

## Themed-housing scramble confuses

ZAC CAHILL  
COPY EDITOR

Spurred by the completion of the new Zeta Sigma house, four themed small houses swapped locations with one another, causing student confusion.

The original plan was for Theta Chi to move to the old Zeta Sigma house, because Zeta's new house was constructed this summer, according to Dave Blandford, director of student life.

The decision was made, however, to move Model United Nations to the old Zeta house, giving Theta the choice between the old MUN house and the Multicultural house. Members chose Multicultural, forcing the Multicultural residents to move to the old MUN house.

"Model UN is an award-winning program," said Blandford.

"The thought was 'we'd like to really start to showcase them a little more, move them to Superior Street where they've got a little more visibility."

"We felt, because of Model UN moving to where Theta Chi thought they would be, it was important that we give [Theta Chi] options."

These shifts caused confusion in the students who had began to move into their houses before the start of the term.

**Madison Webster, ('18),**

was one such student. A resident of the newly dubbed "Animal Welfare house" – located at 711 Mechanic, where the old Theta Chi house was – she described a disorganized environment which greeted her when she moved in on Aug. 26.

"We spent three days cleaning the house...and over \$200 on cleaning supplies," said Webster.

"There was stuff packed in [one of the bedrooms] up to my chest."

**Laura Slavsky, ('17),** manager of the Multicultural house at 715 Center, described a similar welcome when she and her housemates began to move in to what was the former Model UN house.

"MUN's stuff was still here," she said. "And we were surprised to find that the basement had been boarded up."

Slavsky found that with the basement not available, access to the washer, dryer and two showers was taken away. Despite the fact that efforts are currently being made to replace the old laundry units with new ones on the upper floors, Slavsky's main concern was the confusion it caused.

"No one explained anything to me...and there was never anything pre-emptive," she said of the initial lack of communication.

Blandford admitted that the housing department was slightly



Zachary Kribbet: Photographer

**Thea Abbato ('19) and Laura Slavsky ('17) pose at the new location of the Multicultural house. Slavsky learned during Spring Term about the move.**

behind schedule with moving things between the houses, citing a "domino effect" of sorts that illustrates the system they have been using for moving things. Possessions could not be moved from the old Zeta house until the new one was complete, which backed up the transfer of items from all other houses involved, according to Blandford.

As for the basements, Blandford explained the decision

as one long in the works.

"That was a decision that goes back several years," said Blandford. "We were getting a lot of general maintenance issues with those basements that were making those spaces less than desirable to have students living in them."

Progress is still underway to sort out the housing swap situation.

"Mark Smith (new small

housing director) has been super responsive...really great about coming by the house" said Webster.

With combined efforts from the housing department and facilities, washers and dryers are starting to be installed and items are being transferred between the houses.

## Composting, recycling allow students to make impact

ABIGAIL FERGUS  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In years past, Almanian articles detailed the rebirth of the recycling program on campus after a dormant period in 2014. Now, recycling and composting take place regularly at Alma and students have the ability to participate.

"The most important thing is to follow the rules exactly," said **Damon Rogers ('19),** recycling

and composting coordinator.

Guides on how to compost and recycle are generally posted by their respective bins, according to Rogers. Most academic and housing buildings have recycling bins, while composting is collected near the dish conveyor belt in Hamilton Commons.

Improper recycling and composting can have negative implications for the programs, according to Rogers.

"It'll mess up the [compost] bin and take longer to decompose," said Rogers. "It will stink, which causes animals to get in, if [students] put meat and dairy in

there."

Rogers' team handles recycling at night and the weather is changing. He said that this means improper sorting causes the students to be out in the cold longer in order to fix the poor sorting job of others.

Despite the setbacks, Rogers sees value in the programs and has goals for their improvement.

Through the programs students are "reducing the amount of waste we put in landfills, reducing carbon footprints, and just making the earth a better place," said Rogers.

"This is what we can do as

college students. People say we don't have enough power over this country, but we do have power over Alma and how to take care of this community."

Through more collaboration with campus organizations such as the Climate Change Action Network, Entrepreneurs in Action and Public Affairs, Rogers hopes to educate students more about composting and recycling.

