



# “When will all lives matter?” “When black lives matter”

BY ABIGAIL FERGUS  
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Black Lives Matter rang out from the heart of campus last Friday. It didn't take long for the rally of faculty, staff and students to form from a First Year Seminar and the school's Social Justice League to turn into a student-led march. Members of the event noticed some shaking of heads and one yelled proclamation of “All lives matter,” but the demonstration was peaceful.

“What's the ‘S’ word? Synergy,”

“Our lives begin  
 to end the day we  
 become silent  
 about things  
 that matter.”

said Dale Sanders, assistant professor and director of health care administration. He addressed the crowd of about 30 in MacIntyre Mall who made signs with phrases, including the Martin Luther King quote “Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

It was pointed out that Sanders is one of two black faculty at the college. He said he appreciated all who were present.

“Bringing this group together and getting that energy is much bigger than one student or one professor,” said Sanders. “I applaud you guys for what you have done.”

## Students wonder about course loads, expectations

BY HANNAH KING  
 CAMPUS EDITOR

Alma College faculty and administration have been working to comply with new accreditation requirements. These national standards set forth by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require colleges and universities to follow certain protocol in regards to credit hours and work load.

The HLC's concerns regarding work load and credit hours earned reached the national stage last year when several colleges became embroiled in law suits and scandal. Corinthian Colleges, large for-profit universities, were required to reimburse students nearly \$1.2 billion in civil damages for fraudulent and illegal advertising practices. The lawsuit and subsequent judgment centered on credit hours earned and work load required by students.

Corinthian Colleges took a business model approach to credit hours offering students twice the amount of credits for a single class and charging twice the amount for the credits. A student could enroll in one class and obtain four credits. If the student paid substantially more he or she could then get twice the amount of credits while essentially learning the same content and material.

“College is supposed to make students work, full time,” said Britt Cartrite, professor of



Student protestors chanted phrases such as “When will all lives matter? When black lives matter.” The march traveled through academic buildings and down Superior St. Marcella Flury: Photo Editor

Sanders highlighted behind-the-scenes work that took place this past summer to bring more cultural unity to Alma through the Social Justice League. He praised the likes of Maya Dora-Laskey, professor of English and women's and gender studies; Laura von Wallmenich, associate professor of English and program director of American Studies and Kathryn Blanchard, associate professor and chair of religious studies, for helping this effort. Blanchard's FYS also led in organizing the rally.

From their education at Alma and the Black Lives Matter rally, Sanders said that he wants “students who are going to learn a lot and be successful [and] who

are going to go out be active in their community.

“They're going to stand up for what's right: voice their opinions when they need to be voiced and do the things that are going to make our country [and] our neighborhoods good homes and places to live.”

Alma is very white, according to Steuard Jensen, associate professor of physics. “I'm here because I think that it's easy [for] white people in a very white community to not pay attention,” said Jensen.

“It's easy for us to say our experience is everyone's experience, so if other people don't have the same experience it's because they're doing something

wrong.”

One reason the Black Lives Matter movement was brought to Alma was two of the most recent deaths of a black citizen at the hands of a policeman: the death of Terence Crutcher in Tulsa, Okla. and of Keith Scott in Charlotte, N.C., according to Blanchard.

Originally, the intention was to remain in Mac Mall. The demonstration, however, ended up traveling loudly through Hamilton Commons and Joe's, silently through SAC and the library and visibly down Superior Street, according to **Tia Booker ('18)**, a notable student who helped move the event from a centralized rally to campus-wide march.



Sarah Garrod ('20), Graham Sullivan ('20), Jasmine Bauman ('20) and Mollie Strunk ('20) work in their FYS taught by Brandi Stupica, professor of psychology.

Domenica Dalla-Vecchia: Photographer

political science and associate provost. The alleged credit hour tampering done by Corinthian Colleges was failing to do that, so the federal commission revised and reinforced a new policy.

While there are many technicalities of the new academic standard, the portion that could directly impact students regards the number of hours spent studying outside of the classroom. A minimum of two hours per one hour of class time should be spent working outside of class each week, according to the guidelines.

All professors have the right to chose how they communicate these expectations with students, and all students have the right to interpret the guidelines as they wish.

“If I did the math, there would not be enough hours in the day to meet these expectations,” said **Brooks Hyble ('18)**. Hyble is a member of the Alma College

men's basketball team, a resident assistant and enrolled in 18 credits of classes on his way to an accounting major.

“As a busy student, you have to figure out how to prioritize your work load, and you have to be organized,” said Hyble.

Hyble represents one of many students who are juggling class, extracurricular activities and a job this semester.

**Alesia Dassance ('17)** is enrolled in 17 credits including two labs, a job at the Center for Student Opportunity and a job as a personal caregiver, providing homecare to a local family. She is a nursing student, which means she spends eight and a half hours a week at Mid-Michigan Medical Center in Alma.

“I do not set aside an allotted amount of time every day to study for each subject; with my schedule this would be impossible,” said Dassance. “Instead, I study any

chance I get throughout the day, even if it's five minutes between classes spent reading a few pages of my textbook.”

Dassance feels that the recent academic update is “unrealistic in some cases, but understandable.”

To other students concerned about their workload, “don't take on what you can't handle and don't be afraid to cut back on things after the semester has started,” said Dassance. “Evaluate your schedule and remember that school is what you are here for.”

Alma College professors include expectations in the syllabi, but remain unable to monitor whether or not a student is meeting them.

“My students are adults. It is their responsibility to set a goal for themselves and do whatever they need to do to reach that goal; everyone will accomplish it in different amounts of time,” said Brandi Stupica, associate

Booker hopes people outside of her demographic can learn. “I hope a number of things, one of those being that people of color on campus realize they are not alone,” she said.

