game against Calvin. "To prepare for the season, there was a lot of conditioning over the summer. That way when we reported for preseason, we would be in a perfect place to start the season." Evan Shirkey '18 said. Teamwork was essential to make this possible and with the addition of seventeen freshmen this year, that meant new talent and a growing program. "It was different for sure compared to the past few years. The freshmen really found their own way. We, as upperclassmen, were there to instill the values of the team that have always been there in the past, but as for play, they brought their own flare to the table," Shirkey said. This "flare" is exactly what ignited the team and brought in unity. "We won games based on our team chemistry and solid team defending," Coach Joshua Oakley said. The boys had a hard fought season and will hopefully make the same return to the playoffs next season.

Page by Rebecca Gielegem '20

**"A big difference this year was just a lot of new faces and talented young players. We had youth and energy."  
-COACH JOSHUA OAKLEY**

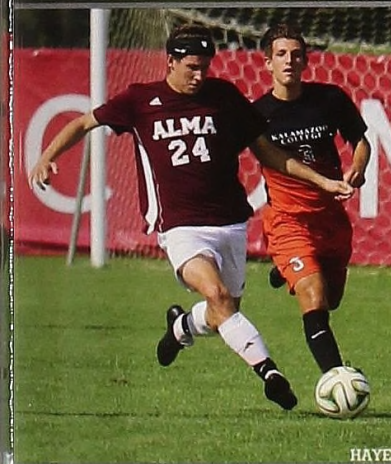
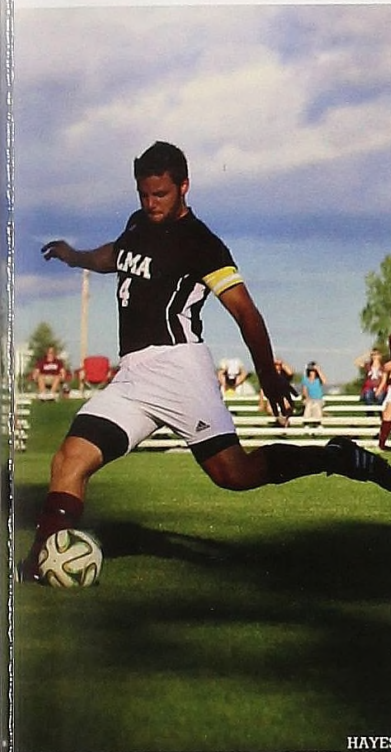


**ABOVE:** Kicking the ball in the goalie's box, Nick Strait gets ready to send the ball down field. **RIGHT:** Pivoting around an Adrian defender, freshman Kyle Farmer attempts to break the 0-0 tie. The team would win their season finale against the Bulldogs 1-0 giving them home field advantage in the MIAA tournament.



### IT'S ABOUT TEAMWORK.

Looking to cross mid-field, Tyler Raab '17 is ducking and diving through Albion midfielders attempting to set a teammate. The Scots would go on to defeat the Britons 3-0 in their second meeting of the season. During both games, there was a total of 8 shots on goal and 3 goals scored. There was a total of 7 saves on goal by Nick Strait '17 and Garrison Mast '20.



## "HEADING" TO PLAYOFFS

Kyle Kansman '17 and Josh Carolan '17 were a power duo during the game against Trine on October 25th. Having a third shot at the MIAA Playoffs was exciting, but did not come easy. The Scots battled Trine all the way into double overtime. The game was won by Kansman's header off of a corner kick by Carolan. "I felt breathless. That win gave us a lock into the tournament, and I was just so happy to get to play more games since it was my last season," Kansman said. The Scots faced Trine twice and won both games with scores of 3-1 and 1-0. The double overtime win made it the teams fourth win in overtime out of the five they had all season. Nick Strait '17 had a combination of 9 saves between both games. This was his second shutout, which earned him MIAA Defensive Player of the week. The shot leaders were Kansman and Hehren Hein '20. Kansman had three goals and Heins had one in the meetings. It was the teamwork and addition of new players that made the Scots unstoppable.

**"Our strength this year was in each other. We were an incredibly close team on the field and off,"  
-COACH JOSHUA OAKLEY**

Josh Carolan '17 dribbles the ball as he tries to make his way down the field and defend off two Kalamazoo College players. In both times playing Kalamazoo, Carolan had the only goal scored.



**Front:** Torsten Holland '20, Evan Shirkey '18, David Viguilla '20, Kei Yamamoto '17, Zach LaRochelle '20, Sam Swem '18, Justin Johnson '19, Marcel de Almeida Siqueira '19, Jake Phillips '20, Johnny Wilson '20, Kyle Costigan '20, Sean O'Malley '19  
**Middle:** Tanner Parrett '20, Kyle Kansman '17, Collin Schaafsma '19, Ben Slavin '19, Sam Williams '20, Nick Strait '17, Kyle Farmer '20, Noah Canlas '20, Josh Carolan '17, Brian Ganton '20  
**Back:** Hehren Hein '20, Lucas Foust '19, Josh Stauffer '20, Andrew Reid '19, Austin Gabris '17, Kyle Richardson '19, Avery McGroarty '18, Alec Smith '20, Garrison Mast '20, Jake Geary '19, Tyler Raab '20

## SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS	AWAY
Greenville College	W	1 0
Central College	W	1 0
Aquinas College	W	1 0
Hope College	W	1 0
Kalamazoo College	T	0 0
Olivet College	W	2 1
Albion College	L	0 2
Calvin College	L	0 2
Trine University	W	3 1
Adrian College	W	1 0
Hope College	W	2 0
Kalamazoo College	L	1 2
Olivet College	W	1 0
Albion College	W	3 0
Calvin College	L	0 5
Trine University	W	1 0
Adrian College	W	1 0
Adrian College	W	1 0
Calvin College	L	2 4

14 Wins - 06 Losses

## SPORT Q&A What will you remember most from the MIAA Championship game?



**JAKE GEARY '19**  
"The most memorable moment was when I celebrated with the team after we scored our second goal to go up on Calvin." Geary is a defender and a sophomore IPHS major from Novi, Michigan.



**AUSTIN GABRIS '17**  
"The most memorable moment was being able to battle with my teammates and brothers. Even though the game did not end how we wanted it to, I would not trade my team for any other." Gabris is a senior captain hailing from Spring Lake, Michigan.

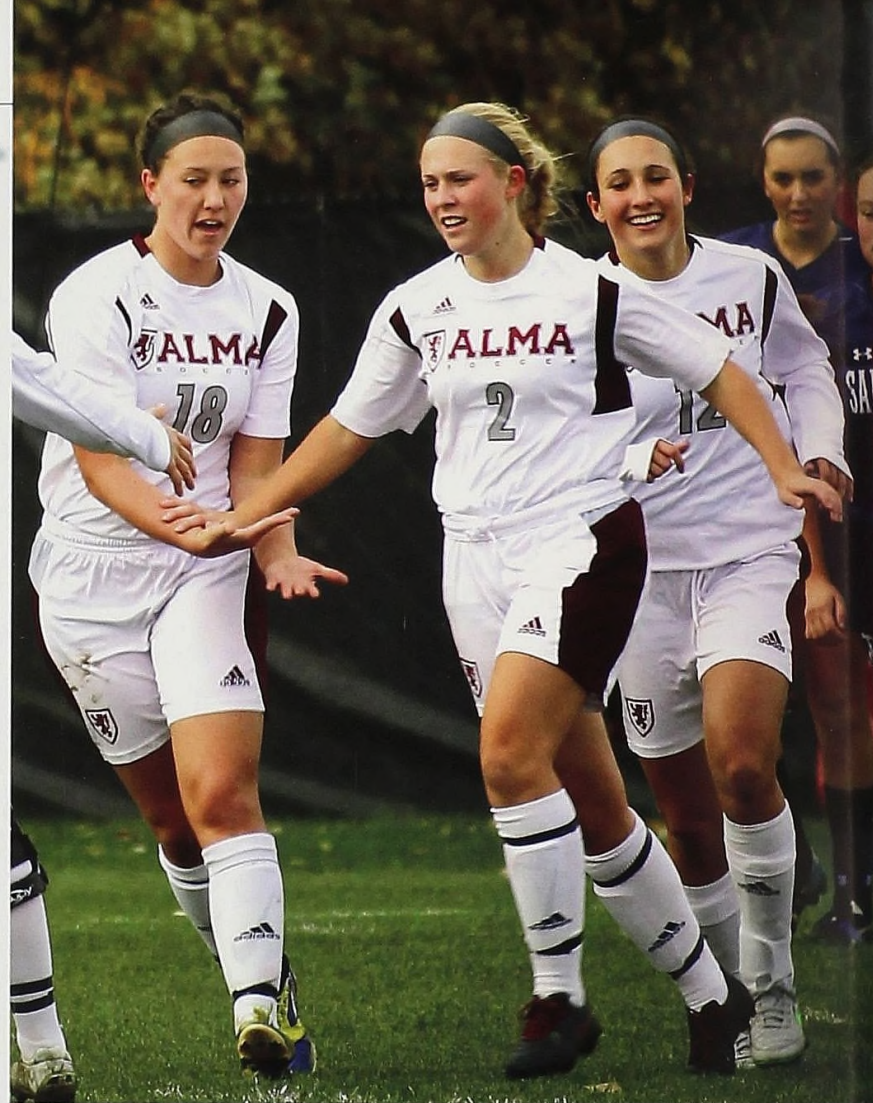
# DUTY

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

"Alma goal scored by #2 Jess Burg. Assisted by #13 Macayla Greiner," exclaims junior Harrison LaLone, Alma soccer announcer, as Burg '17 celebrates with her teammates. Burg had just scored an upper ninety shot against St. Mary's College to put the Scots on top 1-0. As her team celebrated, Coach Ashley Bingaman could not help but be impressed by her players this year. "We are right where we should be in growing as a program," stated Coach Bingaman. The Scots would go on to beat St. Mary's 4-0. This win pushed the Scots on in the MIAA tournament. This year the underrated team emphasized how, with dedication and hard work, impossible is nothing. "We chose this quote, by Muhammad Ali, to emphasize to the freshman, but also the returners, that we can achieve the impossible by hard work, accountability both on and off the field, as well as being a family," said captain Greiner '17. The girls placed fourth in the MIAA and achieved many team goals. "We have many key players in our group of girls; from freshman like Lexi Moyer, to the seniors and the reserves that prepare our varsity team for any challenge that they may take on," noted coaches Meghan Gorsuch and Trish Lamberti. Many of the girls felt like it was their duty to accomplish the teams ultimate goal of being in the MIAA tournament.

Page by Jessica Morr '18

"Impossible is nothing."



**ABOVE:** Embodying a true Scot, Fallon Koenig '17 attempts to gain a first time career goal after playing most of her time in reserves.



**RIGHT:** Defender Lindsey Lloyd '17 defeats Hope offensive line in the Breast Cancer awareness game.



HAYES



"Oh when the Scots," the team chants after the win against St. Mary's College that advanced them to the semi-finals against Kalamazoo College, where they won 2-1. This was the last game played at Scotland Yard for the 2017 season. "All the seniors will be greatly missed because of their charisma and heart," said Coach Bingaman.

### ALL MIAA

Goalkeeper Kelsey Postema '18 defends the goal against Hope College. Although they were defeated in this game, the Scots had a remarkable year full of many record breaking goals. This year the Women's team featured four players in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athlete Association All MIAA Team. This is a new record for the women's team. "It is an honor to be announced on first team and to represent Alma College Women's Soccer. Soccer is a team sport and everyone on and off the field has very important roles for this team. I am so lucky to be a part of an amazing team, and I'm so proud of everything we have accomplished," said Whitnee Foote '18. Postema, Midfielder Macayla Griener '17, and Center Midfielder Megan Kalanick '17 all made the MIAA Team this year. All the girls worked exceptionally hard this year to advance all the way to the finals. "I am so happy to be honored like this. It feels good to be recognized for this. I have put a lot of time and effort into this program and my team and to know that it has all payed off is worth all that I have done," stated Kalanick.

"You get the results you want with the work you put in."  
-COACH MEGHAN GORSUCH



**Front:** Melissa Gal '19, Kali Rhines '19, Madi Ferry '19, Mia Pagliuco '20, Janelle Christensen '18, Maddy Rieboldt '20, Kollete Sherry '17, Macayla Greiner '17, Jaime Weenink '20, Lexi Moyer '20 **Middle:** Ashley Bonam '18, Taylor Roberts '18, Kaylynne Perian '18, Lindsey Lloyd '17, Jess Burg '17, Tori Sailer '19, Fallon Koenig '17, Megan Kalanick '17, Cassandra Goerge '20, Jesse Morr '18 **Back:** Goalie Coach Lamberti, Assistant Coach Gorsuch, Taylor LeMasters '20, Brooke Steed '18, Meredith St Henry '20, Emily Esser '19, Emma Vrooman '20, Annie Burns '19, Kendra Smarsty '20, Kayla Linstruth '17, Lily Slavin '17, Kristina Berzkalns '19, Brooke Amore '18, Kelsey Postema '18, Amanda Mladenovski '18, Head Coach Bingaman

### SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS	AWAY
Albion College	W 01	00
Adrian College	W 04	03
Olivet College	L 02	03
Kalamazoo College	L 02	04
Hope College	T 01	01
Calvin College	T 02	02
Trine University	W 04	00
St. Mary's College	W 05	00
Albion College	T 01	01
Adrian College	W 03	00
Olivet College	W 04	03
Kalamazoo College	T 01	01
Hope College	L 01	04
Calvin College	L 01	02
Trine University	W 02	01
St. Mary's College	W 04	00
Kalamazoo College	W 02	01
Hope College	L 00	01
10 Wins - 04 Losses		

**EVERYONE IN.**  
The team piles in to celebrate junior Whitnee Foote's goal against Adrian College. The team would go on to defeat Adrian 3-0. "Our team is based off of hard work, smart players, and compassion," stated Goalkeeping Coach Lamberti. The compassion can be seen through every player on and off the field. They pride themselves on being more than just teammates, but family.

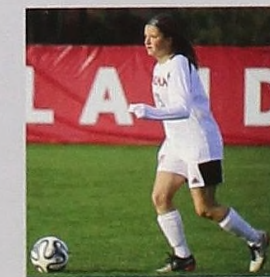


### SPORT Q&A

What is your favorite memory from this year?



**KAYLA LINSTRUTH '17**  
"My favorite memory of the year had to be senior day! It was nice to beat St. Mary's and play with all of my friends for one of the last times on Scotland Yard."



**MADDY RIEBOLDT '20**  
"My favorite memory this year is making it to the MIAA tournament and final with my teammates. It was amazing seeing all the hard work pay off and a good way to kick off my four years here!"

# FAMILY FOOTBALL

Stopping Adrian College from a big return, running back Grant Wilson '17 holds the standard for success that this team was built upon. This senior class understood what it was like to face adversity because all they had was their team, but more importantly, their family. "We had a group of guys that all believed in the same goal, and we all worked equally hard to obtain that goal," stated linebacker Ty Jenson '17. "Next year is going to be a big year. We have a lot of guys returning, and I'm expecting big things." The seniors set the bar high and worked hard even when teammates did not. The work ethic showed this year as they had their first seven win season since 2004, and only the fourteenth in team history. Other senior teammates echoed the notion of leaving their mark stating, "No matter how each game was going, I never felt like we were out of it. I'm very excited to see where this team goes from here," said linebacker Nick Mangutz. "I think the season went great, and it was amazing to go out as a senior like we did. I believe what we did was just the start of great things to come," added defensive back Cody Coleman. This senior class has put the Alma College Scots football program back on the map. The season should bring an influx of new faces and recruits propelling the team up the MIAA charts and closer to the MIAA Championship.

Page by Nick VanDuser '17

**"There have only been 13 other teams in school history that have won more than seven games in a single season."**

**-COACH GREG PSCODNA**

### RELENTLESS.

After a sack that causes a fumble by defensive back, Cody Coleman '17, the Alma College Scots' sideline goes crazy as their teammate, Troy Gahm '17, picks up the fumble and takes off towards Hope College's endzone before stepping out of bounds at the Hope 25 yard line, putting the Scots offense in their first scoring position of the game.



**TOP:** Fellow wide receivers Danny Hagan II '18 and Lars Murray '18 congratulate Essah Kellah '19 after scoring a touchdown against Albion College.

**RIGHT:** The Scots defense is fearless by upstanding their opponent, Hope College, to a fourth and goal from on the one yard line.



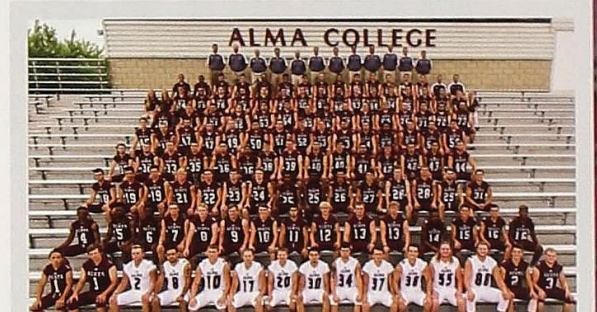
Wide receiver Danny Hagan II '18 pulls in a tough reception from quarterback Dylan Zaborowski '18 to set the Scots up for a first down in Briton territory. Hagan would amass 13 catches for 116 yards and a touchdown in the Scots' victory 37-14 of Albion.

## COMPETE

Rolling out to the right and shaking a defender, Quarterback Dylan Zaborowski '18 shows the determination it took for this team to be successful. The Alma College Scots football team put in hard work and showed dedication during the off season this year, and they did a great job of proving this during their performance on the field. The Scots ended the season with eight All-MIAA players, five of which included first team honors, and three that included second team honors. The first team offense included wide receiver Danny Hagan II '18, right guard Ian Hickerson '18, and tight end Nick Cozart '18. The first team defense included two-time All-MIAA defensive lineman Troy Gahm '17 and linebacker Zac Peterson '18. The Scots All-MIAA second team included quarterback Dylan Zaborowski '18, running back Nick Sullivan '17, and defensive back Justin Thelen '17. Five of these eight players will be returning next season. "We have made tremendous strides in the past couple years," noted Zaborowski. "I'm very excited to see what the team has in store for the future."

**"This team built the foundation for future teams to build on."**

**-COACH GREG PSCODNA**



**ROSTER:** Tom Truong '20, Travis Disser '20, Justin Thelen '17, Bailey Proctor '19, Jachai Wheatley '19, Danny Hagan II '18, Austin Ashe '20, Essa Kellah '19, Austin Sprattling '20, Grant Wilson '17, Ron Shimonovich '20, Caleb Reinhart '18, Nick Sullivan '17, Michael Hallada '20, Jayson Nystrom '20, Mason Ippel '20, Dylan Zaborowski '18, Jack Lawrence '20, Gabriel Koonce '20, Jacob Plisko '19, Sean Torrens '20, Kendrick Powell '20, Cody Coleman '17, Parrish Terburgh '18, Dominic Zanotti '20, Dennes Serrano '20, Jonny Mundt '17, Chris Luckhurst '19, Seth Dixon '19, Alex Yancy '19, Max Kretschmar '20, Will Barthold '20, Dionte Waller '20, Maurice Tawil '18, Colin Smith '20, Steven Sowa '20, Francis Bergquist '18, Brandon Erwin '17, Alexander Szajko '19, Brandon Moore '18, Steven Moon '20, Lars Murray '18, Zac Peterson '18, Camron Ramirez '20, Salvador Mangandi '20, Jacob Chittenden '17, Ty Jensen '17, Parker McBride '20, Jacob Carbery '20, Dustin Tripp '18, Samuel Jacob '20, Daniel Quevedo '19, Ca'Juan Treadway '19, Bowman Seabrook '20, Jonathan Alfaro '19, Brandon Harper '18, Tyler Mrock '19, Gunner Lamb '19, Nick Cozart '18, Thomas Carey '20, Jackson Conner '18, Matthew Leppien '20, Dustin Prill '20, Andrew Jasienski '20, Colton Tyson '18, Dallas Reeser '19, Gus Vanderdonck '19, Jess Levier '20, Jake Curtin '19, Nick Mangutz '17, Thomas Lincoln '20, Hunter Hoffman '19, Elio Kollinaku '18, Timothy Bailey '20, Tyrone Bruce '20, Logan Lange '20, Brannon Roach '19, George Murphy '20, Dakota Jelinek '20, Kevin Essenmacher '18, Jacob Headlee '20, Darrien Rutledge '20, Javier Otero '20, Dino Delyanne '19, Graham Sullivan '20, Tyler Zolinski '20, Joel Collinson '20, Jeremy Fisher '18, Andrew Hayduk '20, Fischer Klein '20, Jake Simon '20, Ian Hickerson '18, Will Nicolai '19, John Aloisi '19, Jacob McKiddie '18, Dustin Neyer '18, Zachary Olvera '20, Jacob Shields '18, Eric Rohde '18, Bryce Kita '20, Chase Krueger '20, Shane Henry '20, Chase Hinkle '20, Troy Gahm '17, Thomas Cannon '18, Cameron Lee '18, Nick Knudson '19, Joe Hernandez III '19, Connor Herrington '20, Athens Gochis '20, Derek Ellis '18, Kyle Kraus '19, Isaac Morse '20, Dylan Bergmann '20, Jacob Wildenhaus '20, D.J. Perez '19

## SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS	AWAY
St. Vincent L	24	47
@ Manchester University W	31	20
@ Concordia University (WI) W	31	28
@ Kalamazoo College W	56	26
Hope College L	19	35
Aurora University (IL) W	38	14
Albion College W	37	14
@ Olivet College L	30	36
@ Trine University W	47	33
Adrian College W	31	27

7 Wins - 3 Losses

## SPORT Q&A What was your most memorable game this year and why?



**NICK SULLIVAN '17**  
"There were two games. First, Concordia. They took the lead with a minute and a half left. We drove down the field, but were stopped on fourth down on the one yard line. I got the ball for the game winning touchdown. Second, Senior Day. After missing two games, it felt great to get back on the field one last time and be a part of a huge comeback win."



**JUSTIN THELEN '17**  
"Senior Day win vs. Adrian. Having never beaten Adrian, along with it being my final game as a Scot, it meant a lot to me, and the rest of the seniors, to end on a winning note. We faced adversity being down 20-3 at halftime, but we came together as team to get the win."



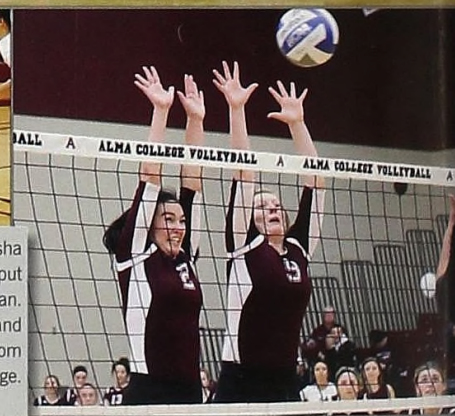
# RESTART

## VOLLEYBALL

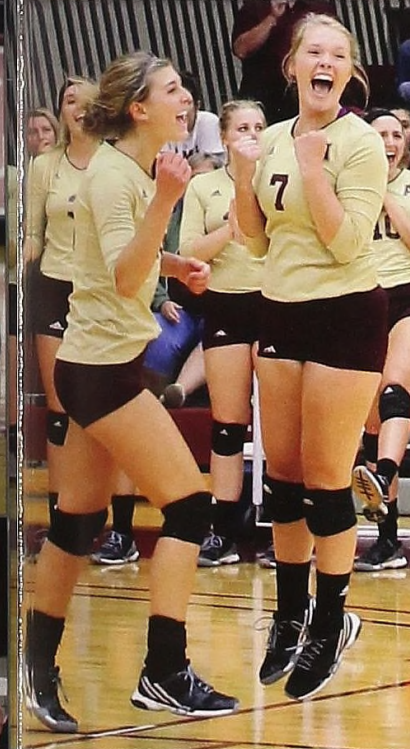
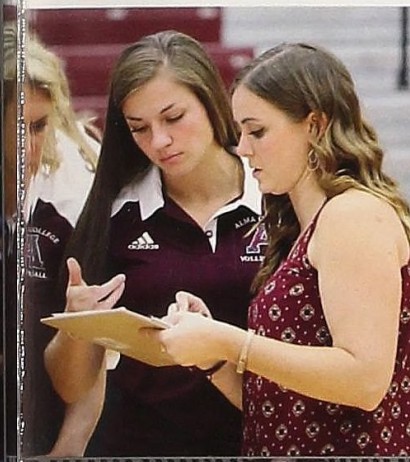
The crowd roars as Sasha Laykova '17 and Molly Lark '17 celebrate a first round win with their fellow teammates. The Scots played against Calvin—the number 1 ranked team in the nation. "Taking one from Calvin this year," said Lark, "was the first time I had experienced beating them in a set in my four years here." The athletes gave everything they had throughout the game, and they made Calvin work hard for their final 3-1 victory. "The biggest change I saw in our team that day compared to others was the confidence and the communication of girls on the court and off," Madison Smith '17 said. "I think that the game could be a turning point for the program and will lead to beating them next season or in the near future," said Lark. With a large senior class, the Scots had an edge with the more experienced players. The underclassmen have large shoes to fill, but are guided with words of wisdom from the team and their new coaches. "Volleyball is a game where if you begin to doubt yourself and the opposing team has the momentum, it can spiral out of control fast," Smith said. Ending the season 13-14, Alma Scots leave behind talented Juniors to lead the team to victory.

