

Recycling: more than a suggestion

By **ABIGAIL FERGUS**
 CAMPUS EDITOR

If you were under the impression that depositing plastic, paper and cardboard in bins designated for such a purpose meant you were recycling on campus last year, you were wrong.

This year, no recycling service has been provided in dorm halls and little is being done in academic buildings.

“Last year we found out recycling wasn’t being taken out,” said **Joanna Delpaz** (’16) Student Congress president.

“Apparently those boxes [recycling bins in academic buildings] are ‘suggestion boxes.’ So students are supposed to take them out.”

The discovery of the recycling program, or lack thereof, was made by last year’s Student Congress President **Lauren Engels** (’15).

“While working at the Alumni House, I noticed that the housekeeper would always throw away the contents in the recycling bin,” said Engels. “When I asked why, she informed me that most of the facilities workers emptied the recycling into the trash cans.

“According to facilities, recycling fell under the students’ jurisdiction and they did not have the manpower or capabilities to recycle,” said Engels.

“I met with Piccolo (Nick, vice president for student life) and Blandford (Dave, director of student life) to learn that student life took over recycling in the dorms, but unfortunately nowhere else. Todd Friesner (vice president for finance and administration) stated that he would work with Student Congress the next year and sort



Josie Sabo (’17) poses with a recyclable bottle on the second floor of Newberry where bins used to stand. The sign states that there is no more recycling and students need to take all waste to the trash room.

out this appalling crisis.”

A bonafide recycling system is coming to campus within the next month or so, according to Delpaz.

Financing will come from Friesner’s department and he aims to hire student workers to transport recyclables, but the details aren’t pinned down.

“The biggest issue I heard was communication,” said Friesner. He referred to confusion between Student Congress and facilities on what responsibilities each group would take up. “This is a broken program.”

To fulfill Objective 11 of the Strategic Plan, Friesner mentioned strides such as the development of a new printing policy, software encouraging administration to go paperless and a move toward efficient

lighting.

The upcoming recycling reform provides a unique opportunity to raise awareness, according to President Jeff Abernathy. Part of the new process should target students who don’t yet participate or understand the importance of sustainable activity.

The Climate Change Action Network, a new student environmental group, is committed to empowering the change and educating students on what materials can be recycled.

“I formed CCAN with friends at the end of last year with the overall intent to address climate change,” said **Tyler Goerge** (’17).

“The group probably internally stemmed from the lack of recycling on campus, but

that’s not all that we’re about,” added Goerge. “We’re equally interested in furthering Alma’s sustainability in all aspects, including potential composting.”

Environmental clubs of the past led recycling efforts that did not last beyond involved students’ time at Alma.

There was no recycling in 2000 when Blandford, director of campus life, came to Alma. In the mid-2000s the former environmental club, SUN, managed recyclables. In the late 2000s Doug Dice, director of facilities and service management, stated a \$5,000 dollar seed grant was put forth to buy bins and enable recycling.

Efforts haven’t lasted because of fast student worker turnover, according to Blandford. The work-study program took

over hiring recyclers, which resulted in one-year employees. Blandford said this resulted in more time spent training and a lack of consistent commitment by students.

He hopes the new system can employ students early on in their Alma career for two to three years of dedication and less trouble passing the low-emission torch.

Though administration had been working on recycling behind the scenes, student efforts contributed to making recycling a reality.

“Student Congress makes a difference because I hear [about student concerns],” said Friesner.

He told the executive council of Student Congress that he would utilize the school’s email system to introduce big changes like the printing policy, according to Delpaz.

“[It’s] in the hands of students to say, ‘this is important’ and to be community police like they do in [dorm hall] trash rooms,” said Blandford. If additional concerns arise, Blandford suggests that students “reach out to anyone who you think can make a difference. We can help you find the voice.”

When students don’t know whose department a concern falls under, Abernathy welcomes them to his office. He “can’t always get students to a solution” but he can always connect students with an administrator or faculty member better in-the-know.

Repeatedly, Friesner and Blandford encouraged campus-wide participation in recycling. Students and administration alike can take part in permanent change. Blandford emphasized: “If it’s a value of the college it has to be taken on by the whole campus.”

Vape ban aggravates students

By **MICHAEL BREWER-BERRES**
 STAFF WRITER

Numerous complaints about vapor smoking devices have caused the college to change its vapor policy to be subject to the same rules and regulations of the Alma College Tobacco Policy. Under these guidelines, students can no longer smoke these devices indoors and must respect designated smoking areas.

“These vapor smoking devices are an irritant to students, and more importantly have set off a number of smoke detectors, which is more than an inconvenience,” said Nick Piccolo, vice president for student life. “There have certainly been complaints this year from not just the students but also the fire department.”

Vapor smoking devices include, but are not limited to, e-cigarettes, vaporizers, vapor hookahs and related devices. Students complain that the vapors coming from these devices can be irritating.

In addition to student complaints about the irritating vapors, the Alma District Fire Department has requested that students cease smoking these devices indoors, as the smoke can cause the fire alarms to go off.

“When the alarms go off so often then people tend to ignore them and that can create a safety issue,” said Piccolo. “It desensitizes people to fire alarms and there’s real potential harm there.”

According to security reports from the years 2010 to 2014, the number of false fire alarms has increased by 255.5 percent, from 45 incidents in 2010 to 160 incidents in 2014. However, this new policy will help the fire department to save money and time by not having to come to campus every time there is an incident involving a vapor device.

“This is more than an inconvenience,” said Piccolo. “Firefighters roll downtown and then they are not available for real emergencies.”

As the new policy for vapor smoking devices falls under the guidelines for the current tobacco policy, violators will be punished in the same way for now. Piccolo said this is the best option for the school to keep those smoking these devices from irritating other students as well as save the fire department the time and effort for coming to campus for false alarms.

“Can we anticipate that there will be harm? Yes,” said Piccolo about the vapor devices setting off fire alarms. “Is there a risk?

Yes. But we will look into backing off, and sort it out eventually, but for now we need some way to enforce the new policy.”

Tyessa Brown (’18), a resident assistant in Newberry Hall, agreed that the policy is for the best.

“It’s still considered a form of smoking,” Brown said. “Some issues I’ve found with residents is that some of them are allergic to what is in the vapor. You need to guarantee everyone’s safety and health in housing.”

Piccolo and Brown also mentioned that they understand why some students might be upset about the new regulation.