“I hope that there's a growing awareness and understanding. People who don't understand the movement of Black Lives Matter tend to be the ones upset about it.

“The thing is that they don't understand it's not an anti-white or anti-cop movement. We are not playing the victim. The movement is to push for people to realize privilege is real, meritocracy is not and institutional discrimination happens every day.”

The message won't stop with the last steps of the march, according to Booker. She hinted at more related activity taking place during this year's Homecoming. Blanchard's FYS “From Slavery to #BlackLivesMatter” also hopes to continue the effort that sparked this rally.

“[My] students would like to plan a panel discussion on race, so stay tuned,” said Blanchard. “I've also heard other folks in the Social Justice League talk about planning more events with broader focus, including police, the local Hispanic community and people with disabilities.”

“I'm going to get myself a [Black Lives Matter] yard sign, and I want to put it in my office window, and I encourage all of you to do the same,” said Brandi Stupica, assistant professor of psychology, “so that we can stand together and see that instead of confederate flags around town.”

professor of psychology.

Stupica, like other faculty members, feels as though academics are equivalent to a full-time job.

“School is like a salary position,” said Stupica. “Sometimes you have to take your work home to keep up and other times you have to take the day off to take care of yourself.”

Administration oversees these changes and works with faculty and students to insure understanding and cooperation.

“Students spend different amounts of time learning, whether it's reading, writing or working through math problems,” said Michael Selmon, Alma College's provost. “For this reason, no class will perfectly meet the standard.”

When the organization evaluates Alma, they will look at a handful of randomly selected syllabi and to determine if they're substantially demanding and requiring an appropriate amount of outside class work.

“The expectations that professors have of their students will always remain the same: complete what is assigned on the syllabus and do this to the best of your ability,” said Selmon.

This policy revision is being implemented for the first time this year, and both students and staff alike are required to do their jobs and get the most out of their Alma experiences.

Details of the revised credit hour policy can be found at the Alma College website within the 2016-17 academic catalog.



Spring Term: It's the final countdown

By MONICA KUNOVSKY  
WEB EDITOR

This fall, students registering for Spring Term courses will have a shorter period of time in which to check out their options and make a commitment.

Students will register for the 2017 Spring Term courses in November, along with winter term classes. This week is students' chance to go to informational meetings regarding these May classes.

Changes have been made to create more ease in the process, explains Professor and Associate Provost Britt Cartrite.

"With registering in November, this means decisions for Spring Terms for which early deposits are required can be better planned for," said Cartrite.

"In the past it was the Wild West; everyone wanted to do their own thing. This made problems for students, especially those with Venture Grants and Gazmararian scholarships.

"By compressing the time frame, we can standardize things so that meetings for info sessions for classes don't overlap," he added.

In the past registration could be hard, because students often applied for multiple classes, and professors release their class lists at various times, according to Cartrite.

"We want to harmonize so students can pick what they want, find if they are accepted or declined and professors can make their rosters easier."

Cartrite has had his fair share of courses, having taken students to Scotland five times. He understands the rigorous process involved with planning and trying to set up info meetings around other professors.

Chih-Ping Chen, Associate Professor of the English department and Program Coordinator of the Women and Gender Studies Department, is leading one of the Spring Term courses headed to London.

She also had input on the new ways Spring Terms were being done, similar to Cartrite's

TRAVEL SPRING TERM CLASSES

Monday, September 26	Tuesday, September 27	Wednesday, September 28	Thursday, September 29
7:00 - 7:45 Ecuador COM 220 Intercultural Communication with Dr. Gilbert	7:00 - 7:45 Costa Rica BIO 380 Field Investigation in Tropical Rainforest Ecology with Dr. Neumann	7:00 - 7:45 Canada BUS 442 Accounting Information Systems with Ms. Rolling	7:00 - 7:45 Rwanda EDC 280 Education and Culture in Rwanda with Dr. Thelen
8:00 - 8:45 Mexico IPH 280 Expert Performance of Sport with Dr. Aiken	8:00 - 8:45 London SOC 224 Women, Work and Calling with Dr. Fobes	8:00 - 8:45 London ENG 183/383 Victorian and London Literature with Dr. Chen	8:00 - 8:45 Germany REL 180/380 Germany - Places of Reformation with Mr. Richter
9:00 - 9:45 China HST 180/380 China Past and Present - History and Culture with Dr. Bu	9:00 - 9:45 Peru MTH 108 Andean Mathematics in Peru with Dr. Molina	9:00 - 9:45 Hawaii BIO 380 Ecology and Biodiversity of a Hawaiian Coral Reef with Dr. Rowe	9:00 - 9:45 Italy NMS 380 Backpack Filmmaking with Dr. Colamatti
10:00 - 10:45 Germany PSY 279 Origins of Psychology with Dr. Setterlund			

Zachary Meyer: Illustrator

Students should begin thinking about and planning for Spring Term.

explanation of the new vision, by creating a more streamlined approach.

Chen said this is an improvement from the way things have been done before.

"It is making it easier for students to check out things so they don't have to rely on posters or word of mouth."

She admits that it can be a challenge sometimes because she used to be able to plan her own way, but she's sure "it'll be faster because it's structured now."

Department Chair of the Sociology and Anthropology department, Catherine V. Fobes, states a similar approval.