"By making sure people are informed about [the programs]," said Rogers, "I hope to connect everyone on campus. I spent time in the summer reaching out to as many offices as possible so they

know how to recycle."

This is not a new role for Rogers; he's been recycling since becoming a member of a "green team" program in middle school.

"I like it because it allows me to plug into campus and make an impact," said Rogers. He believes the solid development of recycling and composting programs today can insure their existence for as long as Alma College is around.

"With the political climate right now, there's a lot of skepticism on how we can make the earth better. [But students] can learn their passions and take them beyond college."

## 2021 tops recent class sizes

NAJELLE GILMORE  
HEAD EDITOR

Alma's incoming freshmen class has hit a new recent record with 476 students enrolled this fall.

Last year, the college bounced back from three years in the 300s to record 447 "newbies."

The spike in frosh enrollment has led to a new problem for administrators last year: where will everyone live?

RA **Tia Booker ('18)** said that her "worry for a big class size this year was housing."

Her concern stemmed from events that occurred in the 2016-2017 year.

"They had a large incoming class," said RA **Ernikka Johnson ('19).**

"Because of this a lot of upperclassmen were moved from north campus to south campus.

"I found out less than a month

before my move in date that I was being moved from the room I reserved," said **Marisa Romano ('19).**

"It was frustrating because it was short notice, but the college handled it respectfully."

Administrators relocated multiple other upperclassmen to basement rooms and south campus to free up space for the freshman overflow. In addition, "they redid some rooms in Bruske basement to make more room for incoming students," said Johnson.

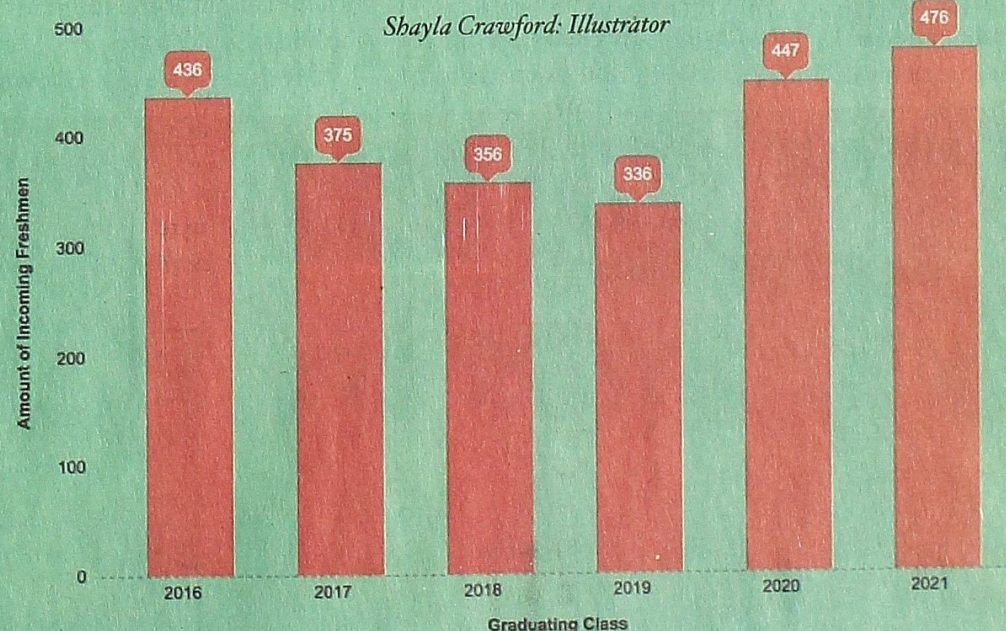
Booker said that "the student life office handled having a large class size well" so that there was no need to scramble to find extra housing this year.

One adjustment made was to the former ease with which freshmen could move from their assigned dorm.

"[There will be] no more open move week because of the larger class sizes," said RA **Carolyn Clark ('19).** "They can do roommate swaps if all parties agree to the switch."

### Recent Alma College Freshmen Class Sizes

Shayla Crawford: Illustrator



Large freshmen classes have been recruited for the past two years. Freshmen to sophomore retention is calculated early in the school year when a class reaches its sophomore year. The retention rate for the Class of 2020 and of 2021 has not yet been calculated.