Page by Lea Ziolkowski '20  
Photos by Jordie Hayes '18

"I couldn't be more proud of how the girls played and what we accomplished."  
-MADISON SMITH '17



**ABOVE:** Making a defensive save, Sasha Laykova '17 concentrates as she works to put touch on the ball in the game against Adrian.  
**RIGHT:** Together, Dakota Pelach '18 and Madison Smith '17 jump to block a spike from Adrian College.



Celebrating after a point against Hope College, Gillian Young '17, and Georgia Miller '20 bring energy and excitement to the court. "Being a freshman, the team made me feel like I was a part of a family right away," Miller said.

### YEAR ONE

Before the Adrian game, coaches Alex Leja and Hannah Guildford discuss in game strategies that would eventually lead to a 3-1 win against the Bulldogs. Both were new additions to the coaching staff in 2016, which provided a fresh start for the team. "Alex is a great coach coming in completely new to the conference and the area," said Katie Bush '19. "She really knows the game and helped the team improve." Coach Leja taught the Scots how to finish games, start better, and stay more consistent throughout the season. "I was blessed to have such amazing girls in the program for my first season as a head coach" Coach Leja explained. "I have felt very welcomed and supported at Alma, and I am excited to continue to work with and develop this program!" Alma alumni Hannah Guilford also gave the Scots a different coaching perspective, as she was a member of the team just a year ago. Freshman Georgia Miller stated, "This season was great in terms of coming together as a team with a brand-new coaching staff. The new coaches are determined and have big goals for us in future seasons."

"This year, we really proved to ourselves just how good we can be."  
-SASHA LAYKOVA '17



**Front:** Liz Putti '18, Allison Whitehead '20, Georgia Miller '20, Sasha Laykova '17, Dakota Pelach '18, Gillian Young '17, Shelbi Adams '20 **Middle:** Brooke Mason '19, Brianna Zimmer '19, Ashtyn Snyder '20, Jackie Vyskocil '17, Maressa Miller '17, Mary Rieger '17, Molly Lark '17, Madison DeLau '18  
**Back:** Dorthy Buening '18, Katie Bush '19, Madison Smith '17, Joelle Fisher '18, Kendall Sells '17, Kara Murlow '18, Anne MacNeil '17, Naomi Mason '20, Savannah Skelly '18

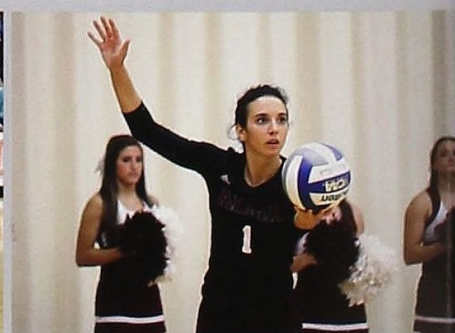
### SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS	AWAY
at North Central College	L	1 3
at Dubuque	W	3 0
at Lakeland College	W	3 1
at Lake Forest	W	3 0
at Marian	W	3 1
at Hope College	L	1 3
Olivet College	W	3 2
at Albion College	W	3 2
Trine University	L	2 3
at Saint Mary University	L	0 3
at Adrian College	L	0 3
Calvin College	L	1 3
Kalamazoo College	W	3 0
at University of Wisconsin- La Crosse	L	0 3
at University of Wisconsin- Oshkosh	L	0 3
at Carthage College	L	0 3
at Edgewood	L	1 3
Hope College	L	0 3
at Olivet College	W	3 2
Albion College	W	3 1
at Kenyon College	W	3 0
at DePauw University	L	1 3
at Trine University	W	3 0
Saint Mary University	L	0 3
Adrian College	W	3 1
at Calvin College	L	0 3
at Kalamazoo College	W	3 1

13 Wins - 14 Losses

### STARTING OFF STRONG.

Raising their hands in the air, the Scots are excited for the competition to begin. Team prayer is lead by Molly Lark '17, asking for protection from injury and keeping the Scots mentally strong before each game. "There is a little dancing in the locker room just to help calm nerves and get "warm" in an unconventional way," Katie Bush '19 added.



### SPORT Q&A Personal Accomplishments

**DAKOTA PELACH '18**  
"I'm honored to be picked for 2nd team All MIAA, but volleyball is a team sport and my success comes from the hard work and the support I received from friends and family!"



**MARESSA MILLER '17**  
"I really could not have accomplished what I did without my team. They push me to do my best and allowed me to tie for first in team assists!"

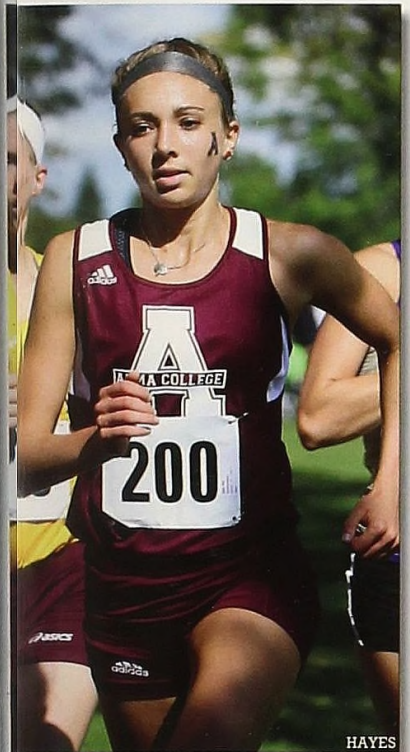
# PERSEVERE

## CROSS COUNTRY

Sophomore runner Justin Jones '19 surges up a small hill on Alma's home course, focusing on the runners ahead as he attempts to improve his place and time. For the first time in five years, the Scots hosted a race on their home course. One of the largest home crowds in Alma cross country history, consisting of parents, friends, faculty, and peers, came together to support their runners at one of the most important races of the season. "It was great to see so many spectators from the school there," commented Laine Krueger '20. "I've never felt that much support at a cross country race before." The first MIAA Jamboree of the season accounts for one third of the points that contribute to the overall MIAA standings at the end of the season. Hosting the meet allowed for the opportunity to perform at a higher level on a familiar course; however, challenges arise in such a situation according to Mallory Munderloh '19. "It's hard to run at home because you're so used to the area," she said. "It has a very relaxed feel, while all the other competitors have the rush of being in a new place." The women's team finished fourth, putting them in good standing in the MIAA, while offering both teams valuable experience and feedback for improvement as they look to ascend in the MIAA rankings.



HAYES



HAYES



CHOVANEC



HAYES



HAYES

**ABOVE:** Cheerleader Abby Sniecinski '19 puts a face tattoo on Kaitlyn Arnold '17 before her race as a "good luck" from one buddy team to the other. **RIGHT:** Mallory Munderloh '19 crosses the finish line in her first 6k of the season scoring 26 points for her team.

Page by Hannah Garn '18

"Intentional intensity and focus."

### RACING FOR SUCCESS

Kaitlyn Arnold '17 leads the pack on the Scot's home course, ultimately finishing second in the race. Arnold has led the women's team throughout her four years at Alma College, while receiving awards at the conference and national level. Arnold described her effort for success, saying, "Sticking to the training plan, I knew late August I would be ready... A lot of work still needed to be done, and getting comfortable was not an option." Arnold broke the 5k and 6k records at Alma College four times her senior season and qualified for nationals, while having previously competed at the national level in 2014 and 2016. The athletes on both teams strove for excellence on and off the course, academically and athletically, which contributed to the team's success throughout the season. The teams were both named All-Academic teams, with the men averaging a 3.60 and the women averaging a 3.67. The men's and women's teams took the top spots in the conference for highest GPA, while Arnold walked away as the Elite 90 recipient, awarded to the athlete with the highest GPA competing at the national level.

"Ask: 'What is your why?' Then work toward it like it's nobody's business."  
-KAITLYN ARNOLD '17



**Front:** Coach Chovanec, Nicholas Fox '17, Anthony Pizzo '19, Charles Clark '17, Zane Berlanga '18, Jack Montgomery '20, Justin Jones '19, Luke Reed '20, Jeffrey Schlicker '18, Calvin Scott '18  
**Back:** Coach Ryan, Chelse VanSpronsen '18, Brooke VandePolder '17, Johanna Harvey '20, Olivia Vandepol '20, Anissa Keeler '19, Ruslana Gill '20, Mallory Munderloh '19, Libbey Jones '18, Madeline McDonnell '20, Alexis Kluisza '20, Laine Krueger '20, Hannah Garn '18, Kaitlyn Arnold '17, Madison Swope '20, Zita Tranquilla '20, Lauren Kucharczyk '19, Madison Nelson '19

### SCOREBOARD

	WOMEN	MEN
at Calvin Knight Invitational	9th	12th
at Lake Superior State Invitational	3rd	3rd
MIAA Jamboree	4th	8th
at Lansing Invitational	4th	9th
at Inter-Regional Rumble	10th	25th
at MIAA Jamboree	3rd	8th
at NCAA III Regional	14th	28th
at NCAA III Championships	Arnold 67th	



HAYES

Zane Berlanga '18 works throughout the race at the first MIAA Jamboree of the season alongside other top competitors in the conference. Berlanga led the men throughout the season and helped gather a 28th place finish for the team at the regional championship, defeating Kalamazoo.

### REFLECT & IMPROVE

After completion of the Calvin Knight Invitational, the coaches meet with both teams to review their performance. Reflection on each race is crucial to the improvement of the team for the next competition: with no detail overlooked. The coaches stress running the tangent, having a good start, and pacing one's self; all while praising hard work and success.



HAYES



CHOVANEC

### SPORT Q&A What is it that draws you to cross country?



HAYES

**CHARLIE CLARK '17**  
"I've been running for almost ten years, and cross country has been a huge part of that. What has always drawn me to the sport were the challenges it brings and the people who participate. I came to Alma to continue running because I wanted to better myself. What brings me back are the friendships I've made and the challenges of the race."



HAYES

**NICHOLAS FOX '17**  
"Running allows me to both explore and appreciate the world around me. Being a part of the cross team at Alma has provided all of those benefits with an awesome group of teammates and coaches. They are what brought me back each season, and it was them who I could count on every day to help me train, compete, explore, laugh, and overcome life's obstacles."

# DEVELOP

## GOLF

Forgetting her blanket and sun tan lotion, Katie Neiswender '18 decides to leave the beach and execute a hazard-saving shot to perfection. The women's golf team had a successful season with individual growth throughout the team. For Tori Basso '19, it was a strong year. After beating her personal best twice this season, she was looking forward to further improvements next year for the whole team: "We got fifth in the MIAA, which was disappointing because we weren't able to make spring golf, but we have a really young team and should be able to make it next year." This attitude was echoed throughout the team. Neiswender explained that their team's goal was to make the cut to play post-season. After coming so close, their competitive nature was a driving force for their development during the off season, both on and off the course. The golfers hope to continue their momentum through next fall. "We still have so much potential," explained Kennedy Hilley '19, "and I think we all realized that this season. I am excited for next year to see what we will achieve.

Don't sleep on the Scots!" This realization is critical for the youth of this season's team as they look toward a future place in the MIAA post-season. After much hard work, these athletes are proud of the strides they have made and continue to develop their skills as a team.

Page by Natalie Murrey '19

**"You just have to stay mentally strong, and trust your swing."  
-KENNEDY HILLEY '19**

### CHEMISTRY

Friendship on and off the course is pertinent to a successful season. Through a season of ups and downs, Aaron Griffin '20 noted, "Great team chemistry made the lows much more tolerable, and the highs that much better." It is this very bond that has helped mold the young golfers at Alma into the men that embody our school's mission as functioning stewards of society.



**ABOVE:** As a freshman, Aaron Griffin entered the college golf scene with confidence and a lot of potential.



**RIGHT:** Focus is an important part of her game, as Tori Basso '19 looks down the course and aligns her shot.



STANCROFF



HAYES

After being named MIAA Golfer of the Week, Kennedy Hilley '19 helped inspire her teammates to continue to strive for success. This success resulted in placing fourth at the MIAA Championship tournament.

## DIRECTION

Making sure to keep his head down on the ball, but up on the season, Alec Genter '17 follows through on one of many practice swings. Placing 6th at the MIAA Championships, receiving a "golfer of the week" nomination, and being named to the Second Team All-MIAA Conference team is one way to finish a golf career at Alma College. Genter '17 stated, "the conference season was an improvement from last year and good improvement from young talent." This young talent plans to carry on Genter's hard work and progress in the upcoming seasons. "Genter was huge in motivating everyone on the team to keep working hard and improve their game," freshman Aaron Griffin added. Focusing on taking one hole at a time is an imperative lesson the Scots gained from this season, and they intend to carry it out in the future. As Griffin '20 stated, "the experience and memories of playing for the Scot's golf team is something none of our team will ever forget." Genter has told Alma golf fans to watch out for golfers Jennifer Kowalczyk '20 and Kyle Bodkins '19 because they possess "the talent and work ethic."

**"We show an immense amount of potential for seasons to come."  
-AARON GRIFFIN '20**



**FRONT:** Mitchell Haines '20, Bennett Schmitt '19, Alec Genter '17, Ben Thelen '17  
**BACK:** Aaron Griffin '17, Kyle Bodkins '19, Sam Struble '20, Head Coach Charlie Goffnett

## SCOREBOARD

### MEN

	PLACE	SCORE
Lou Collins Invitational	9th	318
Trine University	7th	315
Olivet College	7th	328
Albion College	7th	334
Calvin College	8th	347
MIAA Championship	7th	328

### WOMEN

	PLACE	SCORE
Campbell Invitational (2 days)	6th	692
Railside D3 Classic	2nd	333
Albion College	4th	346
Saint Mary's College	6th	373
Hope College	4th	350
Alma College	6th	357
Olivet College (2 days)	4th	672



**FRONT:** Katie Neiswender '18, Jennifer Kowalczyk '20, Allison Starr '19, Olivia Benoit '20, Tori Basso '19  
**BACK:** Kennedy Hilley '19, Hannah Joslin '19, Nikki Palmer '19, Kelsey Stoll '17, Kylie Hamilton '17, Head Coach Charlie Goffnett

## SPORT Q&A HOW DO YOU MOVE ON?

### ALEC GENTER '17

"Clear your head and focus on the next hole...you can't make up all your swings on one hole, but you can always make a chip in, or make a putt, or a great drive, and that can springboard you into more good shots."



STANCROFF



STANCROFF



HAYES

# EVOLVE

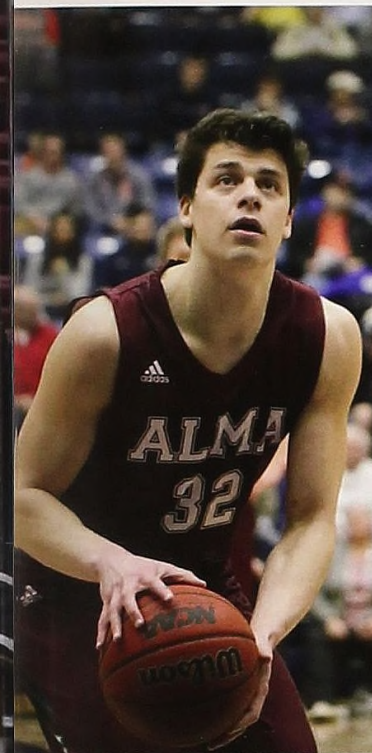
## MEN'S BASKETBALL

After a hard fake right, Tyler Edwards '17 spins to his left and penetrates the rim, making an easy one handed lay-up to extend the Scots lead over Ohio Northern to 63-59 in the second half. Edwards would finish the game with 13 points, and the Scots would dismantle Northern 80-72 with their execution of winning the little battles. They shot 80% as a team from the foul line where they produced 35 chances, which was over three times as many as Northern. Junior Trevor Gernaat lead the team with 19 points. He noted that "we had a pretty good game plan coming in, and we just went out there and stuck to it." The evolution of the team had already started to take hold three games into the season. Coach Sam Hargraves commented on the win saying, "The seniors made plays, they moved the ball, and Trevor started to take over more. There has been some adversity we've gone through already, but it's their team." Up to this point, the Scots had already lost key players in Doug Bradfield '18 and Kevin Gamble '19 to season ending injuries. Similar to a "feel-good" sports film, Hargraves' quote was a foreshadowing of events to come. Less than a month later in the first half at Hope, the team would lose one of their senior leaders for the season in Chase Fairchild. The blows to the team seemed almost insurmountable to this point. Hargraves mentioned that "We kept evolving as people went down. We were adjusting on the fly."

Page by Steven Luomala-Kipp '17  
Photos by Jordie Hayes '18



**ABOVE:** The Scots dubbed two players to the All-MIAA team this season in seniors Trevor Gernaat (1st team) and Tyler Edwards (2nd). **RIGHT:** Stepping back with the sweet stroke, senior Trevor Gernaat drains a 3-point attempt from the corner in a win (74-70) over Adrian at home.



Faking the give to Gernaat '17, Luke Lamoreaux '20 heads middle-in to drive to the hoop against Hope College in the MIAA Tournament. Lamoreaux saw the floor in every game this season averaging 6.8 points 2.7 assists per contest.

## NEXT MAN UP

During the first round of the MIAA Tournament against Hope College, Kevin Scheibert '18 digs in at the line to attempt his first and only free throw. The eventual shot would be a miss as the Scots fell to the Dutchmen by a final of 63-45. The rollercoaster season marked the third straight season that the team made the Tournament. New players and faces, similar to Scheibert, emerged as cornerstones for the team this season. Hargraves explained that "the timing of the all injuries was interesting. It became an opportunity for someone else to step up." For the Scots, this "Next Man" came in the form of 5 players: Junior Kevin Scheibert, and Freshmen Ryan Stevens, Steven Harvey, Luke Lamoreaux, and Preston Laketa. Scheibert had not seen action on the varsity court before starting 15 of the final 16 games this season, chipping in 5 points per game and a team high 17 blocked shots. Laketa averaged 12.2 points per game only trailing Gernaat for the team lead. Harvey led the team in shooting percentage (57.4) and 3-point percentage (52.2). Hargraves continued about his team saying, "Looking forward, I'm really excited about our team and what we have."

**"My definition of success is trying to get the maximum out of what we have."**  
-COACH SAM HARGRAVES



Jared Long '20, Ethan Apsey '18, Luke Lamoreaux '20, Scott Maki '19, Chase Fairchild '17, Bryan Hines '17, Ben Feliczak '18, Ryan Stevens '20, Steven Harvey '20, Aaron Saenz '20, Coach Charlie Goffnett, Nick LoMonaco '18, Zach Sinke '20, Kevin Scheibert '18, Brooks Hyble '18, Tyler Edwards '17, Trevor Gernaat '17, Kevin Gamble '19, Doug Bradfield '18, Adam Abraham '19, Preston Laketa '20, Coach Ryan Clark, Head Coach Sam Hargraves and Student Coach Jason Malling.

## SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS	AWAY
@ Lake Superior State University L	58	90
@ Aquinas College L	62	82
Ohio Northern University W	80	72
#18 Augustana College (IL) L	77	89
Finlandia University L	85	89
@ #13 North Central College (IL) L	59	78
Elmhurst College (IL) L	96	104
@ North Park University (IL) L	81	88
Wheaton College (IL) W	97	87
@ Willamette University (OR) W	75	67
@ (OR) vs #8 Whitworth University (WA) L	72	99
@ (OH) vs Hanover College (IN) L	67	81
@ Defiance College (OH) W	76	64
Kalamazoo College W	107	63
@ Adrian College W	79	76
@ Hope College L	77	88
Calvin College L	86	95
Trine University (IN) W	85	74
@ Albion College W	89	87
@ Olivet College L	93	100
@ Kalamazoo College W	65	54
Adrian College W	74	70
Hope College L	71	76
@ Calvin College W	68	66
@ Trine University (IN) L	66	81
Albion College L	67	70
Olivet College W	113	90
@ Hope College MIAA Tournament L	45	63
<b>12 Wins - 14 Losses</b>		

## COACHES' CORNER.

Coach Sam Hargraves entered his 6th season at Alma. The program has consistently improved under his reign, leading to the recent Tournament run of 3 seasons. Hargraves is optimistic of the coming season: "We are going to get healthy... No question I'm excited if you look at what we are bringing back: 5 sophomores coming in to the season with a ton of playing time."



## SPORT Q&A As a senior on the team, what do you leave your teammates with?



**TYLER EDWARDS '17**  
"Enjoy this time that you have; especially now that I'm done, I wish I could have every year back to redo some things... Take the time with what you have and cherish the moments that you get."



**CHASE FAIRCHILD '17**  
"Now that I'm done... what I wouldn't give to play Hope one more time or Calvin one more time; especially those big games... You think you've got a lot of them, but then you think about it again, and you've only got eight guaranteed assuming you are healthy for your entire four years... It does go faster than you think it does."

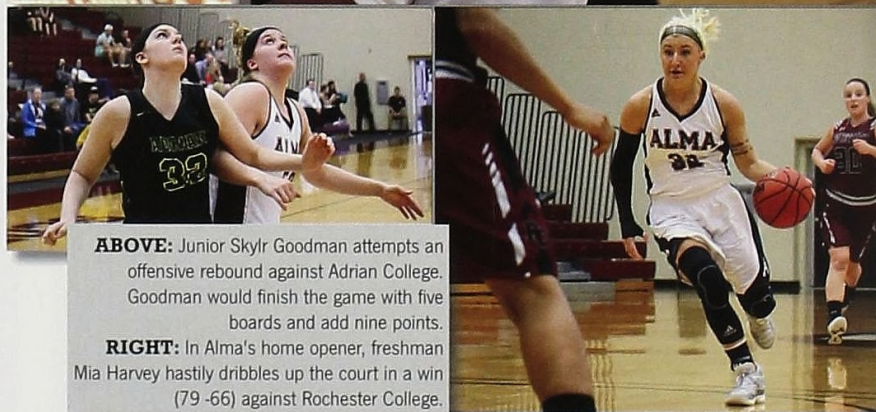
# RISE UP

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The quick outlet pass after a defensive rebound from Skylr Goodman '18 for a breakaway to Tara Padgett '17 makes for an easy lay-up and two points for the Scots against the Adrian Bulldogs in Art Smith Arena. The Scots would fall to Adrian 69-59 in their season-ending, Senior Day game. Padgett finished the competition with a team-high 15 points and chipped in three steals. The three steals moved her to 159 in her career: good for 5th all time at Alma college. Padgett also finished with 111 three-pointers in her career leaving her at 6th all time for the Scots. Padgett's tenure at Alma reflects the program's climb towards the top. Since 2014, the Scots have made strides forward in each season under the watch of head coach Kris Johnson. Coach explained, "We need to overcome and last through close games. When challenged, we need to rise up." The team focused their mentality around this unifying statement in order to align their goals with one another for the season. "Early on, we gave games to Hope and Calvin," said Johnson. "We need to believe and complete our goals. Going forward, we have to tap into the top four teams and pull out some wins there." After talking with the team, many echoed these notions and added "staying consistent" and "putting in the work this off-season."