"I like the new change," said Fobes. "A lot of times women contributors are overlooked, and the person who has helped tremendously has been Assistant Provost Sue Deel. Sue has been top notch about setting deadlines for us. I also like the change because it means that we are off to an early start and the fact that it is well organized. I cannot credit Sue Deel enough for doing that"

Students can venture anywhere from down south to Mexico or Ecuador, across the pond to London, or directly across the globe to China.

Chen's class will be focusing on the rich literature of London.

"[My Spring Term is] about Victorian London. We're going to read some authors like Charles Dickens. We will also take advantage of art and performances. In London, most museums are free," said Chen.

Chen says the metropolis lends students a "good chance to see a city that's intentionally preserving its history—a good chance to see memories and stories that the city can showcase to us."

Fobes is also taking a class to London, but focusing on the city differently.

"We really are going to focus on studying the life of two women: Dorothy Day and Cecily Saunders. Day believed it was essential to live and work among the poor—that was her calling. Hence the title of my course: Women, Work, and Calling."

"Day was the co-founder of the Catholic Workers Movement on behalf of the poor. It was started in the 1930s, and since then there's been over 180 Dorothy Day houses of hospitality around the globe. Our class gets to work on the Catholic Worker Farm located in Hertfordshire, England—a hour outside of London. The farm provides a place of accommodation, food, English lessons, counseling and other services for 21 destitute

asylum seeking women and their children.

"Saunders was the co-founder of the hospice movement, and created St. Christopher's Hospice—the 1st free standing facility of its kind in the world."

Fobes also wants to take students to more touristy sites that are commonly known about the city of London.

"I hope to take students to one of Jamie Oliver's restaurants. The hop-on, hop-off bus tour will also be on the agenda for students as well as having the opportunity to see Big Ben, go on the London Eye, and maybe even see changing of the guards at Buckingham Palace."

There will also be time for relaxation, though, in addition to the jam packed schedules.

"Students will have time to explore London on their own."

The professors have made a clear point that traveling is very important to all.

"It leads to self-discovery and growth, lots of perspective building too," said Chen.

"You think one way and think it's universal but you go somewhere else and see people do things differently. I hope perspective leads to less misunderstanding and stereotypes."

Chen continues saying, "I

want students to have fun, but I also have to be strict up front because this is a class, not just a tourist group." This highlights the important fact that because there's a learning component to these courses, it isn't just a time of goofing around and slacking off.

"There is a Chinese saying that says, 'traveling 10,000 miles is better than reading 10,000 books,'" said Chen. "Travel is a good way to learn. With technology in one click you can talk to people, but do you really understand? Travel is hands-on, and it's unreal sometimes. Culture is a lot to learn. I'd advise [you] to take advantage of the years you have here, and choose to learn."

"Overall, I want students to learn about Day and Saunder's vocational journey, and apply insights from their life, work, and calling to their own journey," said Fobes.

She also holds travel courses as imperative to a student's success in education.

"Students find such travel study as eye-opening, culturally stimulating and enjoyable. It opens new horizons for students."

Spring Term meetings start tonight and span the week.

Q&A: House of Rep. candidate goes green

By ROSE CYBURT  
STAFF WRITER

This election year, there has been a significant amount of talk about third parties. Running against Democrat Ken Hart and Republican Jim Lower for Michigan's 70th District is Green Party/Socialist Michael Anderson.

The Green Party was founded on ten key values: grassroots democracy, social justice and equal opportunity, ecological wisdom, nonviolence, decentralization, community based economics, feminism and gender equity, respect for diversity, personal and global responsibility and future focus and sustainability.

Socialism is the economic theory that the community should have control over distribution, production and exchange. In a Socialist society, everyone would have free access to goods and services that meet their needs.

Q. You are running for both the Green Party and the Socialist Party, but which do you affiliate with more?

A. I belong to the Socialist Party. I agree with the ideals of the Green Party, but joined primarily for ballot access. The

Green Party is taking great measures towards anticapitalism thanks to the progressiveness of today's youth.

Q. Are there any major differences between the parties?

A. Yes, there are differences, like the Socialist Party is about complete socialism. We want to take power from capitalists and put it in the hands of the workers. Workers include lower and middle class, students and people without jobs. The Green Party believes in working through the system to reform and make changes and agreements. The Socialist Party wants to completely smash the system.

Q. What issue is more important to you: the environment or radical democracy?

A. Those issues are one in the same. Capitalism happens when people are profit driven; the people in charge don't care about consequences because they aren't affected like the communities are since they are farther away. If the people in the community had control they are less likely to pollute because it is their home.

Q. Would environmental clean up be quicker if private companies took responsibility?

A. There would be quicker results. Companies like Velsicol Chemical Company in St. Louis dumped chemicals into the Pine River for years, yet they were able to just pay it off and were not held accountable.

Q. If companies were held accountable, would they dispose of waste less haphazardly?

A. Companies aren't going to want to fix the problems, so if they are held responsible, they won't be as wasteful. Companies should be charged criminally for their environmental destruction.

They don't care or understand the effects of the toxins; for example, women in St. Louis have a higher rate of miscarriage due to the high levels of PBB. Companies don't want to deal with the consequences, but if they are held accountable, they will be more careful to prevent creating messes that they have to clean up.

Q. Will raising minimum wage have adverse effects?

A. It may, but overall I don't

think it will. There are provisions people need, but can't supply. Other countries have higher minimum wage, but that isn't the cause of inflation.

Prices may rise a little, but inflation is mostly caused because companies purposefully charge as much as they can get. This is another problem with capitalism; companies are going to charge \$10 for a hamburger if people pay the \$10.

The economy shouldn't be focused on profit and [should] focus on the people receiving what they need, and if prices go up, then the people should receive more. That is what people need to be doing is demanding more. If companies can't afford to pay their employees more, then that is an even bigger problem.

