

# Fireside Chat addresses student concerns

## President Abernathy, staff, tackle Greek issues, rising tuition

By ABIGAIL FERGUS  
CAMPUS EDITOR

Rumors of sexual assault, administrative attitudes toward Greek Life and rises in tuition were addressed by President Jeff Abernathy at the Fireside Chat last Tuesday in Hamilton Commons.

About a dozen students, most of whom were Greek, attended along with numerous administration members.

Abernathy started the event with a brief presentation on the state of the campus. He discussed renovations, funding and successes of the past year.

In response to Gelston renovations, Irene Ward ('15) questioned why new dorms are not built altogether. Abernathy stated that funding for such remodels come from alumni.

"There's a lot of nostalgia for these old dorms." The donors are excited about helping repair the dorms they are familiar with, according to the president.

Ward also raised the rumors of a recent sexual assault case on campus, and questioned how females such as herself were to feel safe. She worried that an something was being "covered up."

Abernathy stated that he would not speak on the rumoured case, but shared the school's stance on sexual assault. "We are obligated under the Clery Act to make an announcement [if sexual assault occurs]. I can assure you there is no cover up. We have had some recent cases. I know that we have done all we could."

The president stated that the school usually involves the police, gets the victim support and reaches out to them repeatedly. He shared, "if we find students are likely to have committed such an act, they would be sent off campus. We have expelled students in the past."

Alumni have raised concern over Ben Carson speaking during honors week due to controversial statements that evolution doesn't exist and that being gay is a choice. "What is the college doing to prepare for honors weekend," asked Alex Sprague ('15). Abernathy embraced the potential peaceful protests that may come the day of Carson's talk.

"Protests are a part of college life, and we support the expression of speech," said Abernathy. He referenced a controversial, liberal speaker who came to his college and inspired him. "It was electric there was a passion I saw in him and in the protesters."

Abernathy said he believes Carson has the same right to expression as students do. "Not disinviting a speaker is part of that free speech. Does Alma support the hate speech? Of course not."

Tim Sheldon ('16) gathered questions and concerns from the student body and presented them at the Fireside Chat. "Who do I go to to directly pose questions," asked Sheldon. Abernathy, Vice President of Student Life Nick Piccolo, Director of Campus Life Dave Blandford and the handful of administrators present were cited as available resources to students.

Sheldon also questioned rising tuition. Abernathy explained that private colleges do not need to release professor



Courtesy of Jeff Abernathy

President Jeff Abernathy and students pose for a photo after the Fireside Chat.

salaries nor school budgets. He recommended looking at aaup.org for a comparison of how well the school's professors are paid compared to the nation.

Abernathy also stated that the college is fighting rising tuition. He shared that tuition rose by 3.9 percent compared to the 5 percent it had risen annually since 2009. The president addressed the CSO's goal of heightening retention rate and enrollment in order to bring more funds to the school and keep tuition down.

Abernathy shared plans to renovate wing-by-wing, like Gelston, in the future. Sheldon questioned if more immediate repairs would occur. The president

replied that an additional \$150,000 was put into deferred maintenance budget last year. The money was used to replace carpets and beds. Additional maintenance budget raises will occur in years to come, according to Abernathy.

Blandford shared a tip for students filing work orders via email.

"I always suggest to cc my email or hall directors emails. We certainly want to know those things. I try to meet with Doug Dice, director of facilities, once every couple of weeks to see what's going on."

Students questioned the administration's support of and communication with Greek

Life. "Our vice president meets monthly with organization presidents and Dave Blandford meets weekly [with them]," said Abernathy. "We affirm the Greek organizations. We see those organizations as a part of our future. If I worry about them, it's only when the seem to be more concerned with social needs."

On behalf of another student, Sheldon shared a scenario in which security walked into her dorm while she was not fully dressed. Piccolo and Blandford help facilitate searches and responded

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# Scots' A.D. has plenty of experience

## Steven Rackley hopes for sports to be incorporated into campus; academics emphasized

By RAY VISSER  
STAFF WRITER

When former Alma College athletic director John Leister resigned last November, the college began a hiring process that attracted about 140 applicants. Steven Rackley, who is finishing his 16th year as athletic director at Ohio's University of Findlay, was chosen out of that pool.

Rackley's experience made him the best choice for the new position, said Karen Ball, chair of the integrative physiology and health sciences department and leader of the search committee that hired Rackley.

"First and foremost, the athletic director must be committed to the philosophy and principles of Division III athletics," Ball said. "[They] must promote athletic participation as one facet of our students' education."

An important function of the athletic director at Alma College is furthering the ideal of the student-athlete. "This person must promote academics as our student-athletes' highest priority," Ball said, "while recognizing the importance of student-athletes' full integration into the life of the campus and local communities."

Rackley was given a tour of the community by Mike Hanson, sports information director. "He was impressed," Hanson said. "When I took him around, one of the things we talked a lot about was how the campus fits into the overall Alma community."

Assistant Athletic Director and head volleyball coach Sarah Dehring emphasized Rackley's experience working at small colleges—Findlay has about 4,000 students, according to its web site.

"Even though Findlay is a Division II... school, [Rackley has] had to do a lot of things that he's going to have to do here at Alma," Dehring said. She highlighted "fundraising, integration between faculty and athletics, [and] making connections across campus" as important goals.

During the hiring process, Dehring said Rackley gave clear evidence of his experience.

"How [is the new hire] going to blend [Alma College's strategic plan] with athletics? Some people would just say 'this is what I want to do,'" Dehring said. "[Rackley] had really concrete [answers like] 'this is what I want to do, because I've already done it.'"

Hanson is confident in Rackley's abilities to improve the Alma athletics department.

"He and I talked about [bridging the gap between athletics and the rest of campus] extensively... in terms of getting students to games and so forth," Hanson said. "He won't do knee-jerk [reactions]... he'll come, he'll evaluate [and] he'll see how we do things" before making major decisions.

Rackley will also assume new responsibilities as athletic director—it is now a position on the college's executive staff. He will report directly to President Jeff Abernathy and to the Board of Trustees.

"[The athletics department has] never had a seat at that executive table before," Hanson said. "[Rackley is] someone who has been down that road for so many years... [his experience] could only help the athletic department."

The new position is not without its hurdles, Ball noted.

"I think the greatest challenge... will be establishing [a] culture of success in the face of tight budgets," Ball said. "That being said, this is not unique to Alma College, as institutions across the country are facing similar challenges."