Page by Steven Luomala-Kipp '17  
Photos by Jordie Hayes '18

**"Consistency starts with each player in the off-season."  
-COACH KRIS JOHNSON**



**ABOVE:** Junior Skylr Goodman attempts an offensive rebound against Adrian College. Goodman would finish the game with five boards and add nine points.  
**RIGHT:** In Alma's home opener, freshman Mia Harvey hastily dribbles up the court in a win (79-66) against Rochester College.



Looking for a teammate, Chloe King '18 finds Hannah Thelen '20 for a short-jumper that converts for two points. King would finish the game with a team-high 8 assist, while Thelen chipped in for 16 points and 6 rebounds in the win.

## NEW FACES

After a drive and a step-back, Abbigale Philipson '18 looks for an open teammate in the matchup against the Calvin Knights. Philipson would finish the night with seven points and four rebounds in the loss (71-64). She was one of many athletes this season who stepped up and surprised the team. Kelsey Wolffis was selected All-MIAA second team (the Scots last selection was 2011). Wolffis finished with 230 points, 160 rebounds, and 65 blocks (a single-season record). "Skylr Goodman ('18) emerged from JV and exploded this season," insisted Coach Kris Johnson. "I'm so proud of her. It's so nice to see her grow on and off the court." Goodman would lead the team with a 56.7 shooting percentage and also contributed 4.6 blocks per game. Freshmen Madison Hill and Hannah Thelen both came in and had quality seasons for the team. They added a lot of depth moving forward. Thelen started 24 games this season averaging 2.7 assists per game to lead the team. Coach continued, "Part of our struggles this season is our youth, and it was hard to stay consistent. They all understand the process, and I love the committed culture."

**"The days you don't want to be here: enjoy it. It's the best four years of your life."  
-TARA PADGETT '17**



**Front:** Taylor Roberts '18, Madison Hill '20, Madison Shegos '20, Ashtyn Maniez '20, Tara Padgett '17, Sophie Guzman '19, Chloe King '18, Kendal Carlson '19, Laura Smith '20, Mia Harvey '20.  
**Back:** Allison Karpinski '19, Skylr Goodman '18, Madeline Barnauskas '19, Abbigale Philipson '18, Kaitlyn Kendall '17, Breanna Collins '17, Kelsey Wolffis '19, Jessi Jordan '20, Emily Weiss '20, Hannah Thelen '20.  
Coaches: Kris Johnson, Joe Alfano, and Olivia Kirkey

## SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS	AWAY
@ Western Michigan University L	33	81
Rochester College W	79	66
@ (NJ) vs Kean University (NJ) L	59	76
@ (NJ) vs Ferrum College (VA) L	55	57
@ Roosevelt University L	64	72
Calvin College L	64	71
#7 Hope College L	52	66
@ Kalamazoo College W	76	64
@ Wilmington College (OH) L	52	72
@ (OH) vs Ohio Christian L	65	73
@ Aquinas College L	50	71
Defiance College (OH) L	57	64
Olivet College W	66	48
@ St. Mary's College (IN) W	84	41
Albion College L	65	74
@ Trine University (IN) L	48	75
@ Adrian College L	71	76
Illinois Tech W	76	37
@ Calvin College L	52	62
@ #6 Hope College L	65	83
Kalamazoo College W	80	78
@ Olivet College W	65	45
St. Mary's College (IN) W	62	50
@ Albion College L	62	78
#22 Trine University (IN) L	42	87
Adrian College L	59	69

8 Wins - 17 Losses

## JUMPING FOR JOY.

The bench roars as freshman Hannah Thelen '20 drains a long three-pointer to extend the lead to 11 points over Kalamazoo midway through the third quarter. The Scots would go on win by a final of 76-64. Thelen and Skylr Goodman '18 each recorded the team's first double-double of the season finishing the contest with 12 points and 10 rebounds each.



## SPORT Q&A What has playing for Alma meant to you?



**KAITLYN KENDALL '17**  
These people and this team have helped make me who I have become. I'm very proud of what Alma has taught me and molded me to become. I wouldn't let any of these people go because they are too special to me.



**TARA PADGETT '17**  
Playing with this team and playing for Alma has made me a better person overall. I can't even imagine what my life would be like if I wasn't playing basketball."

# TRANSITION WRESTLING

Coach Jeremiah Tobias and 174 pounder Taylor McPhail '18 coach Jake Anderson '20 through his match against Adrian College during the last conference meet of the season. Transitioning into his first season as the head coach, Tobias took on the role of being the leader for this young group. "Unfortunately, five seniors are graduating in the spring, leaving us with two seniors for next year. We are in a developmental stage in the program, and we are depending on our young leaders to step up for us next year. I can't wrestle for them, I can only push them in the right direction," said Coach Tobias. This year the Alma College Scots faced significant adversity as their team was much smaller than it had been in previous years, making this leadership an essential role to the success in the future. Jared Flemming '19 echoes his coach: "Coach Tobias has ultimately created the culture that we need to be successful for years to come. It is up to us to create the success that he pushes on the team. In order to do that, we need to focus on what's happening here and now. All you can do is put your head down, be confident, and just wrestle." This Alma Scots Wrestling Team looks forward to having a good recruiting class next year to help the future success of the team. "Our hope is to bring in a freshman heavy class, with good upper-tiered leadership to fill the roles of those leaving us," noted Tobias.

Page by Nick VanDuser '17  
Photos by Jordie Hayes '18

**"It's a process. Whether it's life or wrestling, there is always a process."  
-COACH TOBIAS**



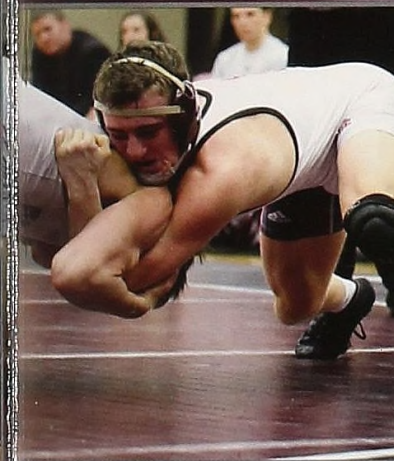
**ABOVE:** 133 pound Noah Lopez's '20 attempted pin before his 10-5 victory over Adrian College's Domic Paterra.



**RIGHT:** Eryn Bryant '19 performing a takedown in effort to rack up a few more points in this close match against Adrian College in the 149 pound weight class.

### LEADERSHIP.

Junior Captain Taylor McPhail readying himself to go in for a takedown against Olivet College. Despite injury midway through the season, McPhail was able to succeed when he was on the mat, finishing the season with a 16-2 record. McPhail strived to maintain his leadership role on the sidelines, as he was always there showing his vocality while assisting his teammates.



In an attempt to transition himself into a better position for power, Jared Flemming '19 locks arms with his contender from Olivet College in order to gain control. Fleming was able to come out with a win in this 157-pounder match with a tight score of 3-2.

## COMMITMENT

Senior Nationals qualifier Trent Hullett tries to finish his match against Olivet College in the 184 pound weight class before he comes away with a win by decision. Commitment was an essential part of Hullett's plan this year, as he finished top twelve in his weight class for Division III at Nationals. In his first match at nationals, Hullett upset the number two seed in the nation with a pin to finish the match, and he gives much of his credit to the coaches. "The coaches did a phenomenal job of pushing me to my limit this year. As Coach Tobias always says, 'It's a process.' You can't go from being kind of bad, to being really good. You have to go through the process of being kind of bad, to not so bad, to mediocre, to being kind of good, to being really good. You have to quit focussing on the end goal. You have to get better today before you can get better tomorrow," stated Hullett. A process is exactly what Hullett focused on. He started off doing very well on the mat, but spent a short period of his senior season underachieving his goals. "Without the commitment and dedication from my coaches, as well as my teammates, I would not have had the season that I had," commented Hullett.

**"If you are successful, you have failed at least one time in your life."  
-COACH TOBIAS**



**Front:** Jake Anderson '20, Anthony Pizzo '19, Aaron Parr-Besemer '18, Travis DeRossett '19, Brendan A. Ladd '20, Noah Lopez '20, Mitch Franklin '18. **Middle:** Roderick Howard '17, Chance Smith '17, Jared Fleming '19, Anthony Lesko '17, Eryn Bryant '19, Trevor Willing '20, Trent Hullett '17. **Back:** Head Coach Jeremiah Tobias, James Budrick '20, Taylor McPhail '18, Cameron Lee '18, Collin Rankin '17, Cameron Daniels '18, Joe Hernandez '19, Aaron Kelley '20, Coach Jared Groeneveld, and Fletcher Roberts.

## SCOREBOARD

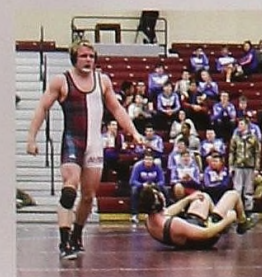
	SCOTS	AWAY
@ Trine University W	26	17
Ouachita Babbist University W	39	18
Lyon College W	34	15
Williams Babbist L	20	35
The University of Mount Union L	16	33
Baldwin Wallace University L	06	32
Thiel College W	37	14
Stevens Institute of Technology L	13	36
@ Ohio Northern Invitational	8th	-
@ Heidelberg University L	07	40
Greensboro College W	35	19
McDaniel College W	32	08
SUNY Cortland L	04	43
Olivet College L	07	35
@ Pete Wilson Wheaton Invitational	33rd	-
Adrian College W	27	21
@ Davenport University L	12	41
@ Mid-States Championships	5th	-

7 Wins - 8 Losses

## SPORT Q&A What is your most ridiculous pre-match ritual?

### CHANCE SMITH '17

"My weirdest pre-match ritual would have to be the way that I pack my bag the night before we leave for a competition. I always pack it a certain way and check it three times to make sure I don't forget anything. I do this every time I pack my bag, and it is done the exact same way each time."



### RODERICK HOWARD '17

"I have to wear a certain pair of clothing for each of my matches. I would always have to wear my yellow Asics socks, plain black shorts, and my gray Rick Welkers wrestling shirt. This was just an outfit that I won my very first match in so I subconsciously associated winning with this exact outfit."



# RI5E

## CHEER & STUNT

The Alma College Cheer and STUNT team's goal was to improve and raise the standards from the previous years. After placing second for three consecutive years, the Scots decided to improve their team culture. "I think that our culture on this team is stronger than ever. I think this is because of what we focused on. We never focused on the win. We were always focused on us and doing our best," said Julia Mocere '19. This ended up having a large impact on the outcome. At NCA Nationals in Daytona Beach, Florida, with a score of 95.72, the Scots earned the program's first ever national championship. Dominique Burke '18 stated that, "winning NCA Nationals was an amazing reward for hitting a difficult routine to the best of our abilities. There was no better feeling than to hit that final pose and know that we left every single thing we had out on the mat. I was almost in tears before we even began the routine because I had a feeling it was about to be a performance of a lifetime." She continued by saying, "Team 5 is a team built solely on a love and passion for this sport and each other. We work as one unit with a common goal to do our very best and settle for nothing less. We have continuously overcome all obstacles placed in front of us with grace and determination."

Page by Jordie Hayes '18

"Passion. Unity. Tenacity."  
-CORE COVENANTS



**RIGHT:** "When we hit the end of the pyramid in finals," said Mackinley Prentice '20, "I just started bawling. Because I knew we had done our best and no matter what nothing could take that away, and I was just so proud to be a member of this team."



The Scots celebrate their triple over-time victory against the #1 seed Davenport Panthers, earning a spot in the National Championship game. This was the first time in program history that the Scots were featured in the final round on ESPN3.

## THE "WOW" MOMENTS

For the fourth consecutive year, the Alma College STUNT team qualified for the STUNT College National Championship which was held in Dallas, Texas. The Scots entered the competition as the #2 seed behind the 2016 National Champions, Davenport University. Junior Team Captain Dominique Burke stated that "STUNT Nationals is a time for us to celebrate and show off all of the hard work we have put in throughout the year. We focus on us and play a game full of fun and strategy." In the week leading up to STUNT nationals, the team focused on creating "wow" moments. "A wow moment's something very difficult to describe unless you've felt it. It's one of those moments when you know nothing could've gone better, feeling the energy coming from yourself, the girls on the mat and girls on the sideline. Those wow moments are what create the best game day atmosphere," said Mackinley Prentice '20. The Scots advanced to the Championship game for the first time in program history against Davenport University. The team ended up losing 17-14, earning a second place finish.

"Why not us?"



**Front:** Lea Ziolkowski '20, Mia Tonnesen '18, Morgan Thompson '18, Erica Kuiper '18, Bri Schafer '17, Baily Soppies '17, Jordan Wilson '17, Jade Paquin '17, Kamryn Pacholski '20, Michelle Howlett '18, Dominique Burke '18, Liz Ettinger '18  
**Middle:** Bailey Barnes '20, Karrison Courtney '19, Abby Sniecinski '19, Gabby Saum '20, Jilian Jegla '19, Kennedy Winnie '20, Jessica Hatcher '20, Ali Coffey '18, Taryn Wintrey '19, Opal Tafe '18, Jordie Hayes '18  
**Back:** Assistant Coach Lindsay Ford, Laura Kastler '19, Rachel Hannah '20, MacKinley Prentice '20, Katherine Maiville '20, Sam Strickland '19, Brehanna Ramos '19, McKenna Clark '18, Julia Mocere '19, Hannah Rokosz '18, Sarah Michalowski '18, Taylor Flees '18, Mariah Griswold '10, Head Coach Michelle Sabourin

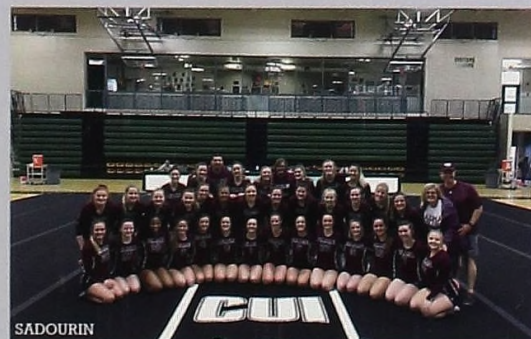
## SCOREBOARD

STUNT	SCOTS	AWAY
University of Michigan	W	12 1
Michigan State University	W	19 5
Davenport University	L	13 15
University of Michigan	W	12 0
Davenport University	L	13 15
Michigan State University	W	21 5
Olivet College	W	12 0
Michigan State University	W	21 8
Concordia University Irvine (CA)	W	15 6
California Polytechnic State Univ.	W	18 11
Riverside City College (CA)	W	18 6
Sacramento State University	W	20 5
Santa Barbara City College	W	14 1
Sacramento State University	W	20 3
Oklahoma Baptist University	W	16 13
Davenport University	W- 30T	20 19
Davenport University	L	14 17
14 Wins - 3 Losses		

NCA	Place
Alma College Cheer Invite	1st Place
Lake Cheer Classic	1st Place
NCA Nationals Finals	1st Place

### CALIFORNIA SWEEP.

During spring break, the Scots flew out to California to compete in a STUNT Tournament hosted by Concordia University Irvine. During the two day event, the STUNT team sweated all six games they played. "Being able to compete against many different and talented teams was such a privilege for us," Laura Kastler '19 noted.



SADOURIN



SADOURIN

## SPORT Q&A What will you take away from this year?



**KENNEDY WINNIE '18**  
"This year I will take away the importance of celebrating the little victories and being thankful for everything. This team was truly special, and I realized that when you are surrounded by positive people and you stay focused on your goals, anything can happen."



**JORDAN WILSON '17**  
"The team this year had so much to offer! Every girl exemplified passion, unity, and tenacity in every decision that they made. I am forever grateful for the team, my coaches, and the journey! Being apart of this program taught me that no matter how long the process is, the work is ALWAYS worth it."

# YOUTH WOMEN'S BOWLING

Finishing her toss, Rachel Whipple '20 stays focused and keeps her eye on the ball. As one of the three freshman on the varsity team, Whipple had a large responsibility to fill. For fellow first-timer Jenna Davis '20, this meant there was a big learning curve. "This season taught me a lot about communication and teamwork because I was on a team with girls I've never bowled with before," Davis observed. The Women's bowling team was half freshman and had no senior members, so their goal this year was to make it to sectionals. That required them to place in the top 64 teams in the nation. It was an up in down season, as you might expect from such a young team, but they did it. They finished ranked 58th and earned their way to the Sectional in Smyrna, TN. Their best tournament finish during the season was at American Heartland III where they finished 5th out of 22 teams. "This year went about as well as I expected it to. We needed to learn the college game and get ready for the future and we accomplished that and laid the foundation for the next few years," Coach Kyle Woodcock said.

Page by Lea Ziolkowski '20

**"This season was about this very young team learning as we go and getting better with every tournament,"**  
**-COACH KYLE WOODCOCK SAID.**



**ABOVE:** Concentrating on her follow through, Skylar McArthur '18 finishes her throw, anxious to see the end result.



**RIGHT:** Tightly grasping the bowling ball, outreaching his arm far behind her, Melissa Worden '20, concentrates on her target.



Before the tournament, Brianna Pitre '18 takes a selfie with the rest of her team. "Our team had a very strong bond which helped us get along and I am looking forward to next year to make that bond even stronger!"

## RAISING EXPECTATIONS

The Scots had an uphill battle once winter break ended and team competitions began. They set their goal to top their position at Sectionals and hopefully place high enough to go to Nationals. As the season progressed bakers improved and as a result the team placed higher with every tournament. They were able to attend sectionals, but their youth got the best of them. "With having such a young team, making it to sectionals was a huge moment. The older girls on the team had told us that the goal was to make it to sectionals and do well. We didn't do as well as we would have liked, but just making it there was huge for us!" Emma Davis '20 stated. In team event they finished 15th of 16 teams, but had many individual successes as well. Brianna Pitre '18 finished in a team high 20th place missing the cut to go to nationals by just 57 pins after the 6 game qualifier. "This season was my best in terms of spares and placing higher in individuals. I was very happy to place 20th at sectionals," Pitre stated.

**"I wouldn't trade the bonds I've made with the girls for anything."**  
**-RACHEL WHIPPLE '20 SAID.**



**Front:** Paige Huebel '19, Emma Davis '20, Brianna Pitre '18, Skylar McArthur '18. **Middle:** Hannah Strand '19, Jennah Davis '20, Brooke Flemington '18, Jamsine Lowe '20, Rachel Whipple '20, Kelsey Lodge '19. **Back:** Assistant Coach Jeff King, Melissa Worden '20, Josee Hale '20, Cathy Pomeroy '18, Sarah Wilson '19, Head Coach Kyle Woodcock

## SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS
Columbia 300 Western Shootout	Western 12th/25 teams
Bowl - Indianapolis, Ind.	
2016 UPIKE Orange & Black Classic	16th/22 teams
Poelking Lanes - Dayton, Ohio	
American Heartland I Palace Lanes - Columbus, Ohio	13th/20 teams
American Heartland II Palace Lanes - Columbus, Ohio	11th/20 teams
Kegel ISBPA Midwest Collegiate Classic	27th/54 teams
Stardust Bowl - Addison, ILL.	
American Heartland III Wayne Bowl - Wayne, Mich.	5th/23 teams
American Heartland IV Wayne Bowl - Wayne, Mich.	9th/21 teams
American Heartland Championships Pro West Bowl - Fort Wayne, Ind.	8th/19 teams
USBC Sectional Team Qualifier - Smyrna, Tenn.	15th/16 teams

### STRONG BEGINNINGS

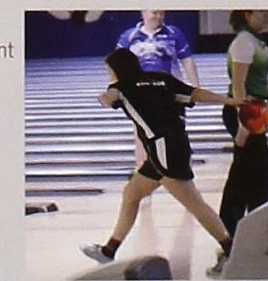
Josee Hale '20 releases the ball, planning for a strike. "This season was great for me!" Hale said, reflecting on her first season with the team. "I loved this year and can't wait for to see where this team and all of it's talent takes us in the next three years!" Hale bowled the fourth seed the entire season.



## SPORT ACHIEVEMENT



**EMMA DAVIS '20**  
 Freshman Emma Davis made the All Tournament team at the Western Shoot out and at the Reaider Classic. "Being named to the all tournament team my very first college tournament was crazy and it set the bar pretty high for the rest of the season," Davis stated.



**PAIGE HUEBEL '19**  
 Sophomore Paige Huebel made the All Tournament team at the AC open and also named Academic All American. "I was very happy to receive this award because it is an incredible feeling when the hard work that comes from being a student-athlete is recognized," Huebel stated.



# PROGRESS

## SWIMMING

As their teammates finish the last leg of their race, Allison Schneider '19 and Coach Bill Copland cheer from the side of the pool to give their support. While still small, the 2016-2017 Alma College Swim Team gained many new swimmers, doubling in size from last year. Coach Copland hoped to capitalize on this.

"Overall, we are trying to increase the numbers while still keeping the quality," he noted. Copland planned on using the small numbers to his advantage. "I want to continue the culture of closeness we created last year," he said. For Copland, team culture is essential to realizing the team's motto: "In order to achieve excellence, you have to be willing to do things other people are not willing to do." This year, the men's swim team doubled in size from two to four. Now the men finally have enough swimmers to form a relay. In comparison to last year, Senior Captain Brianna Bianconi was optimistic about the impact of a men's relay, "A men's relay creates positivity and brings back camaraderie and team spirit. It allows the guys to not just train for themselves, but work for a team." However, Bianconi acknowledged that the low number was still a problem. "The smallness of the men's team is one of the biggest challenges of the year," she conceded, "as well as being able to grow it with quality." With hard work and motivation, the swim team hopes to succeed regardless of the difficulties that are faced.



**ABOVE:** Taking a breath, Sydney Louis-Ferdinand '20 swims the breaststroke leg of her 200 IM.  
**RIGHT:** Freshman Cole Malhoit gives his all in the last leg of his race. "I feel pretty solid," he commented after the race, "It was hard but mental toughness and practices have paid off."

Page by Claire Stancroff '19  
 Photos by Jordan Hayes '18

**"We want to grow with quality, by motivation." -BILL COPLAND**

### SETTING RECORDS.

In the final moments of the MIAA swim meet, Kate Lehman '19 requested to do a time trial for the 100 fly because she wanted to contest the Alma record. With only herself to race, Lehman clocked a 1:00.66, tying Jaclyn Shetterly '16 for the record. "I couldn't believe it," she remarked. "I've been working for this for two years now, and it's amazing to finally have my name on the board."



**ABOVE:** As captain, Sydney Hooker '17 hopes to inspire her teammates to "work together as a team and find the drive to impress themselves and others while still keeping the love for the sport."

## LASTING LEGACY

For the 2016-2017 team captains—Brianna Bianconi '17, Sydney Hooker '17, and Emily Price '17—this year was about leaving a legacy in the form of a stronger, more dedicated team. "The seniors are the first class that have gone through all four years with me," remarked Coach Bill Copland. "We've been through the good times and the tough times together." And as for their legacy, the seniors have "established what it means to be a part of ACSD," Copland proudly stated. "They have given us an identity of who we are and what we want to be." As captain, Brianna Bianconi tried to instill the team's motto of excellence into her fellow swimmers, "I want the team to continue to create habits of doing what's hard in order to rise up in the conference and become an excellent team." As the seniors got closer to the end of the season, Emily Price '17 reflected on her hopes for her senior season. "I just want to finish strong," she noted. "My cap fell off last year during a big race, so it was tough. I'm trying not to be specific, I'm trying to have a solid finish." Copland also aspired this for his seniors: "We want to get to the conference meet and be able to swim all best times."