“It was certainly not out of malice,” said Piccolo about the implementation of the new policy. “Health and safety issues need to trump other issues, but we don’t want to step on other people’s concerns.”

“You need to think of all students even if it makes some unhappy,” Brown said in regards to the complaints.

Despite multiple attempts to reach students that this policy might affect, no one could be reached for comment.

“I’m sure there are complaints out there,” Brown said. “People are going to be upset about it obviously. But I feel that most people respect the rule.”

Photo club feature



Photo courtesy of **Rebekah Irani** (’16)

This photograph was taken in my hometown of Edmore while I was taking this girl’s senior photos. I really didn’t expect for it to be chosen to be put in the Almanian but here it is.

I really enjoy this photo in black and white because it gives a mystical theme to it. It makes me think of the movie “The Secret Garden” and that there may be something great behind that door.

Where nature and man-made things come together at the doorway it shows there is a separation between the two and how they are merging into one another more and more. Otherwise, I truly believe [the] simplest of shots can be the most [worth] admiring.

-Rebekah Irani (’16)

Sodexo contract up for renewal in 2020

By **MONICA KUNOVSKY**
WEB EDITOR

As many students are aware, changes have been made to the way food has been prepared and distributed to the college. Beginning this semester, an adjustment in management with the kitchen at Hamilton Commons and new rules in place involving meal plans at Joes has occurred. These include hours in which certain plans are applicable as well as alterations in what meals are allowed to be used as a “swipe” instead of munch money. This brings to question what brought these changes. Todd Friesner, vice president for finance and administration, was able to give some background and history on the dining commons. “[The Sodexo] account is the second oldest, going over 65 years,” said Friesner. Contrary to belief, Alma has had ties with Sodexo since the 1950s. So although the name of SAGA has changed, it hasn’t changed companies—just ownership. In 1986 Marriott bought SAGA and then in 1992, Sodexo bought Marriott, changing SAGA to Hamilton Commons in 1998.

The next time Sodexo’s contract will be up for discussion will be after any current student’s time at Alma. “This contract expires in 2020,” said Friesner. At that time other companies will be considered to determine which will offer the best value and choice for the student body. There have also been questions regarding the stipulations and contract agreements with Sodexo, including what companies can join with Sodexo and accept munch money. “Anyone can do business with Sodexo, it’s whether they agree to terms and conditions,” said Friesner. This means that there’s the opportunity for any business in town to allow munch money to be a form of currency to pay for their items, but the business has to be willing to follow along with the stipulations that Sodexo has set up. “Businesses have to think the agreement is attractive enough to partake in,” said Friesner. Last year, there was uproar about the discontinuity between prices of food at Joes and the Dow Cart compared to prices at the hospital, resulting from a senior thesis. Friesner was able to address these issues as well. “The challenge is, we all have unique situations with contracts,”

said Friesner. “Comparing us to the hospitals, our prices seem higher because the hospitals can afford to subsidize prices—they can pay off part of it to make it lower for those buying it there.” Friesner mentioned that students can make a difference. He explains that being part of the student body means to ask questions and be able to comment on what is liked and disliked. The staff wants to understand student perspectives. “With that being said, good food has different meanings to different people,” Friesner said. Friesner stated that it’ll be hard to please every single person, and not everyone’s tastes and needs can be met. Administration isn’t a stranger to the food quality at Hamilton Commons either, as officials occasionally eat the food that’s provided to the college. “When I first came here I did frequent SAGA,” said Friesner. “But now it’s more convenient to go home to get food and see my wife and dog. It just makes sense. But I do have a meal plan and I will spot check food, and check quality.” Friesner adds that, “Students are always welcome to come up to me if they see me in the cafeteria and ask me things.” He comments as well that the food is an improvement from


when he used to go to Alma. “It was a different environment back then,” said Friesner, who attended Alma College from 1975 to 1979. “The quality we have now is much better than it was back then. We didn’t have things such as gluten free options—but back then we didn’t have to worry about that.” Other student’s also have various comments to add with the changes that have come up—current students and alumni alike. **Kamryn Kurtzner (’14)** states, “Sodexo was the main food supplier while I was there, but we used to have Van Dusen, which was a pasta/stir fry bar that had chicken patties and a salad bar every day. I frequented Van Dusen a lot more than I did SAGA for lunch (it was only open for lunch) because you could have something new every day with the stir-fry options and it was usually less busy than SAGA. “I liked old SAGA because of the bigger tables and easier traffic flow with two main entrée lines,” Kurtzner continued. “I did enjoy new SAGA’s vegetarian options, though, because there are more than there were with old SAGA—which still isn’t much but is more than before. “I also frequented Joe’s because of the to-go meals

offered and the variety. Also, garden burgers.” Current student **Jose Antonio Maldonado Del Corral (’17)** had receptive comments about the changes. “My friends and I have realized how the Hamilton Commons food has positively changed,” said Del Corral. “The taste of the traditional meals is better and the new options are also really good.” There were some critiques, however. “I have also seen that now we [have] two main lines,” said Del Corral. “But I have also seen that when the South line runs out of food, it usually takes a lot of time until the trays get replaced. “I believe there has been a major improvement in food quality and service, but I have also seen that now there are not that many fruits that are available for us.” The complaint most can agree with though, happens to be the disappearance of Alma students’ beloved and prized dessert: SAGA cookies. “By word of mouth, I have heard many students complaining about this reduction,” said Del Corral. “Also, I guess we all have wondered, ‘Who took my fresh cookies?’ Those were an amazing incentive to eat in SAGA instead of other options. Those warm cookies really made our days.”

This Week at

Alma College

November 2 - 8



M

Modern Language Movie Night
Clack Theatre
7:30 p.m.

T

Mathematics & Computer Science Colloquium
SAC 113
4 p.m.

W

Climate Change Action Network
Smith Room, Library
11 p.m.

Th

Meet Father Firas from Palestine
Thistle
12 p.m.

F

Duo Studio Designs Pop Up Shop
Rotunda
5 p.m.