Dehring noted that Rackley developed close relationships with students and staff at Findlay,

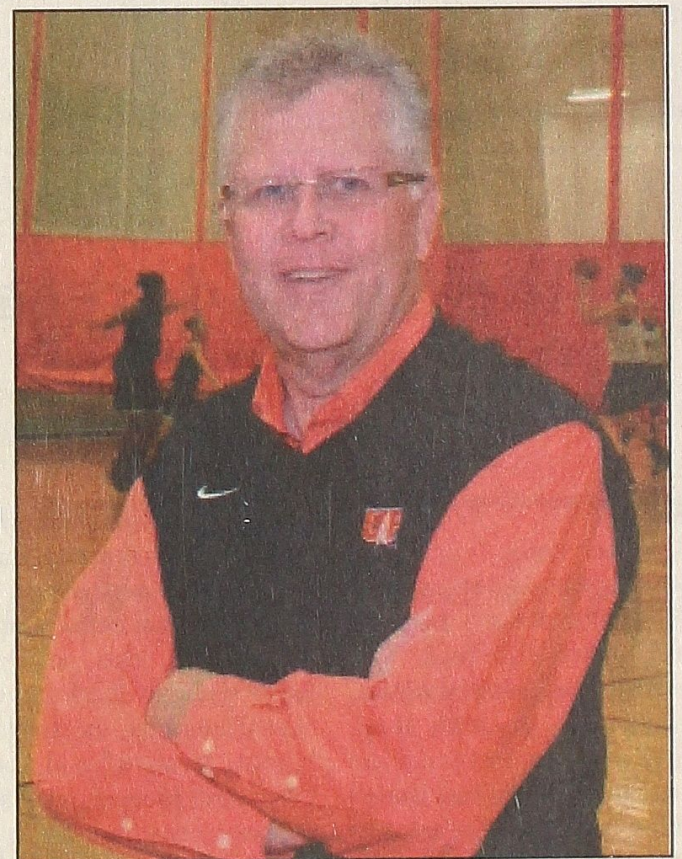


Photo courtesy of Alma.edu

Rackley was the Athletic Director at Ohio's University of Findlay for 16 years before coming to Alma.

and hopes the same for his time at Alma.

"Just knowing that his door is open, that the students can go to him, that he's going to be very visible" is encouraging, Dehring said. "He'll be at their matches, he'll be there supporting them not only on the field or in the pool or on the court, but making sure

that their coaches are supporting them in the classroom."

Hanson agreed. "When families come into this building and meet him... I think it'll have a huge impact," he said. "Those moms and dads out there are going to look at him and say, 'I can see myself sending my son or my daughter to him.'"

## This Week at Alma College March 16 - 22

### Monday

Senior Art Show Opens  
Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery, Clack

Fall Registration Opens

Search for Leprechauns  
Cash Course Event

12-4 p.m. College Corner Coffee and Books

Women's Month Keynote Speaker: Soraya Chemaly  
4 p.m. Dow L1

### Tuesday

MoLanDi (Modern Language Dinner)  
Chinese, French, German and Hispanic food  
5 p.m. Hamilton Commons

### Wednesday

Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by TKE  
11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tyler-Van Dusen

### Thursday

Therapy Dogs  
6 p.m. Library

'Fordson: Faith, Fasting, Football' movie  
presented by InterFaith Council  
7 p.m. SAC 110

### Friday

Dance Spring Concert  
8 p.m. Remick Heritage Center, Presbyterian Hall

## Search for Scottish royalty

City seeking a new Queen of Scots, Wee Queen of Scots

By SAM COYKENDALL  
BUSINESS MANAGER

It is the time of year again when the city of Alma is seeking applicants for the Alma Queen of Scots and the Wee Queen of Scots pageant and scholarship competition. The 2015 applications have been released and made available for interested applicants.

The Queen of Scots competition is open and available to young women between the ages of 17 and 20 years old at the start time of the pageant. Applicants must attend school in Gratiot County and must be willing and available to reign from April 2015 until April 2016.

In addition to being crowned the Alma Queen of Scots, the selected young woman will be awarded a \$1,500 college scholarship and two additional

court members will be selected and each awarded a \$750 college scholarship.

The Wee Queen competition is targeted to younger ladies between the ages of 8 and 11 years old at the start date of the pageant. Applicants must also attend school in Gratiot County and be available and willing to reign in their role as the Wee Queen from April 2015 until April 2016.

Along with being crowned the Wee Queen, the winner will be awarded a gracious gift basket of a variety of donations by local businesses and sponsors of both the Highland Festival and the Pageants.

Application packets are available in Alma, Ashley, Breckenridge, Ithaca, Fulton and St. Louis in both the High Schools and Elementary Schools. Additionally, applications can

be found in the Alma College Student Life Office. The Queen of Scots applications will only be found at this location.

The committee for the Queen of Scots and the Wee Queen is seeking personable young women who have an interest in Alma's Scottish heritage and who are enthusiastic about representing Alma at the Highland Festival and several other festivals during their reign. The pageant is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 25 at 7 p.m. in the Alma College Heritage Center. The event is open to the community and tickets will be available at the door for \$5.

Completed applications are due no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Mar. 31. Sara De Jong is available to help answer any questions or distribute an application packet. She can be reached at (989) - 763 - 7134.

## Ultimate Frisbee returns outside

Ultimate Frisbee club played outside last Thursday for the first time this year, after a cold winter. Ice and snow made for a wet and cold game, but the group was happy to be outside again.



## 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.

Email letters to:  
Crystal Snow  
editor.almanian@alma.edu or

## Fireside Chat addresses student concerns

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to Sheldon.

"As those issues come up, I've been addressing them with him [Toby Pickleman, head of security]," stated Blandford. "Part of the reason we have someone from our office go with them [security] is to prevent incidents like that. If you guys feel there's something out of line we want to hear about it."