### Freshmen to Sophomore Retention





## Vice President offers graduation advice, goals

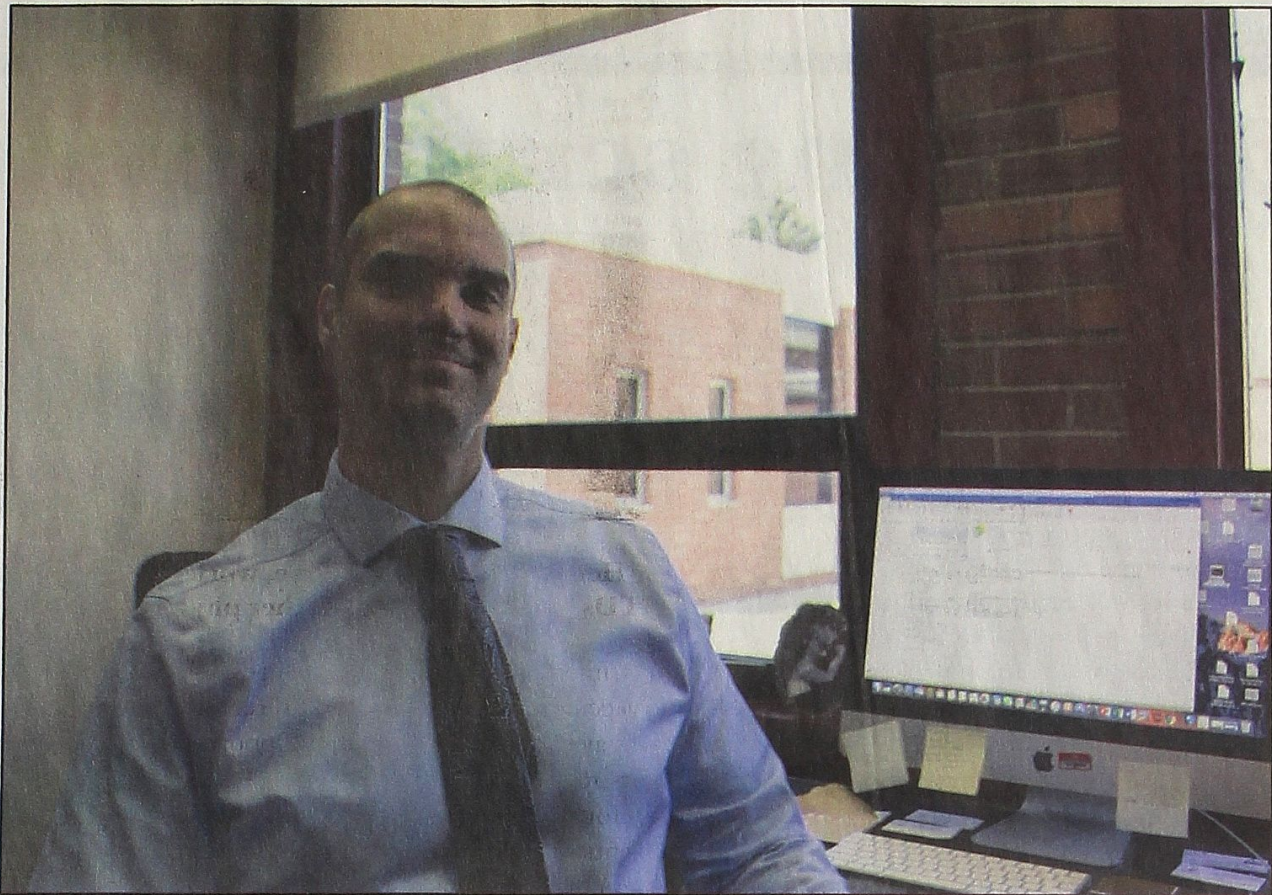
Nick Piccolo retired from his positions as the Title IX coordinator and the VP for student life. His two former roles have been taken over by Karl Rishe and Lynn Krauss. Get to know the new administrators in the following articles.

**ABIGAIL FERGUS**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In order to become a college graduate, Karl Rishe, vice president for student affairs, advises freshmen to always go to class, to take an active role in their education and to go out and meet people. Rishe is also new to Alma in a position formerly held by Nick Piccolo, who retired from being both the Title IX coordinator and the Vice President for Student Life.