Q. Should minimum wage be dependent on the person or job? For example, is it fair for a student to be making a living wage along with someone trying to support a family?

A. I used to go to school as an EMT where people only get paid between \$914 and hour depending. I understand how it may not be fair for someone

flipping hamburgers to be paid the same as someone saving lives. The idea of raising minimum wage, though, is that if the lowliest jobs receive more then other wages will go up, too.

Q. The Socialist Party promotes equal rights for everyone. Would you consider Title IX a step in a socialist direction?

A. Upon glancing at the website, I'm surprised I haven't heard about it; it is quite amazing. The Socialist Party would definitely support this.

Q. Is there anything else you would like to say that you didn't have the opportunity to?

A. The average college student is graduating with \$30,000 of debt. The price of college and the inevitable debt that comes with it is discouraging families to move on to higher education. The way to solve this is for all debts to be forgiven. The Socialist Party also would like to promote lowering the voting age to 15. It is important to have the view of students who are the future.



# Why I'm voting for Hillary Clinton

By HANNAH KING  
CAMPUS EDITOR

Hillary Clinton has promised to make immense progress should she be elected this November. She has assured Americans that she will not undo the steps that have been taken forward over the past eight years, led by President Obama, but rather build off of them in order to continue.

I am voting for Hillary Clinton for many reasons. The following issues are those that I care very deeply about, and her plans to solve them have greatly encouraged me to support her throughout this election season and throughout her term.

**I want racial discrimination including violence against African Americans to come to an end.**

We are currently living in a country where unjustly killing African Americans without apparent reasonable cause is becoming a regular occurrence and where we hear news of racially motivated shootings until the next one happens and the previous one seems to go unsettled.

While there are many progressive leaders and organizations, America needs a president who is devoted to taking a stand against unlawful gun violence. Hillary Clinton is devoted.

"I will not only do the best

to understand and to empathize, but to tear down the barriers of systemic racism that are in the criminal justice system, employment system and the education and health care system," said Clinton in the Democratic debates earlier this year.

As president, Clinton plans to develop national guidelines on the use of force by police, to invest money in law enforcement training programs and to provide body cameras to all policemen. These are only three of the nine criminal justice reformations that Clinton has promised (such as a reform on mass incarceration).

**I want global warming to be nationally accepted and for solutions to be discovered.**

In the early 1990s, global warming was accepted as a major political issue. It has been over 30 years and climate change continues to be a growing concern.

There has been a profusion of studies done throughout this time proving the impacts of climate change and still leaders of America refuse to "believe" in what is reality. Hillary Clinton has plans to take action for our planet.

"Future generations will look back and wonder, 'What were we thinking?'" said Clinton at a campaigning event in Iowa this summer. "How could we possibly be so irresponsible?"

Clinton plans to launch a \$60 billion clean energy challenge to help states and communities reduce carbon emissions and implement clean



Zachary Meyer: Illustrator

**HRC is likely to build upon President Obama's work, should she be elected.**

energy strategies. She also has promised to cut billions of dollars in tax subsidies of oil and gas companies. Clinton set a national goal to eliminate lead poisoning within the first five years of being in office.

**I am a woman.**

When I began listening to Hillary Clinton speak, for the first time, I began to really think about my place in America as a woman. Her words have made me realize just how much women are discriminated against socially and professionally. Despite this, her words have also made me feel empowered and determined to respect the progress of women throughout history by helping to continue it.

"I believe that the rights of women and girls is the unfinished business of the 21st century."

This very famous quote of Clinton's should resonate with all of us. The women's rights movement is not something of the past, it is happening right now, and we all have the power to join it. Clinton has worked her entire professional life helping women, children and families, encouraging equality for all.

I am voting for Hillary Clinton because she not only cares about these issues, but she is passionate, qualified and a symbol of American progress.

I am voting for Hillary Clinton because thinking about the Republican nominee taking on the major issues listed above is extremely unsettling.

I am voting for Hillary Clinton because I want to live to see a woman in the White House proving that we are just as capable of changing the world as anyone else.

## Letter to the editor from resident Libertarian

By LUKE ASHTON  
STUDENT

Last week, an article titled "Don't Spend Your Vote on Gary Johnson" was published, encouraging readers not to vote for Libertarian Presidential Candidate Gary Johnson. I am here to tell you something about that: That's okay. You don't have to vote for Gary Johnson.

As many of you know (or may not know), I have created for myself the reputation of being the resident Libertarian on campus. Yes, we exist. You can ask around campus "Where is the closest Libertarian?!" and we will probably pop out of the woodwork (personally I will rush to your side screaming "Taxation is Theft!!!") We will also most likely vote for Gary Johnson. But what I want to say to you is that it is totally fine to not vote for him. For those who are curious, though, I want to defend Johnson's policies which, in my opinion, were not accurately represented in last week's article.

For education, the previous week's article stated that "Johnson made it clear that should he become president, our \$47,548 tuition will never go down, let alone be free. 'College tuitions shouldn't be free,' said Johnson...." This is not quite right. What Johnson believes is that the federal government's

loan program, while making it easier to go to college, has created an environment that has actually made being a college student harder and more expensive. One theory is that since government loans have increased, so have the number of students. However, this has fueled rising education costs by giving loans out too easily and allowing private lenders to create predatory loans, as well as allowing universities to charge more money solely because they can.

This is the same concept of the housing bubble that popped in 2009, where housing loans were given out too easily, and people buying houses could not afford to keep them and their loans (if someone reading this who is an Econ major could check me on this, I'd actually appreciate that a lot). I do believe that school should not be free, but it can be a whole lot cheaper if we remove this toxic environment for students. That's what I believe Gary Johnson can do.

