

# Community brings hope after TKE fire



Elaine Cunningham: Photo Editor

TKE alumni Ben Workman and Michael Miller stand in front of the remains of the house after a fire blazed through it on the morning of Jan. 29. The official report of the cause will be released sometime this week.

By ANGELA FLYNN  
NEWS EDITOR

While the cause of the Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fire recently is still undetermined, rumors continue to swirl around the blaze. One thing is certain, however. Campus organizations and city businesses have rallied to offer generous support.

All the students inside the house, including the 11 residents, were able to escape without injury. Many, however, left with only a few of their belongings.

The official report on the origin of the fire has not yet been released, but David Buhl, vice president of business affairs, says it should be available this week.

In an article from “The Morning Sun” on Jan. 31, Alma Public Safety Director Dave Walsh reported that the fire was believed to have started in a trash barrel, possibly by a cigarette. This had some students talking about the cause of the blaze.

“The rumors involving the trash can are untrue,” said TKE President **Nate Cushman** (‘13). He said he was in the house when the fire began and he explained that the flames started next to the washers.

**Bobby Irwin** (‘13), TKE vice president, supports Cushman in saying that it couldn’t have started in a trash can as one was not located near the origin of the fire.

There were also reports that some of the fire extinguishers

See ‘TKE fire,’  
cont. on page 2



Elaine Cunningham: Photo Editor

A few burned items sit outside the TKE house. The brothers will be allowed to enter the dwellings Tuesday to see if there is anything inside that can be saved.

# Amnesty International to discuss PIPA, SOPA

By ELLEN MARTIN  
STAFF WRITER

During the past few weeks there has been widespread conflict and protests regarding the Protect Intellectual Property Act (PIPA) and the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA)—two bills that were debated in the U.S. Congress.

“What sparked the idea for this panel is the recent reaction from our generation to the SOPA and PIPA laws.”

-Katie Gordon (‘13)

Although the legislation had the good intent of protecting intellectual property, people had many concerns (one of which was that it would lead to government censorship on the Internet) and so the acts were not signed into law.

In regard to this important issue of Internet privacy, one group has decided to bring a way to discuss these topics

in the Alma community.

“During the ‘Internet blackout’ a couple weeks ago, I think we were all able to experience a taste of something that not only could be a reality in our future, but already is a reality in many countries in the world.”

-Katie Gordon (‘13)

On Wednesday, Amnesty International will host the Right to Information Panel Discussion with a question and answer session at 7 p.m. in the Swanson Academic Center, Room 113.

“What sparked the idea for this panel is the recent reaction from our generation to the SOPA and PIPA laws,” explained **Katie Gordon** (‘13). “During the ‘Internet blackout’ a couple weeks ago, I think we were all able to experience a taste of something that not only could be a reality in

our future, but already is a reality in many countries in the world.”

In this discussion, panelists will explore topics concerning media and censorship, including how students would have been effected by SOPA and PIPA if they had passed “as well as an international perspective into access to information, including how dictatorships use the Internet as a tool for control,” stated Gordon.

If these laws were passed, “what we all thought would be a free medium could now become a tool for the government to track down its opponents,” described Edward Lorenz, Reid-Knox professor of history and political science as well as the advisor of Amnesty International.

Panelists scheduled to participate in the discussion include Derick Hulme, Aurther L. Russell professor of political science, as well as **Bryan Scheiber** (‘12).

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Sunny 43°	Partly Cloudy 30°	Cloudy 32°	Mostly Sunny 35°	Cloudy 28°	Few Snow Showers 27°	Cloudy 30°

Hulme will examine the international aspects of the Right to Information as well as the freedom and information in other countries across the world.

“We’re hoping to get people to ask questions—to get involved.”

-Edward Lorenz

Scheiber was asked to participate because of his knowledge of laws concerning piracy and privacy regarding information on the Internet. He is a computer science major, owns a computer business, and will be studying cyber security as a graduate student.

“This panel will be a great way not only to learn more of the academic side of the issue, but it will also be a good facilitated discussion to flesh out these complicated but important ideas,” said Gordon.

“Though not often regarded as [a human right],” Gordon concluded about the Right to Information, “I think this will be one that will only grow in importance as technology becomes even more prominent in our lives.”