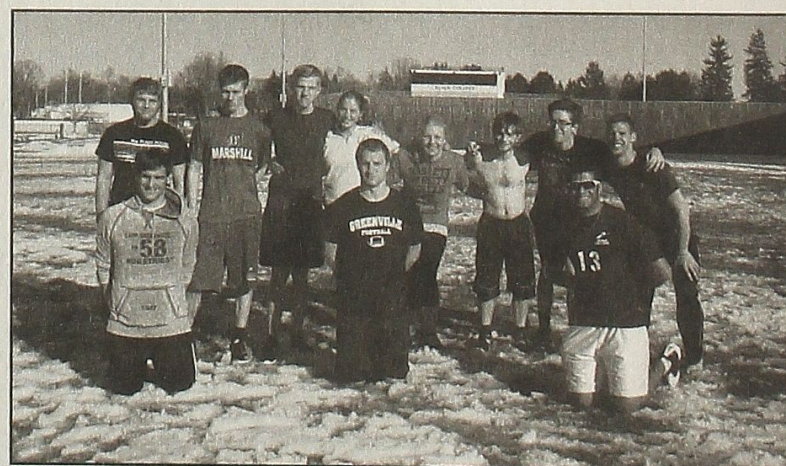
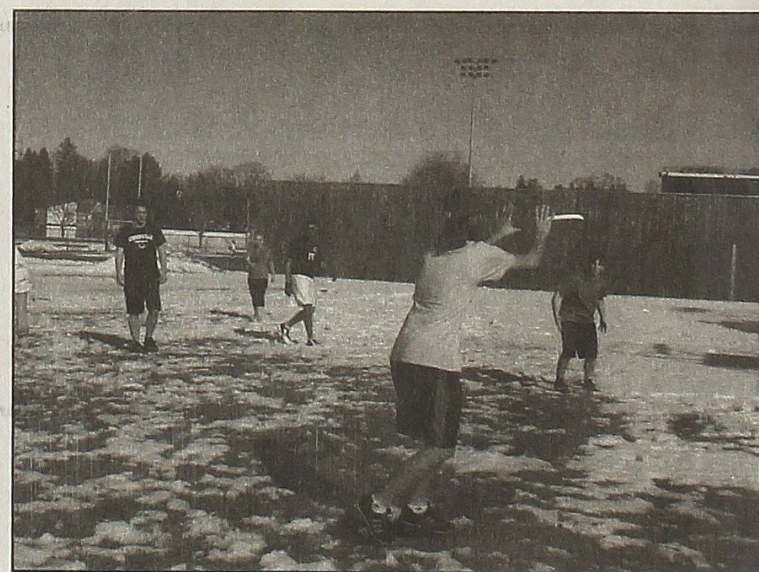
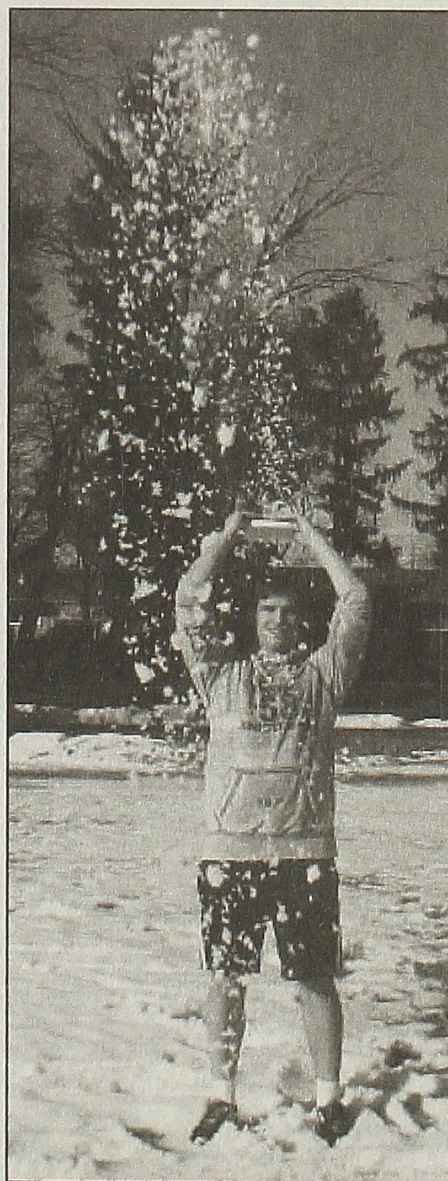
Piccolo explained how the school would handle a security officer who breaks their professional obligation. "We would request a different officer. We would talk to the head of the company."

Some students feel small and Greek housing are searched more often than dorm halls. Administration explained that

RAs and the fire alarm system in dorms supply security that small housing does not receive.

With new, safer fraternities being built, the possibility of fewer security checks was raised. "Let's see what the track record is going forward," said Abernathy. "We want to work with students to insure that we are balancing risk with your sense of what's appropriate [as far as privacy]."

Abernathy said he hopes for a better turn out to forums in the future. He encouraged the attendees to give him feedback on how to improve the chat and whether such dialogue should occur more than once a year. He wants to know how to get more students involved in on going conversation.



Abigail Fergus: Campus Editor

# Barlow Trophy finalists announced

## Accomplished seniors considered for prestigious award



Hannah Korell ('15), Katherine Krauss ('15), and Caroline Asiala ('15) have been chosen to represent the class of 2015 to be considered for the Barlow Trophy.

BY CHELSEARAE ROWLEY  
WEB EDITOR

The three finalists for the Barlow Trophy, an award considered to be “Alma’s most prestigious for graduating seniors”, have been announced.

**Hannah Korell ('15), Katherine Krauss ('15), and Caroline Asiala ('15)** have been chosen to represent the class of 2015.

**Hannah Korell**  
Major: English & Theatre  
Advisor: Dr. Dana Aspinall  
Career Path: Attending graduate school to eventually get her PhD in Early Modern Literature  
Campus Involvement: “Writing Center Tutor and Student Director, Alma College Theatre Company, Alpha Xi Delta, Sigma Tau Delta, Alpha Psi Omega and the English Department as a Teaching Assistant to Dr. von Wallmenich and Dr. Chen”

Most Memorable Experience at Alma College:  
“It is too hard for me to pick one, but I would have to say that my time with the Theatre Company has been the most memorable. We are such a tight-knit group, more a family than an organization, and I have been really blessed to get to know a lot of truly wonderful and talented people throughout my four years in the

program.”  
Advice for other students:  
“I think that my best advice goes two ways. On one hand, don’t ever let anyone tell you that you can’t do something. You know your own limits, and if you believe that you can handle another responsibility then take it. You write your own story at this college, and it is really important to seriously consider every opportunity that is offered to you.”

“On the other hand, don’t feel obligated to say “yes” to everything that gets offered to you. Again, you know your own limits, and it is really important to take care of yourself. Nothing gets solved by being overbooked; in fact, you often end up not giving things your whole heart. That is the most important thing: give your whole heart to everything that you do, and you will be surprised at how things turn out.”  
Family, Faculty and Staff “Thank You”:

“There are three people that I feel it is essential for me to thank. First, Dr. Hall, who has given me such sound advice and amazing opportunities in the Writing Center. Without her, I would not have had the leadership opportunities that qualified me for this honor. Dr. von Wallmenich, who again provided me with ample experiences both in the classroom as a TA and outside of the classroom, and who has continually provided support for me throughout my four years at Alma. Finally, I would like to

thank Dr. Aspinall. As my mentor and advisor at this college, he has played a huge role in shaping who I am today.”  
**Katherine Krauss**  
Major: Secondary Education & Mathematics  
Minor: German  
Advisor: Professor Tim Sipka  
Career Path: To pursue a teaching position in a Michigan high school

Campus Involvement: “Student Assistant for the Almagest newsletter, Chapel, Education Club, German Club, Bible Study Leader, Kappa Delta Pi, Pi Mu Epsilon and Alpha Mu Gamma”  
Most Memorable Experience at Alma College:  
“There are far too many wonderful memories to pick one, but a few that stick out include taking part in Alma College Christian Leadership, working with the students at Alma’s alternative high school (Republic), and planning and helping host the first ever Christmas Market with German and French club.”

Advice for other students:  
“Take at least one class just because it sounds interesting. Also if you have the opportunity, definitely participate in an REU (research experience for undergraduates); the people you meet, the opportunity to learn, and the connections you make are spectacular.”  
Family, Faculty and Staff “Thank You”:  
“I would like to thank the

wonderful professors of the Mathematics, Education, and Modern Language Departments”  
**Caroline Michael Asiala**  
Major: Environmental Health  
Advisor: Dr. Vickery  
Career Path: To pursue a career in environmental advocacy in South America, particularly the rainforest