Piccolo advised Rishe to listen to the needs and wants of students, according to Rishe.

"You can see me at the rec center working out, meeting with sporting teams, eating lunch with students, playing intramurals, presenting to different student groups and attending all Student



Maggie Zou: Photographer

**Karl Rishe is the new director of student affairs, replacing the retired Nick Piccolo.**

Congress meetings."

Rishe detailed in what ways he will pursue relationships with students, and plans to do the same with faculty by sitting on various committees. Other goals include

keeping Roxann Harrington, his assistant, happy and upgrading the use of technology in student life, such as registering for housing.

He will also pursue his goals

by striving to understand Alma's culture, he added.

"Culture eats strategy for breakfast," said Rishe. "If I don't truly understand how this place acts, I can never put on structures

that can go through any changes. There's a wives' tale about colleges; don't cement anything. Let students tell you where to put sidewalks."

The vice president also oversees "residence life and housing, student conduct, student activities and engagement, Student Congress, Greek Life, Counseling and Wellness, the rec center and camps and conferences."

Rishe also described himself as a sort of quarterback for crisis intervention on campus. While he feels passionate about helping students, he primarily oversees student life staff at Alma and has done so in his career history of former roles.

"When I was 21, I had an interaction with someone serving as dean of students at my undergrad," said Rishe. "I had a really positive interaction with that person."

"It was at that moment I thought 'this would be a very cool job, to influence student lives and change the trajectory of careers or who they are. As I got further along, the biggest affect I tended to have had been with staff. I am helping staff to help with students."

## New Title IX coordinator aims for transparency

**ABIGAIL FERGUS**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Last year, Lynn Krauss was asked by Nick Piccolo, former Title IX coordinator, for legal consulting. Today, Piccolo is retired and Krauss fills his former role. After 25 years at Dow Corning Corp. teaching and practicing business law, Krauss retired. She had wanted to find a way to get back to Alma, though.

"I'm the mother of both an Alma female grad and an Alma male grad," said Krauss.

Having been an Alma parent, and the fact that Krauss is herself an Alma grad, influenced her goals for handling Title IX issues on campus.

"When I first started talking about the role here, I made it very clear that I would want to be very transparent to parties on any side. I believe in having fair process: in giving those people alleged to have violated policy the ability to understand what the allegations are against them, to be able to provide their statements, and to provide witnesses that we will be able to interview on their behalf."

Alma College is under federal investigation for the handling of

Title IX cases. According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, the average length of these cases to be processed is 1.8 years, which Alma is approaching.