This panel discussion will be open to students and all community members. In addition, WQAC—the college radio station—will be broadcasting the session live and afterwards will turn it into a podcast.

“We’re trying to look at a complicated and important issue,” said Lorenz. “We’re hoping to get people to ask questions—to get involved.”



## Roundtable brings campus and community together

By KELSEY BLADES  
STAFF WRITER

Just like any relationship, the connection between the Alma campus and the Alma community has its troubles. The campus-community relationship struggles in particular with communication: the contact barrier between the two used to be wider than the railroad tracks physically dividing them.

Enter students from the Center for Responsible Leadership and community members as relationship doctors. Last year saw the beginning of the roundtable discussions at which some of the CRL students and community members gathered to talk. Their purpose was to brainstorm ways to increase the engagement between students and the community. The biggest event to come out of last year's discussion was the Fall Festival in October.

Last Thursday night marked the first roundtable discussion of the year. More than 40 people—including students, faculty, and community members—congregated in the public library from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to review the results from last year and to discuss ideas for this coming year. The next roundtable meeting is scheduled for Thursday at the Alma Public Library.

Mike Vickery, professor of communication and co-director of CRL, began the discussion by reviewing the purpose for meeting.

"Our goal here is not to talk but to do things," he said. "I hope we can, over the course of the next couple of meetings like this, find those things that people want to do and ways to do

[them]. This year's roundtables... are an attempt to reconnect, to review what happened, to re-energize... and also to keep going those things that were started."

***"I hope we can, over the course of the next couple of meetings like this, find those things that people want to do and ways to do them."***

***-Mike Vickery  
professor of  
communication***

Andria Baker ('12) led a review of the Fall Festival and reported that she had heard students express pleasant surprise at the variety of shops in the downtown area. She then asked the community members for their input.

The general consensus was that the festival was a success from both the students' and the merchants' perspectives; however, it was agreed that more work needs to be done in the future to ensure that the students continue to return to the downtown area.

The group next mentioned some other projects that are underway to strengthen the entire Alma community, including the college. A building project will feature the renovation of downtown buildings to feature retail space on the main level and apartments for students upstairs. In addition,

alternative methods of caring for the community garden located near the Alma High School were discussed, including the option of bringing in members of Masonic Pathways Senior Living Services to help with its maintenance.

The next topic brought up was publicity and making sure that the community and campus kept in touch with each other. Participants in the discussion pointed out that the business owners and other community workers and members did not know about student internships and mentoring opportunities. Suggestions concerning an advisory board and an e-mail newsletter were put forth for consideration.

Ideas for increasing campus-community engagement include a spring equivalent of the Fall Festival (modeled after the Green Festival in Chicago) and the offering of workshops. One possibility for these workshops involves college students teaching business owners and other interested individuals how to effectively use social media for advertising purposes.

Vickery wrapped up the meeting with mentioning the list of ideas conceived by the students in the public leadership project (PAF 180) class. These ideas are to be discussed at this week's meeting and include the following: increasing the aesthetic appeal of downtown Alma; promoting the city's Scottish heritage; increasing civic engagement and civic literacy; providing leadership training for business and community members; and increasing the engagement of campus organizations and the community.

## 'TKE fire,' cont. from page 1

did not work properly once the blaze was detected.

Nicholas Piccolo, vice president for student life, said that the extinguishers were last checked in August of 2011, at the start of the school year. At that time, he explained, they were tagged as working properly.

The process, according to Buhl, consists of two inspections in the summer, one coming from a party outside the college. This two-part process allows for a "double-check" to be made on the fire extinguishers to be sure they are fully functioning.

"Before the city lets us open the houses, those [inspections] have to be done," said Buhl.

Despite some unanswered questions, certainly the college and community pulled together to help TKE in any way possible.

"We've been getting a lot of support," said Irwin. "We've even been getting help from other TKEs around the state, getting things like clothes and sheets, book supplies, as well as gift cards."

Various student organizations have been gathering clothes and providing meals for the brothers to help them in any way possible.

Irwin mentioned that **Lindsay Prenkert's ('12)** church, the Hope Community Church in Niles, donated \$250 Kohl's gift cards for each of the brothers. The Alma Walmart also gave each brother a \$25 gift card.