Letter to the editor: recycling

I am currently frustrated with Alma College’s recycling program. Let me rephrase: I am currently frustrated with Alma College’s lack of a recycling program. Two problems are at the forefront of this issue. Firstly, Alma College does not have a sustainable recycling program that operates across campus and is integrated into campus culture and expectations. Secondly, Alma College, for at least the last 10 months, continues to falsely advertise that recycling is taking place by continuing to leave designated recycling bins throughout campus. It is shameful that Alma College does not have a recycling program; it must be remedied immediately. To produce graduates who “think critically, serve generously, lead purposefully, and live responsibly as stewards of the world they bequeath to future generations,” we must be forward thinking about our environmental impact. Our

community is one of only 61 percent where most households have access to recycling, according to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality May 2015 report “Measuring Recycling in the State of Michigan.” Thus, Alma College should lead our community by reducing as much waste as possible and recycling as much as possible. Regarding the second issue, Alma College’s recycling deceit, I speak for myself and my fellow students when I say we are appalled at the lack of honesty our college has displayed. Allowing students and visitors to believe that recycling is occurring by leaving marked receptacles in place when recyclable materials are actually trashed is unethical. We hope that the recycling initiatives moving forward are organized with transparency and respect for students and visitors. Since January of 2015, Student Congress representatives and

executive members have been pursuing change regarding recycling. Until this week, we have been met with resistance, lousy answers, and disbelief. I applaud all student efforts for improving our campus and encourage efforts to continue to do so. I hope that recent meetings between students and staff will spark change and show the administration that students consider initiating a sustainable, transparent recycling program at Alma College a top priority. I suggest that if you are interested in showing your support for Alma College to begin a sustainable recycling program, please post on social media with the hashtag #almacollege, or please email Joanna Delpaz, student body President, at delpazrjm@alma.edu.

Best,
Katherine Vaillancourt
Class of 2016



Vaillancourt paired this photo on her Facebook page with: “@almacollege the Stone Rec Center is also affected by the dishonesty of your (Alma College’s) recycling program! #dontlie #beresponsible #recycle #now Please post your Alma College recycling thoughts so our voices are heard. #almacollege”

“Julie” explores numerous dark themes, gender roles, sex

By Haley Parker
Staff Writer

In a season made for darkness, this play was also made for darkness. Just to warn you, there are extremely dark and sexual conflicts in this play that may cause discomfort while I talk about it.

“Julie” is a play that speaks of tensions that run both our society and theirs (the culture of the late 19 century). It follows the clandestine happenings of a lady and her father’s man; happenings that have the makings of family secrets.

The curtain opens on midsummer’s eve and follows the story of the titular Julie, the daughter of the count played by **Erin Murphy (‘16)**, and her father’s valet, Jean, played by **Raymond L. Antell IV (‘16)**, while the count is away.

Julie has ended a relationship of a magistrate and she exhibits the frankly scandalous behavior of fraternizing with her servants after ending her engagement.

She then seduces and is seduced by the valet. Whisked away on a tide of lies and hormones, they step over the boundaries of propriety and class structures. As the other servants come in-played by

Ariel Frost (‘19), Kira Sheffer (‘19), Alyssa Mohr (‘19), Jarod Sheldon (‘16), and Alex Lamrock (‘18)—singing an eerie tune based on Jean and Julie, Jean whisks her off stage with the fear of discovery.

He leads her into his bedroom where she performs indiscretion that winds up losing her perceived value as a human being: her virginity.

Jean has a fiancée, a cook by the name of Christine, played by **Haley Valente (‘18)**. Christine only wishes for her intended’s love and attention—shown by the way that she constantly asks him to go places with her. She knows of his serial infidelity but tolerates it because she is simply practical and unable to do anything about it.

Before the indiscretion with Julie he attempts for a short while to appear true to her but both passion and ambition cloud his judgment, posing a risk to his reputation with his employers.

It places him in a delicate situation among the upper echelon of society that he truly longs to be a part of, but cannot because of his inherent standing and feeling as a servant.

The man is widely regarded as a rake—a playboy—among the servants, yet for some strange reason, Julie does not know his reputation among them. Her role is that of a coquette: someone who is willing and ready for flirtation,

yet still somehow remains pure until she inevitably falls into disgrace. This fall is usually precipitated by the rake who takes her flirtation and turns it into action, usually violently.

When this happens to Julie, she breaks.

Julie’s defilement is followed by a long discussion about what must be done, how it should be done, and what they should think about this development.

Should they run away and start a new life, despite the mutual hatred and disgust—staying together only because of the shame of Julie and the ambition of Jean—in either Italy or Switzerland? Or should they stay and hide the evidence of the deed—never speaking of it again?

The play toys with the conflicts of womanhood and of class by using the axiom of power to point out the flaws in society. It is the casual showing of the broken Julie and the amount of sympathy she engenders that suggests the theme.

The characters around her treat her, alternately, as if she “was asking for it” and also as if she had no agency in the matter.

Emotionally charged words are thrown at her from the man who physically abuses her despite her being directly at his mercy. He looks at her as a challenge, both a way to climb the social ladder and as a sexual

conquest, not as a person.

He ridicules her for the ease at which she surrendered, the naivety that it would take for her to surrender to someone of such a distinctly disgusting class, and the placing of her story in someone who has already been deemed untrustworthy.

He uses the information that she gives him against her and tries to form her into someone who will be beholden to his power (shown by the way he tried to force himself onto her in the minutes after they emerged back onto the stage and the way that he murders Julie’s pet bird).

Christine treats Julie like someone who is at fault (for giving herself up so easily), yet also refuses to subscribe to the notion that she had any agency in the matter through placing most of the blame on Jean.

She also refuses to allow them to run away and forces them to live through the consequences of their actions that may or may not end up killing Julie because her personal code of Christian ethics forbids it.

Julie herself puts herself into the position of hating herself as she tightropes between wanting to be in complete power and wanting to be told what to do. It makes her a character that feels like she’s real and pitiful.

In fact, the whole play felt that way, like the audience was a voyeur in the kitchen to watch the sordid events in the kitchen.

Music to match the Autumnweather; Fleet Foxes, Artic Monkeys

By Paige Daniel
Staff Writer

As the tail end of autumn settles in and the chill in the air becomes less tolerable, a few albums match the dreary and nostalgic mood that the weather yields.

What is it about autumn that makes it so easy to plunge into wistfulness? When the sky darkens and mushy leaves engulf the ground, I find myself turning to these specific albums for comfort, sentimentality and nourishment.

“Fleet Foxes” album “Helplessness Blues” captures inner existential conflict through lush folk music. Lead singer Robin Pecknold deals with feelings of inadequacy, lost potential, unrequited love and the reality of feeling insignificant in the world over the course of 12 tracks. Songs like “Montezuma” and “Bedouin Dress” highlight these tones of contemplation and rumination.