Campus Involvement: “Amnesty International, Alternative Breaks—Site Leader, Hispanic Heritage Month Planning Committee, Model United Nations, Service Learning Team, Alma College Choral Program and Off Kilter”  
Most Memorable Experience at Alma College:  
“Being on the Model UN team has probably given me the most memorable experiences of my college career—my teammates, who are some of the most passionate students on campus, have really become my best friends and have challenged me to be the best researcher, collaborator, and overall person I can be.”  
I take very little credit for my passion for environmental justice and human rights—it comes from my equally (and often more) passionate friends.”  
Advice for other students:  
“Take the classes that you like—ultimately, no one will care what major you chose. If you’re taking the classes you enjoy and that you think will be useful in your future career/life (and graduate, be sure to graduate), then you

will find that you have made the most out of your college time.”  
Family, Faculty and Staff “Thank You”:  
“I would like to thank my mother, Laura Asiala, for being the best example of a steward and leader in the community. She has inspired me to dedicate my life and future career to improving the lives of others. Thank you also to my sister, Lillian, who has been my role model for hard work and intellectual achievement.”  
I would also like to thank the people that have challenged me in learning about and discussing the social and political issues I care about most. Thank you to Dr. Vickery, Dr. Hulme, Dr. Slaughter, Mr. Borrello, Dr. Anderson, Ms. Karbowskiak, Anne Ritz, Sally Scheide, Lauren Engels, Isaac Burrell, Emily Johnson, Matt Yettaw, Kara Nic, and Isabelle Moore.  
Finally, thank you to Doc Nichols, Tony Patterson, and Vicki Walker for allowing me to simultaneously pursue environmental studies and sing my heart out. My involvement in music at Alma has certainly been a highlight of my college career and I will continue to sing wherever I go next.”  
In order to qualify for the Barlow Trophy, candidates must rank in the top 10 percent of their class and must exhibit qualities of both scholarship and leadership. The winner of the award will be announced at the Honor’s Day closing reception on April 2.

Submit your Almaniac story ideas by March 21!

Email them to: editor.almanian@gmail.com

Look for the humor edition starting Monday March 29!

# New STEM grant awards go to incoming freshmen

BY CHELSEARAE ROWLEY  
WEB EDITOR

Ten first-year students majoring in “science, technology, engineering and mathematics” will have more scholarship funds available to them in the Fall 2015 semester thanks to a \$622,000 grant awarded to Alma College from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The money from the NSF will be used to fund The Alma College Science Scholars Program—an academically competitive organization designed to help students excel in STEM related fields and majors. The new scholarship program will provide \$7,000 a year of financial support to participating members for four years, totaling \$28,000 per student.  
In order to qualify for The Science Scholars Program, incoming students must “have minimum of a 3.2 GPA, at least a 22 on the ACT, exhibit financial need, declare a STEM discipline,

and be a U.S. Citizen,” said Dr. John E. Davis, co-investigator of the grant alongside Dave Clark.  
Once selected to participate in the program, students will have a variety of opportunities available to them. They will be “placed into the same First-Year Seminar, take the same English 101 course, receive one-on-one guidance, perform distinctive funded research, and will be matched with a working professional in their field of interest,” said Davis.  
“The goal of this entire program, and the NSF, is to increase the number of graduates within STEM related fields. If you look

at the statistics, there is a great demand for students in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics industries.”  
The NSF has awarded Alma College over \$6 million dollars in the past 6 years to work towards becoming a leader in STEM education. The money has funded the PRISM Program, a program that engages first-year students in undergraduate research.  
“I wish this program would have existed when I was an incoming student,” said graduating chemistry major **Doug Beckman ('15)**.  
“Granting students more

financial aid to pursue their career goal will definitely take a weight off of their shoulders and help them succeed in the classroom.”  
Incoming students who meet the requirements for The Alma College Science Scholars Program will be encouraged to apply for the scholarship online where they will have to submit a few short essays.  
“After the essays are reviewed, we will conduct in-person interviews,” said Davis.  
Students interested in applying for this scholarship program should contact their admissions representative and apply online.

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## THE ALMANIAN

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THE ALMANIAN  
ALMA COLLEGE  
614 W. SUPERIOR STREET  
ALMA, MICHIGAN 48801  
TELEPHONE: (989) 463-7161  
EMAIL: editor.almanian@gmail.com  
almanian.org

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## Students participate in Civil Rights anniversary Travel to Selma, Alabama for march, parade, protest



Photo Courtesy of Katie Grunder ('15)

On the right, Katie Grunder ('15), was one of the students who drove down to Selma in order to celebrate the anniversary.

By MONICA KUNOVSKY  
STAFF WRITER

Through the weekend on March 7-9, a number of Alma students had the opportunity to visit Selma, Alabama and participate in the 50th anniversary of the civil rights movement that occurred so many years previous.

One of the few students who embarked on the journey, **Katie Grunder ('15)**, commented, "I decided to go to Selma for this year's Jubilee, not only because I wanted to go to see all of my friends, but it was the 50th anniversary of Bloody Sunday this year and thusly, everyone was going to be there to commemorate it.

These kinds of events don't come along every dynasty, so I got my plane ticket in January, because I just knew that history was going to be made that day and I had to be part of it!"

Grunder had gotten the idea after the various Alternative Breaks that Alma offers, "I went down to Alabama during the Spring Break of 2014. Funny enough, Selma was actually my secondary choice - I'd taken my

break before down to U.S.-Mexico Border the year before, and that trip affected me on a very deep, human level.

**Karen Flesh ('18)** went down with friends **Maxim Short ('18)** and **Emily Walker ('18)** as well, on their own weekend adventure, to check out the historical event.

"I went down to Alabama because I wanted to see first-hand what Selma was like, and what racial problems they are still facing 50 years later. Since Michigan is so far up north from Alabama, we don't see nearly as much of racial discrimination up here as opposed to down in Alabama and in the South in general," Flesh explained.

The parade was held on Sunday and over 120,000 people attended. Grunder recalled, "The streets were packed, and it was claustrophobic, to say the least. It was really cool that there were that many people who wanted to be there for the 50th Anniversary, but the best moments that day were the quiet ones - literally."

"In the morning, I took part in a silent march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge with Students UNITE (Unified Nonviolent Initiative Towards Equality) to protest the name of the Bridge—who was named after a Grand Dragon of the KKK and a hate-

filled leader of white supremacy, in order to commemorate him—I, among the many other protestors, think that this is definitely a good reason to change the name."

"We were originally supposed to march to a graveyard in Selma, where many Confederate soldiers are buried, including Edmund Pettus, but also an even worse villain, Nathan Bedford Forrest, who was the first Grand Wizard of the KKK, responsible for the creation of such a hateful organization.

"There was a statue erected there of Forrest (again, to commemorate him, not to remember the awful things he's done) in a plot in the middle of the public cemetery.

We were originally going to march there silently, kneel down just outside of the plot, pray for a few minutes Civil-Rights-Movement-style, and leave, but the crazy racists of Selma somehow have eyes and ears everywhere. It was almost impossible to get anything done."

Thankfully this incident and run in with the anti-civil-movement citizens didn't deter the crowd Grunder was involved with.

"We had Christians, atheists, Jews, Muslims, blacks, whites, Latinos, gay, straight, people of

all kinds were there in our march, and the fact that we all put down whatever divisions we are separated by and knelt on a still-functioning bridge to pray, send good vibes, meditate, or whatever, under the metal structure that bears the name of a man who hated people unconditionally for their differences; it was powerful.

"The air was charged with change - it was just perfect."

Flesh said, "The parade was very eye-opening and allowed me to realize that all races are in the fight together. Besides black people, there were Asians, Hispanics, and Whites. It was incredible to see that all kinds of races were brought together to fight for the same freedom of racial equality."

Grunder is a big advocate of Alternative Breaks and the experiences brought with it, because of her personal participation and involvement with the program.