President Jeff Abernathy also met with the residents.

"It was like an open forum," said Cushman. "He was really great and helpful and he was genuinely concerned."

Students began helping the brothers immediately, as some gathered outside the house as it was on fire to do anything they could for the TKEs.

"I expected to see the TKE alumni and sisters help right away, but I really felt good that even that night, other students were taking brothers into their homes for a place to stay," said Buhl. "It was an instant reaction."

The college also got immediately involved.

"I felt good about how quickly [the college] acted," said Buhl. He explained that the college paid for their books to be replaced and that officials are offering special counseling to help them cope with the recent events.

There has also been some talk about when a new house will be constructed and where it will be located.

"President Abernathy is talking to TKE alumni about fundraising for a new house," said Buhl. "It may be located at 313 Philadelphia, which was the location of the previous house."

The TKE brothers are currently dispersed in residence halls throughout campus, but Buhl expressed that next fall, if a new house isn't completed, the college will find a way to let the brothers live together. For example, college officials may set off a block of rooms in the same hall for the TKEs to live together.

Buhl said that the displaced students would be able to enter the house on Tuesday to look around for anything they may be able to save. He has already been in the house since the fire, and said he was able to save the president's gavel, which is currently being cleaned.

"It really warms my heart that so many people around Alma care," said Cushman. "We want to thank everyone who has helped out."

## This week at Alma College Grimshaw to speak of performing arts injuries

By ELLEN MARTIN  
STAFF WRITER

**Tuesday, February 7:**

ACUB Euchre Tournament at 7 p.m. in North and South Commons

**"Choosing a Major or Career: Making the Most of Your Four Years"** at 8 p.m. in the Smith Room of the Alma College Library

**Friday, February 10:**

AlmaCon begins at 6 p.m. in the Rec Center, court 4

**Saturday, February 11:**

AlmaCon at 10 a.m. in the Rec Center, court 4

**Sunday, February 12:**

AlmaCon at 10 a.m. in the Rec Center, court 4

**"AlmaCon2012 Presents: +2 Comedy"** at 3:30 p.m. in the Chapel

**Alma Symphony Orchestra III: Concerto Winners Concert** at 4 p.m. in the Heritage Center

especially that of performing arts injuries—are his areas of interest and expertise, he explained "I do not limit the practice to any particular set of disease processes."

***"I see my role as one who listens with head, heart, and hands in order to develop an understanding of the person and the problem, and how they relate to each other."***

***-David Grimshaw***

Grimshaw is the co-author of "Music Education and Performing Arts Medicine: The State of the Alliance" and has previously taught a course at Michigan State University titled "Healthy Musicianship."

His presentation is being co-sponsored by the College's Music Department and Co-Curricular Committee; the Co-Curricular Committee being that group that brings in the majority of speakers and other activities to campus.

Murray Gross, assistant professor of music, feels that Grimshaw will be the perfect

In the realm of medicine, there is a certain type of injury that is commonly overlooked: those which are related to the performing arts.

However, David Grimshaw, D.O., will be coming to Alma next week to speak specifically on this often-neglected topic in his presentation, "Playing Without Pain: Integrative Medicine and the Performing Arts." It will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 13 in Room L-4 in the Dow Science Center.

Grimshaw is certified in family medicine and osteopathic manipulative medicine and runs a private practice in Okemos. He is also a physician member/medical director of the Healthy Musicianship Team at the Michigan State University College of Music.

"My vocation is to understand healing," said Grimshaw when speaking of his philosophy. "I see my role as one who listens with head, heart, and hands...in order to develop an understanding of the person and the problem, and how they relate to each other."

"I especially enjoy working with children, youth, and persons involved in the performing arts." However, although these areas—

person to address these topics as he knows musicians who have worked with him and speak highly of his expertise.

"People do not realize the physical demands put on musicians, dancers, and other performing artists," Gross stated.

He is looking forward to seeing how Grimshaw will advise people to stay healthy, avoid injury, and correct already-existing problems. He related that he has seen many people endure injuries in the performing arts, especially through music.

"I have known musicians with career-ending problems," said Gross, noting that he has seen many of these same problems in students here at Alma, including neck, back, and even jaw injuries.