This progression of emotions, from shock to acceptance of the human condition, is reflected in the last track, “Grown Ocean,” a hopeful and upbeat closer.

The sound production is exquisite; Pecknold’s voice and coinciding harmonies reverberate off of what seems to be the hallowed walls of a church hall.

All of this sounds quite heavy and depressing, but the sheer beauty of the lyrics and instrumentation is worth it. *Helplessness Blues* sounds like what sitting by the warmth of a fire feels like.

Bon Iver blew up on the scene in 2008 with his debut album “For Emma, Forever Ago”. However,

it is his second self-titled album that truly exemplifies the cold of autumn. Some tracks emanate a more ambient vibe, with repeating instrumental motifs that shrink and grow.

The track “Michicant” is essentially a lullaby with soothing horns. Whereas “For Emma” was strictly acoustic folk, this album incorporates natural electronic elements, lending to the ambience while bolstering the organic instruments like guitar and piano. The epic track “Holocene” calmly builds to a climax, acting as the centerpiece of the album.

Bon Iver is the project of Justin Vernon, who says the name means “good winter” — this album fittingly soundtracks the dramatic slide into winter, when things start to decay and freeze over, the last vestiges of color slipping away into a monochromatic haze.

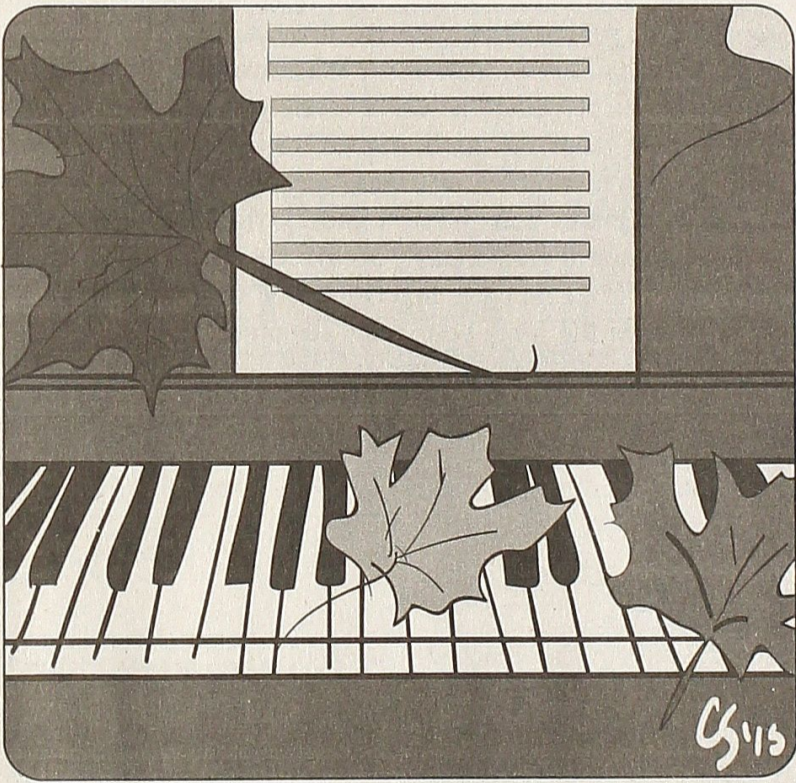
“Boxer” (2007) by The National is another album which creates an atmosphere of its own, one that simultaneously exudes both adult dread and casual nonchalance.

If the weather makes you feel particularly moody, this album will either recharge you with its oddly anthemic lyrics (especially the songs “Fake Empire” and “Squalor Victoria”) or intensify your feelings even further.

Frontman Matt Berninger has a voice that may take some warming up to; his low baritone often communicates apathy or even boredom.

The bleak lyrics are matched equally with the simple rock instrumentals. Sometimes the end of autumn is just bleak, and sad music can unexpectedly help.

In 2011, Arctic Monkeys’ frontman Alex Turner did original solo work for the movie



Cassidy Shankelton: Staff Illustrator

“Submarine”, a coming-of-age story; his six song endeavor encapsulates the youthful melancholy so prevalent in “Submarine”.

Watching the movie is not necessary to enjoy these songs, as each of them is its own love letter to solitude and the urge to find a companion.

Quiet acoustic songs like “Hiding Tonight” and “Glass in the Park” are inflected with foggy electric guitar, betraying Arctic Monkeys’ typical standard of disorienting rock riffs.

He adopts a singer-songwriter persona, the bittersweet lyrics conveying private moments alone — a meal at an empty diner, imagined conversations with a potential lover, dim lights in a lonely room.

Honorable mentions go to Låpsley and Banks. Nineteen-year-old Låpsley does not have an album out yet, but her two extended plays of ambient electronic music perfectly correspond with the crisp gusts of wind plaguing campus. Her voice is like a fancy coffee drink, most notably in “Falling Short.” Let it wash over you.

Banks’s self-titled debut album is stuffed with somber piano ballads and surging synths. Banks is the 27-year-old Jillian Rose Banks, an R&B songstress whose icy tracks have much in common with grayer skies. “Waiting Game” is a foreboding song about a long-distance relationship.

There are a couple jams, “Beggin for Thread” and “Goddess,” but much of the album is comprised of hushed electronic pulses, like the solemn track “Brain.”

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“ALMA COLLEGE’S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER, SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1907.”

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Campus Comment

By ZACK BAKER
STAFF WRITER

We asked you “If the sun didn’t come up tomorrow what would your day consist of?” and “What do you think of Alma’s lack of recycling?”



Antonio Garza, '17 business major said: “I’d go to the gym, get some studying done and go to theater I guess. I’d probably be less pumped for the day, but besides that just a normal day.”



Casey Ball, '18 international affairs & spanish major said: “I would steal someone’s car that is fuel efficient, go to Meijer and get a bunch of food, leave Alma, and then steal from the less populated areas up north on my way to my cabin up there.”



Danielle Boss, '18 IPHS major said: “I would think I am having a psychotic breakdown. But once I calmed down I would build a room with UV lights so I could enjoy sunlight when I wanted to. I’d also have plants and animals in there because they’d be bummed without the sun.”



Pat Mallett, '17 new media studies major said: “If class was still going on I would probably go to class with a flashlight. And I’d bundle up first because it would probably be pretty cold out.”