"I'd encourage everyone who reads this to research Selma, maybe go on the Alternative Break there next year. It will blow your mind to see how the problems of the past, previously located in the thick, boring pages of high school history textbooks, have transformed into the problems of the present."

## Hepcats hold dance in support of Relay for Life

By ALEXANDRA BOURNE  
STAFF WRITER

On Friday from 8-11 pm in the Eddy Band Room, the Hepcats Swing Dance Club held a dance in support of the upcoming Relay for Life.

"We have been working on this for about four weeks now" said Hepcats President, **Joanna Delpaz ('16)**.

Swing dance lessons were available, and no experience or partner was necessary. Free food was provided.

"We had an event last week to make capes and masks that could be worn at the ball that we will also be selling at Relay," said the

Hepcats' secretary, **Allie Frost ('16)**. "We have gathered food and decorations and made a Facebook event as well."

Admissions were \$3 per person or \$5 for two people, and all proceeds from the event will go to Relay for Life.

"My favorite part of the ball is seeing so many people there having fun," said Delpaz.

"I love that so many people want to come out and not only support us in our efforts, but also support Relay for Life."

Dressing as a superhero was encouraged, but no costumes were necessary.

"The best part of the ball is that it's super hero themed like Relay," said Hepcats Vice President, **Caroline Croom ('17)**.

"This is our annual Relay for Life ball," said Delpaz. "Usually we host it as a night for people to dress fancy and go to a formal,

but this year we decided to do something differently and make it a superhero ball."

"We thought it would be fun to make superhero masks and capes to wear at our ball and the actual Relay."

These masks and capes were available for sale at the ball and will be again at Relay, so anyone can dress the part.

"We are also having a dance-a-thon where anyone can donate to a special fund, and for every 50 cents we make, the Hepcats will dance one minute at Relay," Delpaz continued. "The more people donate, the longer we will have to dance."

"One year there was so much donated that the Hepcats had to dance about 3.5 hours straight."

All of the money donated to the dance-a-thon, gained from selling masks and capes, and made from the small entrance fee into

the ball will go towards the Relay for Life.

Frost added that they are holding the ball to "raise money for our Relay for Life team and because themed swing parties are always a blast."

"The best part about the ball is probably that we are able to do something fun and raise money at the same time."

"Swing dancing is my favorite activity, and to be able to use it to support cancer research is an amazing opportunity."

Swing club meets every Saturday night from 8-11 in the band room in the Eddy music building.

No experience or partner is necessary, and lessons are offered every week.

New people are especially welcome, and the Hepcats are always looking for new members to swing with.

Money matters: or is it all about perspective?

By RAY VISSER  
STAFF WRITER

Two recent stories have brought a thought to the forefront of my mind: there's an interesting power in what are, in the long run, small amounts of money. Think along the lines of \$100 or \$200.

It's difficult to get a grasp of those amounts as college students—those sound like a fortune. We're all in roughly the same debt-laden boat here. But when (or if) the transition happens, from a state of "spending money while living" to "earning money while living," then is the time to start thinking about the power of small sums.

Have you ever wished you could run your own business, but don't want to go through the work of setting it up?

An entry fee of \$125 and a 200-word essay gives you a shot at owning the Center Lovell Inn bed and breakfast in Maine. The building is over 200 years old, and the 68-year-old current owner acquired the place from its previous owners through an essay contest in the early 1990s.

Now she's hoping to receive about 7,500 applications, enough to cover the price of the property and building.

It sounds absurd—it is absurd—but I think it's a beautiful approach. It gives almost anyone, not just those with a seven-figure bank account, a shot at owning a high-quality business.

Running the inn is a different matter, and that factors into the decision on the winning essay. There's always a catch, but this one makes perfect sense. Don't do it if you can't make it work.

Then there are people who prefer small sums to large ones. Daniel Norris, a pitcher for the Toronto Blue Jays, lives out of—and sleeps in—a 1978 Volkswagen van during the offseason, camping, hiking, and surfing whenever possible.

Norris got a cool \$2 million signing bonus from the Blue Jays, directly out of high school. He promptly left the money in the hands of some personal financial advisers, and lives on \$800 a month. He brews his own coffee and cooks food on a portable stove, and is often mistaken for a homeless man. People have tried giving him money out of pity.

He absolutely does not have to do this, but he absolutely wants to. He enjoys the outdoors too much

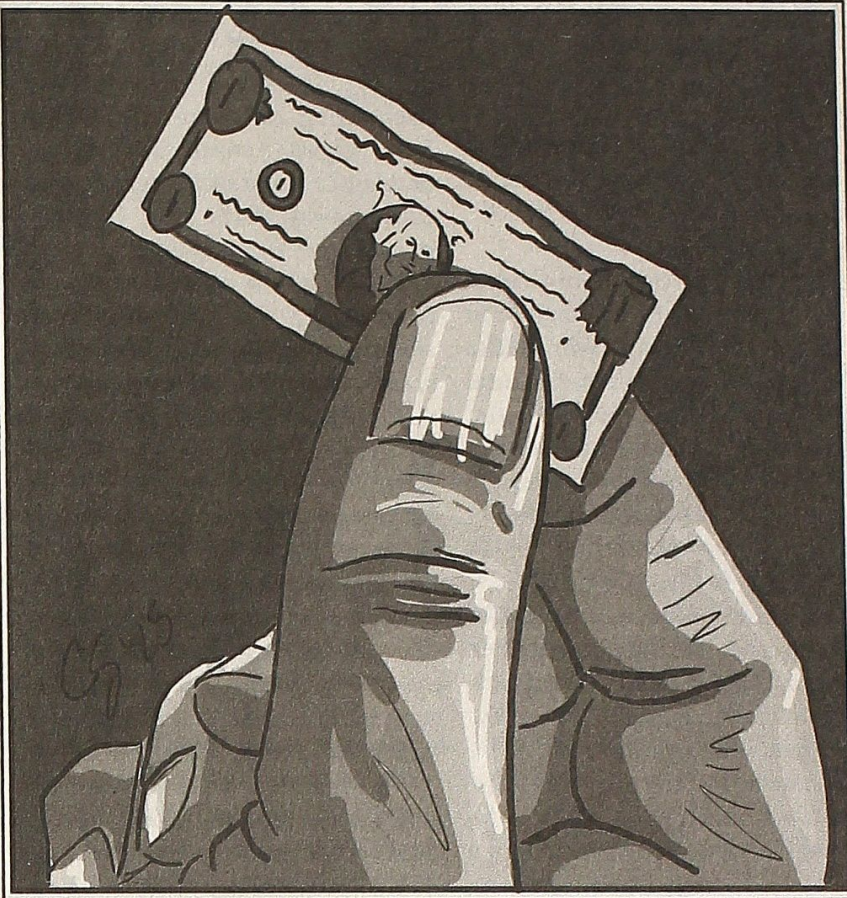
to give it up just because he's now one of the top prospects in baseball.

He says all his teammates think he's the weirdest person alive. I think he's doing something brilliant. In his own way, Norris is subverting the cliché of the extravagant-purchase athlete, in favor of small sums. (Apparently, on the day he and his teammates got their bonuses, he returned from their collective shopping trip with only a \$14 t-shirt. It was on sale.)

Is this relevant to our lives? It's possible that some of us, as soon-to-be or near-future college graduates, will be in a situation like the one Norris chooses for himself. We won't all live in vans down by the river, but making ends meet may be difficult.