As for the economy, (in response to the contention of minimum wage and the Trans-Pacific Partnership) Gary Johnson has a stellar record, as well as his Vice-Presidential running mate Bill Weld. Both Johnson and Weld were Republican governors in Democratic states (New Mexico and Massachusetts, respectively). Weld took Massachusetts from having the highest unemployment

rate to the lowest unemployment rate among industrialized states in only eight years. Johnson left New Mexico with a record of cutting taxes 14 times, building new infrastructure (including hospitals and schools), all while leaving the state with a billion-dollar surplus. He did this by cutting spending in the state.

Do not confuse it when Gary Johnson says he wants more businesses to take control—he means corporations. Johnson advocates for eliminating the crony-capitalism of Wall Street, as well as preventing corporations from preying on small businesses in aggressive buyouts. In my opinion, he has a strong economic record.

Finally, the reason I want Gary Johnson out there is because people are begging for a third alternative. The main contention for people not voting third party is because others will say, "A vote for Johnson is a vote for Trump/Clinton." Is it? Really think here. Is it truly a vote for Trump or Clinton?

Opinionpollshaveshownthat Johnson is pulling Republican votes from older people and Democratic votes from younger people. He's pulling Democratic votes from Democratic states and Republican votes from Republican states. To say he is a spoiler candidate is too soon to say. There are even initiatives to help prevent the spoiler effect,

such as BalancedRebellion.com.

Say you sign up for this site as a Democrat. They will match you with a Republican from your state, you both pledge to vote for Gary Johnson, and you cancel each other's "spoiler" vote.

To say you have to vote for someone you don't like is similar to an ice cream shop saying you can only choose between vanilla or chocolate because choosing strawberry makes you a bad person and lets either vanilla or chocolate become more popular. What?! If that makes no sense to you, then you understand my frustration.

While I can say so much more about Gary Johnson, I can't explain it all in this article, nor can I refute everything from the previous week's article. However, what I encourage you to do is not to take everything I have to say as complete fact.

I am obviously biased, no matter how hard I try to tamp it down. As Gary Johnson stated after his Aleppo gaffe, "I'm human."

There will be other articles supporting other candidates, especially in future articles of The Almanian. What I encourage you to do is research it for yourself. Google Donald Trump. Google Hillary Clinton. Google Gary Johnson. Come to your own conclusions.

As for me, I will be voting for Gary Johnson. So I ask you Alma College:

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VOLUME CXI ISSUE IV  
THE ALMANIAN  
"ALMA COLLEGE'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER, SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1907."  
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The Almanian is distributed to Alma College's campus on Monday morning and is sent to subscribers that day. The paper is published weekly with the exception of academic recesses.

**Staff Editorial Policy:**  
Opinions expressed in editorials without bylines reflect the views of The Almanian editorial staff. They in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.

**Letter Policy:**  
Letters are published as layout space allows. Submission of a letter does not guarantee publication. The Almanian reserves the right to condense letters for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication.



Life in Mitchell basement: #LIT

By NAJELLE GILMORE  
STAFF WRITER

This past August the school sent me an email. They led with how large the incoming class was how excited they were for another great year. At the end, they mentioned that they needed my room for freshmen. Needless to say, I was livid. My closest friends and I had retained our rooms so that we would be near each other—also because we didn’t want to chance getting a high number in the lottery drawing. The college was objectively nice about the whole process. We were told we had our pick of any open room on campus. Our options were one of three rooms on South Campus or a room in

Bruske. There was no option that would keep us all together, so we were dispersed to different corners of campus. My roommate and I fought to stay in Mitchell because we wanted to be close to SAGA. We ended up in the basement. I was less than excited about it. The basement of Mitchell is all boys, which is why getting moved there was difficult. I wasn’t sure how the overall vibe would be. It has turned out to be quieter than expected. Everyone is nice, and we get along well. There is only one bathroom in the basement, because it’s primarily boys, it has been labeled a male bathroom. Every day, I trek up a flight of stairs and shower on first floor. This is a major downer, and I will probably never get used to it.

Right next to the boys’ bathroom is a weird empty room. Inside this room is another smaller room that is essentially a half bathroom. It’s creepy, but I got tired of walking upstairs to use the bathroom so I use it anyway. Being farther away from friends has turned out better than being close to them. I spend less time randomly going to their rooms and I’m able to focus on school work more. Another perk of being moved to the basement is that we are in a completely new room. Facilities spent the end of the summer changing an open study area into what is now my room. They put up two walls, repainted everything and found leftover furniture from around campus. We had wait awhile to get cable and window screens, but



Najelle Gilmore ('19) sits in her basement room. Marcella Flury: Photo Editor

with some pestering, facilities got around to everything. Last year, third floor was ridiculously hot at the start of school. Fun fact: hot air rises. My basement room is a lot cooler than the third floor was. It worked out better than I was expecting. I still live near a few friends, I’ve met many cool new people and I haven’t had a heat stroke yet.