“It’s definitely something that we should have. It doesn’t seem like a very difficult program to have in place.”

“I think it’s stupid and that we need one to go along with the printing policy. It seems backwards to get rid of a recycling program.”

“Of all the things Alma could take away in the interest of saving money, the recycling program seems like one that they could avoid removing.”

“It’s pretty crappy. Part of me wonders, when there was a recycling program, how much of it actually got recycled.”

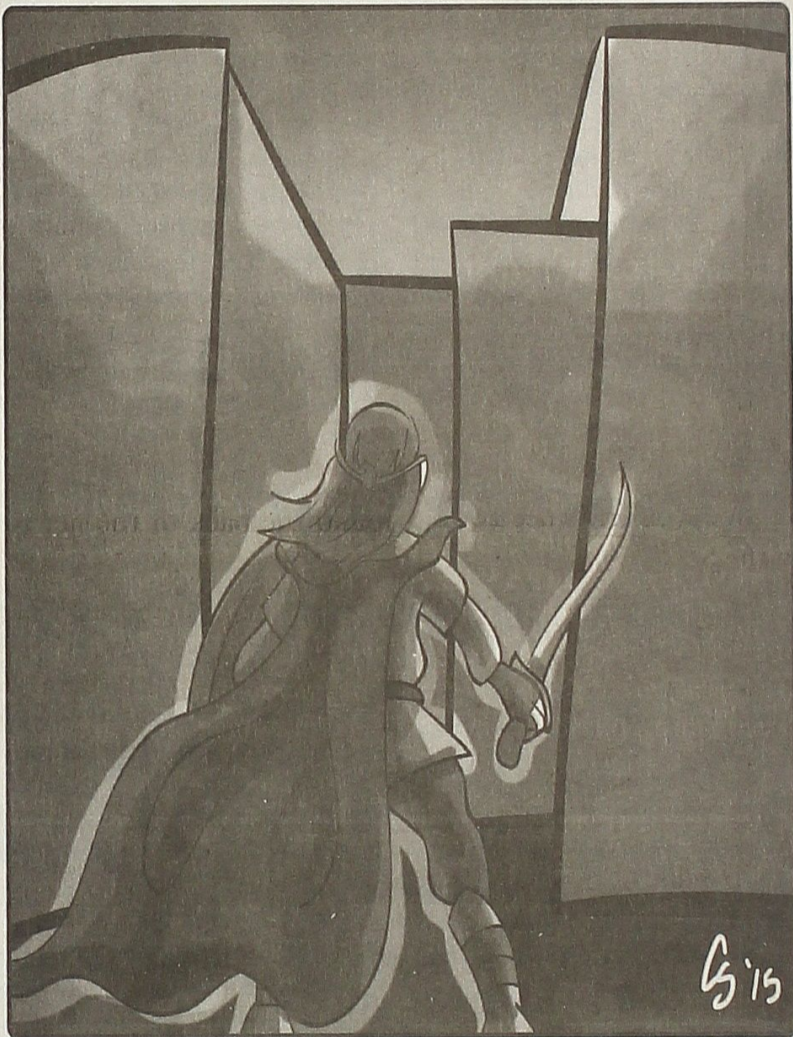
Steps into the labyrinth and hopefully out

By ABIGAIL FERGUS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Wake up, go to the bathroom, look at your phone to find discord over (racism/homosexuality/sexism) has decimated your relationship with your (sibling/parent/friend/organization). Continue your morning routine. T-minus 30 minutes until a micro-economics exam. You can use this countdown to control your breathing and recover from the panic attack you’re in the middle of. Wash your face while you sob so that tears mix with water and soap and no salt trails build on your cheeks. As you wash, clear your mind so that it doesn’t jump to the worst possible outcomes and form a pile of them like carcasses in your heart. Despite your efforts, weep for the consequences that will

ensue (heartbreak/loss of additional relationships/anxiety), but stifle the noise because your housemates are still asleep. Start a pot of coffee and then second guess the decision because your body is already buzzing with raw, wired agitation. Numb your mind to the image of your loved one who feels you (personally attacked/didn’t defend/deeply disrespected) them so you can explain the price elasticity of apples. Let the feeling of nothingness sink in until you could be a walking ice sculpture and file another day of classes. The thought has been the wallpaper of your mind all day, start talking and start peeling back the paper to see what can be done. When caring people ask, “how are you?” hand them the truth, not a courteous, “fine.” Talk their ears off. Talk your own ears off. Listen to the story as you’re telling it. Look for clues in your words, heed the hints your

listeners provide. What is most important to you in this situation? Is there anything you can’t walk away from or lose? How should you proceed? But the (people/movement) that matter most in the situation are at odds, that’s why the situation arose. It is a riddle to satiate both. Reflect on all the harsh words and lessons you thought of spewing at your adversary. Scrap those words; they will only widen the void between you and them. Now you’ve taken some proactive steps but what lies ahead is a labyrinth. The monsters hurt-ego, poor-communication and steadfast dwell here. Work at unclasping your cloak of anxiety. Arm yourself with a shield of like-minded supporters of (gay rights/women’s rights/minority rights). Wield a sword of love, resilience and reasoning. Don your boots of compassion and steadfast.



HOROSCOPES

By MONICA KUNOVZSKY
WEB EDITOR

Disclaimer: Horoscopes are meant to be fun and enjoyable. We take no responsibility if any of these do or do not come true. We wish no one bad weeks. Remember: life is what you make it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23- October 22)



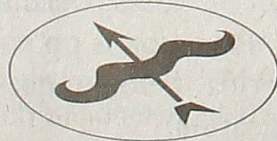
Save money by re-wearing your Halloween costume and making it into functional wear. Carry around a box of tissues this week because you’ll have a hellu runny nose.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23- Nov. 21)



It’s Scorpio season, so your power is in full capacity. Attempt to take a leadership position this upcoming week to exercise your power.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22- Dec. 21)



The fire in your sign has reached your heart and flared up a passion—so go after it and tackle these goals head on: luck is in your favor this week.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22- Jan. 19)



You made it past midterms, but that doesn’t mean slow down. Keep pushing and turning rocks into diamonds because your hard work will be appreciated and marveled at by all.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20- Feb. 18)



The highlight of your week will probably be eating leftover candy corn from Halloween weekend, so have fun with this week.

PISCES (February 19- March 20)



Watch out for Virgo’s and their anti-Christmas cheer escapade. Don’t forget to bring out your seasonal fuzzy socks because you’ll need the warmth for the cold weeks ahead.