**"Lead by example, and work as a team."  
 -BRIANNA BIANCONI '17**



**Front:** Assistant Coach Kathrine Kelley, Zoie Tranquilla '20, Katherine Lehman '19, Taylor DiSantis '18, Sydney Louis-Ferdinand '20, Coach Bill Copland  
**Middle:** Alex Horan '17, Alison Fox '20, Allison Schneider '19, Sydney Hooker '17, Emily Price '17, Brianna Bianconi '17  
**Back:** Cole Malhoit '20, Nathan Wilburn '20, Eric Ferrara '18, Molly Heitchue '20, Brianna Yaroch '17, Amie Heitchue '20

## SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS	AWAY
<b>WOMENS</b>		
@Saginaw Valley State L	89	174
@ MIAA Relays L	-	-
Albion College L	93.5	183.5
Calvin College L	58	161
@Carthage Classic L	6th	-
Olivet College W	139	62
Kalamazoo College L	53	150
@ Hope College L	70	111
@ MIAA Championships	-	-
<b>MENS</b>		
@Saginaw Valley State L	52	160
@ MIAA Relays L	-	-
Albion College L	60	186
Calvin College L	23	114
@Carthage Classic L	8th	-
Olivet College L	67	114
Kalamazoo College L	35	142
@ Hope College L	39	88
@ MIAA Championships	-	-

## SPORT Q&A What is your favorite race to swim?



**MAYA HEIBEL '20**  
 "The mile, because if you screw up a 50, it doesn't hurt you. It's a race where you can always improve. I personally really like this race because there is always room for a come back. If you lose pace on a 50, all you have to do is try to make the next one faster."



**AMIE HEITCHUE '20**  
 "The 50 Free because it's fast paced. The race is less than 30 seconds and it's over, you use all your energy in one 50 and don't have to pace yourself. This year I only swam it twice, so I wish my coach would have given me more opportunities to improve on my favorite race."

# BARRAGE

## MEN'S LACROSSE

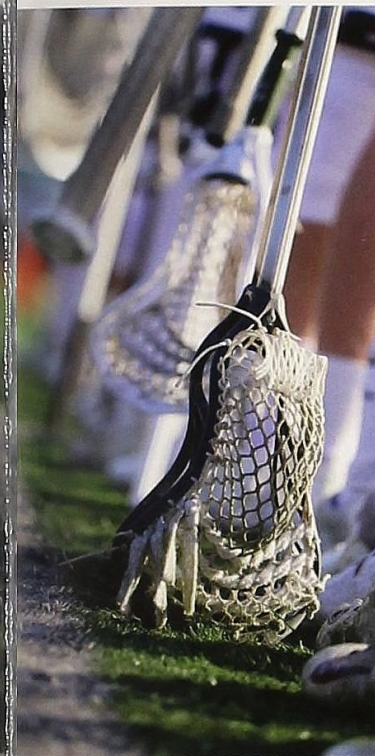
A barrage of Scots pile onto Chase Hunyadi '20, the finisher of an overtime win (13-12) against the College of Wooster. With 3:40 left in the overtime period, sophomore Jake Ellens' clear attempt on the far side of Bahlke was good. Ellens handed the ball off to mid-fielder Austen Irrer '18 who beat the defender up the right side of Wooster's defensive end and fed it to Alma's set-up man, Jared Nycz '19. Nycz danced behind the net with a defender in his face before dishing a pass to Hunyadi, crossing in front of the net. Hunyadi shot a one-hopper that crossed up Wooster's net-minder, and snuck above his left shoulder into the net for his fourth goal of the game. Roars of the crowd and players resounded across the turf as the Scots rushed to embrace their teammate. Over the speakers Hunyadi's all-to-familiar music played, a tune that resembled a SpongeBob SquarePants remix. The public announcer, Jimmy Ewald '19, called, "Goal made by number ten, Chase Hunyadi, for your Alma Scots." The music quieted, but the field was still in uproar as "All I Do Is Win," by DJ Kahled, burst across Bahlke. Head Coach Michael Kinney was extremely pleased with the win saying that "it was easily one of the biggest wins in our program's history." Let's not forget though: it was Ellen's 16th goal of the season with 0:07 seconds left in regulation that gave the Scots a chance in overtime. The win over Wooster was a rallying call for Alma and one of many examples of the Adam Nycz induced juggernaut that was the Scot offense.

Page by Steven Luomala-Kipp '17  
Photos by Jordie Hayes



### LEADING THE TEAM.

Jared Nycz '19 received All-MIAA First Team honors for the second season, but he wasn't the only key contributor for the Scots. Chase Hunyadi '20 was named MIAA Rookie of the Year and Second Team All-MIAA. Daniel Buchy '18 tied Hunyadi for the school record and team leading 45 goals in a season. Austen Irrer '18 and Max Linscott also earned MIAA honors.



Before the start of each game, the team walks in two lines through the Bahlke gates lead by their sword and shield. Senior TJ Miller leads the charge onto the turf waving the flag and sounding in unison with his team.

## NUMBERS GAME

In his third season as head coach of the Scots, Michael Kinney led his team to a 12-6 record and second straight MIAA championship game, where they fell to the top-seeded Albion. The 12 wins were the second highest in program history, and the team tied for third in the MIAA with a 5-2 conference record. The third place finish allowed the team to compete in the MIAA Tournament for the third straight season. The Scots would upset No. 2 seed Hope College in the semifinals becoming the first team in league history to win a road game in the tournament. 2017 gave birth to the top offense in Alma's lacrosse history. The team sits atop every team in goals (238) and assists (146) in a season. Sophomore Jared Nycz recorded 85 points, 40 goals and 45 assists, on his way to shattering the school record for points in a season. After just two seasons in Alma, Nycz has become the school's leader in points (167) and assists (92). He ranks third overall with 75 goals. The Scots were 7-4 out of conference this season with a sparkling 6-2 record at home. The Scots will be returning their entire front line next season, and will look to make a run to the MIAA Tournament for a fourth consecutive season.

"This is truly a special team."  
-COACH MICHAEL  
KINNEY



**Roster:** Connor Alley '20, Jared Nycz '19, Austin Jordan '18, Daniel Buchy '18, James Fulghum '18, Sam McCumber '20, Johnathon Durga '19, Chase Hunyadi '20, Jacob Urbano '20, Tom Needham '20, Brendan Waldowski '20, Austen Irrer '19, Max Linscott '20, TJ Miller '17, Cam Steljes '19, Brendan Sanderson '20, Garrett Heaney '20, Cooper Owens '18, Josh Sejat '17, Xavier Bender '19, Charlie Przybylo '20, Mitch Adams '17, Bryce Bohrmann '18, Ben Luzar '18, Adam Cousineau '19, Gabriel Vargas '19, Hank Wickley '20, Jackson Williams '17, Jake Ellens '19, Dylan Greenberg '20, David Smith '17.  
Coaches: Michael Kinney and Adam Nycz

## SCOREBOARD

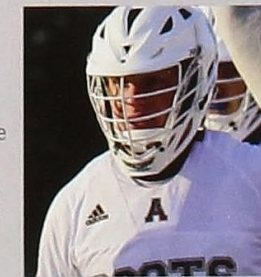
	SCOTS	AWAY
@ University of Dallas (TX) W	12	6
@ South Western (TX) W	15	13
@ Hendrix College (AR) L	7	8
Elmhurst College (IL) W	10	9
Baldwin-Wallace University (OH) L	7	10
@ Heidelberg University (OH) W	18	5
Northland College W	25	8
College of Wooster (OH) W - OT	13	12
@ Illinois Wesleyan University L	12	27
@ Hope College L	9	15
@ Trine University (IN) W	13	8
Olivet College W	17	7
Albion College L	5	17
Kalamazoo College W	14	7
@ Calvin College W	22	11
Adrian College W	20	5
MIAA Tournament		
@ Hope College W	11	10
@ Albion College L	8	11

12 Wins - 6 Losses

## SPORT Q&A What were some key factors to the team's success this season?

### CHASE HUNYADI '20

"I could win off of speed and strength in high school, but now it's a team effort so it's a good thing that I've got a good team around me. Coach Nycz has set up a beautiful offense for the players we have: Jared Nycz and myself included. We didn't really buy into the offense at first so we struggled, but after the buy-in, we put up some big numbers."



### TJ MILLER '17

"The team was really close knit. Coach Nycz and Coach Kinney pushed us harder than we have ever been pushed before, and it's really driving us towards our goal. They are getting us over those mental barriers: if we're too tired, too sore, just to keep pushing through it. We all hold ourselves accountable. If one of us is slacking off in practice, we always get on each other."

# BEST YET

## WOMEN'S LACROSSE

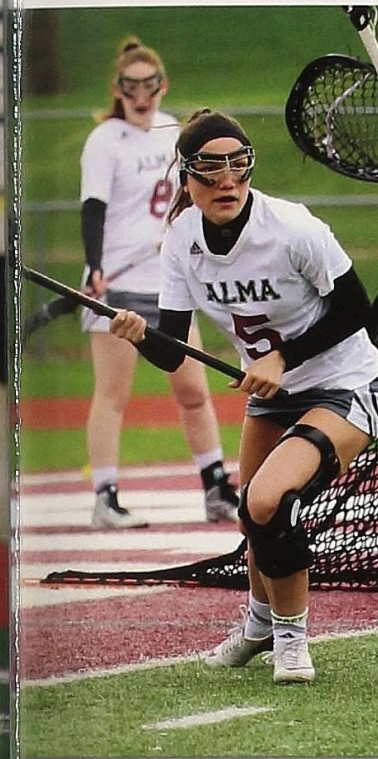
After doubling back towards the middle, Darby Kahler '20 heads for the net before being fouled. She receives a free position attempt that she converts for her first goal of the game against Illinois Tech. She would end the loss with two goals. After her senior season, the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) announced that Kahler and freshman Allison Ray were named as members of the All-MIAA second team for Women's Lacrosse. Kahler was selected as a mid-fielder for the first time after starting in 15 games. She finished seventh in the MIAA and fifth in the program's history for draw controls with 46. Kahler finished the season as a well-rounded player, tying for first on the team offensively with 24 goals and defensively with 19 caused turnovers. "The MIAA selection has been a goal of mine for awhile because it demonstrates the work and time I put into being better for my team," said Kahler. The Scots ended the season with the best record since 2014 finishing with eight wins and a record of 2-6 in the MIAA. "This was a memorable season with a great group of talented girls, and I know that next year, the team is going to achieve more," said Kahler; "Honestly, I am going to miss playing with these girls, and I was very happy that I was able to spend my senior year playing with them."

Page by Hannah Billig '18  
Photos by Jordie Hayes '18

"REACH HIGHER."



**ABOVE:** The Women's Lacrosse Team partnered with IMPACT (Inspire, Motivate and Play Against Challenges Together) to add a new member to the team: 8-year-old Lianna Shearer who has been battling cystic hygroma since birth. **RIGHT:** Junior Katherine Rogers escapes the Illinois Tech defense to continue the play.



As she looks towards center field, Shelby Fraser '18 gets ready to drive towards the goal in the game against Adrian College, during which, she scored 4 goals. Fraser played in and started 13 games this season where she tied for first on the team with 24 goals.

## STRONG COMEBACK

While battling against the defense of the Bulldogs of Adrian College, junior Brianna Soriano looks to pass to teammate Shelby Frazer '17 up the middle. The two have been teammates since joining together their freshman year. "I have a blast playing with her because she always has a great attitude and is constantly giving advice and helpful tips," said Soriano. Soriano came back later in the season to play in her first conference games of her career to avoid yet another injury. Before conference games started her freshman year, she tore her left anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) and her right ACL her sophomore year. "I was really proud of how well I did this season: considering both of my injuries, and I had never played in conference before," said Soriano. Even with her injuries and limited playing time, Soriano started in eight games and scored 13 goals throughout the season. "I couldn't have put up the points I did without the support from my teammates. They were extremely encouraging and made me want to come back stronger. I wouldn't have wanted to be captain for any other team truly!"

**"The foundation we set for next season will be strong, and there's nothing but improvement for us."**  
-SHELBY FRASER '17



**Front:** Nikki Reece '20, Haylee Baetz '20, Brianna Soriano '18, Darby Kahler '17, Shelby Frazer '17, Kaitlyn Bloom '20, Mia Harvey '20, Olivia Benoit '20 **Back:** Kaitlyn Urick '17, Viktoria Basso '19, Allison Ray '20, Miranda Kruse '21, Stephanie Mangutz '18, Katherine Rogers '18, Madi Webster '18, Megan Finkbeiner '19, Kilee DeBrabander '17

## SCOREBOARD

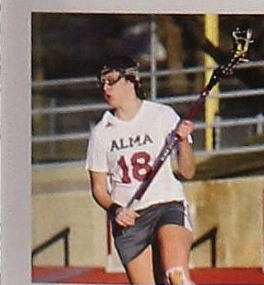
	SCOTS	AWAY
Whitman @ U. of Puget Sound	L	1 20
@ Puget Sound	W	12 11
@ Linfield College (OR)	W	5 4
Illinois Tech	L	4 15
Concordia University of Chicago (IL)	W	9 8
Northland College	W	23 7
@ Heidelberg University (OH)	W	14 11
@ Carroll University	W	6 3
Albion College	L	7 16
@ Olivet College	W	18 1
Saint Mary's College (IN)	L	10 13
@ Calvin College	L	0 19
Adrian College	L	9 16
@ Kalamazoo College	L	9 15
Trine University (IN)	W	14 9
@ Hope College	L	2 12

8 Wins - 8 Losses

**UNSTOPPABLE.** Before running out onto the field to face the Illinois Tech Hawks, freshman Allison Ray receives encouragement and energy from her teammates. This year, Ray tore her medial patellofemoral ligament before season started but did not let it stop her. Ray was named as a member of the All-MIAA Second Team as goalie with a conference high save percentage of 51.7%.



## SPORT Q&A Why did you decide to join the Women's Lacrosse team?



**KAITLYN URICK '17**  
"I was recruited by Coach Jordan my senior year of high school and I loved her and the dynamic of the team when I came to visit. It was actually the reason that I chose Alma; I wanted to be a part of that dynamic. Throughout my four years there were a lot of changes in the team (we had three coaches in four years) but what didn't change was that the team was my family and I absolutely loved the sport."



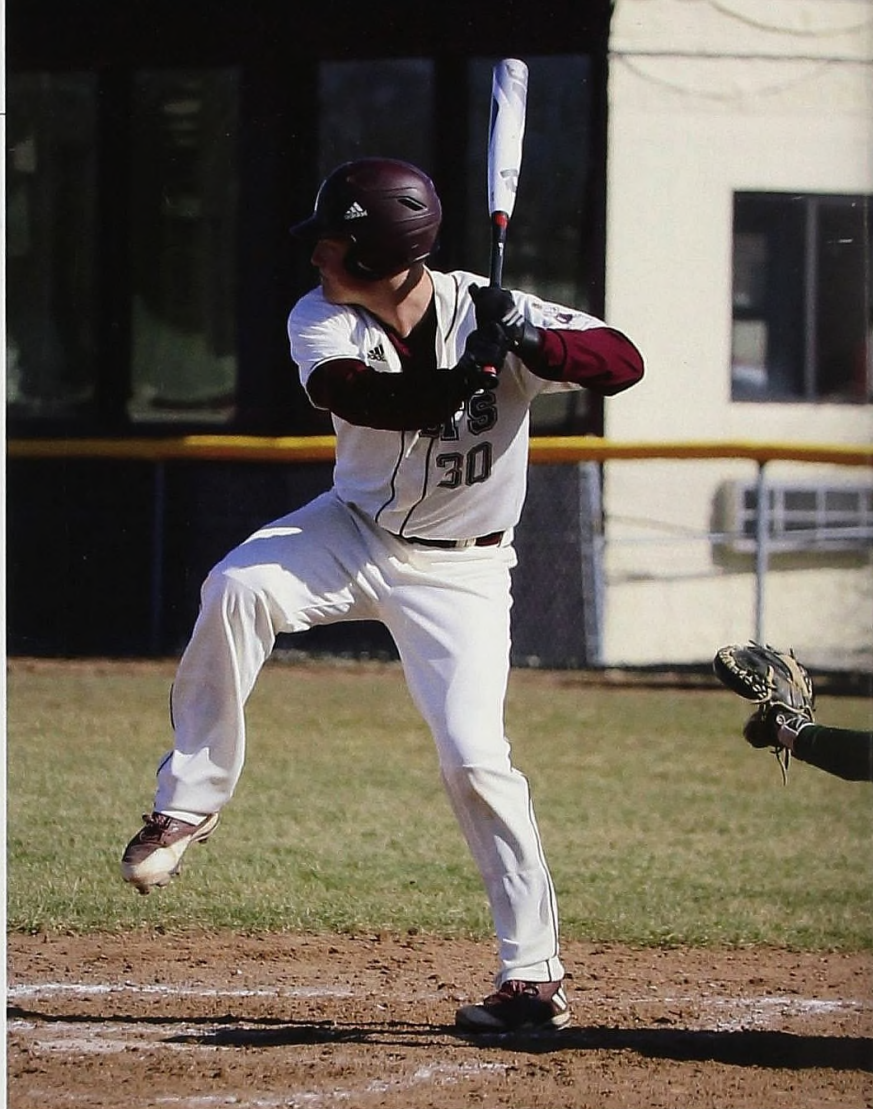
**KILEE DEBRABANDER '17**  
"I decided to join the Lacrosse team my sophomore year at Alma because I had just decided to not run Track and Cross Country and the coach told me she was looking for athletic girls who could easily pick up the stick skills. My roommate was the goalie so I decided it would be fun and ended up trying out. My first year was fun; I learned a lot and fell in love with the team aspect of the sport."

# TRUCK YA

## BASEBALL

The sound of Tim McGraw's "Truck Yeah" can be heard playing through the speakers at Klenk Park as Max Trucks '20 steps up to the plate. Hoping to start a late-inning rally, Trucks takes an outside fastball to left field for a base hit. The walkup music and crack of the bat were familiar sounds for Alma all season long as Trucks went on to hit .345 this year. He was one of five Scots to hit over .300 and help the team's batting average of .293. The Scots would finish the season at 15-25 and carry some impressive offensive numbers that strongly resembled the team's record setting season a year ago. Freshmen Jaret Koin would lead the team with a .350 batting average and a second best 50 hits. Greg Goffee led the Scots with 53 hits and 22 stolen bases to go along with a healthy .346 batting average. He became the first player in Alma's history to have 20 steals in back-to-back seasons. It was also the first time in program history three players finished with 50 or more hits. Adam Thoryk '17 hit .307 in his final season, while also scoring a team high 28 runs. The Scots started the year 2-10 before the bats heated up with the weather. The most notable series of the season came April 15th when the Scots swept the league champion Adrian Bulldogs in a home double header. They would score 29 runs in the two games combined, and it marked the first sweep of Adrian since 1992.

Page by Steven Luomala-Kipp '17  
Photos by Jordie Hayes '18



**ABOVE:** Senior Greg Goffee, along with Alex Peczynski '17 and Adam Thoryk '17, was named to the All-MIAA Second team this season. **RIGHT:** After corraling his second walk of the game in the bottom of the 9th inning, Patrick Finn '17 receives congratulations from his pinch runner Brandon Gallerson '20.

### SEND HIM TO THE HALL.

Senior Alex Peczynski (pictured right) ended his four-year career at Alma with lofty numbers that won't soon be beaten. He became the all-time leader in games played (160), at bats (533), and runs scored (94). He was one hit shy of the school record for career hits that still stands at 152. He finished tied for second in career doubles (30) and triples (8).



Freshman Ben Blake was easily the Scots most reliable reliever this season posting a 4.50 ERA across 26 innings. His 18 strikeouts led the bullpen, but were matched by 18 walks. The Scots will be looking to their younger arms for consistency later in games.

### INCONSISTENT

Looking in to battery mate Patrick Finn '17, Senior Alex Valasek receives the sign for an outside fastball. Valasek digs in and releases high and wide for ball four. The former-ace for the Scots saw an up-tick in walks, while struggling to command the lethal fastball he owned last season. Coming off of a 2016 campaign that saw him finish 7-2 with a 3.45 ERA (earned run average), Valasek and company hoped to help the offense with quick innings. Unfortunately, the pitching staff struggled as a whole with walks and finding easy outs. The team compiled a worrisome 5.14 ERA to go along with 143 walks over 309 innings. Even among the elevated numbers there are some hopefuls to come from the pitching staff this season. Junior Eric Frontzak took a big step forward and cemented himself atop the Scot rotation pitching to the tune of an 8-4 season with a solid 3.68 ERA. Freshman Josh Riggs also showed signs of promise finishing his rookie season with a 3.95 ERA. He gave up less than a hit per inning pitched (47 hits across 57 innings), which means his arsenal is potent enough to compete successfully at the collegiate level.

"These guys need to know that I have their back, and they get nothing but my best everyday."  
- ADAM THORYK '17




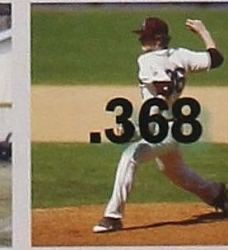



Roster: Jaret Koin '20, Jay Brandt '20, Jackson Worsley '18, Alex Valasek '17, Brandon Gallerson '20, Edward Farington '17, Jerome Jackson '17, Alex Peczynski '17, Greg Goffee '17, Austin Roeske '18, Zac Spangler '20, Adam Thoryk '17, Vann Acker '20, Ben Finzell '18, Gregg Hartman '19, Matthew Minaudo '18, Derek Willis '20, Matt Scanzano '20, Adam Martinson '18, Dylan Dzendzel '20, Patrick Finn '17, Bailey O'Keefe '19, Josh Riggs '20, Travis Moyer '20, Jordan Masters '19, Cameron Fluder '20, Carter Sanderson '20, Ben Blake '20, Max Trucks '20, Logan Huff '20, Garrett Miller '18, Nick Swanson '18, Mike Mallory '20, Eric Frontzak '18, Joseph Champoux '19, Zeke Nave '20, Dylan Clark '20. Coaches: Jake Sabol, Doug Walters, Jordan Dean, and Steven Dennison.

### STATISTICS

OVERALL RECORD	15-25
CONFERENCE RECORD	13-15
HOME RECORD	8-7
AWAY RECORD	6-11
LONGEST WINNING STREAK	3 GAMES
RUNS SCORED	220
TEAM BATTING AVERAGE	.293
ON BASE PERCENTAGE	.373
STOLEN BASES	56
EARNED RUNS AVERAGE	5.14
STRIKEOUTS PER 9 INNINGS	6.54

### TEAM LEADERS

Batting Average	Runs Batted In	Stolen Bases	Earned Run Average	Wins	Strikeouts
 350	 25	 22	 .368	 8	 51
JARET KOIN '20	BEN FINZEL '18	GREG GOFFEE '17	ERIC FRONTZAK '18	ERIC FRONTZAK '18	ERIC FRONTZAK '18

# CHAMPS

## SOFTBALL

Sprinting towards first base, MacKenzie Creed '18 strives to beat Olivet in a race against time. Alma would go on to beat Olivet in both games that sunny day. This year the softball team won the MIAA Tournament for the second year in a row. This secured a spot in the 2017 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III Softball tournament. Hosted at the Scot's home field, the girls got knocked out of the NCAA Regional Championship in game three. The Scot's season ended with a record of 29-10. It was a phenomenal season; many players had breakthrough years or high stats of their year. "It was still a great year," Head Coach Denny Griffin stated. "We had high aspirations, a great team—we knew we had a great team, we had great pitching, we had great kids all around, we had some good freshman that we were positive about, and with the senior class we had, those are six great kids. They are great kids that gave us four years of their lives." This was Coach Griffin's twenty-eighth year of coaching the Softball team. "I am so proud of this team and how the season turned out," said head pitcher Morgan Stratton '17; "I will definitely miss all these girls and the coaching staff. They are my family and these four years with them are unforgettable."

Page by Jessica Morr '18

"At least you're not a robin!"

-ASSISTANT COACH HANSEN

### TRADITIONS.

The lucky ball is a special tradition the girls take very seriously. Featured on the left is the ball. It only touches the ground when the first baseman throws it. Every person on the team has to touch it, and it is brought into the huddle and post game circle. "I am not sure why this is a tradition, but we keep it due to the nature of our team atmosphere," states outfielder Mary Brooks '18.



**ABOVE:** Tagging the Olivet player out, first time starter Riley Terwilliger '19 has shown unseen talent for the softball team this year. **RIGHT:** Down 3-2, Anna Couture '17 slides into home base after Katie McClure '18 walked to first from pitching errors on Olivet side. The Scots would later win that game against the Comets that day 9-1.



Winding up to pitch, Morgan Stratton '17 strikes out another Adrian player. With Stratton striking out twelve players in the first game and eleven in the second, the Scots would go on to win against Adrian College in both conference games that day.