But Norris does it. That \$800 a month is about half what a full-time minimum-wage job will get you. It's a tiny amount. He makes it work. He says he doesn't deserve the money he earns.

The obvious criticism is that Norris isn't really being humble or down-to-earth, because he can fall back on his "real" money if need be. That's not the point, though.



Cassidy Shankleton: Staff Illustrator

If these stories seem disconnected, maybe blame that on my equal fascination with each of them. They are both testaments to the power of small amounts of money, counterarguments to the world's insistence that a big paycheck is all that matters.

Even when there's a big paycheck involved, it's not important. These

people can live out of vans when they don't even need to, or give away their bed-and-breakfast to an ordinary person just because that's how they acquired it.

So I guess this is meant to be a supportive message. It's not even really about having perspective, just a reminder that money doesn't have to be big to be meaningful.

Debunking the popular feminism myths from bra-burning to makeup

By MONICA KUNOVSKY  
STAFF WRITER

There are often many misconceptions regarding the true nature of a feminist; delusions paint these equality warriors as abrasive, man-hating, bra-burning heathens.

Although some of these false impressions sound nice (who wouldn't want to destroy the evil clutches of a bra and just free-boob the rest of your days away while gallantly skipping around with your fellow feminists by your side?) there is a point where these stereotypes are outrageous and offensively incorrect.

Because of these misunderstandings, often times when admitting to the fact of being a feminist, the response given (to myself and many others) is that of pure confusion, utter disgust, or downright fear.

Because of this ingrained negative stigma towards this

basic philosophy of human rights, it's hard to shake the adverse view that the majority of society holds towards this concept.

The first stereotype against feminism is that it's just a group of man-hating women. Now, of course, in every case there are exceptions. There are some women who call themselves feminists and who hate men.

There are also some men who hate women. For the most part though, the general population of feminists do not hate men; that would be completely preposterous and counter-intuitive to our main goal of gender equality.

There is no secret agenda to have female supremacy and wipe out the entire male race, only the goal of giving equal chances and opportunities to women that men already have.

Another wild myth is the idea that all feminists are just angry lesbians. Although there may be lesbians who are feminists, there are just as many heterosexual, pansexual, bisexual, asexual, and any other sexual preference you could think of.

My response to this myth is that if you're going to over-generalize an entire group of people, you may want to take a deeper look into who encompasses that group before making brash judgments and blindsided interpretations; being educated isn't half bad either.

Feminists are all about being unhygienic and don't shave their legs or armpits—or anything for that matter. Wrong. Again with this theory, there are always women who find it liberating and freeing to not follow social norms, but there are also women who still find pleasure in keeping their bodies trimmed and hairless—and either way, that's okay!

Choices made about one's body is up to the individuals themselves. If people find this unhygienic or gross—to the point of rejection and exclusion—then those individuals aren't worth anyone's time anyway.

There's also the idea that feminists look down on women who want to live a more

'traditional' lifestyle—getting married and having kids and staying home to tend after their children.

The concept of this is incorrect to an extent. If being a stay-at-home mom is what makes a woman happy, then she is entitled to do as she pleases and participate in that lifestyle.

The point of feminism is to support the idea of choice and living as one wants to. There is no pressure to follow traditions and become domesticated; and neither is there pressure to push off marriage and focus on a career and life of solidarity. Whatever makes one happy is the only true goal here.

Dedicating your life to feminism means you have to give up makeup and all feminine products too, right? That again (like each of these stereotypes) is incorrect. Women can embrace the fact that they enjoy makeup and applying it just to please themselves, not solely for the appeasement of men. If anything, it rarely is to please a man.

Makeup is also an art form, and one that women (and men) love to

practice and participate in. It's also alright to embrace a more natural approach and decide to rid yourself of these seemingly materialistic goods and just embrace the natural beauty of a naked face.

Either way, there's no 'right' way to be a feminist. Neither way makes one more or less feminine or less knowledgeable or justifiable in proclaiming your views in feminism.

Ideally, everyone is justifiably warranted to have their opinions. The key here though is, of course, to allow the opinions of others to resonate with you and be respected and given thought.

The idea of feminism is not one to promote self-hate, or gender disgust. It's about allowing all sexes the chance to have freedom of choice and to be comfortable with the lifestyle they live.

The prejudice against people due to who they choose to love, how they choose to feel about their bodies, and what their beliefs are is insensitive and against the nature of feminism. Feminism is not something to be ashamed of, but rather embraced.

Sudoku

Sudoku is a type of number puzzle. If you're not familiar here are the rules;

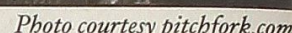
- Each 3x3 square can contain each number (1-9)
- Each row and column can contain each number no more or less than once.
- The puzzle is complete when all spaces are filled in.

Sudoku difficulty is determined by how many numbers are initially filled in. This sudoku is considered "medium".

	6	8						
		2	7			3	1	
			9	5				
		3	2				5	
	9	4				7	3	
	1				8	6		
				6	1			
	5	7			3	4		
						8	9	

**BY PAIGE DANIEL**  
STAFF WRITER

It is odd to imagine Boucher,



The artistic autonomy she exhibits is refreshing to see, and attracts the question of why she scrapped the album in the first

When the future comes calling and the elitists are still holding their old grudges, Grimes will be pushing away at the buttons on her synthesizer, occupied with creating music for the moment.

BY DAN MURAWSKE  
STAFF WRITER

I have seen what they can do.

Only time will tell.

**Don't forget to follow us on Twitter or "like" our Facebook page for more content.**

BY NICOLE ECCLES  
OPINION EDITOR

So much more than an American first lady. She helped draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She was also chair of many different women and human rights committees.

## Sports Bulletin

### Wednesday

Softball  
Aquinas at Alma at 3:30 & 5:30 p.m.

Swim and Dive  
NCAA Nationals in Indianapolis, Ind.  
(Through Saturday)

### Saturday

Men's Lacrosse  
Thiel at Alma at 1 p.m.

Track and Field  
Alma at Rhodes College

Women's Tennis  
Alma at Saint Mary's College at 1 p.m.

Baseball  
Alma at Olivet College at 1 & 3:30 p.m.

Softball  
Bluffton at Alma at 1 & 3 p.m.

### Sunday

Baseball  
Olivet at Alma at 1 & 3:30 p.m.

Women's Lacrosse  
Alma at Augustana College at 12 p.m.

Softball  
Ohio Wesleyan at Alma at 1 & 3 p.m.



## Men's lacrosse takes on big triple threat on the field

By DOMENIC BAIMA  
STAFF WRITER

The men's lacrosse team of Alma College has been playing excellent ball this past week. Last week, the Scots went 3-0 beating La Roche College, Defiance College, and Bethany College.

Winning three consecutive games is an impressive feat in and of itself, but it is even more impressive considering the convincing manner in which the team won. In the three contests the Scots won with a combined score of 44-10.

Alma College's offense has performed extremely well and its defense has been exceedingly tough in this short stretch. Defiance College and Bethany College were each only able to produce 11 shots on goal apiece.

**Marshall Argenta ('16)** has led the Scots offensively with 14 points on the season thus far including ten goals. Eight of Argenta's goals were

scored in these last three games.