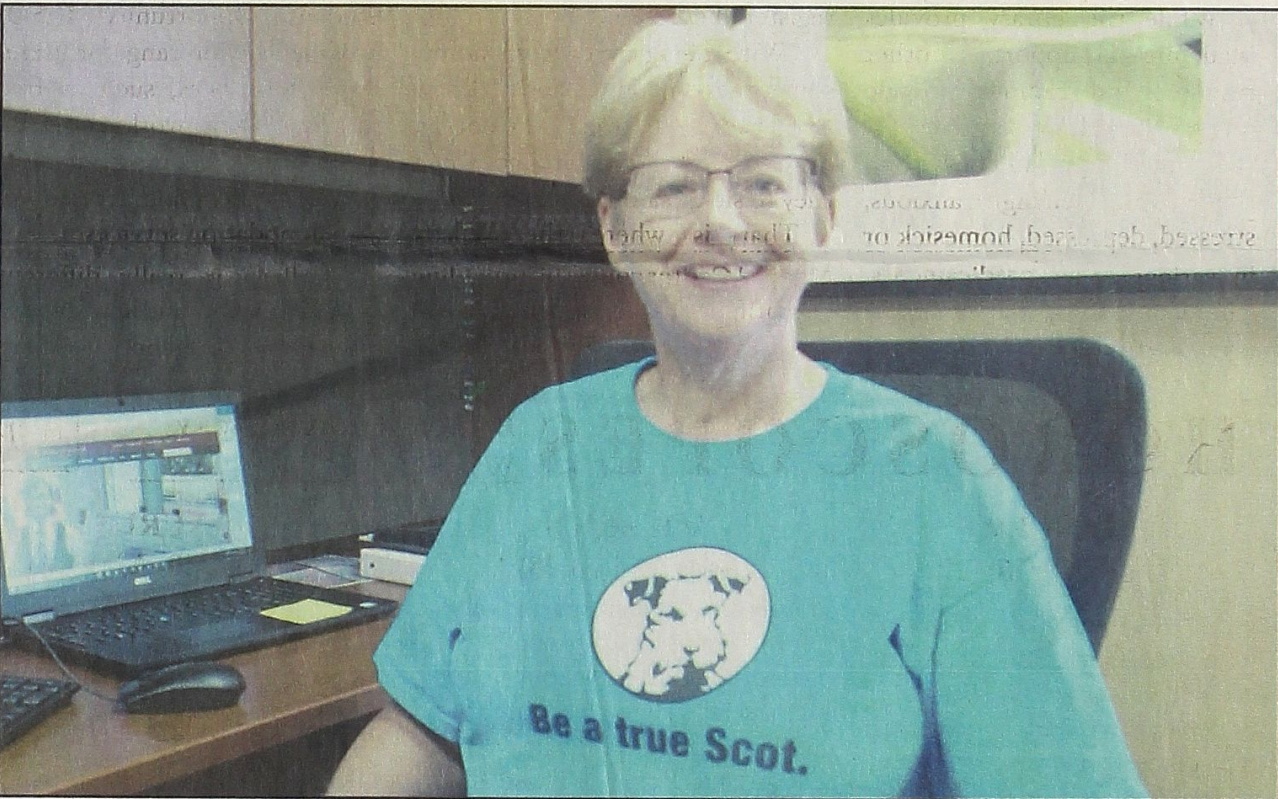
In past years, students have shared with the Almanian their frustration regarding the lack of transparency in potential violations of Title IX occurring on campus and the lack of focus on holding statistically likely violators accountable to their actions, rather than expecting statistically likely victim survivors to protect themselves.

"I can't undo what was done, but I can ensure that we will have a fair review of the situation," said Krauss.

She emphasized that a shift in culture is what will prevent Title IX violations from occurring. Law is not what will prevent someone from committing assault, according to Krauss. Responsibility also lies with students.

"I ask that they look out for themselves and they look out for others: be a true scot," said Krauss.

"From my perspective, that includes not only looking out for people who could potentially be



Maggie Zou: Photographer

**Lynn Krauss takes over as Alma's Title IX coordinator**

a victim survivor, but also those people who may do something they may later regret."

In addition to serving for three years on a diversity and inclusion panel at Dow Corning and having a doctoral degree in law, Krauss said her role with the company gave her applicable experience for the Title IX position.

"My experience in employment

and legal law around the world helped prepare me," said Krauss.

"The biggest help in this very specialized role is one of the things that I learned at Alma: how to learn. Going back to December, I didn't know much about Title IX. I read about it; I looked at cases; I looked at articles; I read books. I applied experience in a similar area and then I researched and

read and talked to people."

Krauss is consistently on campus Mondays and will have an additional day that will vary from week to week on which she'll be in her office, seated in the Center for Student Opportunity. To get in contact with her, students can contact Roxann Harrington or email Krauss at kraussld@alma.edu.

## TITLE IX

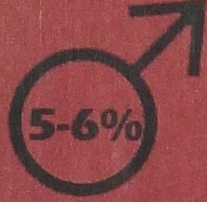
### Why it matters

based on knowyourix.org statistics

College campuses are a high risk environment for sexual assault



&



are likely to be sexually assaulted in their time at college

Certain demographics experience higher rates of sexual assault



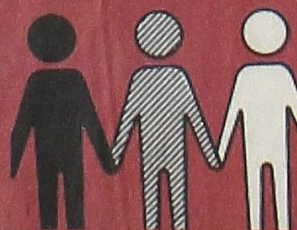
25% of transgender people are sexually assaulted after age 13



46% of bisexual women have been sexually assaulted



Gay and bisexual men are 10x more likely to be sexually assaulted than heterosexual men



34% of multiracial  
27% of American Indian  
22% of black  
14.6% of Hispanic women have been sexually assaulted

Title IX is a law which aims to protect people from discrimination and sexual assault and applies to Alma College, because the school receives some federal funding via financial aid.