ARIES (March 21- April 19)



Don’t forget to give yourself a pep talk in the morning while you’re getting ready. You’re capable of tackling any challenge—and lately you’ve been having lots of those.

TAURUS (April 20- May 20)



Pack snacks when you go to SAGA this week because you’ll be disappointed with the food. Even if it’s good, it won’t be good enough for your strangely picky taste this week.

GEMINI (May 21- June 20)



Get your eyebrows done this week; they’re out of control.

CANCER (June 21- July 22)



Make sure your Halloween candy is in an airtight container because saving your candy in a Ziploc bag will not guarantee freshness. Also—give all your Reese’s Peanut Butter cups to your favorite Sagittarius.

LEO (July 23- August 22)



You’re that individual who has already started the Christmas countdown at 12:01 a.m. on November 1. Keep getting pumped for the season by putting on your favorite ugly Christmas sweater and putting up the tree!

VIRGO (Aug. 23- Sept. 22)



Resist the urge to rip down all the Christmas decorations that go up once this Halloween weekend is over. Just because you don’t have Christmas cheer doesn’t mean others can’t.

Sports Bulletin

Thursday

Wrestling vs. Davenport University @ Alma at 7 p.m.

Saturday

Swimming and Diving vs. Saginaw Valley State University @ Alma at 10 a.m.

Alma College \$3 Movie Nights

"Spectre"

Purchase tickets in the Student Life Office Tuesday-Thursday or during lunch and dinner hours in Hamilton Commons

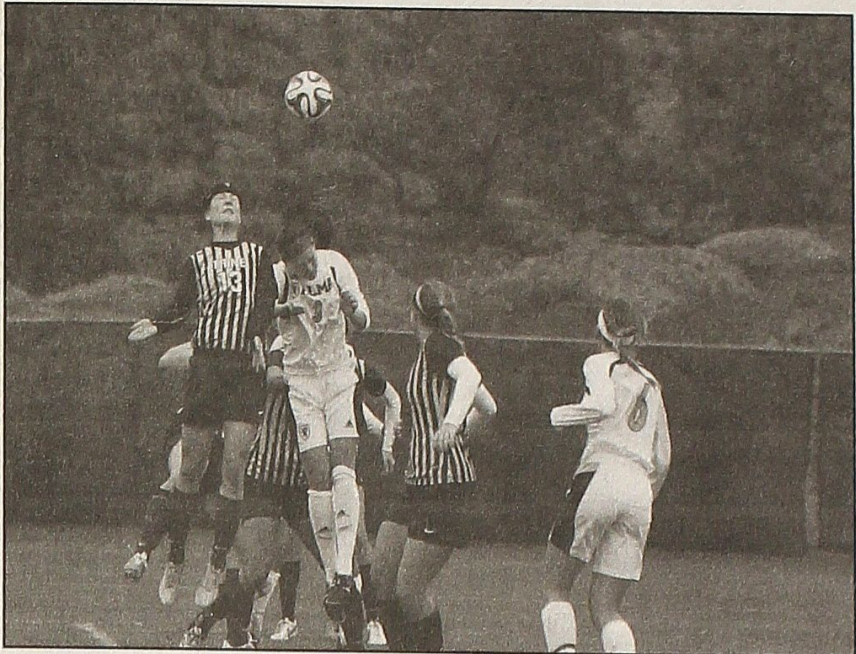
Scots shut out Trine

By MAXXTON JOLLS
STAFF WRITER

In the spirit of Halloween, the costume to wear was one of a soccer player. The Alma College women's team and the Thunder of Trine University did just that.

During the festivities, both teams matched up against each other, and the Scots came out with the 2-0 victory. Some were dressed up, as it was their last game at Scotland Yard, and Senior Day.

It was a gloomy game day for the Scots, but that didn't stop either team from giving their all. Alma took hold of a 1-0 lead in the minute 32 when **Jessica Burg ('17)** scored off of the rebound of **Whitnee Foote ('18)**. It wasn't until the minute 56 that the Scots scored again. Credit to **Allison Smith's**



Brianna Yaroob: Staff Photograph
Amanda Mladenovski ('18) heads the ball in their win against Trine.

('16) corner kick to **Bryn Kittle ('16)**, who scored the goal.

Kelsey Postema ('18) had it easy in the half as she didn't face a shot, alongside **Becca Gamble ('19)** who faced one shot in the second half. In the end, Alma recorded its third

shutout in just four games. Alma improved to 8-8-1 on season overall.

The season will come to a close on Monday, when the Scots travel to Indiana to go head-to-head with the Belles of Saint Mary's. Kickoff is scheduled for 3 p.m.

Men's soccer spooks MIAA on Halloween weekend

By MAXXTON JOLLS
STAFF WRITER

The treats came early last Friday night, as the Alma College men's soccer team defeated the Britons of Albion College. With the win, Alma tied its highest amount of wins (11) since 2000, when the Scots went 11-6-2.

Spencer Sandow ('16) felt that the team was confident "coming off a win" and said "we played good soccer against Albion and we want to keep up

the good work against Trine. Sandow continued, "coming off a win and knowing it's the last regular season game," the team "will want to come out strong and assert ourselves from the first whistle."

In just the fifth minute of action, **Aaron Bender ('16)** found the back of the net to give Alma a 1-0 lead. As the half went on, defense for both teams held each other to a stalemate for the remainder of the half. The statistics showed as much, Alma had

two shots on goal and Albion had four.

For most of the game, neither team could penetrate through the defense until Albion scored in minute 66 to notch the game up 1-1. The Scots stayed strong, and on the offensive, as they scored another goal by **Tyler Raab ('17)**, with the assist to Sandow, in less than a minute. The last and final goal went to **Kyle Kansman ('17)** to give Alma the 3-1 overall win and improved to 11-5-1 on the season.

The Scots played in their final regular season game (Oct. 31), and the scares came quickly for the Scots on this rainy Halloween Day as they fell to the Thunder of Trine University 2-0. Alma fell to 11-6-1, while Trine improved to 8-11-1.

It was a rough start for Alma in the first half, the Scots let a goal slip past them in minute 15. Throughout the rest of half, Alma was outgunned 9-5, but did kick a couple of corner kicks. Unfortunately for the

Scots, Trine found the back of the net yet again in the minute 62, making it 2-0, which eventually became the final score for the afternoon.