## SIX ALL-MIAA

This year the softball team had a tremendous number of student-athletes recognized on the All-MIAA conference for softball. This is the largest group of athletes named since 2011. All are incredible athletes and deserve the awards they are given. Mary Brooks '18, featured on the left, Morgan Stratton '17, and Danielle Service '17 were named First Team All-MIAA. This is the first time for Brooks and Service to be named while this is the third time in her career for Stratton. "Being a first year starter, it was pretty nerve-wrecking at first," Riley Terwilliger '19 commented, "but having such awesome teammates to help me out is truly a blessing. I am so thankful to not only start, but to also be apart of such an awesome, fun, and talented team." Terwilliger, Anna Couture '17, and Chelsea Schweiger '19 were named Second Team All-MIAA. This is the first time for Schweiger and Terwilliger and Couture's second time as All-MIAA Second Team. While the team graduates several strong players, the strong All-MIAA showing reveals that there is deep talent on the team and a foundation for another great season next year.

"Today For May."  
-COACH GRIFFIN



**Front:** Celeste Boyer '17, Kayla Holz '17, Morgan Stratton '17, Anna Couture '17, Kelsey Spencer '17, Danielle Service '17 **Middle:** Erin Lee '18, Kendall Bird '21 Daina Ball '21, Madysen Piche '21, Katie Long '19, McKenzie Creed '19, Chelsea Schweiger '19, Riley Terwilliger '19, Preslee Deater '19, Head Coach Griffin. **Back:** Assistant Coach Hanson, Kennedy Hilley '19, Morgan Trout '19, Katie McClure '18, Mary Brooks '18, Josee Hale '21, Cassidy Tucker '21, Rachel Virkstis '21, Averi Munro '21, Bry Chapman '21, Assistant Coach Doran, Assistant Coach West. **Not Featured:** Kaylee Martin '21.

## SCOREBOARD

	SCOTS	AWAY
Albion College W	8	0
Albion College W	8	0
Olivet College W	5	4
Olivet College W	9	1
Kalamazoo College W	4	1
Kalamazoo College W	8	1
Calvin College W	8	0
Calvin College W	6	2
Saint Mary's College W	10	2
Saint Mary's College L	2	6
Trine University W	1	0
Trine University W	8	4
Adrian College W	5	1
Adrian College W	1	0
Hope College L	0	2
Hope College L	1	3

13 Wins - 3 Losses

## SPORT Q&A What was your favorite moment from this year?



**ERIN LEE '18**  
"Sweeping Trine in the regular season. Our team brought a new energy, full of intensity and passion. We meant business when we walked on that field and walked away knowing we had an MIAA championship under our belt. I believe that game gave us a vital boost of confidence and made our goals look brighter than ever before."



**KATIE MCCLURE '18**  
"My favorite moment of this season has to be mercying Trine in the MIAA championship game. It was great because not only did we win the MIAA tournament but we got to beat our rivals at the same time."

# COMMIT

## TENNIS

Nathaniel Haut '20 returns the ball during the final home match of the season against Olivet. The men's team hosted seven home matches, three of which were for conference play, while the women hosted nine matches, with five within the conference. Prior to conference play, the men's and women's teams traveled to Ohio and Indiana to play a number of teams to prepare for the upcoming season and "get back into the swing of things," according to Matilda Ennis '18. "It was exciting to come together as a team and play some great matches," Ennis said. The team had to make adjustments entering the 2017 season after losing three of the team's top performers the previous year. Although the men's and women's teams dropped in conference standing from the previous season, both welcomed a large group of new athletes who quickly made their way into the ranks of the Scot's line-up. The men gained eight members and the women gained five, more than doubling the size of the returning team. The teams hope to continually improve as they will retain a majority of their current athletes for the upcoming season. Reflecting on the team's potential, Quinn Summerfield '18 said, "I'm excited to see what we can do, and see if we can make a push for the conference finals."



Page by Hannah Garn '18

"The drive to continuously improve."  
-LUKE VAN FLEET '18



**ABOVE:** Amy Wood '18 prepares to return a serve during her singles match, which the Scots hosted at home against Spring Arbor.  
**RIGHT:** Jonathan Groening '20 warms up before his singles match against an Olivet opponent. Groening held positions at number 2, 3, and 4 singles, compiling a record of 5-10.



Scot senior, Grant Hill '17, smoothly returns the ball during the first set, ultimately winning his match against Olivet. Hill held the men's number 1 singles spot and compiled a record of 5-11 by the end of the season. Hill also managed a 7-9 record at number 2 doubles.

## A STANDOUT CROWD

Number 1 singles and doubles player Claudia Barajas '17 prepares to return a serve during the first match of the season against Spring Arbor University. Although she ultimately fell to her competitors in those matches, Barajas helped lead the women's team to a season record of 3-14, and a final 8th place conference standing. Barajas not only stood out on the court both at Alma and the MIAA conference, but also for her sportsmanship. Barajas was granted the Sue Little Sportsmanship Award from the MIAA, the first athlete from Alma College to have been recognized since 2007. The Scots also gained MIAA recognition from the men's team, with number 1 singles and number 2 doubles player Grant Hill '17 named to the All-MIAA second team. Hill had previously been named MIAA player of the week during the 2015 season his sophomore year. Hill helped lead his team to a season record of 6-11. With numerous athletes who stand out in the classroom and on the court, the Scots will continue to work to maintain their positive reputation on Alma's campus and in the MIAA.

"Individuality and teamwork is what sets [this team] apart."  
-CHLOE RAMSEY '17



**Front:** Quinn Summerfield '18, Noah Ackerman '18, Grant Hill '17, Damien Arthur '17, Tristen Fox '18, Luke Van Fleet '18  
**Middle:** Matilda Ennis '18, Caroline Ross '20, Bernadette Garibay '20, Chloe Ramsey '17, Claudia Barajas '17, Catherine Raymond '18, Jessica Penhale '20, Amy Wood '18  
**Back:** Coach Gove, Brett Reuter '20, Evan Vergith '20, Jadon House '20, Jonathan Groening '20, Sam Lindeman '20, Nathaniel Haut '20, Coach Sandro

## SCOREBOARD

	MEN	WOMEN
Spring Arbor University	L 5-4	L 9-0
@ Cornerstone University	L 7-2	W 7-2
Lake Superior State University	L 7-2	L 9-0
@ Manchester University	W 8-1	L 5-4
@ Ohio Wesleyan University	L 9-0	L 8-1
@ Defiance College	W 6-3	W 8-1
Huntington University	W 7-2	L 6-3
Lawrence Tech	L 8-1	L 8-1
@ Concordia University	W 7-2	W 5-4
@ Spring Arbor University	L 8-1	-
Calvin College	L 7-2	L 9-0
Albion College	W 5-4	L 7-2
Kalamazoo College	L 9-0	L 9-0
Hope College	L 9-0	L 9-0
Adrian College	L 9-0	L 7-2
Trine University	L 7-2	L 7-2
Olivet College	W 9-0	L 5-4
Saint Mary's College	-	L 9-0

## UNITY

To achieve success, both teams must put in the endless hours required to better themselves as individuals and as a team. Each member's independent commitment and drive brings the team together as a whole, creating a unified team and winning atmosphere. Each teammate's performance is critical to the team's victory at the end of the day and season.



## SPORT Q&A What did you find while playing tennis for Alma?



**LUKE VAN FLEET '18**  
"I found a family. They tell you you will find yourself at college, and I really have through the people tennis has connected me with. It's given me purpose outside of academics. Whenever things seem too much, I can go to tennis for a quick respite from studying. The competition between schools and the friends I have made keeps me wanting to push myself further."



**CHLOE RAMSEY '17**  
"Playing tennis at Alma, I found friendship, commitment, and compassion. My drive and spirit to win increased with every match, and the look on my teammates' and coaches' faces after a hard-earned match was so satisfying. It was that satisfaction and hard work, my teammates and coaches, and love for tennis that brought me back each year."

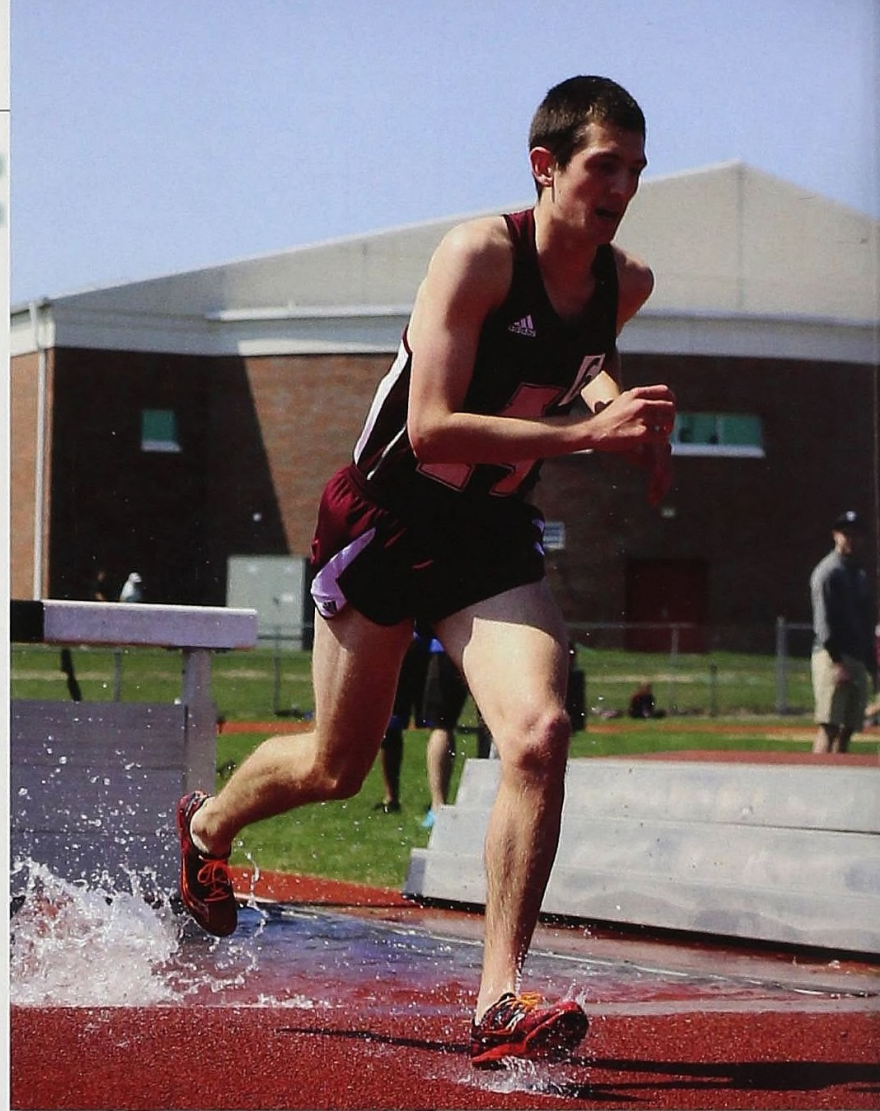
# ENDURE

## TRACK & FIELD

Chasing his way through the steeple chase, Luke Reed '20 leaps over the water pit at the first home meet of the outdoor season. The Scots hosted two meets during the outdoor season, both of which drew large home crowds there to support the track and field athletes. Speaking of her experience at the Jim Cole Scottie Invitational, Chelse Van Spronsen '18 recalls that "the day was beautiful and many classmates came out to cheer and support us. The atmosphere at that meet was light, fun, and exciting!" The invitationals serve to prepare the teams for the championship meets at the end of the indoor and outdoor seasons. The athletes work all year alongside each other, pushing to improve their best marks and race times. "The team is persistent," noted Karen Flesh '18. "Many teammates put in the work and effort in order to chase the outcome they want." The men's and women's teams finished 7th and 6th respectively at both the indoor and outdoor championships, a solid performance that leaves room for improvement. The teams are focused on improving their conference standings as they train for the upcoming season. "It is my hope the team will continue to grow and unify together, pushing each other forward in the years to come," said Nicholas Fox '17.

Page by Hannah Garn '18  
Photos by Jordie Hayes '18

"The team is full of genuine people. We all support each other and get along well."  
-JAMES TAYLOR '18



**ABOVE:** Lauren Kucharczyk '19 bounds over a hurdle during the 100m hurdle event at the Jim Cole Scottie Invitational, finishing with a season best time of 18.58.  
**RIGHT:** Kyle Kraus '19, the team's sole decathlete, leaps at the long jump, posting a mark of 5.93 meters.



Kaitlyn Arnold '17 competes in the 1500 meter run at the Jim Cole Scottie Invitational, ultimately placing third in the event. Arnold won the conference title in this event at both the 2016 and 2017 outdoor championship meets.

## A RECORD YEAR

Kathleen Collingwood '17 releases the hammer on her home field, placing her third in the Jim Cole Scottie Invitational and setting a school record of 44.87 meters. "It definitely took a lot of dedication to break the record," Collingwood said, "but I think the bigger part was the support from the rest of the team." Collingwood was accompanied in her record setting performance by fellow senior, Kaitlyn Arnold '17. Arnold broke the 3000 meter record on two separate occasions—a record she previously set in 2016. Arnold raced a 9:50.08 at the GVSU Open, ranking her 22nd in the nation at the time of her race. Arnold was also named to the CoSIDA Academic All-American Div. III Track & Field/Cross Country team and was the first Scot to have received the honor on three occasions. The Scots experienced a successful season with school records and personal bests for the men's and women's teams, as bests were set by twenty two athletes in twenty two events. Although the team will graduate many of its top performing athletes, the Scots will continue to prepare for another "record-breaking" season.

"Focusing on the goals you set for yourself carries you to make it happen."  
-KAITLYN ARNOLD '17



**Front:** Taylor LeMasters '20, Anissa Keeler '19, Blaire Showers '20, Madeliene McDonnell '20, Alexis Kluisza '20, Erin Goggins '19, Laine Krueger '20, Kimberly Bolesky '20, Alexandra Raden '20, Lauren Kucharczyk '19, Madison Amlotte '20, Madison Swope '20, Megan Blanchard '20, Ruslana Gill '20  
**Middle:** Cheyenne Kalfsbeek '18, Carolyn Clark '19, Madison Nelson '19, Jeffrey Schlicker '18, Zane Berlanga '18, Chelse Van Spronsen '18, Hannah Garn '18, Benjamin Thelen '17, Justin Larkins '17, Roderick Howard '17, Kaitlyn Arnold '17, Kathleen Collingwood '17, Charles Clark '17, Nicholas Fox '17, Brandon Erwin '17, Shannon Kievit '18, Karen Flesh '18, James Taylor '18, Katherine Merlo '19, Mallory Munderloh '19, Anthony Pizzo '19  
**Back:** Coach Ryan, Coach Chovanec, Coach Aldrich, Essa Kellah '19, Kendrick Powell '20, John Vusich '19, Leighton Collingwood '20, Jack Montgomery '20, Luke Reed '20, Justin Jones '19, Eric Ferrara '18, Kyle Kraus '19, Payton Hirschenberger '20, John Mitrzyk '20, George Murphy '20, Jacob Wildenhaus '20, Jackson Conner '18, Coach Merlo, Coach Kelly  
**Not Pictured:** Eli Loston '20, Eric Rohde '18, Quinn Summ,erfield '18, Maurice Tawil '18, Karley Dyer '20, Johanna Harvey '20, Zita Tranquilla '20, Megan Wilcox '19

## SCOREBOARD

	MEN	WOMEN
@Saginaw Valley State Holiday Classic	-	-
@ Jack Skoog Triangular	3rd	3rd
@ SVSU Doug Hansen Open	-	-
@ Defiance College Open	3rd	1st
@ Aquinas College Little Meet	-	-
@ MIAA Indoor Track & Field Championships	7th	6th
@ Cedarville University Yellow Jacket Open	12th	9th
Charles A. Gray Invitational	4th	3rd
@ Ferris State Bulldog Invitational	-	-
Jim Cole Scottie Invitational	-	-
@ Calvin College Invitational	5th	5th
@ MIAA Field Day	7th	6th

## SUPPORT

Team-wide trust, support, and faith is crucial to a successful team and season. The relays rely on each member to complete his leg and hand-off as quickly and cleanly as possible, while individual events require a faith that each athlete will hold their own and do their best independently. Each member's success plays a role in the team's success.



## SPORT Q&A What has defined your career on the Track & Field Team?



### JUSTIN LARKINS '17

"The team has helped me to change in a positive light, as an athlete and as a person. I have made some great friends and shared many amazing memories with the members and coaches of the track team, on and off the field. I am leaving at a successful point in my career and could not be happier with the time I have spent with the team."



### KATHLEEN COLLINGWOOD '17

"I did not participate in track in high school, only in middle school, and only joined Alma's team because I had friends who talked me into coming to practice. I ended up joining the thrower family and fell in love! We help each other grow as people and throwers and as I look back on my years at Alma, I am so thankful to have been part of this team."

# TENACITY

## SPORTS FEATURE

The first year Alma Dance Team took a picture with Scotty at this year's homecoming game. The team performed at the homecoming pre-game and at men's and women's basketball games. "I feel very fortunate Alma College Athletics saw our vision when creating the college's first competitive dance team and supported our process," Coach Tracy Burton said. "We wanted to set a precedent this first year with a strong team and the five dancers selected to set the foundation of our program did an outstanding job. They were hard working, dedicated and persevered through any obstacle all while having fun. I feel very lucky to have each of them back for year two as we expand our program roster size. The original five are driven athletes and will lead our program as we take on the competitive season in 2017." The dance team as well as the other teams had great seasons. Many teams returned to MIAA Championship Tournaments. While other teams were winning MIAA Championships, the cheer team returned to Daytona where they captured the first place trophy this year. The sports teams also had their fun with Jock Rock, which the baseball team won. They claimed their winning trophy at Scotty's after a tough loss the past year.

Page by Rebecca Gielegem '20



BURTON



HAYES

**NO GUTS, NO GLORY.**  
Team 5 did not let anything stop them this year. Their trip to NCAA Nationals in Daytona was everything and more as they brought home the first place trophy. "It was great to be able to represent the city of Alma and the cheer team in a positive way and was a very exciting experience!" Mariah Griswold '20 said. Only the team's fifth year, they proved hard work does really pay off and your dreams can come true.



**THE COMEBACK.**

The baseball team, as well as individual players, won several awards at this year's Scotty Awards. Included in these awards was the trophy for Jock Rock. After a devastating loss last year in not winning, the boys revamped their routine but still brought back part of last year's routine. That along with their new routine, which had a special tribute to Nancy, the team was able to snatch the trophy for their own this year.



HAYES

**STRIKE OUT.**

The girls softball team had a stellar season as they went 29-10. They also returned to the MIAA Championship and won. "The MIAA tournament championship against Trine was my favorite game because we mercied them 10-2. This was the fourth time we played them and it felt really good to not only win an MIAA Championship title for the second year in a row, but to also beat our rival Trine for a fourth time!" McKenzie Creed '19 said.

**TEAMWORK.**

The lacrosse team showed tremendous teamwork this past season. They made another appearance at the MIAA Championship but fell short. "Despite falling short, I felt our overall effort was incredible not only in the Championship game, but all season long and I believe it was due to our pre-season preparation." TJ Miller '17 said.



HAYES

**SAAC.**

Athletics is a huge part of Alma College. Most students play a sport or are somehow involved with the sports teams. SAAC is made up of two athletes from every sport. These students help plan Jock Rock and the Scotty Awards, along with other various activities for athletics to participate in. They also bring in speakers to tell real life stories to help educate and inspire. A panel of Alma Alumni came to talk about their lives after sports and Alma College.



KASLER



HAYES



HAYES

**JESSICA HATCHER '20**  
"My favorite memory was after we hit our NCA routine in prelims. I stopped for a second and just looked out at everyone cheering for us in the crowd and I was just overwhelmed with emotion because it hit me how important our support system is."



PUTTI

**MIKAELA KITZMILLER '20**  
"The Alma College Dance Team has been one of the greatest influences on my experience here at Alma College. My favorite part is the endless laughs with the team, performing in the sparkly uniform, and the feeling accomplishment after such a successful first year!"



MURREY

**BENNETT SCHMITT '19**  
"My favorite match was the second day of the season opening Lou Collins Invitational. I was able to scramble my way a 79 without striking the ball that well. Being able to grind out that round set a good trend for the season."



GARN

**QUINN SUMMERFIELD '19**  
"My favorite match was the Huntington match on spring break. We won 6-3 and the best part was watching Noah beat his opponent 6-0, 6-0. It's always fun to see us perform well against teams in other states."



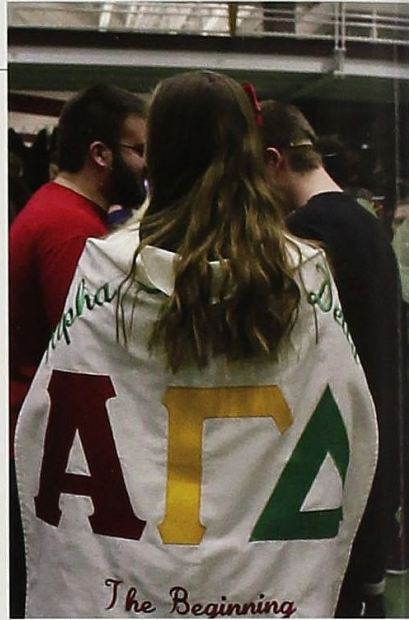


# GREEK LIFE

FEATURED: STROVEN, CIRCLE, PUTTI AND WIEDERHOLD.

**TURN BID DAY INTO A LIFESTYLE.**

For Whitney McGill '19, the week of recruitment was "a blur. At Teas you don't know anyone around you and have no clue where you want to rush. By the end of it all, you are best friends with the girls who went through recruitment, and you are praying to get a bid from you're favorite sorority." From the other side of recruitment, the process was just as all-consuming. "On the sorority's side," noted president of Alpha Xi Delta, Monica Bussell '18, "we love recruitment. It is our favorite time of the year. By the day of walkouts everyone is so excited. No on can sit through class knowing, that night, your family is growing!" Katie Neiswender '18 described walkouts as some of her favorite memories during her time at Alma College.



# Recruitment

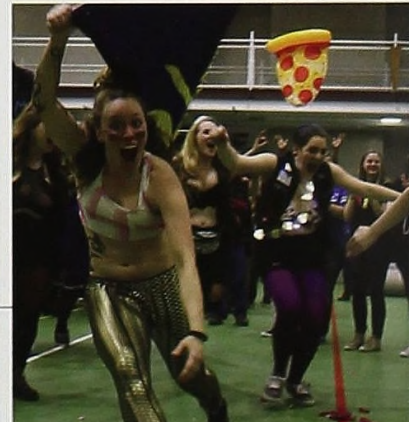
**FINDING YOUR OHANA.**

With over 80 girls going through recruitment this year, the Panhelenic crew knew they had a long week ahead of them. Each day brought a different event, and the Panhelenic Council was in charge of making sure everything run smoothly at each event. More important, though, was ensuring each event was an opportunity to help girls find their perfect fit in a sorority. "Members of panhel would show up with two coffee mugs full to get through the day," says public relations chair, Kaydee Hall '18. Hall also spent time this season making the organization's first Panhel Geofilters on Snapchat. First year member of Panhel, Jackie Roussel '19, explains that "at times it was super busy, and sucked to be neutral but it is worth it by Friday (walkouts)."



**REACHING NEW HEIGHTS.**

Jeff Kline '18, President of Interfraternity Council, was delighted to have an additional 70 men join the six male greek fraternities during winter recruitment, almost double last year's amount. Kline explains, "To us, it is all about every fraternity improving their size each year to get where they want to be. Our job is helping them reach this goal and get them stay there."



Page by Elizabeth Putti '18

# PANHEL AND IFC

## GREEK UNITY

"Without Panhellenic Council and Inter-Fraternity Council, Greek life would not be able to organize social events or Greek unity," offered Nathaniel Fryer '19. The groups co-host events and hold meetings in order to promote unity, raise awareness of stereotypes and philanthropy fundraising. "One of main goals is to prevent hazing and create conflict mediation," stated Mac Calkins '19.

### BROOKE MASON '19

"I have really enjoyed being part of Panhel because even though I have to give up my letters for a little while, I get to help others find theirs."



### JEFF KLINE '18

"Recruitment this year for fraternities was very successful. 28% of men on campus are involved in Greek Life."