Abigail Fergus:  
Editor-in-Chief



Academic, health support offered

PAIGE DANIEL  
THOUGHTS EDITOR

For freshmen finding themselves entrenched in a new environment, the wide range of resources that Alma offers to students can get lost in the mix. While it may take a couple of weeks to notice the availability of these resources, a comprehensive view of their services may prove to be useful when the start of classes demands your full attention.

One of the most prominent buildings on campus – the library – hosts not only books, but people who are there to assist students, from simple media checkout to deeper research questions. Angie Kelleher, access services librarian, encouraged students to stop by the circulation desk and ask for help with any kind of information needed.

A unique service that the library offers is interlibrary loans. When requested, students can access media that the Alma College Library may not own.

“We are a small library and we know that, but we still want to help you get ahold of any resources you might need, whether it’s a book or a DVD or some terribly obscure journal article,” said Kelleher. “If we don’t have it here, we can request it from another library.”

While the library provides academic support, other resources on campus provide mental health assistance for the times that students find themselves feeling anxious, stressed, depressed, homesick or in various other predicaments. The Counseling and Wellness Center offers professional



Zachary Kribbet: Photographer

Maggie Ross, physician's assistant, and Amber Herman, registered nurse, work in the Wilcox Medical Center and offer services related to STDs, vaccinations, and other physical needs.

counseling for free to students, as well as psychiatric evaluations and medication assistance.

“Over 60 percent of our students at some time during their years here come in for our services,” said Counseling and Wellness Services Coordinator Terri Freeland. “They shouldn’t feel that they’re alone or that they’re the only ones thinking or feeling something a certain way.”

This is a resource for students in terms of mental health services, but what about physical health services? The Wilcox Medical Center handles those.

The facility functions just like a doctor’s office would at home, according to Amber Herman, registered nurse.

“With being away from home, sometimes people don’t know when they need to go to the doctor, or where they need to go when they’re sick,” said Herman.

That is where the Wilcox Medical Center comes in, providing outpatient care, sports, travel and birth control physicals, STD

testing, flu shots, immunizations and travel vaccines. There is no walk-in availability at Wilcox; students must make an appointment beforehand.

Even if students have a small medical question, Wilcox can answer that.

“They can always make a quick phone call to tell us what’s going on, and we can give them some recommendations for over-the-counter medication,” said Herman. If it is a more serious health issue a student is dealing with, they can give referrals to other doctors.

For academic help outside of the library, the Center for Student Opportunity (CSO) provides a wide range of useful support services, such as free tutoring and workshops on how to become a more effective learner, including disability accommodation services.

“College is really different than high school and it is all about how quickly someone adapts to

those changes,” said Rhonda Linn, assistant director of the Center for Student Opportunity for Academic Support.

“Whether it is conversations about approaches to studying, learning preferences, time management, organization or a variety of other topics, we are a great resource.”

The CSO is not limited to academics, however, as it also houses the Diversity and Inclusion Office, the Integrated Health Studies Institute, the Responsible Leadership Institute, service learning programs, the Venture program, financial counseling resources and off-campus study information.

Read about more resources online



HOROSCOPES

By MONICA KUNOVSKY  
WEB EDITOR

Personas of the signs

CANCER  
(June 21- July 22)



Homesick Babe: Sensitive Cancer was definitely hit in the feels on Alma drop-off day, and now they’re stuck here—missing their parents, siblings, pets, and home friends. But never fear, Alma is full of friendly people, and sooner or later you’ll make a second home here.

AQUARIUS  
(Jan. 20- Feb. 18)



The Flake Fanatic: These are the people you meet, and think are super cool. Forget meeting up with them though, because they rarely follow through with plans (unless convenient for them).

TAURUS  
(April 20- May 20)



Stuck-to-the-books students: Hear someone calling SAGA Hamilton Commons? Or referring to the library as just the Kehrl Building? Chances are they’re a Taurus and they’re likely to refer to things by proper names. Stubborn as well, don’t think about correcting them, it’s a hard battle and one you’ll lose.

LEO  
(July 23- August 22)



Class Clown: Never one to shut up, always shouting across campus because they recognize and know EVERYONE, Leo’s are the IT person for their class. Often a socialite as well as clowning around day and night. Almost everyone knows or has heard of one of these extroverted Leos.