"Today was a good win for the program, as it allowed us to get a lot of our young players the reps they need to help us on the field later," said Coach Michael Kinney of the game against Defiance College.

"I couldn't be more proud of these guys."  
- Coach Michael Kinney

"I couldn't be more proud of these guys with the way they are working and how they are committed to each other on and off the field. We keep adding pieces of the puzzle so we can be in the hunt later on in the year," Kinney added.

**Austin Jordan ('18)** was honored by being named the MIAA's Defensive Player of the Week last

week as he has been a great part of what has proved to be a very strong defensive unit.

Last Saturday, the Scots only allowed one goal against Defiance College during a very solid game defensively.

"It was a great win by the Alma Scots today," said Kinney. "Our defense was outstanding and held the NCAA DIII Player of the Week to no goals and only allowed one goal overall on the day. Team defense is what we preach and our guys bought in today and we keep working and getting better."

"Our young guys are really developing and our older guys are the bedrock. It was an important win today as we continue to build momentum towards conference play. I couldn't be happier," Kinney added.

After its third consecutive win, Alma College now stands at 4-2. The Scots play at home again this upcoming Saturday when they will host Thiel.

## ALMA INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL PLAYERS SQUARE UP, SHOOT FOR BIG POINTS IN THEIR RECENT GAMES



## Scotlight: Austin Jordan('18)

### Named league Defensive Player of Week

By TONY KNOP  
STAFF WRITER

For only the second time in Alma men's lacrosse history, a Scot has been named the MIAA's Defensive Player of the Week. **Austin Jordan ('18)** earned the award, joining teammate **Al Lesperance ('16)** as the sole Scots to be named for the award, since its inception in 2013.

Jordan was named the recipient after his monster game against La Roche on March 7. Against the Redhawks, Jordan was responsible for a pair of goals and three assists, in addition to four groundballs.

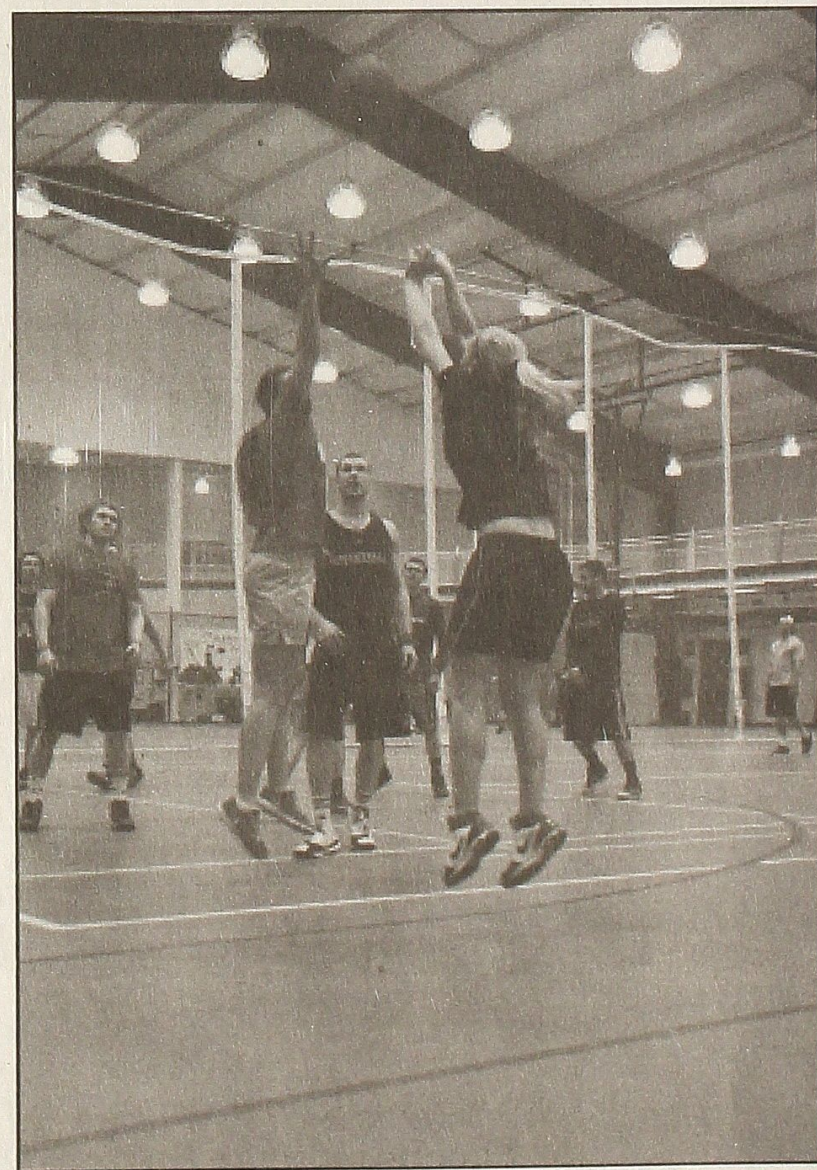
He also helped anchor an

Alma defense that only allowed eight shots on goal and forced 20 turnovers against La Roche. The Scots would go on to win that game 15-6.

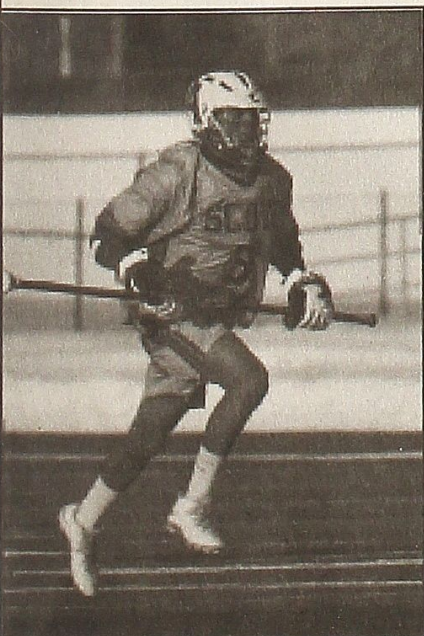
"On the field he brings a lot of intensity which helps motivate others," said **Mitch Adams ('17)**. "He deserves the award because he has the skill to earn it and works hard on the field."

"He brings the intensity to every practice and game situation," said **TJ Miller ('17)**. "He deserves this award because he's a hard working player and performs at his best during every game and practice."

Jordan ranks third on the team this season with 17 groundballs and his five total points are tied for third most on the team.



Rebekah Irani: Staff Photographer



Courtesy of Goalmascoats.com  
Austin Jordan ('18) runs down the field earlier this year.

Lady Scots lacrosse team seeks turnaround



Darby Kahler ('17) prepares to attack as she squares up with the ball and her opponent.