### NAJELLE GILMORE '19

"There are so many different groups on campus. Panhellenic Council pulls us all together and pushes us to remember we're a community."



## HALEY VALENTE '18

As president of Panhellenic Council this year, Haley Valente was in charge of the governing council of all sororities. Her duties included overseeing recruitment, judicial and disciplinary action, and education for new members. Panhel members also helped with the recruitment process. "We take the new members from being potential members to full members. We take them through the process and help them to have a fair recruitment and learn their positions within the sorority," stated Valente. Valente believes that Panhellenic Council is important to campus because it stresses the importance of Greek unity and the importance of working together.

"Panhel is the reason that people come together and make Greek life better on campus," she offered. The goal of Panhel is to pull together all of the groups on campus. "We try to make meetings discussion based sessions in order to make people feel that their input is important and that they have a voice," said Valente.



# PHI MU ALPHA

## IOTA ALPHA

"To me, to be a PMA means to be a part of a musical family. I'm so close to the other guys, and I would not be happier any where else," commented Matthew Nagy '19. To promote music on campus, PMA hosts a variety of events such as a spaghetti dinner in order to raise money for Relay for Life. "Guests get to come in, sit down and enjoy food. We play music for them as well," stated Logan St. John '19.

### ALEXANDER HALL '17

"Our philanthropy is the advancement of music in America and our main goal is to promote music."



### NATHAN JOHNSON '19

"As a man of music, I've always wanted to become a better musician and a better person to outreach music. PMA helped me with that."



### BRANDON BRUCE '19

"Being a music major, I found PMA as a way to communicate and advance music in America as well as bring my personal love of music to the people."



## CHARLES FALES '17

Charles Fales joined Phi Mu Alpha during Winter 2014. His father is Kyle Barlas and his son is Matthew Nagy. While in PMA, Fales has held the positions of House Manager, Philanthropy Committee Member, and Secretary. When asked why he joined PMA, Fales offered, "I came into college pretty opposed to the idea of Greek life, but in meeting the brothers of Phi Mu Alpha and getting to know them on an intimate level, I realized I had been closed minded on the concept of Greek life and I wanted to become closer to them." Phi Mu Alpha advocates for the advancement of music in America, and to Fales, this is the most important part of his fraternity. Fales' favorite way to spread music is through PMA's events such as the spaghetti dinner and singing to the elderly in the Masonic Home during Christmas time. "PMA represents an opportunity that I and all other gentlemen have to perfect themselves through their own song. In becoming a greater musician, you become a musicianly man with greater heart and character," Fales stated.



# TAU KAPPA EPSILON

## ZETA DELTA

The most popular philanthropy event that TKE put on was the Annual TKE No Shave November event; the brothers completely shaved their heads. The event promoted cancer awareness and raised money for St. Jude Children's Hospital. The fraternity also threw an EDM Party for students to have fun and destress during the last weekend before finals.

### BILLY BLECHER '17

"My favorite part about Run Outs is you never know what's going to happen. There's a big element of the unknown and it makes a great environment!"



### TRENT HULLET '17

"My favorite memory was probably all of the cookouts we had on our front lawn as it got warm towards the end of the year. We called them darters."



### EVYN BRYANT '19

"I enjoyed Homecoming this year because I got to meet many alumni who shared stories and knowledge about their time at Alma."



# PHI SIGMA SIGMA

## THETA PSI

With a focus on school and college readiness, the sisters of Phi Sig focused on becoming a stronger sorority and living the sorority's creed, "a woman who serves is a woman who leads." As a result of their efforts during recruitment, they gained 16 new members, all ready to join the family centered in the little red house nestled away in the woods.

### TAYLOR THOMPSON '18

"Desserts was my favorite part of recruitment because we got to show potential Greek members why we love our sorority in a personal way."



### ALLY LADUKE '17

"I liked planning the retreat and seeing everyone have a great time together. I loved watching them bond together and learn about sisterhood."



### EMMALEE STONEHOUSE '19

"It was the best feeling to be with other sisters who share the same ideals and values that I did at the Phi Sig Leadership Conference."



## RICHARD DEMARIOS '17

Since becoming a brother in 2014, Richard DeMarios left an important mark on the fraternity. "By becoming a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, it helped shape me into who I am by giving me the opportunity to develop confidence and learn from my mistakes when working with people. Being a part of a supportive brotherhood really allowed me to develop into the person I am today, and I couldn't be more thankful." Life at the TKE House was never dull. "My favorite memory of the year isn't one memory," observed Demarios, "but honestly just every night in TKE 207. Every night was different, but it always ended up being good times with great people!" DeMarios held two positions for the chapter, Chapter President for one year and Rush Chair for two years. "The most important lesson I learned as a TKE would be to put in the extra effort, and that you could always do more. Going that extra mile whether it be through community service, studies, or even just in maintaining relationships, extra effort will not go unnoticed and you will be rewarded for it."



## HEATHER MCNETT '17

Heather McNett earned her place as Phi Sig of the year because of her constant need to provide for her chapter. She has been a member since the fall of 2014 and has served as chapter treasurer, president, and as Relay for Life committee chair. After going through her own recruitment, that became her favorite Greek event because of how close you grow with your sisters. "Everyone is bonding over something we all love, our Sorority. Gaining new girls is an exciting time, and I loved welcoming each one of them home at walkouts." McNett created many memories during her time as a Phi Sig, but living in the "Little Red House in the Woods" was her favorite from her senior year. Every night was like a slumber party. Staying up late talking with sisters, watching movies together, and eating everything that was on the kitchen shelf. As a leader, McNett stated, "The most important lesson that Phi Sigma Sigma ever taught me was to listen. To rely on your sisters for help along the way, because when you are down, they will build you up and always be there for you."



# DELTA GAMMA TAU

## LOCAL

This year the brothers wanted to switch up their image and create some new traditions. They hosted TV show viewing parties in the Fall, opening their chapter room to the campus. They also continued to donate their time to philanthropic causes close to their hearts, such as Relay For Life and their annual Turkey Bowl.

### JOSE MALDONADO '17

"My brothers and sisters are simply the best that I could ever have had. I would not have had such an amazing experience without them."



WIEDERHOLD

### BEAU WILCOX '18

"Run-outs turned out to be a fantastic time for the Gams. From that night, we added more men to the greatest bunch of guys this campus ever saw."



WIEDERHOLD

### ETHAN AKENS '17

"Turkey Bowl is probably every DGT's favorite event. It's awesome to see how excited the teams get and knowing that it's all for a good cause makes it better."



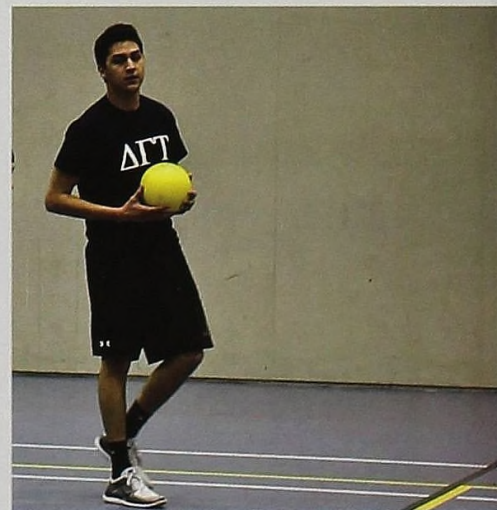
WIEDERHOLD



WIEDERHOLD

## JONATHAN ALFARO '19

Sophomore Jonathan Alfaro joined Delta Gamma Tau in Winter 2016. Alfaro did not intend to go Greek when he came to college. "I didn't sign the rush list," he said, "but I knew a couple of the brothers in DGT and talked to them through football. They invited me over to hang out on Super Bowl Sunday and were so welcoming and everyone was so fun to hang out with that I knew I wanted to rush DGT fraternity right then and there and signed the bid." Since signing that bid, Alfaro has been the chapter's Social Chair and Risk Manager on the fraternity's Executive Council. As a brother, Alfaro has enjoyed spending time with brothers in the house and making new memories everyday. "I love hanging out with my brothers and having a good time playing Xbox or having an unexpected party on a weekday right before a test," he stated. Although there are many great parts about being a DGT, Alfaro's favorite aspect is having a personal bond with every Delta Gamma Tau brother.



# GAMMA PHI BETA

## EPSILON BETA

This year focused on growing philanthropy and friendship. The sisters ran their first annual Moonball Classic philanthropic event in the Winter, donating all proceeds to Girls On The Run (GOTR). Sisterhood was also celebrated throughout the year at Parents' Brunch and festive gatherings.

### JULIANNA GREENLEAF '20

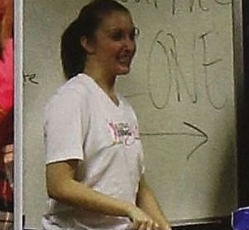
"Running to Gamma Phi during walkouts and being welcomed with open arms was a spectacular feeling."



WIEDERHOLD

### SAM KULHANEK '17

"I love doing our Pancake Night because it is a fun event where we all get to make pancakes together while raising money for our philanthropy."



### MAIRI CLOW '17

"Being a coach for GOTR was a great experience because I got closer to all of the girls and saw what they gained from lessons each week and how accomplished they felt."



## MARIAPAZ RIBADENEIRA '17

Senior MariaPaz Ribadeneira came to Alma College from Ecuador in Winter 2014 and rushed Greek life in Fall 2014. Ribadeneira discussed her reasons for rushing, offering, "I wanted to experience a sorority first hand and not just know about it from the stereotypes in the movies as part of the culture and being in the United States. The main reason I wanted to rush, though, was to find a family, a house, and sisters who would actually become really important people in my life." Since joining, Ribadeneira has received just as much from the chapter as she has given. During her time in Gamma Phi Beta, she has held the positions of Scholarship Chairwoman, Crescent Correspondent, Corresponding Secretary, and her favorite, Social Chair. "Social Chair was my favorite position because I was able to learn a lot about other Greek organizations and their members. It was challenging because I didn't know what music people liked or what was considered fun in the US I came with different ideas, so it made me think outside the box and challenged me," stated Ribadeneira.



# SIGMA CHI

## THETA NU

Sigma Chi continued many of their traditions this year. One of their most popular events was the Big Kahuna Party. The fraternity also hosted Derby Days, a week's worth of activities including a car smash, fraternity jeopardy, egg smash, derby rock, and a dodgeball game. The games raised funds for the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

### MARK DANKS '19

"I enjoyed Derby Rock because it was fun to bond with Alpha Xi Delta and learn a dance routine, dress terribly and dance terribly."



### JOSEPH CASTLE '20

"The brotherhood and the meaning of Sigma Chi are what makes it amazing." Castle and other brothers spent their spring break in Florida together.



### AARON DAGGETT '18

"My favorite Sigma Chi events were our Big Kahuna party and our Derby Days that we put on for our Philanthropy."



## JONAH OBERSCHLAKE '17

Jonah Oberschlake was welcomed into the Sigma Chi Chapter in the Winter of 2014. He has since held multiple positions including Recruitment Chair, Social Chair, Formal Chair, Tribune and Treasurer. "Being a part of Sigma Chi has allowed me to grow in my leadership abilities, develop new skills, and discover what it means to be a part of something greater than myself. Being a part of an organization of brothers with different talents and convictions has allowed me to work well with all different types of people. It has allowed me to not focus on my own desires but to grow and worry more about the community around me." Stated Oberschlake. One of his favorite memories from the year was Run Outs. It was a night full of high emotions and Oberschlake was very excited to welcome home his new brothers to the Sigma Chi family. He believes that the most important lesson that Sigma Chi ever taught him was to remember that no matter where you go, there will always be strong arms around you to help you in a time of need.



# ALPHA GAMMA DELTA

## ZETA NU

The sisters of AGD started a new event last year that became their most popular one, Alpha Gam and Mac. By providing a delivery service, they made over \$500 towards their new philanthropic cause of Fighting Hunger. Together, the sisters grew closer by adding new members, going on sisterhood retreats and dancing the night away at the AGD formal.

### THEA ABBATOY '19

"Our sisterhood retreats were awesome! We went to camp Henry for one and used the high ropes course. It was a great way to get to know my sisters."



### KIRA LEACH '17

"Our formal was great because of the sister involvement. We had a great turnout which made the night that much better!"



### ALLY BOULWARE '20

"During recruitment, AGD was welcoming and so genuinely kind; that's how I found my home. I love getting to know all my new sisters who are all wonderful!"



## ELIZABETH WEBB '17

As a former President for the Zeta Nu chapter, Webb believes that AGD shaped her into a leader. She joined the chapter in the Winter of 2014 and since then has worked with her sisters to create strong and intelligent women who will impact the world around them. "Every single sister I have had the pleasure to meet and work with has left something with me, whether it was a caring smile or words of wisdom. My experience is made up of their experiences, and I would be nothing without their love and support." After spending four years with the women of AGD, graduation day became a favorite memory for Webb. Current sisters and Alumni all gathered at the house for pictures and she loved experiencing all of the love that this chapter has for their organization. "AGD has taught me to love unconditionally, laugh louder, learn fearlessly, and never be afraid to lean on someone for help. They have taught me the greatest life lessons and given me the friendships that I never thought I deserved. I hope that I was able to give them a small fraction of every lesson and love that they gave me."



# THETA CHI

## ETA NU

Greek life means something different to the brothers of Theta Chi. According to John Stefanek '19, "Theta Chi stands for the 'assisting hand' in Greek, and we do our best to extend that hand to everyone. I believe it's truly important that we do that, and give everyone a chance to go where they're accepted, not just tolerated."

### JOHN STEFANEK '19

"I wasn't interested in Greek Life whatsoever, but what I saw in Theta wasn't Greek. I wouldn't have joined if weren't for this well-knit family of brothers."



Stefanek

### NOAH CALKINS '19

"We are a very close brotherhood who know how to enjoy each other's company while celebrating each other's differences."



Calkins

### XAVIER IVERY '20

"It's a very fun group and brings a lot to the table when it comes to fraternities. They are always willing to help and be friendly."



Calkins



Wiederhold

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Stroven

## AUSTIN DESMARAIS '18

Serving as this year's president of Theta Chi, Austin Desmarais was voted Greek of the Year by his brothers. Desmarais values the uniqueness of his fraternity. "Other fraternities have certain niches and ours is different, anyone can be a Theta," he said. The events and fundraisers that Theta Chi held also reflect this motif of being unique. Desmarais's favorite event was open mic night because "it lets people express themselves and be who they are without fear of judgement." The philanthropy of Theta Chi, United Service Organizations, is also viewed as a crucial part of the Theta experience by Desmarais. He offered, "In partnering with the USO, we raise money for disabled veterans. This is important because soldiers fight for freedoms we take for granted and it's important to give back to them in some way." Demarais, a Junior, will be graduating from Alma College next May, but knows that he will carry memories of Theta with him for a lifetime.



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# KAPPA IOTA

## LOCAL

Kappa Iota's main goal is to be accepting of all people. "I like that we welcome people of all kinds. Those who don't fit specific models," stated Ishijah Johnson '17. Kappa Iota's individuality includes the ability to welcome transgender students into the sorority. "We are different than what other sororities focus on," noted President Monica Kunovszky '18.

### MONICA KUNOVSZKY '18

"KI breaks norms regarding Greek life. We redefine standards by being more focused on social justice issues than other sororities."



### MARISA ROMANO '19

"I love KI because it is a very relaxing and open environment. When I joined, it was a really hectic time in my life and KI was something I really needed."



### LAURA SLAVSKY '18

"I joined KI because it is a very diverse group and so very welcoming."



Wiederhold



## JOSIE SABO '17

Josie Sabo joined Kappa Iota in winter of 2016. Karen Flesh is her mother, Fernanda Raquel de Melo is her daughter, and Jose Antonio Maldonado is her brother. Sabo has held the position of House Manager from Fall 2016 to Winter 2017. When asked why she joined, Sabo stated, "I was surprised by my open bid and joined on a whim, but once I showed up to my first meeting, I knew that KI was the home I needed." Sabo's favorite memory of her time with Kappa Iota was getting pancakes with the Killian's family during Fall 2016 Brother Initiations and her favorite event was the Space Party. With a philanthropy focused on Women's Aid and a general atmosphere of inclusivity, Sabo believes that "Kappa Iota is important because it provides a safe space for young adults to figure out who they are, to celebrate each other's achievements, and to all come together and have a good time. KI is weird and amazing, and there is no other place like it on Earth."



Sabo

# ZETA SIGMA

## LOCAL

Local chapter Zeta Sigma spent the year committing to volunteering, expanding the family, and growing the brotherhood. Brothers donated time to the Police Athletic League on weekends and to Alma College's Relay For Life in the Winter. After a good year of growth, the brothers are ready to build the chapter more with a new house in the Fall.

### JOHN LAREAU '18

"We brought in a lot of great guys this year. These guys will lead our fraternity into an entirely new era with the new house."



### ERIC VEURINK '17

"It is sad to leave the old house and all of the memories we made there, but we are eager to make new memories in our new house."



### JEFFREY SCHLICHER '18

"We have a generous alumni base who maintain a strong connection with our organization. Without them, none of this would be possible."



## SCOTT SCRIPTER '17

Senior Scott Scriptor joined Zeta Sigma as a freshmen in Winter 2014. Scriptor reflected on why he chose Zeta Sigma to be his home, offering that "It was the people in the chapter who made me feel like I was home because I didn't even know what fraternities were going into college. I loved the people who lived in the house and the atmosphere of the brotherhood. They are why I wanted to join Greek Life. I knew I would feel most secure here at Zeta because I had always had a lot of fun here." During his time in the chapter, Scriptor has held many positions, including Rush Chair, Social Chair, and his favorite, Pledge Master. "Pledge Master is my favorite position because it's technically in charge of social and rush chair on top of pledging. It's the only position I told myself I wanted because I had so much fun rushing, and I wanted to guide others through that, too," stated Scriptor. Scriptor has left his mark on his chapter's newest members as well as all men rushing fraternities by serving as the previous IFC President in the Fall.



TRENT WIEDERHOLD

# ALPHA XI DELTA

## ZETA UPSILON

Sisters of Alpha Xi Delta explored new ways to focus on philanthropy. In addition to their annual race in the fall and their "Light It Up Blue" basketball game, Madison Webster introduced a new event, selling tacos to raise awareness and donations. "It went really well and it was fun goofing around with sisters," said Webster '18.

### KILEE DEBRABANDER '17

"My sisters have been here through each step to support me in applying to grad school, my hardest classes, and conducting my senior thesis."



### ALISON FOX '20

"Running home to A Xi D was one of the best moments of my freshmen year. It's a great feeling to know that I could go to any one of my sisters for anything."

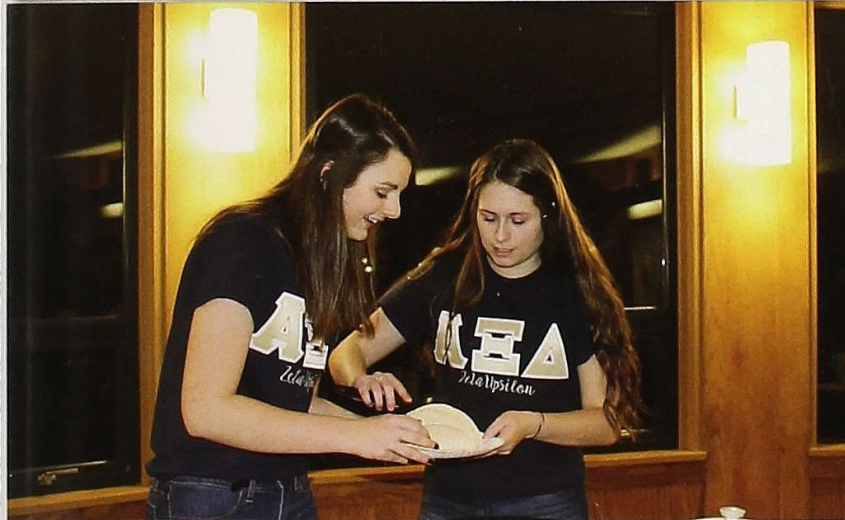


### ALINE BATAWI '18

"After a week of getting to know all of the wonderful girls it feels amazing being able to welcome them home. It's my favorite part about recruitment."



TRENT WIEDERHOLD



TRENT WIEDERHOLD

## MOLLY MCCRANNER '19

Sophomore Molly McCranner joined Alpha Xi Delta in Winter 2016. "I knew some of the girls," McCranner recalled, "and they were really excited about me rushing, so that made me really excited about going through recruitment and growing." As part of her growth within the chapter, McCranner has held various positions including House Manager, Alumni Relations, and Programs VP on the Executive Council. Alumni Relations is McCranner's favorite because it offers a special insight into the sisterhood's past and the memories of past sisters who continue to help and support the chapter. In socializing with alumni, McCranner has found that her favorite event is Homecoming. She offered, "I love Homecoming because we do a big cookout and invite alumni to join us. We all get together and have fun." McCranner's passion and enthusiasm has not gone unnoticed by her sisters. Chapter President Monica Bussell '18 offered, "Molly is the first person to step up and help when something needs to be done. She is a shining example of our values and exemplifies our sisterhood."