Xavier Dolan: the best filmmaker you’ve never heard of

By ZAC CAHILL  
THOUGHTS EDITOR

I am 19 years old. I currently attend Alma College. On the whole, I don’t think this is too bad. When Xavier Dolan was 19 he wrote, directed, and starred in his first feature film, “I Killed My Mother” (J’ai tué ma mère in French). It premiered at the highly prestigious Cannes Film Festival where it won three awards and was met with a standing ovation. He also financed the film almost entirely independently. It is the story of a young man named Hubert (played by Dolan) dealing with his highly volatile relationship with his mother. Surrounding this plot is the main character coming to terms with his own homosexuality. In the years since (Dolan is now twenty-seven), he has

directed five more films (and just wrapped on a seventh), all of which have garnered near-universal acclaim. His second film, “Heartbeats,” is a striking look at the sexual politics of a small group of close friends, each of which are looking for love (though have interesting ways of going about it). It’s also my personal favorite Dolan film. From there, his work has grown immensely in ambition and scope. His third film, “Laurence Anyways,” is a sprawling near-epic spanning ten years in the life a transgender woman. He followed this up with the dark, thrilling and perversely sexual “Tom at the Farm,” an adaptation of a stage play of the same name. Each one of these films garnered critical praise. Despite this, Dolan still struggled to find a foothold in the film industry. He was still self-financing most of his films (“Laurence Anyways” was produced by Gus Van Sant) and still using many of the same cast members from film to film. This changed after his fifth film, “Mommy,” premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in 2014. The film tells the story of Steve, a teenager living with his single mother Die. He has behavioral problems—the film mentions severe ADHD—and is sometimes violent. The film is an explosive, heartfelt look at mother-son dynamics which personally left me an emotional blob of tears by the time the credits rolled. I was not the only one affected, as it received an eight minute standing ovation at Cannes and took home the Grand Jury Prize (which Dolan shared with the legendary Jean-Luc Godard). This was also Dolan’s first film to achieve relative success, grossing over \$3.5 million in Quebec alone. So why is his name likely unfamiliar to you? Well as

I’ve mentioned he primarily operates out of Quebec, and his films are all in Québécois, a dialect of French. This slashes his audience down from “anybody who may be interested,” to “anybody who may be interested and also doesn’t mind reading subtitles.” Add to this the “art house” nature of Dolan’s work and you have a rather small audience, especially within the United States. So now that you know why you’ve likely never seen Dolan’s work, the question then becomes: why should you? There’s the subject matter. In a world where LGBT+ representation in film is still at a concerning low (or what little representation there is exploitative at best) Dolan’s films present gay characters in genuinely compelling ways. There’s also Dolan’s distinct visual style. Often utilizing claustrophobic close-up shots (“Mommy” was shot in a 1:1 aspect ratio) and a striking use of color and music. His characters are almost always emotional and volatile, exploring the questions and themes of life from a young, impulsive perspective. Luckily, it seems as though Dolan may finally be ready to break through into the mainstream. His latest film, “It’s Only the End of the World,” starred popular French actors Vincent Cassel and Marion Cotillard and won the Grand Prix prize at Cannes. His seventh film, “The Life and Death of John F. Donovan” is in post-production and is his first English film. It stars Kit Harrington (or Jon Snow on Game of Thrones), Jessica Chastain, Natalie Portman and Susan Sarandon, among others. Xavier Dolan is, quite simply, one of the best filmmakers working today. And hopefully soon everybody will know it.

HOROSCOPES

By MONICA KUNOVSKY  
WEB EDITOR

General advice for the signs

LIBRA (Sept. 23- October 22)



Hold down excitement and expectations as your birthday rolls around. Your time to shine will come soon, but don’t get your head too caught up in the thrills. Don’t do anything too risky this week either: luck is not on your side.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22- Jan. 19)



Find a new spot in the library to study; changing up your routine can be a great way to exercise the concept of change and adaptation. Plus, you won’t get bored being in the same place forever.

ARIES (March 21- April 19)



Graduate from making mac and cheese for dinner and learn to make one real, impressive meal. YAY ADULTING!

CANCER (June 21- July 22)



Make an active choice to give someone else happiness this week. Both parties will benefit.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23- Nov. 21)



Do things in 3s; believe in yourself, try something new and STAY HYDRATED.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20- Feb. 18)



You’ve got a lot on your plate this week: don’t let it bury you. Also, eat your veggies because you’ve been slacking.

TAURUS (April 20- May 20)



All the small things this week will add up if you don’t attend to them, so make sure to squash down on your to-do list and handle all the minuscule details before heading for the big stuff.

LEO (July 23- August 22)



Donate time or money to a cause. It’ll make you feel more productive and helping is swell.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22- Dec. 21)



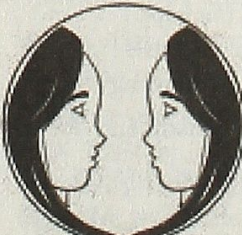
Call your mom.

PISCES (February 19- March 20)



This week will be hard. Stock up on as much Angel Tears from Pizza One as you can; you’re going to need it.

GEMINI (May 21- June 20)



Bring in the fall spirit by decorating everything in sight with amazing Halloween garb and don’t forget to prance around in the leaves outside and go on nice fall walks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23- Sept. 22)



Call an old friend you haven’t talked to in a while. It’ll be nice to catch up.



# Canlas leads victory over Comets, 2-1

By MARY RIEGER  
SPORTS WRITER

Noah Canlas ('20) came out firing away as he led the Alma College Men's Soccer team to a win over the Comets of Olivet College last Wednesday.

With this win, the Scots are now 2-1-1 in MIAA play.

"There are a lot of things to learn from a game, and it allows us to keep finding things to work on and get better," said Canlas.

The Scots went out on the field and set the tone of the game early with two goals by Canlas. The pair came in the first half of the match. The first was off of a free kick from 30 yards away and only three minutes into the game and the second from eight yards out during minute 12.

Nick Strait ('17) allowed only his second goal of the year during the game on a



Photo courtesy of goalmascots.com

Noah Canlas ('20) looks down field for his next move.

penalty kick. Strait is leading the conference in goals against (2), goals against average (0.28), saves (54) and save percentage (.964), which are also some of the best statistics in the nation.