Avery McGroarty ('18) led the team with two shots, one being on target to the net. **Nick Strait ('17)** notched four saves for the game. Alma has secured the number three spot in the conference playoffs and will be on the field yet again Wednesday, as the Scots travel to Kalamazoo. Kickoff is yet to be determined.

Alma volleyball squad tops Saint Mary's; falls to Adrian in last match of season

By MAXXTON JOLLS
STAFF WRITER

On the eve of Halloween, the Alma College volleyball team started its trick-or-treating early by beating the Belle's of Saint Mary, 3-1.

Before the game, **Hannah Guilford ('16)** added, "In order to be successful our team has to start off strong and stay disciplined." Letting teams "back into the game" was what the Scots needed to improve on, "If we maintain our momentum we create in the beginning we will come out on top."

Beginning of the first set was a back and forth battle, both teams came out aggressive. It wasn't until later on in the set that Scots trailed 17-18. The Belles looked to capitalize on their lead, but Alma sparked a 6-1 run, which gave them the lead and the win, 25-20.

Saint Mary wasted no time getting back on track, as they held a 7-2 lead in the beginning of the second set. That didn't stop the Scots, however, sparking yet another run with four consecutive kills coming from Guilford. This helped

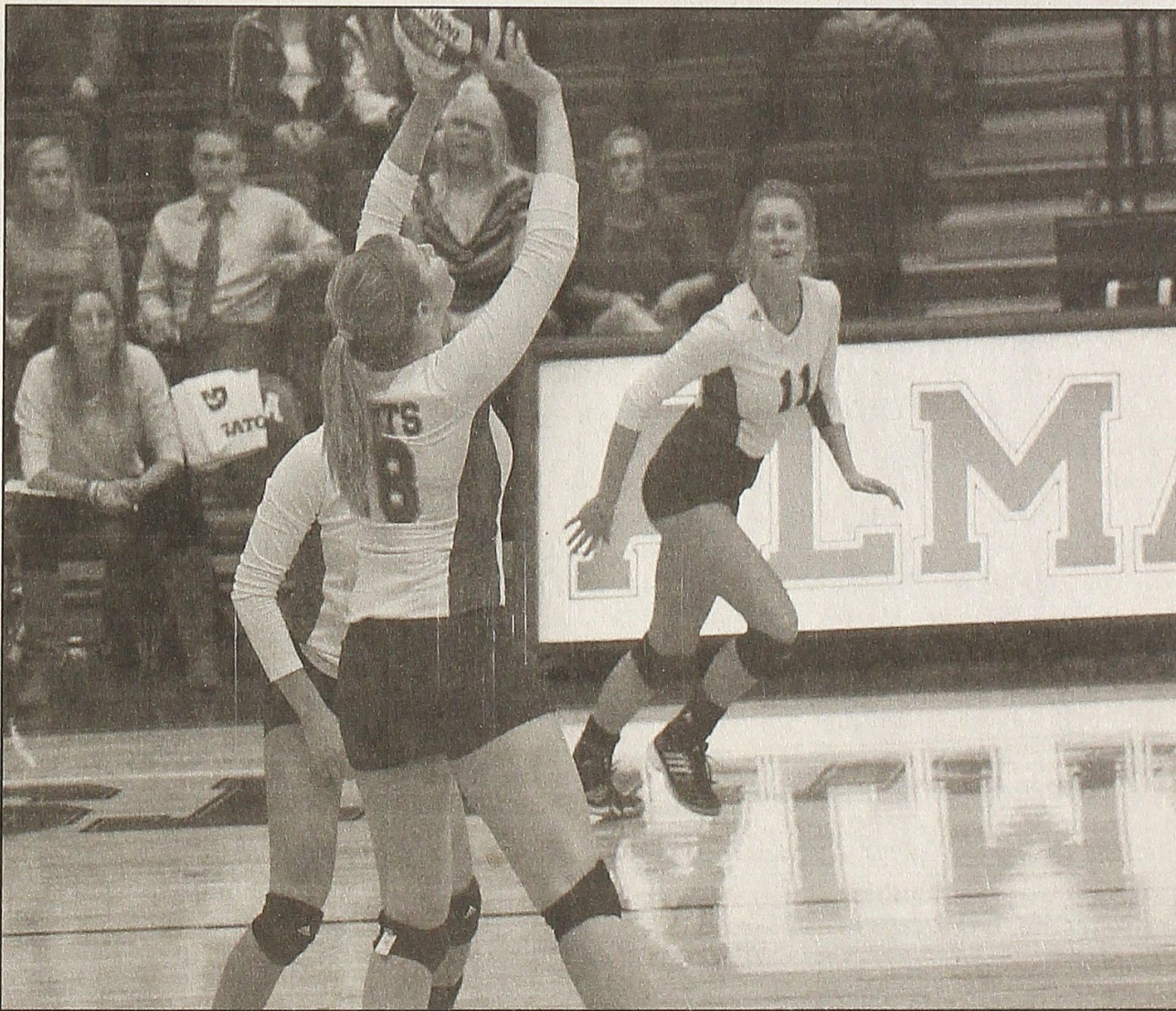
Alma take set number two, 25-18.

Alma led the third set up until the Belle's went on a run to tie the game at 18 and eventually won the third set. The Scots dug themselves a hole for a majority of the fourth set, but were persistent tying the game up at 20. Alma continued to persevere and eventually took the set and game to defeat Saint Mary 3-1.

The trick-or-treating didn't last, as the Scots fell to Adrian in the final game of the regular season on Halloween. Both teams needed a win in order to make it to the MIAA tournament, but while Adrian gained a win, the Scots lost in a heartbreaker.

In the first set, Alma came out firing winning the first set 25-23, which was led by Guilford leading the way with five kills and five digs. **Dakota Pelach ('18)** added eight assists in the win. In set number two, Alma started as it did in the first set, again winning the set 25-15. **Sasha Laykova ('17)** had four kills and **Kendall Sells ('17)** contributed with three.

In the next two sets, it was all Bulldogs. In what adjustments



Marcella Flury: Photo Editor
Maria Feldpausch ('19) sets the ball for Sasha Laykova ('17) during last Saturday's contest.

they made, Adrian was able to contain Alma's offense, taking set number three 25-22 and set number four 25-11. In the final set, The Bulldogs started off on fire, gaining a 7-3 advantage, but the Scots kept on pushing.