ALMA  
EST. 1886  
COLLEGE

# SENIORS



Mitchell Adams



Ethan Akans



Emily Allison



Paige Ampey



Kaitlyn Arnold



Earl Carr



Ally Chapoton



Jacob Chittenden



Mairi Clow



Chelsey Cobb



Nicholas Arnold



Luke Ashton



Margaret Atwater



Hope Ayers



Leona Barnes



Kathleen Collingwood



Breanna Collins



Melissa Colter



Quinton Cook



Anna Couture



Durham Basso



Luke Bent



Brianna Bianconi



Jessica Bigelow



Kaila Black



Caroline Croom



Megan Dahlberg



Richard DeMarois



Shanley Dorn



Danielle Dufon



LaKeshia Bortz



Kelsee Brinklow



Allison Brown



Alexander Bryan



Meng Cai



Mary Dulzo



Summer Eipper



Brandon Erwin



Jacob Esselink



Charles Fales



Edward Farington



Marcella Flury



Catherine Foreman



Nicholas Fox



Kyle French



Trent Hullett



Kaycee Inniger



Jessica Isler



Jared Jacob



Tiffany Jeffers



Allie Frost



John Gaffney



Sabrina Gambill



Jade Garcia



Helen Geddes



Jeremy Johnson



Megan Kalanik



Rachel Kalinovik



Mackenzie Kaisiewicz



Kendall Kamp



Lindsay Giannotta



Reilly Gordon



Alex Hall



Katia Hamamouche



Seth Hartshorne



Kathrine Kelley



Jill Kemper



Kaitlyn Kendall



Aaron Khoury



John Kimball



Hannah Hilditch



Ali Holmquist



Sydney Hooker



Alex Horan



Allyson Hubbell



Alexandra LaDuke



Zoe Lanier



Kelly LaPorte



Joseph Latusek



Kira Leach



Aaron Leonard



Ziling Liang



Lindsey Lloyd



Steven Loumala-Kipp



Kasia Majkowski



Julia Palaian



Jade Paquin



Haley Parker



Cristyn Pawluk



Alex Pecznski



José Maldonado



Taylor Manfroni



Mikhaila Markham



Eric Mason



Heather McNett



Morgan Pell



Jessica Peters



Alegra Platte



Logen Poniatoski



Joshua Pretzer



Heidi Michael



Chris Mikhjian



Maressa Miller



T.J. Miller



Jonathan Mundt



Emily Price



Valkyrie Progar



Chloe Ramsey



Maria Paz Ribadeneira



Mary Rieger



Sarah Neeley



Rachel Nemeth



Mackenzy Nichols



Jonah Oberschlake



C.J. Oswald



Brennan Rodriguez



Paige Ross



Andrew Ruggles



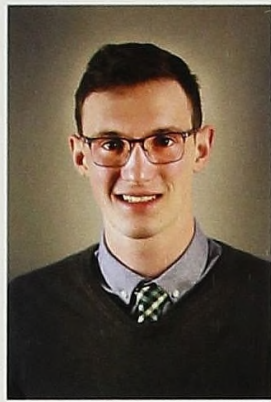
Josie Sabo



Megan Sanborn



Austin Schnepf



Scott Scripter



Aleksander Scully



Joshua Sejat



Victoria Sheffer



Eric Veurink



Amelia Walker



Vivienne Walton



Wangqing Wang



Elizabeth Webb



Samantha Sims



Cameron Spitzfaden



Danialle Stebbins



Sara Stemen



Ashleigh Strand



Annamarie Williams



Jordan Wilson



Jacob Woodcock



Bri Yaroch



Gillian Young



Sarah Straney



Grace Sutherland



Cameron Tahaney



Elizabeth Taylor



Benjamin Thelen



Adam Thoryk



Jordan Triner



Amber Tuttle



Kaitlyn Urick



Nicholas VanDuser



Yuanyuan Zou

### Class of 2017 - Not Pictured

- |                   |                    |                   |                  |                     |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| James Arden       | Jessica Drif       | Roderick Howard   | Michael Mallory  | Jared Shirley       |
| Claudia Barajas   | Chase Fairchild    | Michaela Hoyle    | Nicholas Mangutz | Kyle Slagell        |
| Tyler Beistline   | Patrick Finn       | Kody Hukill       | Daniel Marsden   | Lillian Slavin      |
| William Belcher   | Kaylan Fitch       | Andrew Hussey     | Evan Masley      | Natalie Sloggett    |
| Zaccari Bell      | McKenzie Fox       | Zachary Huver     | Jessica McGillis | Allison Smith       |
| Mary Rose Benson  | Nicholas Fuller    | Amber Isaacson    | Jordan McGowen   | Chance Smith        |
| Sarah Bishop      | Austin Gabris      | Megan Isom        | Amanda McKeith   | Madison Smith       |
| Alexis Bowe       | Antonio Garza      | Jerome Jackson    | Devan McNabb     | Marianna Smith      |
| Celeste Boyer     | Alec Genter        | Alia Jones        | Austen Mellios   | Baily Sopjes        |
| Emily Brady       | Morgan Gibson      | Darby Kahler      | William Mulligan | Kelsey Spencer      |
| Kaitlyn Bremer    | Tyler Goerge       | Joseph Kennedy    | Payge Nestle     | Kelsey Stoll        |
| Brittany Brown    | Gregory Goffee     | Hannah King       | Marissa Nivison  | Nicholas Strait     |
| Erika Brown       | Nicole Green       | Amanda Kline      | Audrey Ortiz     | Morgan Stratton     |
| Shannon Brown     | Grant Greenwood    | Julia Knebl       | Emalee Ousley    | Haley Stueber       |
| Jonathan Buchanan | Macayla Greiner    | Bria Korzecki     | Tara Padgett     | Nicholas Sullivan   |
| Jessica Burg      | Aaron Griffin      | Miranda Kruse     | Josef Perry      | Jessica Thiel       |
| Crystal Caldwell  | Alexander Griffith | Samantha Kulhanek | Abigail Porter   | Logan Thiel         |
| Taylor Card       | Chase Grulke       | Molly Lark        | Elizabeth Pung   | Christopher Vest    |
| Joshua Carolan    | Alesha Hall        | Justin Larkins    | Robert Rankin    | Meghan Vorce        |
| Charles Clark     | Bonnie Hamilton    | Alexandra Laykova | Breana Robertson | Jacqueline Vyskocil |
| Cody Coleman      | Kylie Hamilton     | Anthony Lesko     | Katherine Rogers | Donovan Williams    |
| Fabrice Constant  | Erica Hansen       | Zachary Lesniak   | McKennah Rupke   | Kei Yamamoto        |
| Shane Cooper      | Grant Hill         | Jay Lindgren      | Nathan Sanchez   | Kaitlyn York        |
| Emily Danks       | Bryan Hines        | Kayla Lintruth    | Brianne Schafer  | Erika Zenchak       |
| Aleisia Dassage   | Emma Hogan         | Brandon Losinski  | Morgan Seaberg   | Megan Zoerhoff      |
| Ashlee Davis      | Lex Hollenbeck     | Anne MacNeil      | Kendall Sells    |                     |
| Kilee DeBrabander | Robert Holmes      | Patrick Mallett   | Danielle Service |                     |
| David Dolehanty   | Kayla Holz         | Jason Malling     | Kolette Sherry   |                     |

# INTEGRITY

## SENIOR AWARDS

This year, Cameron Spitzfaden '17 was awarded Alma's most prestigious award: the Barlow Trophy. This recognition is reserved for graduating seniors in the top ten percent of their class who have reflected academic achievement and a desire for contributing to the campus and community. Spitzfaden, of Charlotte, MI, held a double major in physics and mathematics with a minor in theatre and dance, all while maintaining campus employment and contributing to research in the life sciences. Spitzfaden has worked to develop robotic prosthetics, studied biomolecular sensing, and prion mis-folding in Mad-Cow Disease. Spitzfaden has contributed to the campus community as a Resident Assistant, served as a physics and chemistry tutor, and worked as a technician for the Information Technology Services department. The theatre and music departments have also been impacted by Spitzfaden's involvement as a member of the dance department and a leader of Pi Delta Chi. "[The Barlow Trophy] has helped me see there is no point in letting doubt or fear hold me back," Spitzfaden said, noting that winning the Barlow Trophy has reinforced his confidence and drive for success. Spitzfaden plans to continue his education at the University of Michigan.

Page by Hannah Garn '18



COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING



**ACADEMIA IN ATHLETICS.** The NCAA postgraduate scholarship is awarded to student-athletes in their final year of undergraduate study at an NCAA school who are outstanding academically and athletically. Kaitlyn Arnold '17, was one of the 29 recipients from the Fall season. For Arnold, "[The scholarship] was one of those things where I saw the results of my hard work throughout my four years at Alma." Additionally, Arnold was granted the Outstanding Senior Award for having the highest GPA of her graduating class.



**A CUT ABOVE.** Nicholas Mangutz '17, of Mio, MI, was one of two presented with the Outstanding Senior Leadership Award. Mangutz was honored for his service and commitment to the Alma Police Athletic League, which provides area youth with sporting activities.



**PASSION FOR EXPRESSION.** Annamarie Williams '17, of Midland MI, was also presented with the Outstanding Senior Leadership Award. Williams was rewarded for her endeavors in developing and advocating for increased artistic expression at the Alma Community Art Center.



**ALMA & BEYOND** Barlow Trophy finalist, Kelsey Brinklow '17, studies secondary education in hopes of pursuing a career as a history and social studies teacher. Brinklow has been actively involved in campus life as a resident assistant and senior resident assistant, while also working as an admission representative. Through travels to Ghana, Brinklow has realized the passions set forth in the student organization, Literacy Beyond Borders—a group for which she has served as secretary. Brinklow is a member of Phi Sigma Alpha and Phi Alpha Theta honor societies and was a member of the Alma choirs and Public Affairs Institute.



**GLOBAL INITIATIVE** Barlow Trophy finalist, Marissa Nivison '17, studies psychology with the intent of continuing her education and ultimately studying parent-child relationships. Nivison has studied globally and conducted research as far as the Netherlands and England studying the effects of dopamine and child Syrian War refugees, respectively. Nivison has served as a psychology lab manager, an e-STEM research assistant, a teacher's assistant, and a tutor, and is a member of Psychology Club and the Psi Chi honors society, a group for which she is president. Nivison has served as a first year guide and has participated in Alma Middle School's After School Program.



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**PRESIDENTIAL STATUS.** The Presidential Honors Program Recipients are awarded on the basis of successfully completing each requirement of the Presidential Honors Program. These requirements include maintaining a 3.5 GPA, completing honors within their major, and formally proposing ways in which Alma College can improve its campus life.

The following students were recognized:

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Nicholas Arnold   | Abigail Fergus     |
| Hope Ayers        | Heidi Michael      |
| Jessica Bigelow   | Sarah Neeley       |
| Taylor Card       | Marissa Nivison    |
| Mairi Clow        | Morgan Pell        |
| Emily Danks       | Bailey Sopjes      |
| Kilee DeBrabander | Annamarie Williams |



COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

# VOYAGERS

## GRADUATION

For Sarah Straney, walking back from the stage felt "surreal." The emotions she felt were complicated. There was the joy that comes from completing a journey that started four years ago, but also the sadness that comes from saying farewell. "Saying goodbye to Alma was one of the hardest things I have had to do," said Straney, "but I know that the friends I have made and the things I have learned at Alma will help me make a great future for myself." President Abernathy's address during the ceremony explored a similar theme. "Commencement is my favorite day of every year," Abernathy commented. "We are so blessed at Alma College to watch our students learn and grow over four years and then leave us to lead rich lives and enjoy dynamic, meaningful careers. Commencement is an ending, but it is more importantly the beginning of all that will come for our graduates. I love every minute, but I especially enjoy my conversations, hugs, high fives, fist bumps and interactions with our graduating students and their families," said Abernathy. Although graduation marks the transition from student to alumni, although graduates leave campus to begin a new stage in their lives, they take a piece of Alma with them, seeds that will grow over the course of the rest of their lives.



Page by Aeriell Stroven '18



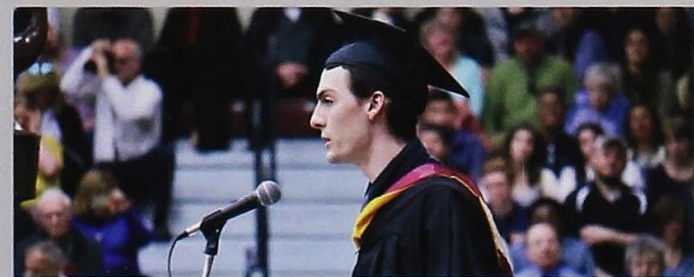
WIEDERHOLD

### HARD WORK.

As she walked across the stage, Kathleen Collingwood was struck by how quickly her college years flew by. "It really did not feel like 4 years had come and gone. I was so proud that I made it through and that all of the hard work and late nights paid off!" she recalled.

### WAITING.

While the graduates were anxiously waiting for commencement to start, they were surprised by the chance to take selfies with President Abernathy. "It is a great opportunity for me to congratulate them on all they have achieved at Alma," exclaimed Abernathy.



### STRENGTH.

Barlow award winner Cameron Spitzfaden focused on the importance of asking for help during his commencement speech. "It can be difficult to admit personal shortcomings, but beneficial to seek the care and wisdom of others," said Spitzfaden. He went on to discuss his personal experiences with mental health issues, an increasingly common experience among college students. He left his classmates with this message: despite the difficulties in doing so, it is a sign of strength to ask for help.



### ANTICIPATION.

Welcomed into the Art Smith Arena by the Pipe Band, the class of 2017 was a mix of nerves and excitement. Surrounded by their peers, each had thoughts about the future. "It was definitely a feeling of relief and happiness," Audrey Ortiz said as she reflected back on her feelings during the opening procession. "It felt like years of work were finally paying off! I also felt a lot of anticipation for the future and the next stage of my life."



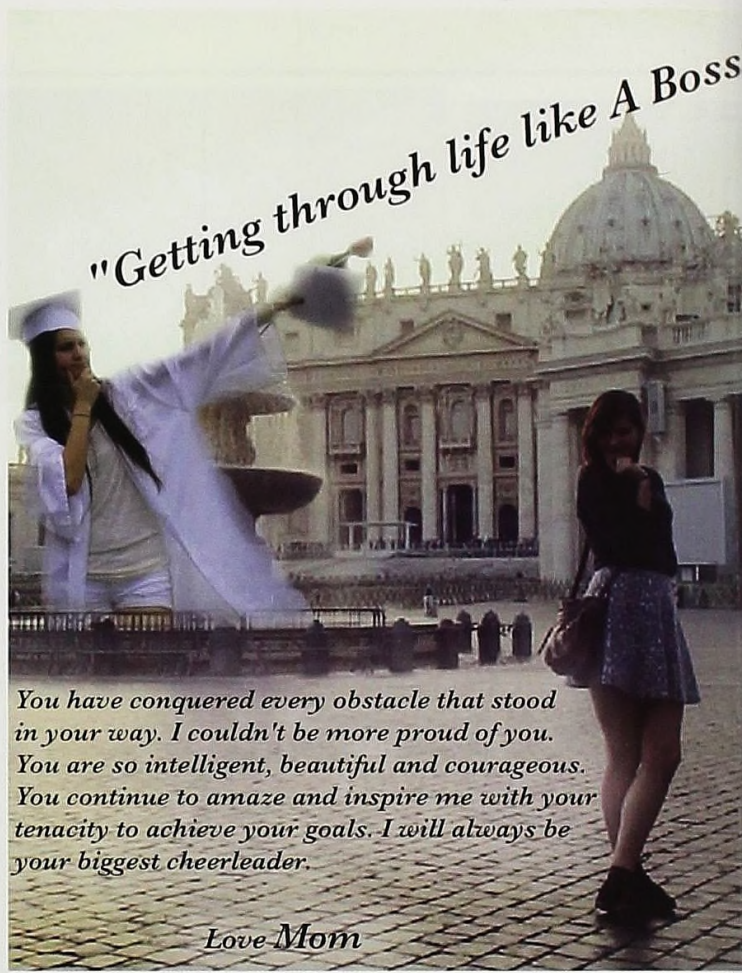
### PLAID GRADUATES.

As the class of 2017 passed through the faculty gauntlet and then gathered with friends and family outside of Hogan Arena, there was time for photographs and congratulations, but it was also a moment to say goodbye. Whether it was saying farewell to a favorite faculty member or to a group of friends, for most, the true transition to life beyond college was yet to come. "Walking across the stage and watching everyone graduate did not actually feel like the end," noted Billy Mulligan. "It still feels like when fall rolls around. I will be back on campus, getting ready for another year with the people I've become closest too. Getting the diploma and graduating was great, but leaving the town, the people, and the memories is going to be the hardest."



*You have been our ray of sunshine since we got you.  
Your smile is as big as your heart.  
We couldn't be more proud of your accomplishments.  
You're daddy's "lil" girl,  
but you are my sunshine and always will be.  
You're going to do great things.*

**ALMA COLLEGE**  
Love,  
Your forever family



*"Getting through life like A Boss"*

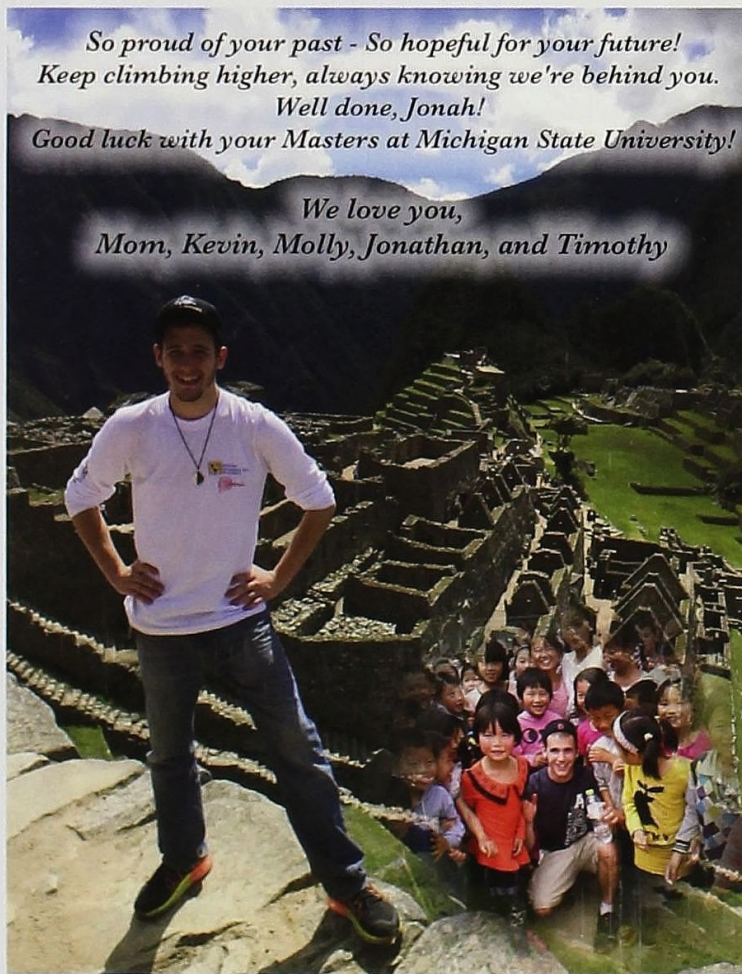
*You have conquered every obstacle that stood in your way. I couldn't be more proud of you. You are so intelligent, beautiful and courageous. You continue to amaze and inspire me with your tenacity to achieve your goals. I will always be your biggest cheerleader.*

Love Mom



**Màiri,**  
It has been a pleasure watching you grow into an amazing young woman. You have accomplished so much. All your academic awards, concerts, plays, highland dance competitions and the endless amount of writing. Your strong work ethic and 100% devotion to every task you put your mind to made you a valued leader on and off campus. Your kind heart has made you a compassionate person and a wonderful friend to many. We know you have wonderful things coming in the future. Congratulations and we couldn't be more proud of you.

Love,  
Mom, Dad & Calum



*So proud of your past - So hopeful for your future!  
Keep climbing higher, always knowing we're behind you.  
Well done, Jonah!  
Good luck with your Masters at Michigan State University!*

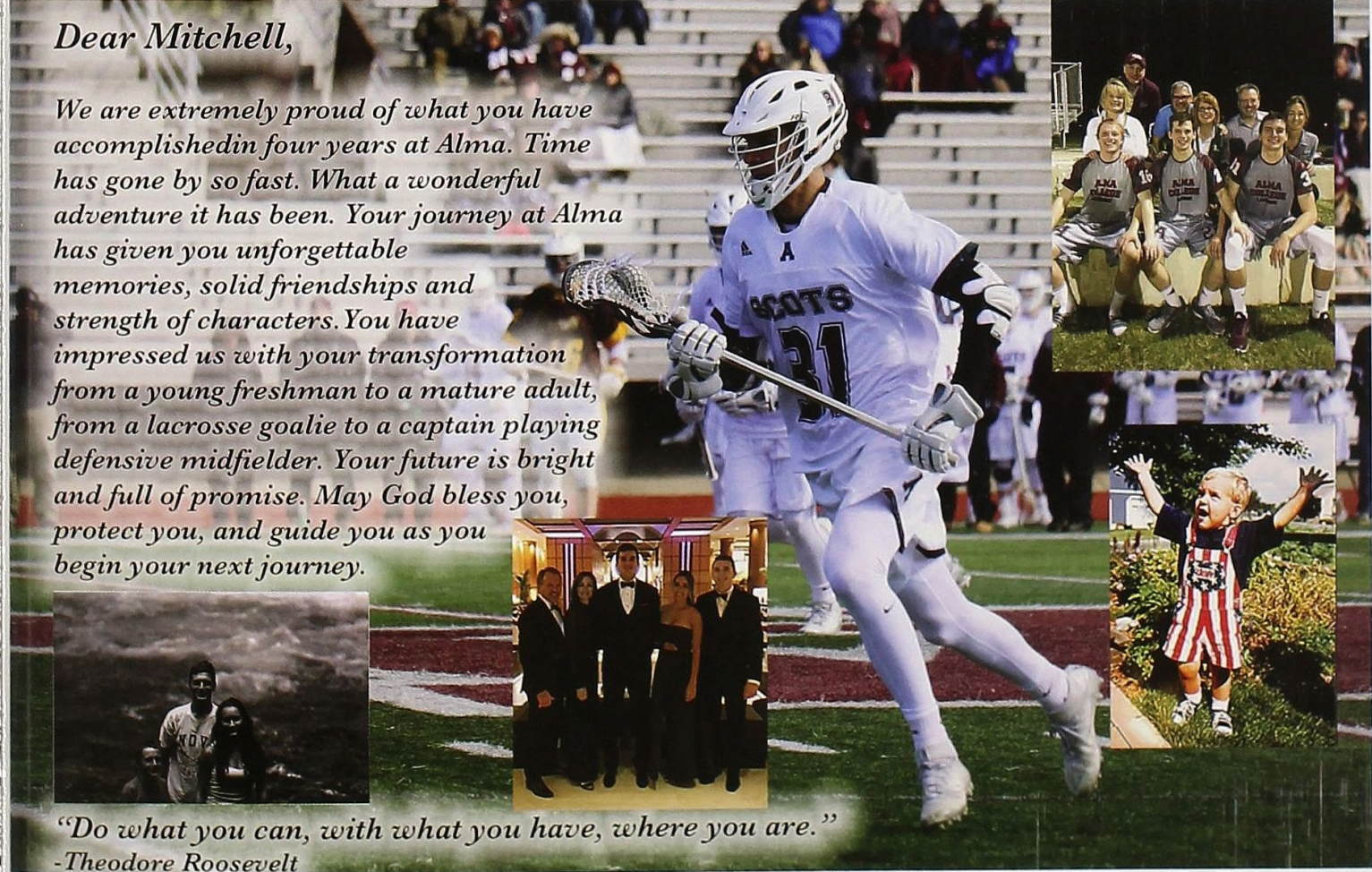
We love you,  
Mom, Kevin, Molly, Jonathan, and Timothy



**Mazel Tov to our Hugabug/Squirt!**

*From footy-pajamas to feminist printmaking, you've grown into a smart, strong, talented, funny, beautiful, woman who has already made a difference in our beleaguered world. We're so proud of you, and can't wait to see what the next chapter holds!*

Love, Mom, Dad and Wren.