"Our defense, which includes

everyone on the field, played pretty well. We were able to keep Olivet from coming back," said Austin Gabris ('17). "Everyone on the team has been contributing both on and off the field to keep the team together

and motivate each other to continue our success."

With Wednesday's two goals, Canlas passes Gabris as the team's leading goal scorer.

Leadership by everyone, especially senior members of

the team, on and off the field is what is keeping the men's soccer team united and goal oriented as the season goes on.

"The senior class is a group of leaders that keep this team together," said Canlas.

"They know what it is like playing at a collegiate level, and they push us to do our very best each and every day at practice to prepare us for games."

Following the win, the Scots lost their match (0-2) against the Brits of Albion College that took place last Saturday.

## Men's Soccer Schedule

Tuesday Sept. 27  
Calvin College  
4 p.m., home

Saturday Oct. 1  
Trine University  
2:30 p.m., home

# Historic season drives men's basketball

By EMILY KROLEWICZ  
SPORTS WRITER

The men's basketball team experienced great success during their last season. An MIAA tournament championship landed the Scots their first ever NCAA tournament appearance.

Their run came to an end after losing to No. 2, Benedictine, but it wasn't before the team racked up a school record of 24 wins.

Coach Sam Hargraves credited those achievements to a strong group of players, as well as great senior leadership.

"We had a great senior class, and they get all the credit [for the success]," said Hargraves.

"The younger players bought into what the seniors

wanted to do. We had a group that cared a lot more about the final result."

Tyler Edwards ('17) added that "no one player is selfish and that's what makes our team so special."

Scott Nikodemski ('16) and DJ Beckman ('16) were pivotal players for the program, and filling their shoes will be a tough task for the team. On top of the loss of these two players and the rest of the senior class, Jason Beckman ('18), Rob Holmes ('17) and Quinton Cook ('17) will not be returning to the court for the Scots.

"You look at good programs over the years in any sport and they always lose good players, but they manage to sustain their level of play. I hope we manage to do that because of the culture of our program," said Hargraves.

The team is not lacking in experience, however. Edwards, Chase Fairchild ('17) and Trevor Gernaat ('17) started or appeared in all 31 games last season. They will look to fill the leadership roles and to help build on the legacy the seniors left behind.

Hargraves believes the new leaders, as well as Doug Bradfield ('18) and Kevin Gamble ('18), will take on bigger roles. This will help the team keep the energy, togetherness and hard work at the same level and to continue to achieve success.

"We took a big step last year," said Fairchild, "and now it's 'What can we do to push everyone this year to take a step like that again?'"

Appearing in the NCAA tournament would seem to have put a target on the back of this Alma program, but the team

sees it differently.

"What we did last year was last year, there's no guarantee of that success again," said Hargraves. "With everything we lost, I don't know how high the expectations will be for this upcoming season."

"We graduated about 45 percent of our scoring, so people are still thinking that we're the underdogs," said Fairchild. "We have an 'us against the world' mentality because we have more obstacles to overcome. This pushes us right back into the underdog position and that's where we thrive."

Recruiting new players who can possibly fill gaps in the roster is key.

"The incoming class is adjusting well, but they are still learning how to adapt to the speed of the game," said Edwards.

"The freshmen are eager to learn and are willing to accept any role that benefits the team," said Fairchild.

Going into the 2017 season, the men will look for another MIAA tournament appearance. However, setting huge long term goals isn't this team's motto.

"We've always looked at it game by game," said Fairchild. "If we take care of the short term goals, then the long term goals will take care of themselves. We can't think 'We have to win conference.' It's 'We have to do everything we can to win this game' and go from there."

"Our goal is to make the conference tournament—we always strive for that," said Hargraves. "Then, if you do that, anything is possible. When you get in who knows what will happen."

# Golfers hope to improve with each stroke

By JOELLE FISHER  
SPORTS WRITER

The women's golf team has been no stranger to the spotlight lately. Katie Neiswender ('18) led the squad in their first MIAA Jamboree with a career low

of 83 last Monday afternoon at the Medalist Golf Club.

Tori Basso ('19) was only one stroke behind Neiswender, finishing with a score of 84, and Kennedy Hilley ('19) trailed close behind Neiswender and Basso with 88.

The Lady Scots finished in fourth place out of nine teams with a team score of 364.

When asked about her winning day on the course, Neiswender said, "It feels great to have had a successful day, but I know I have more in me than that."

"The course we played on was pretty tough, so hopefully I can improve even more on some of the other courses this season."

The team has high hopes for each other in the weeks to

come.

"It makes me excited to see what the rest of this season has in store for us and as a team our goal is to finish among the top four in the league," said Hilley.

Last Wednesday, the men's golf team traveled to their third MIAA Jamboree at The Medalist Golf Club.

Alec Genter ('17) led the

team with a 79, while Sam Struble ('20) followed close behind with a score of 84.

The Scots came in seventh out of either teams—beating Olivet by four strokes. The men will be returning to action today for their fourth and final MIAA Jamboree in hopes of continuing their improvement and success.



# Cross Country gets a home meet-- finally

By **PAIGE HUEBEL**  
SPORTS WRITER

Cross Country hosted their first home meet in five years. The reason for the delay is only coincidence.

The MIAA randomly chooses which teams will hold the meets, and Alma has finally been selected after five years. It was held at the Pine River Country Club last Saturday. Their next meet will be the Lansing Invitational at Grand Woods Park, Friday, Oct. 7.