They regained the lead 12-10, but this was short-lived as Adrian beat Alma 15-13 to take the set.

Guilford, **Maggie Miller ('16)**, and **Addie Loftus ('16)**, were honored after the

game had concluded in an emotional ceremony for the seniors.

The Scots ended their season 12-16 overall and finished 8-8 in the MIAA, which put them fifth in the conference.

Scotlight: Postema gets MIAA player honors

By BRENT LUPLOW
SPORTS EDITOR

Coming into the 2015 women's soccer season, there was one position with question marks around it: goalkeeper.

In 2014, the Scots fell in the MIAA tournament semi-finals to Kalamazoo starting a freshman goalkeeper. She was one of two freshmen who saw the majority of time in the net for the Scots. However, after just a year, both decided to leave the program

With a new head coach and no returning goalkeepers the Scots were left scratching their heads.

Enter, Kelsey Postema. The sophomore from Marshall, Michigan was wearing black and gold last year as a member of the Oakland University women's soccer team.

However, a connection to former head coach Matt Saul led her to become a Scot goalkeeper this season.

"I got in contact with Alma because I know the program's previous coach [Saul] and he encouraged me to look into the school because he believed

that it would be a good fit both academically and athletically," said Postema.

A good fit it has been. Postema was recently named the MIAA conference defensive player of the week for her efforts during the week of Oct. 19.

"My goal for the team next year is to just keep improving."
-Kelsey Postema ('18)

She collected a shutout and a career high 12 saves in a 2-0 win over Kalamazoo. She followed it up with seven saves in a 0-0 draw at Hope. She had over a 295-minute shutout streak before it was broken against Calvin last Tuesday.

"I think I've grown a lot since the beginning of this year and I'm excited to see where I will be after my next two years here."

On the year, Postema started 15 games, had 3 shutouts, and collected 69 saves for a save



Courtesy of Kelsey Postema ('18)

Kelsey Postema ('18) delivers a kick.

percentage of .734. Her record was 7-7-1.

The future looks bright for the Scots who will return three of their top four goal

scorers from this year as well as Postema.

"My goal for the team next year is to just keep improving, learning from all the challenges

that we've experienced and using our talent to secure the spot in the tournament that we were just short of this year," said Postema.

Throwdown in A-Town brings community together

By SARA STEMEN
COPY EDITOR

Winter sports are starting their seasons soon and campus celebrated the accomplishments of many organizations and teams.

Throwdown in A-Town, the annual event to kick off winter sports, was last Friday. The activity, put on by the Student Athletic Advisory Council (SAAC), began with a carnival. Many students, coaches, faculty and community members attended the event.

Head men's basketball coach Sam Hargraves said, "my favorite part is getting the campus and community involved with our athletic department.

"We have so many talented student-athletes, and that talent goes beyond just their sport. We have high character people here. The more the community can see that, the better."

Head women's basketball coach Kris Johnson also is a strong supporter of the event and bringing the community together. Johnson said as a team, "we believe in giving back and making our season and our players/team a part of the community. We want to develop relationships to enhance our experiences and the experiences of others."

Walking around the Art Smith Arena at 6:30 p.m. one could find free Pizza One, face painting from the women's basketball team, track and field, cross country and many other organizations engaging with young, excited Alma residents dressed up celebrating Halloween.

Kassi Adams ('16), a women's basketball team member and SAAC representative said, "I love having so many people from different organizations on campus involved because it just really shows how close the Alma community is and how much support we show each other."

Cheer and stunt coach Michelle Sabourin said "I most enjoy that it allows us to come together to celebrate the start of another season as a college community. We have a huge athletics program with 25 sports, so whenever we can get everyone together it's a great time."

The cheer and stunt team rolled out the mats for a performance. Flipping, tumbling and flying were all included.

"This is one of our favorite performances, mainly because it's one of the few that we get to do in front of our peers and community," Sabourin continued. "I was incredibly proud of the performance last night, it was one of the best routines they've performed in our program's history."

Jade Garcia ('17) and **Jamie Jakes ('16)** were the finalists in the annual dance off, with Garcia taking the win.

The coaches and seniors of the men's and women's basketball teams then led a game of faculty vs. seniors. The faculty team was led by Hargraves (men's basketball), Johnson (women's basketball), Denny Griffin (softball), Bob Garcia (vice president of enrollment) and Ashley Bingaman (women's soccer).

The student team was led by seniors Adams,



Zack Baker: Staff Photographer

Virginia Blandford and daughters pose with Scotty at Throwdown in A-Town.

Rae Zink, Alissa Clink, Alex Barnwell, Hannah Frapolly, Gus Meriwether, Scott Nikodemski, Ethan Woelke, JR James, DJ Beckman and Matt Launstein. The seniors won with a score of 19-13.

"My favorite part of the event was the faculty and staff basketball game," said Adams. "It is really awesome to see how many coaches get involved and how much fun they were having."

Embracing the goal of encompassing the whole campus, the percussion ensemble also performed.

The night ended with a dunk contest between men's basketball teammates and a half-court shot contest. Launstein, who was sporting a giraffe costume, took home the title. Zink blew away the crowd by making a half-court shot, winning her a gift card.

Sabourin said, "We have been

really working hard through SAAC to engage with the campus and community outside of athletics. The throwdown event continues to grow every year and is a great way to start forming those relationships."

As for the student representatives of SAAC, "The SAAC reps were really excited about everything that was going to be going on in Throwdown and we spent a lot of time preparing for it," said Adams. "It was great to see so many people show up and enjoy themselves."

The winter teams will now take on their seasons and look to continue the success that has been building over the past few seasons.

Hargraves said, "We have some high expectations for our men's basketball team this year, which is nice. It means we've improved and we're heading in the right direction." Last season the team finished 9-5 in

the MIAA conference and 12-14 overall.

"But that can all be lost very quickly if we rest on the way we ended last year, thinking we have 'arrived,'" continued Hargraves. "There is a very fine line between winning and losing in this conference. Any lack of effort, mental or physical, and we could find ourselves at the bottom of the standing. As we all know, once you secure a spot in the top four, anything is possible after that."

Cheer and stunt finished its season strong last year by placing second at nationals in Daytona Beach.

Sabourin added, "We have high exceptions this year, and with our strong upperclassmen leadership, I think that we are moving in the right direction."

Other sports competing this winter season include swim and dive, indoor track, women's bowling and wrestling.