ARIES  
(March 21- April 19)



Ambitious amateur: Although it’s their first time in college, these fire signs seem to already have the hang of everything college has to throw at them. Books bought, motivation high, early to class, pencils sharpened, and brain ON. These superstars are ready for whatever the day has to throw at them.

PISCES  
(February 19- March 20)



The accidental teacher’s pet: Not even on purpose, these water signs just gravitate towards parental figures/role models, which usually can default to talking awhile and getting close with professors. They’re genuinely interested in professors’ lives, and how they got to where they are now.

GEMINI  
(May 21- June 20)



Class Sleeper: This college freshman can be found nodding off in class or missing class by sleeping through their alarm. Spending late nights socializing and meeting all the people on campus, turns around to bite them in the butt when they’re slowly figuring out that class is a little more difficult to get to when you barely get any sleep.

VIRGO  
(Aug. 23- Sept. 22)



The lanyard wearing fiend: What may seem dorky is actually ingenuity. Virgos are all about practicality and ease, so why not wear a lanyard with their I.D. around their neck? Maximum convenience!

CAPRICORN  
(Dec. 22- Jan. 19)



Bad-Luck-Buster: Anything bad that could happen, usually does for the poor Capricorn. Getting locked out of the room? Check. Forgetting your I.D. when you’re already at SAGA for lunch? Check. Forget to zip your backpack and have papers fall out? Check.

LIBRA  
(Sept. 23- October 22)



Open door champ: You bet your stars that Libras are the socialites of the college sphere. Always talking and friendly—these individuals are most likely to have their dorm room doors open, so stop on in, they’ll be glad you did!

SCORPIO  
(Oct. 23- Nov. 21)



Bridge Burner: It’s day three and Scorpio’s have already sought out their friend groups, made nice alliances, and found out who isn’t too nice and there for their best interest. Good to know, because the lesson of sour friendships has been learned and they can move on quicker to better things.

SAGITTARIUS  
(Nov. 22- Dec. 21)



The over-exerter: Any events, programming, or activities? Sagittarius’ are first to jump to be willing to participate in something. They’re everywhere at once, but you can never super get to know them since they’re always on the move, exploring!

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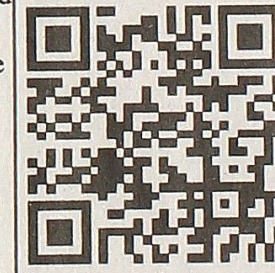
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## Scots open seasons with optimistic outlooks

By BRIANNA ZIMMER  
SPORTS EDITOR



Zack Baker: Photo Editor

Forward Sam Huver ('21) dribbles the ball during the Scots' first home game against Millikin University last Friday.

did last year. The goal is to place either 3rd or 4th in conference but still improve throughout the season."

Both the men and the women began their campaign this last Friday with a 3rd place finish at CMU in the Jeff Drenth Invitational.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

Fresh off a team trip to Italy, the soccer team is ready for the season.

"We have 17 new faces added to our program this year," said Head Coach Ashley Bingaman. "A majority of our preseason has been spent getting everyone caught up with how we do things. "Every season is defined by the persona and the senior leadership; this is a dedication to the unity. They picked a team motto 'A successful team beats with one heart.'

"Our goal is to finish top four in conference and to be playing our best soccer."

The women began their season this past weekend on the road with tie games against St. Scholastica 2-2, and Concordia College at Duluth, Minnesota 0-0.

### VOLLEYBALL

The squad began preseason on Aug. 18. Having graduated nine seniors last year, the Scots are looking forward to 11 new teammates to round out this year's group.

"Our preseason included a lot of work in getting our newcomers to learn our system," said Head Coach Alex Leja. "We had multiple individualized and positional training sessions, trying to catch them up.

"In having lost nine seniors, we are looking to rebuild with younger girls who are stepping up. We were dominated last year

by our senior and junior classes. We have a lot of faith that our returners will set the tone this season, and that the younger girls will continue to rise to that level of play."