The cross country team placed fourth out of nine teams. **Kaitlyn Arnold ('17)** placed second for the ladies. The team scored 123 points for the race.

After Arnold in first, the next three Alma runners were 15 seconds apart. They ran the race in a pack, which helped in the end results.



Photo courtesy of goalmascots.com

**Kaitlyn Arnold ('17) keeps pace with her competitors.**

"The home meet was a beautiful day and I was awesome," said Arnold. "It so happy with all of the support from athletic teams and others in the Alma College community."

"It was great not to travel and being in a familiar environment with people you know cheering."

The team was able to preview and practice on the course giving them a leg up from their competition.

"It was great hearing 'Go Alma' being yelled way more often at our meet," said **Chelse Van Spronsen ('18)**. Their support included students, parents, other sports teams, families and friends.

"This season so far has been a blast, starting from the very beginning at practices, to now getting into racing season," said **Libbey Jones ('18)**.

"I couldn't ask for better teammates or for a better coaching staff. The team is taking this season in good directions."

## Heart, passion push Scots to draw with Hope

By **MARY RIEGER**  
SPORTS WRITER

Women's soccer traveled down to Holland this past Tuesday and came home with a draw against the Flying Dutchmen of Hope College.

**Amanda Mladenovski ('18)** scored the only goal for the Scots to end the match after two overtimes with a 1-1 tie.

"We have always played so well at Hope's field and I think it's because we always want to prove a point to them," said Mladenovski. "A lot of it comes down to our will and heart to never give Hope an easy fight."

"I think the entire team played extremely well and as a complete unit defensively," said **Macayla Greiner ('17)**. "Our ability to tie came from hard work on defense starting with our forwards and continuing all the way back to **Kelsey Postema ('18)** in net."

Postema held the Dutchmen to one goal with 13 shots on net

during the contest..

"The defensive line played under a lot of pressure the whole game from Hope's offense and they never let down," said Postema.

"Hope is a team that is constantly challenging us every year and being able to play well and get victories against them is extremely rewarding." Postema had 12 saves in the net.

Despite being heavily outshot by the Dutchmen, 13-3 and having to make last minute adjustments on the field due to injury and illness, the Scots were able to come out with one point in conference play against the Dutch. The Scots are now 2-2-1 in MIAA play.

"Taking points away from Hope is always a good feeling," said Greiner.

The Scots came close to taking the lead late in the game when **Tori Sailer ('19)** had a close shot during the 105th minute.

"Every player on the field [had] an immense amount of heart and will, and each player contributed to the outcome," said Greiner.

With high energy coming from both players on and off the field, the Scots were motivated to push the limits.

"The Hope game was the type of game where the people who aren't playing as many minutes on the field also have a huge impact," said Postema. "Their constant support and high energy on the sideline don't go unnoticed."

Coming out with a "sacrifice your body for the team" mentality is what Mladenovski said the team has been doing all season.

"The draw against a good Hope team is great momentum going into this weekend. We worked so hard to earn that tie," said Mladenovski. The Scots carried their momentum over and tied Calvin, 2-2, last Saturday.



Zack Baker: Photographer

**Taylor Roberts ('18) fights for possession during Saturday's game against Calvin.**

### Women's Soccer Schedule

**Wednesday Sept. 28**  
**Trine University**  
4p.m., home

**Saturday Oct. 1**  
**St. Mary's College**  
away

## Athletes' passions make a difference in cancer fight

By **JOELLE FISHER**  
SPORTS WRITER

Many are unaware of one of the most important aspects of September: Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

To honor this campaign, we would like to take a moment to inform you of one organization whose efforts in aiding the fight against cancer has brought great success and happiness to families all over America.

In 2012, two students from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn., took an entrepreneurship class assignment and turned it into a life-changing charity. Zach Quinn and Brian Keller, the

creators of Love Your Melon (LYM), set out on a mission to improve the lives of children battling cancer by giving a hat to every child diagnosed with the disease in America. After achieving their original goal of donating 45,000 hats to children undergoing cancer treatment, LYM formed a new goal of donating \$1 million dollars to pediatric cancer research.

As of now, the organization has donated over 75,000 hats to children battling cancer and over \$1.1 million dollars to pediatric cancer research. With all the success, they extended their impact in fighting childhood cancer by donating 50 percent of

their net proceeds on all LYM merchandise sales to their nonprofit partners who are working in the field of pediatric oncology, funding research initiatives and providing immediate support for families of children battling the disease.

LYM is taking the country by storm. More and more campus crews are developing and the word is spreading for this foundation. What started out small turned into a national participation with over 11,000 crew members in the country at 736 different educational institutions.

Not only are more campuses getting involved, but celebrities and large organizations are taking notice and helping

spread the word as well. Many celebrities will post on social media with their favorite LYM beanies and briefly talk about how much they adore the organization's impact on families who are suffering from the dreadful disease.

Something new and exciting for basketball fans is LYM's recent collaboration with the Detroit Pistons NBA team for their home game against the Orlando Magic on Dec. 4.

There are three different packages. The first costs \$60 and includes a lower rise/corner seat plus a limited edition beanie. The second package is \$45 and includes a seat in the lower end as well as a limited edition beanie. Last but not least, the

third package is \$35, which includes an upper center seating ticket and a limited edition beanie.

One of Alma College's students, **Alia Jones ('18)**, was inspired to start an Alma LYM campus crew in the fall of 2015.

"I chose to start LYM at Alma College because the message of the organization really spoke to me," said Jones. "A friend of mine is the president of LYM at GVSU, and being able to see how much the experience meant to her and how much of a positive impact it had on the community inspired me to get my peers involved on our own campus."