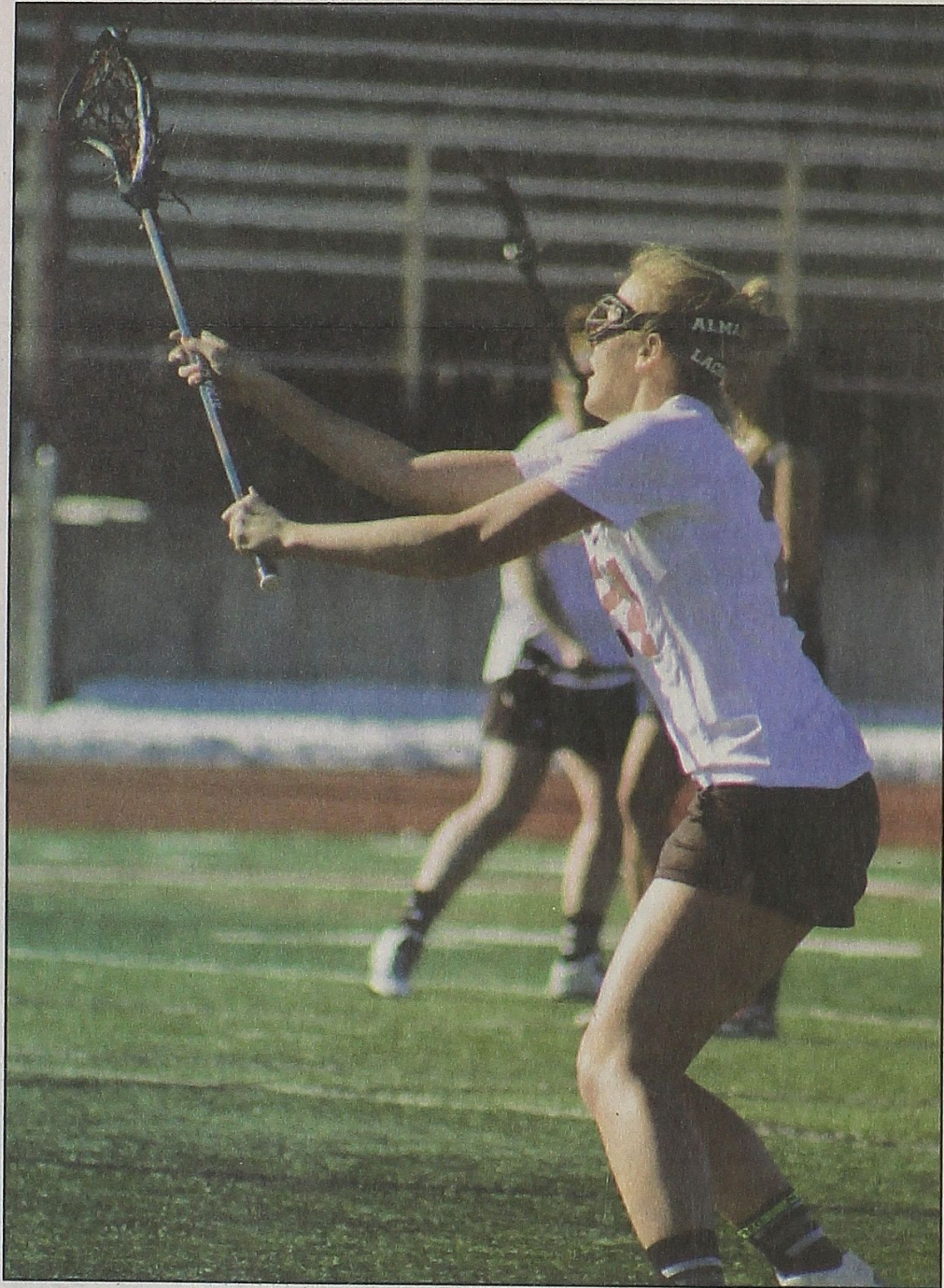
Marcella Flury: Staff Photographer

By DOMENIC BAIMA  
STAFF WRITER

The Alma College women's lacrosse team has faced a tough stretch of play early on in the season after losing its fourth consecutive game against Capital University this past Saturday.

The team has struggled defensively so far this season as the Scots have given up an average of over 15 goals

per game. The game against Capital University served as the first leg of a three game road trip in which the Scots will also face College of Wooster and Augustana College. The Scots would struggle against the Crusaders on the road, dropping the 16-3 decision. The Crusaders came out firing at home, scoring four goals in the first four minutes of action to take the 4-0 lead with 26:18 remaining in the first half. Capital University played a tough brand of defense as they were able to force 24 Alma College turnovers and the Scots were only able to produce 12 shots on offense. The Crusaders were able to get 32 shots off. Sunday, the team remained in Ohio to face College of the Wooster. The Scots have been led offensively by **Tracy Gallihugh ('15)** and **Ashton Street ('16)** who have recorded 19 and 18 points, respectively. Gallihugh has scored a team-high 16 goals for a 3.2 goals per game average. Street leads the team in assists with five. The Scots will travel to Illinois this Sunday to face Augustana College.



Sydney Bryce ('15) catches the ball from one of her teammates and proceeds to run down the field for the shot.



Marcella Flury: Staff Photographer

Baseball squad opens MIAA in weekend series

By TONY KNOP  
STAFF WRITER

With baseball being in the early spring, there is always a chance that weather can ruin a series. This past weekend, the Scots baseball team (9-3) was supposed to play a three-game series against Aurora University (9-3) in Chicago, but wet field conditions forced the series to be played in Jacksonville, Illinois. Last Friday the Scots opened up the series with a double header. In the first game Alma came up short and lost the contest 4-1. With the second game quickly approaching, the Scots knew some changes had to be made to earn a victory.

"We just wanted to continue to play with an aggressive but focused mindset. We want to keep the pedal to the metal and keep playing how we know how," said **Roderick MacNeil ('15)**. "Our mindset was to limit the mistakes in the field, and stick to our approach at the plate," said **AJ Acton ('17)**. "If we stick to our approach and the plan our coaches set up for us and make the routine plays we will do great." In the second game, the Scots held on in seven innings to earn a tightly contested 3-2 victory. Aurora put two on the board in the first, but the Scots roared back to score all three runs in the second frame.

**Blake Ordiway ('16)** earned the victory on the mound, pitching a solid five innings and only allowing two hits. **Alex Peczynski ('17)**, **Yoan Delarosa ('16)**, and **Matt Minaudo ('18)** drove in a run a piece for the Scots. In the Saturday ballgame, the Scots dropped a gritty contest 6-4. In the first two innings, Aurora tacked five runs on the board. Alma was able to cut the lead to one in the seventh, but just could not close the gap to finish the rally. The squad used four pitchers in the ballgame, with **Jean Soucy ('15)** being the unfortunate hurler taking the loss.

The Scots outhit Aurora 12-8, but four Alma errors stunted the chance for a series win. Both Peczynski and Delarosa went 3-5 in the contest, and **Juan Dominguez ('16)**, Minaudo, Delarosa, and Acton all drove in a run in the effort. Coming up short in the Aurora series will not sway the Scots from continually competing and improving their game on the diamond. Even after the tough contests, the Alma baseball team looks to the future and prepares for the conference schedule. "Personally, I am extremely confident with what our team has in store," said MacNeil. "We are a very close bunch

of guys who expect to win every game and we are really pulling through for each other. When you have a group of guys with those expectations and that mentality, I really like our odds," MacNeil added. "We have beaten some good teams thus far and we are still getting better," said Acton. "Top to bottom, I have confidence in this team and I love playing with them and for this program." The Scots will open up the MIAA schedule with a doubleheader at Olivet College (1-7) on Saturday. The Scots will be hosting Olivet for another doubleheader on the following afternoon.