The women began their season this past weekend at the Mount Union Invite, in Alliance, Ohio.

vs. College of Wooster (0-3) loss  
vs. Geneseo (3-1) win  
vs. Allegheny College (3-2) win  
vs. Denison University (0-3) loss

### GOLF

Both the men's and women's team are back on campus preparing for the season.

The men opened last weekend with its first non-conference tournament at the Lou Collins Invitational in Battle Creek, MI finishing 16th.

"A tournament like this is kind of a warm up for our MIAA play," said Head Coach Charlie Goffnett. "We are looking forward to a good season.

"Our men's team returns two juniors; they will be our big leaders this year while we have two other promising freshmen who have joined the program," said Goffnett.

The women officially begin their season Sept. 8 and 9 with the Olivet Invitational at The Medalist Golf Club.

"We have 11 total golfers on the women's side," said Goffnett. "We have some consistency within our returners who had very good seasons last year.

"We have high expectations for the women this year. They came very close to making the playoffs last year but came up short. We should be highly motivated to finish in the top four in conference."

### MEN'S SOCCER

The men began their season with an unofficial scrimmage three days into their preseason against Division II program Davenport University.

"It was really early into our season," said Head Coach Josh Oakley. "They are a Division II program which gave them a week on us. Throughout the game, we were trying to catch up, stay mentally and physically tough while still putting pieces together. The game gave us an opportunity to see who on our team would be ready to compete."

Davenport won the contest, 1-0.

"We hope to continue to get better every game," said Oakley. "We are young, over the past two years we have lost or graduated over 20 players. This is a team of fresh faces and different kinds of players."

The Scots opened their official season with a 1-1 tie at home against Millikin University (IL) last Friday (September 1st). They will begin conference play on Wednesday Sept. 13 at home against Albion College.

### CHEER

"This is the kick off to our year," said Head Coach Michelle Sabourin. "We do a lot of skill training and conditioning. It's a mixture of workouts, preparing our stunting and prep for football games."

After becoming NCAA champions last year the Scots returned hungrier than ever.

"We really want to maintain and improve," said Sabourin. "We have our largest retuning class and there is a natural energy from the success we had from last year. This incoming class is the strongest we have had and they have really bought into what we have going."

## TIPS FROM COACHES TO FRESHMEN ATHLETES

•**Make a priority list. Tackle the most difficult assignments first and work from there.**

•**Stay balanced. A healthy diet and sleep schedule will go a long way.**

•**Play every game as if it will be your last. Don't anticipate that you will have tomorrow.**

•**Don't be afraid to ask for help. Odds are someone is going through the same thing.**

•**Use your teammates, they are an asset. They can be tutors, mentors, and more. Remember, they were there once too.**

•**Be yourself. Your coaches see something special in you.**

•**Make school a priority. You are a student before an athlete.**

•**Communicate with your professors from the start. If you have to miss class, let them know early. They will thank you for it.**

## Sodexo offers new munch money options

By Brianna Zimmer  
Sports Editor

### PIZZA ONE

Pizza One is back. Just a few short blocks from campus, Pizza One is located at 128 E. Superior St.

This pizza joint delivers to all spots on campus (even the dorms).

Check out their extensive online menu or give them a call to place an order at (989) 968-4080.

### BLUE SHAMROCK

Home of "Mid-Michigan's Best Hamburger," the Blue Sham is located a town over in St. Louis.

Blue Sham offers a wide variety of sandwiches, burgers, and salads.

The Irish pub has late hours and is a short 10 mile drive from campus at 223 N Mill St., St. Louis.

### EL VAQUERO

El Vaquero offers a wide variety of authentic Mexican food.

Located in downtown, Alma, it's a short walk or drive from campus to 330 E. Center St.

Check out their Facebook page for more information regarding their menu and pictures of their favorite dishes.

### JOE'S - how does it work?

Joe's is Alma's second on-campus meal location. During the hours SAGA is closed you can use your meal swipes with certain marked meals at Joe's, but when SAGA is open, meals from Joe's will be charged to your munch money. Any other snack, drink or item bought will also be a munch money charge.

Order your food at the kitchen, wait for it to be handed to you, and go to the cash register to have your card swiped. Many students opt for the meal plan with the most munch money: \$400 of munch money and 160 meals. You can change your meal plan by going to the Sodexo office in the basement of Hamilton Commons.