**Dear Mitchell,**

*We are extremely proud of what you have accomplished in four years at Alma. Time has gone by so fast. What a wonderful adventure it has been. Your journey at Alma has given you unforgettable memories, solid friendships and strength of characters. You have impressed us with your transformation from a young freshman to a mature adult, from a lacrosse goalie to a captain playing defensive midfielder. Your future is bright and full of promise. May God bless you, protect you, and guide you as you begin your next journey.*

*"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."  
-Theodore Roosevelt*



**Congratulations Little Miss Round Head!**

*You have always been an amazing, smart, funn, short girl!  
You have grown into a wonderful, caring, extraordinary woman.  
We are all so proud of the person you have become.*

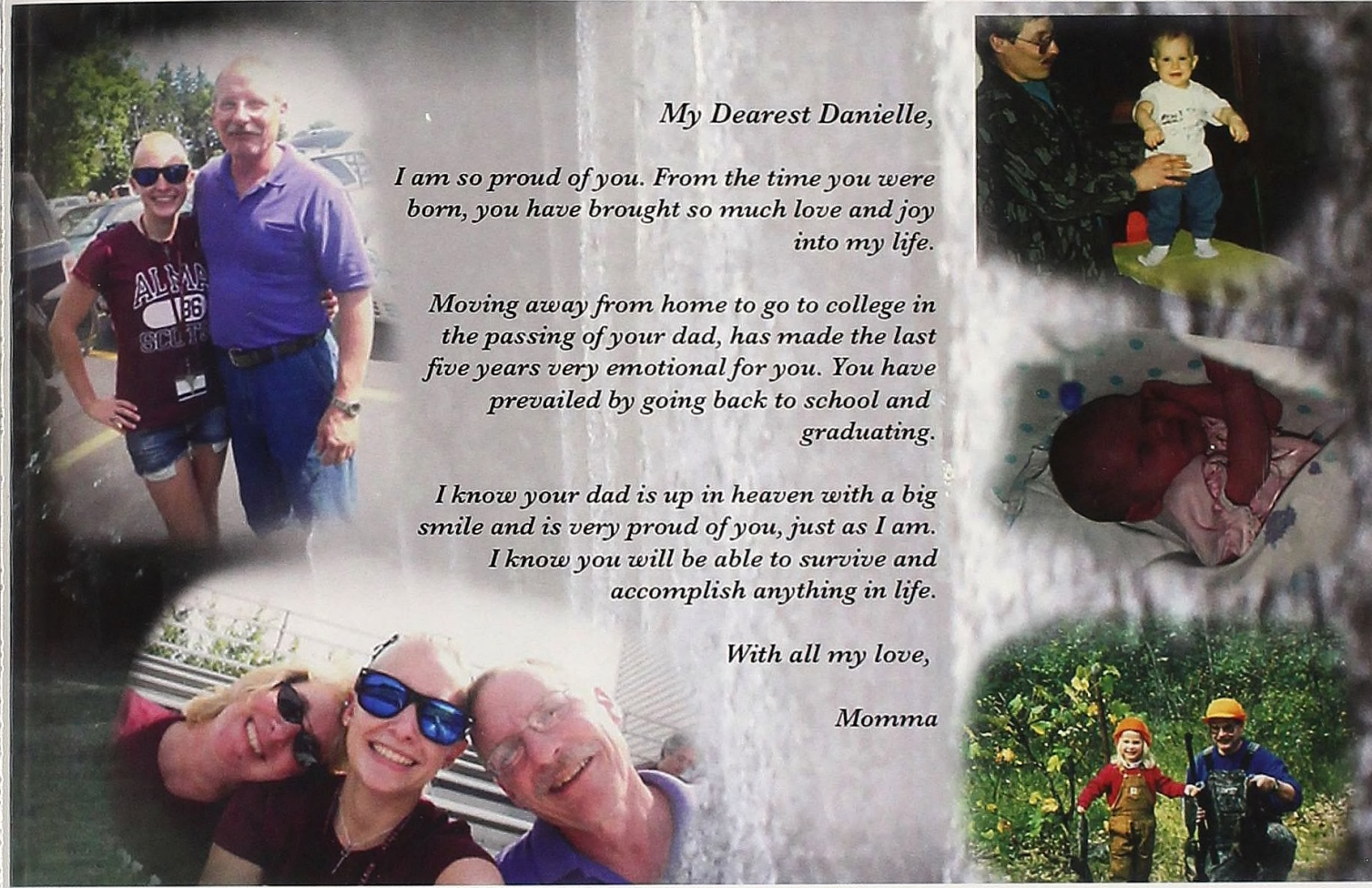
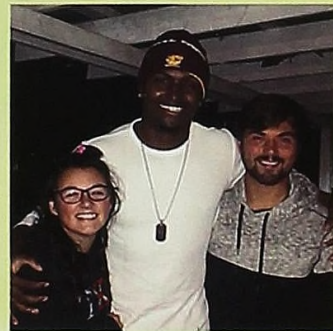
*We Love You,  
Mom, Dad, & Steven*

*P.S.  
Ace says he's glad college wasn't too "ruff" on you.*



*"She is clothed in strength and dignity and she laughs  
without fear of the future."*

*Proverbs 31:25*



*My Dearest Danielle,*

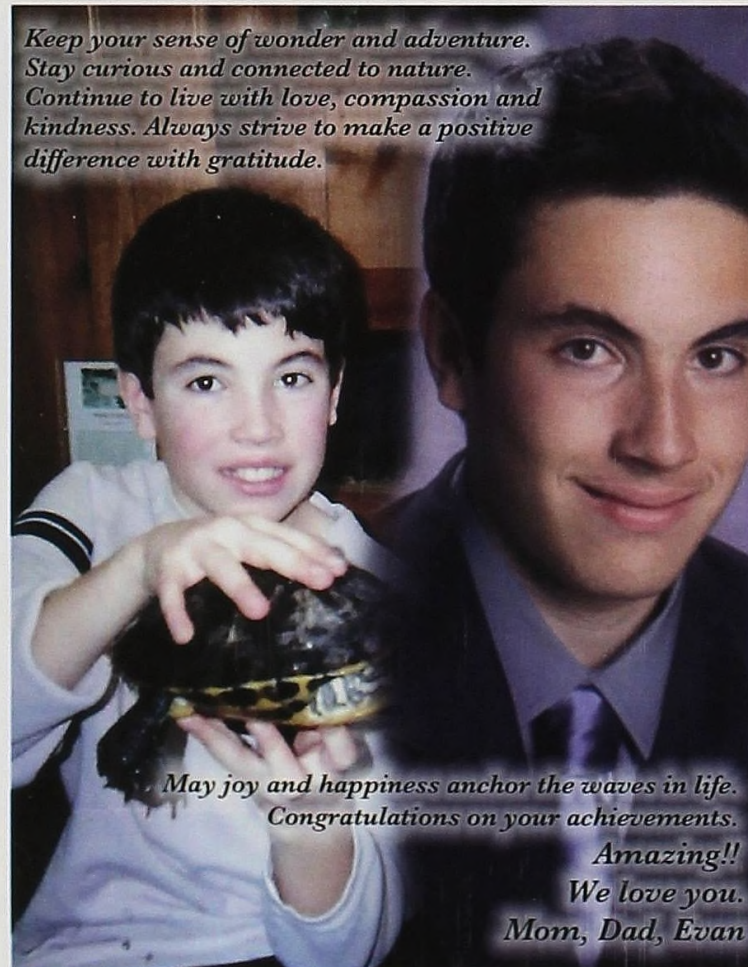
*I am so proud of you. From the time you were  
born, you have brought so much love and joy  
into my life.*

*Moving away from home to go to college in  
the passing of your dad, has made the last  
five years very emotional for you. You have  
prevailed by going back to school and  
graduating.*

*I know your dad is up in heaven with a big  
smile and is very proud of you, just as I am.  
I know you will be able to survive and  
accomplish anything in life.*

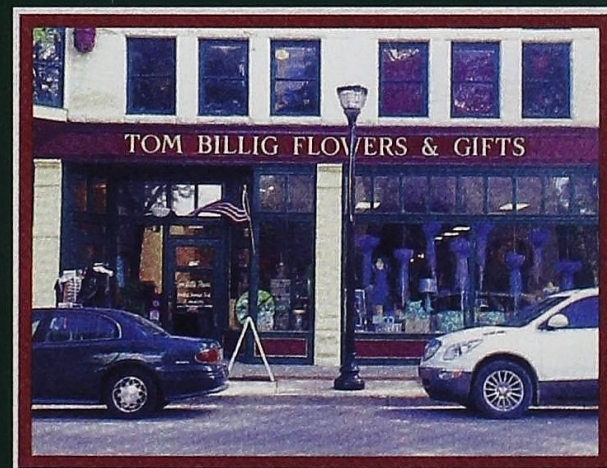
*With all my love,*

*Momma*



*Keep your sense of wonder and adventure.  
Stay curious and connected to nature.  
Continue to live with love, compassion and  
kindness. Always strive to make a positive  
difference with gratitude.*

*May joy and happiness anchor the waves in life.  
Congratulations on your achievements.  
Amazing!!  
We love you.  
Mom, Dad, Evan*



*Congratulations, Class of 2017!*

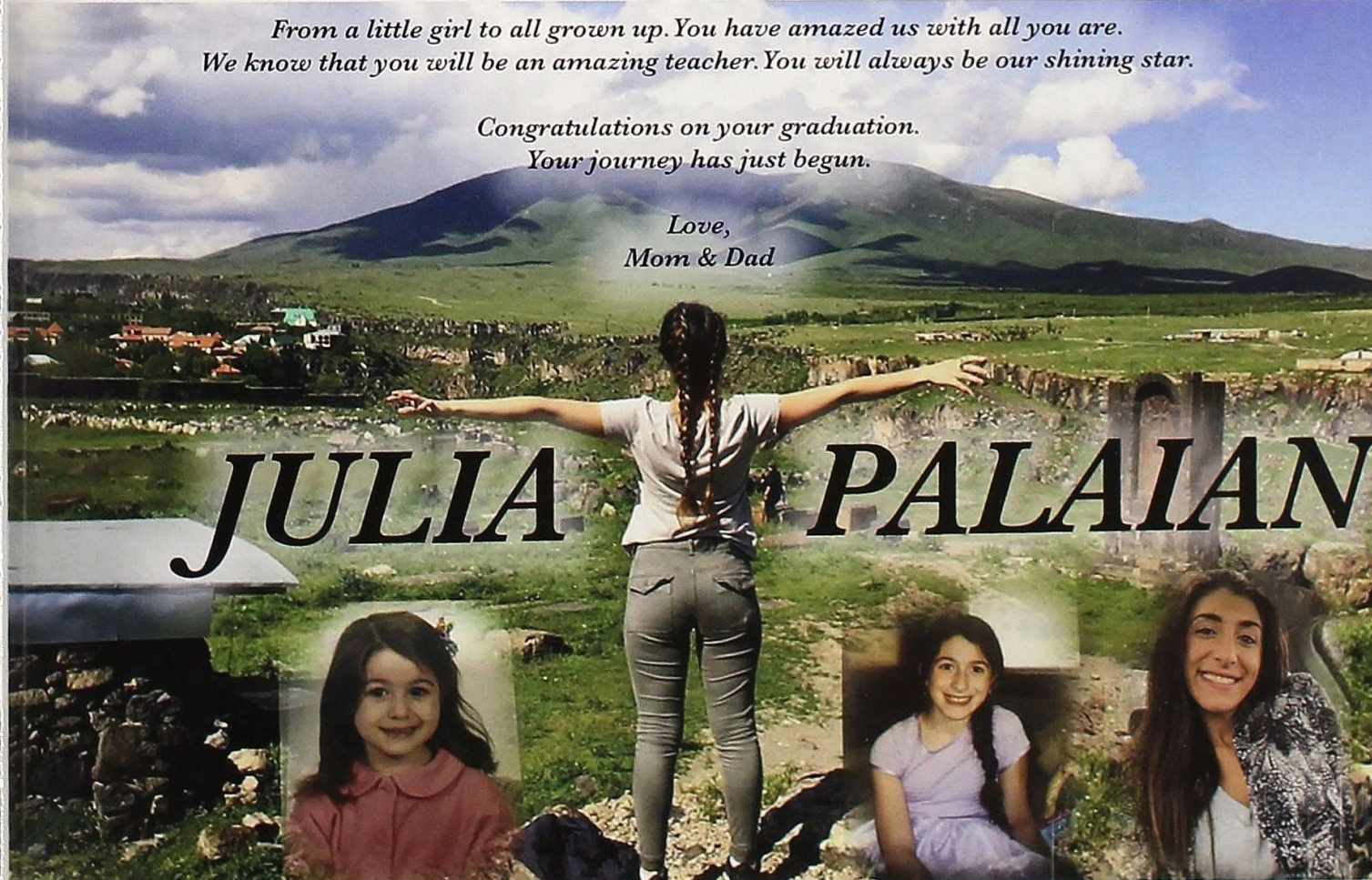
**Tom Billig Flowers & Gifts**  
109 W. Superior St.  
Alma, MI  
(989) 463-2195

*From a little girl to all grown up. You have amazed us with all you are.  
We know that you will be an amazing teacher. You will always be our shining star.*

*Congratulations on your graduation.  
Your journey has just begun.*

*Love,  
Mom & Dad*

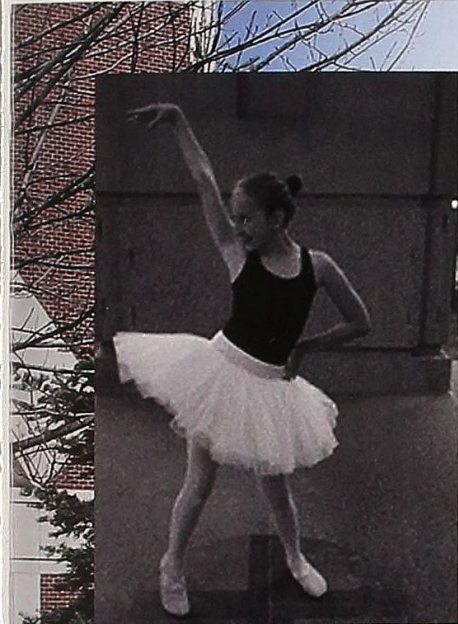
**JULIA PALAIAN**



**Luke,**

*We are so proud of you! You have always been serious and motivated in all your endeavors. Looking back upon grade school, high school, Eagle Scout, your bagpipe bands and now college, you have always endeavored to excel. The friends and people you have chosen to look up to shows wisdom and maturity. Alma has been such a positive influence upon you, but you deserve to take a great deal of credit for yourself. You have made your college career positive by your actions, attitude and effort. We know you will continue to succeed in life.*

*Love,  
Your family*



**Katia,**

*We will miss watching you perform on stage, but are really excited to witness the great things you will accomplish in your classroom.*

*As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded." Go forth and leave your imprint on the world, one child at a time.*

*Congratulations,*

*Mom, GDawg, GPup, and Karina*

**CONGRATULATIONS  
ALMA COLLEGE  
CLASS OF 2017!**



*What an amazing, beautiful accomplished young woman, we are so proud of all you've accomplished in life. From the little girl spending hours on the field practicing to be a champion to becoming the president of a sorority, you have so much passion for life.*

*We've enjoyed watching you develop into a woman with perseverance and compassion. Attending concerts, KMB half time performances, sorority ceremonies and the occasional call to come visit or for help on a muddy road, these are memories we will cherish forever.*

*We are excited to see where God leads you next in life.*

*Love Mom and Dad*

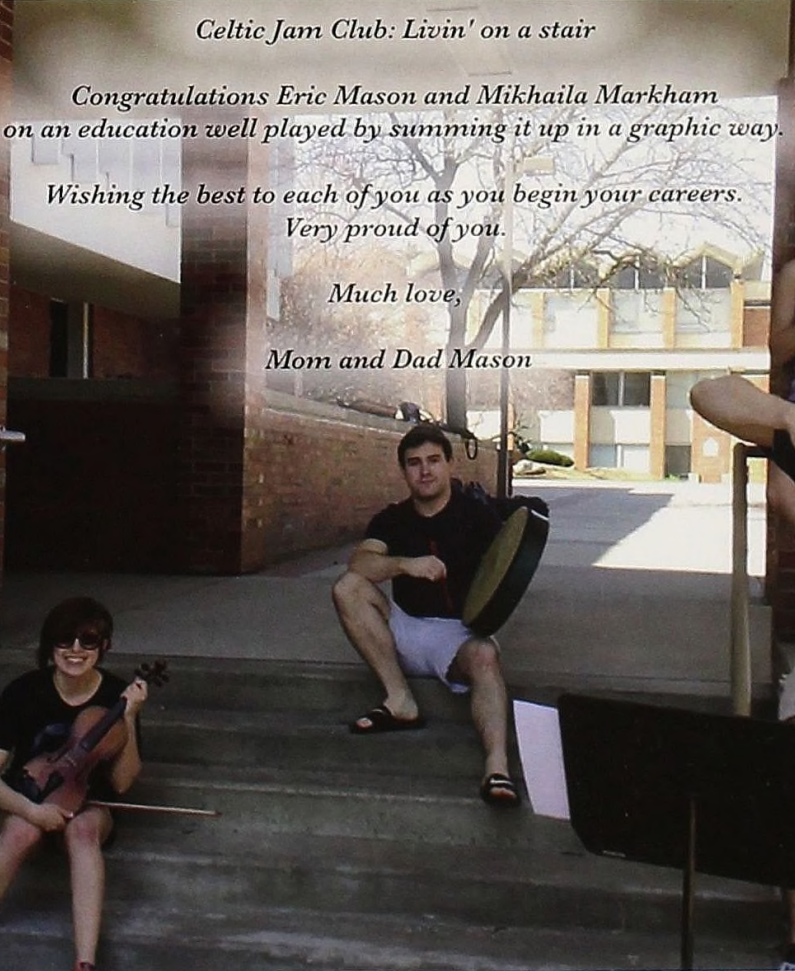
**Heather McNett**

*Celtic Jam Club: Livin' on a stair*

*Congratulations Eric Mason and Mikhaila Markham on an education well played by summing it up in a graphic way.*

*Wishing the best to each of you as you begin your careers. Very proud of you.*

*Much love,  
Mom and Dad Mason*





ΣΣ

Elizabeth,

**Congratulations!**

*Wow, a college graduate. We are proud of you. You are so fun to be around. We love you and we love the woman you have become.*

**Keep smiling!**

Love,

Mom and Dad



*Behind you, all your memories. Before you, all your dreams. Around you, all who love you. Within you, all you need.*

**Congratulations Steven**  
We are all very proud of you, and wish you continued success!

*With much love and support,  
Mom, Dad, Christian,  
Joshua, and Nathan XOXO*



**CONGRATULATIONS CHLOE!**

*We are so very proud of everything you have accomplished from your academics and tennis, to your sorority and band!*

*Being a Scot has brought you many friends, growth, and life-long memories!*

**WE LOVE YOU**

*Mom, Ken, Claudia, Zach, Ariel, Tyler, Brooklynn, and Ali*

**A perfect way to say congratulations.**

**Michael Richard**  
FLORAL BOUTIQUE

(800) 287-0607      123 E. Superior Street, Alma, MI 48801

*"All Good Things Come to Those Who Believe."*  
Romans 8:28

**Keep Believing... Never Stop Dreaming... Always Be Yourself.**

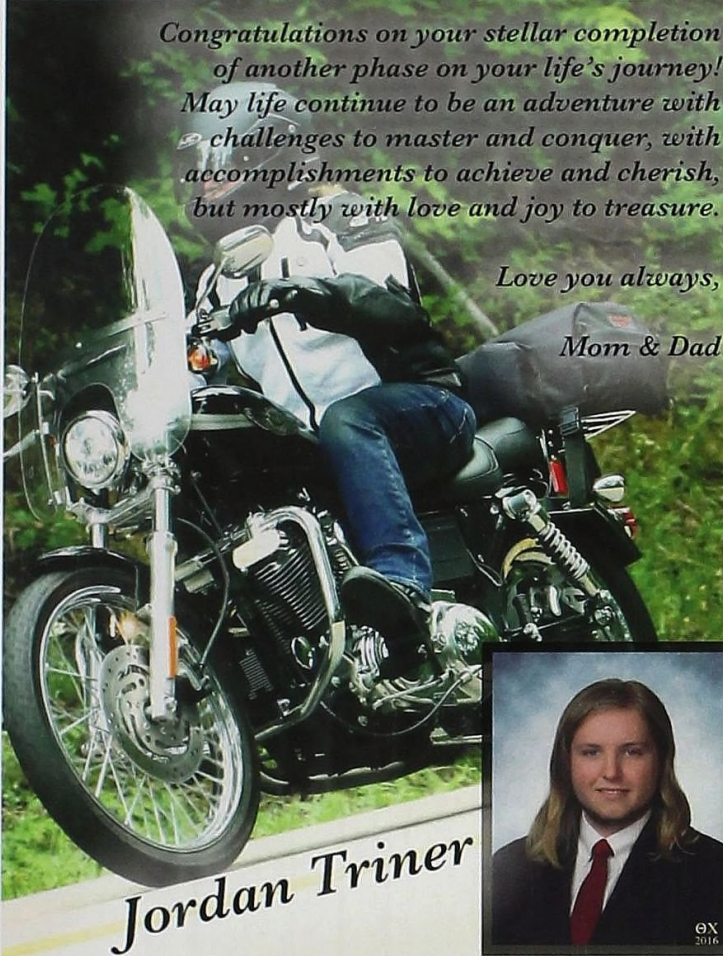
**GOOFY**

**HAPPY INSPIRED**


*Congratulations! We Love You.  
Mom, Dad, Shelby, Janessa, and Steven*

*Congratulations on your stellar completion of another phase on your life's journey! May life continue to be an adventure with challenges to master and conquer, with accomplishments to achieve and cherish, but mostly with love and joy to treasure.*

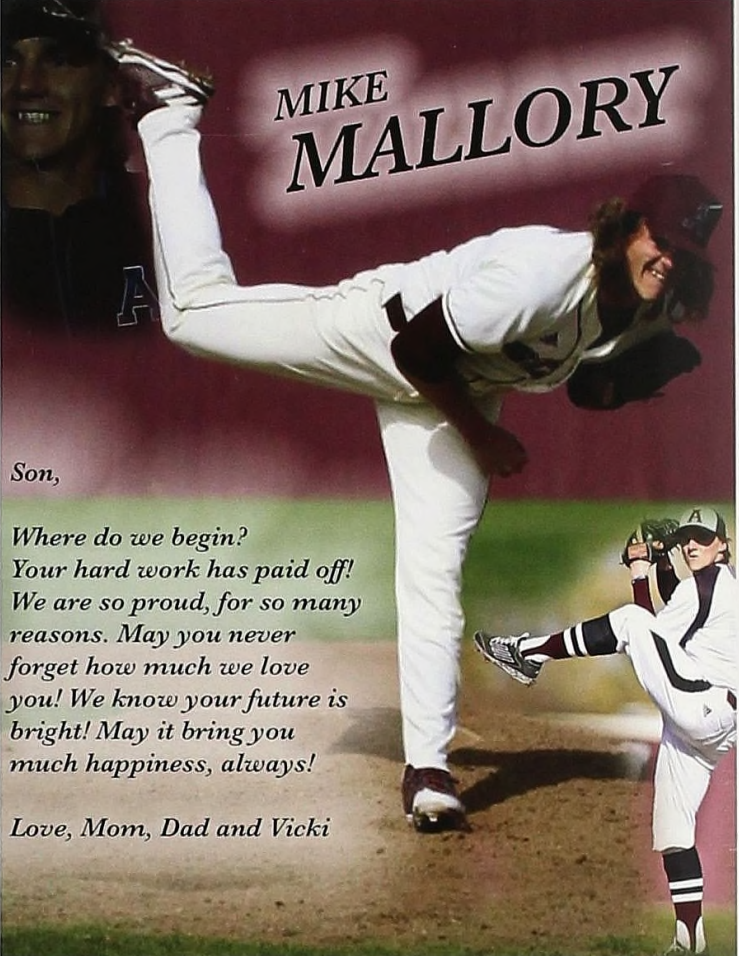
*Love you always,  
Mom & Dad*



**Jordan Triner**



**MIKE MALLORY**



Son,

*Where do we begin? Your hard work has paid off! We are so proud, for so many reasons. May you never forget how much we love you! We know your future is bright! May it bring you much happiness, always!*

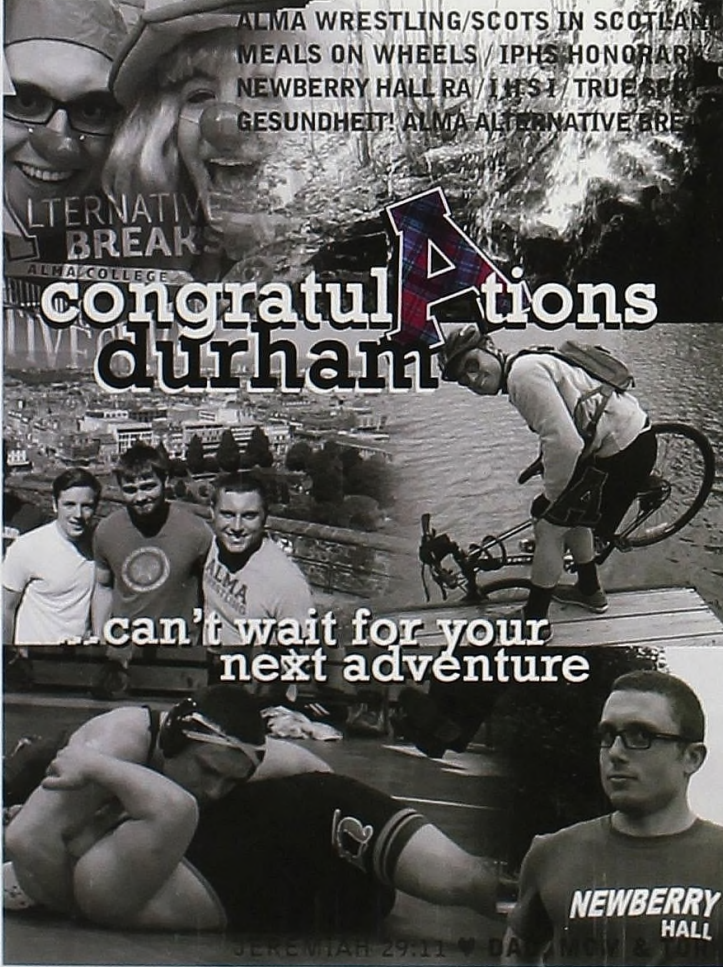
*Love, Mom, Dad and Vicki*

ALMA WRESTLING/SCOTS IN SCOTLAND  
MEALS ON WHEELS / IPHS HONORARY  
NEWBERRY HALL RA / THE ST / TRUE SC  
GESUNDHEIT! ALMA ALTERNATIVE BRE

ALTERNATIVE BREAK  
ALMA COLLEGE

**congratulations  
durham**

...can't wait for your next adventure



NEWBERRY HALL