"Many musicians at every performance level face physical problems and pain from the repetition of performance," said Gross. "For example, holding a violin isn't exactly the most natural pose in the world. Slight maladjustments in form and technique can result in serious neck and back pain. You don't have to perform for hours on end to be effected by such injuries."

The presentation is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend, but musicians, performing artists, and those interested in specialized areas will particularly benefit from this experience, said Gross.



## Student volunteers with NGO give Uganda children Another Hope

By KELSEY BLADES  
STAFF WRITER

Are you getting tired of doing the same old thing in the Alma bubble? Why don't you take a trip around the world to add some variety to your life.

Last summer, Jenny Campfield ('13) traveled to Africa to volunteer with Another Hope Children's Ministries, a Christian non-governmental organization and home for orphaned and abandoned children throughout Uganda. She gave a presentation on her experience last Wednesday in SAC 109.

The organization is located outside of the capital city of Kampala.

"It's close enough that it has some of the modern amenities that we're used to," Campfield said. "It had electricity . . . for maybe eight hours a day, and I think out of the entire four weeks I was there I got maybe two or three real showers—those were the number of times

we had running water coming through the bathrooms."

According to Campfield, the home serves approximately 60 children. "Approximately 20 of them

to www.anotherhope.org, Bulyaba's experiences of growing up in a single-parent home influenced her to "support vulnerable children of Uganda."

"What they try to do is meet the spiritual, emotional, physical, and medical needs of the children," said Campfield. "They provide all of their food and clothing and those physical needs. . . . They also provide for their spiritual needs as well. They have a chapel on the property and they do Bible study every morning and night and have church services on Sunday."

She said that she worked with five other volunteers from all over the world. Because the building in which the volunteers stayed was a small courtyard away from the children's building, they stayed in constant close proximity.

"From morning to night literally you spend all of your time with these children," Campfield said. "Most of the time I would wake up in the morning with four or five kids sitting on my doorstep waiting for us to get up. You spend all of your day with them, which is just wonderful."

Each volunteer goes through a matching process to be paired with a child so that the volunteers can

give the most effective influence.

"The main responsibilities that I had were to take the children to their school called Little Stars," said Campfield. "[The other volunteer and I] would get up with the kids, help them take their baths, get their clothes on, make sure they had their uniforms

I couldn't even really do to help them because their education system and the way they are taught different skills is so different from the way we do things here.

"I also helped to lead their evening Bible studies every night, which was a lot of fun, too. Providing childcare [was] something all the volunteers did regardless of what their main skills were," said Campfield. "As a childcare provider you are basically their mom. You bathe them, you give them clothes, you feed them . . . for me, it was probably the most rewarding experience."

The child Campfield was paired with had only been at the camp for a few days when she arrived.

"When I got there he wasn't walking, but I got to help him take his first steps," she said. "His first word was 'Mama,' which he said to me."

Annalise De Young ('13) was impressed by Campfield's experience.

"I thought her presentation was really inspiring," she said. "It's really cool, the kind of opportunities that we can get here in Alma. I haven't [done anything like this], but I really want to, and I've been thinking about it a lot."

***"I think out of the entire four weeks I was there I got maybe two or three real showers—those were the number of times we had running water coming through the bathrooms."***

***-Jenny Campfield ('13)***

live at the home itself. About 20 live at boarding schools, and part of that is simply because they don't have the space to house that many children at the current house that they're in . . . and then they have about 20 children that they consider 'community children,'" said Campfield.

Another Hope was started by Ruth Bulyaba. According

***"What they try to do is meet the spiritual, emotional, physical, and medical needs of the children."***

***-Jenny Campfield ('13)***

looking nice, and then we would do the 45-minute walk to get there."

Campfield's experience allowed her to apply several of her skills, including those related to her major, elementary education.

"I also helped to tutor the kids, so I was paired with some of the older kids who needed help in math and language arts," she said. "I found that especially for the math there was a lot that

## Winter months make students SAD

By RYAN HERZOG  
STAFF WRITER

With the change of seasons comes the change of many things. The most apparent ones are physical. There are changes in temperature, color, smell, and what type of clothes you wear.

Mental changes, however, fluctuate as well, including

***"They tell me that all they want to do is sleep, then their grades slip, then they skip class. These are red flags that tell me we need to work with this individual."***

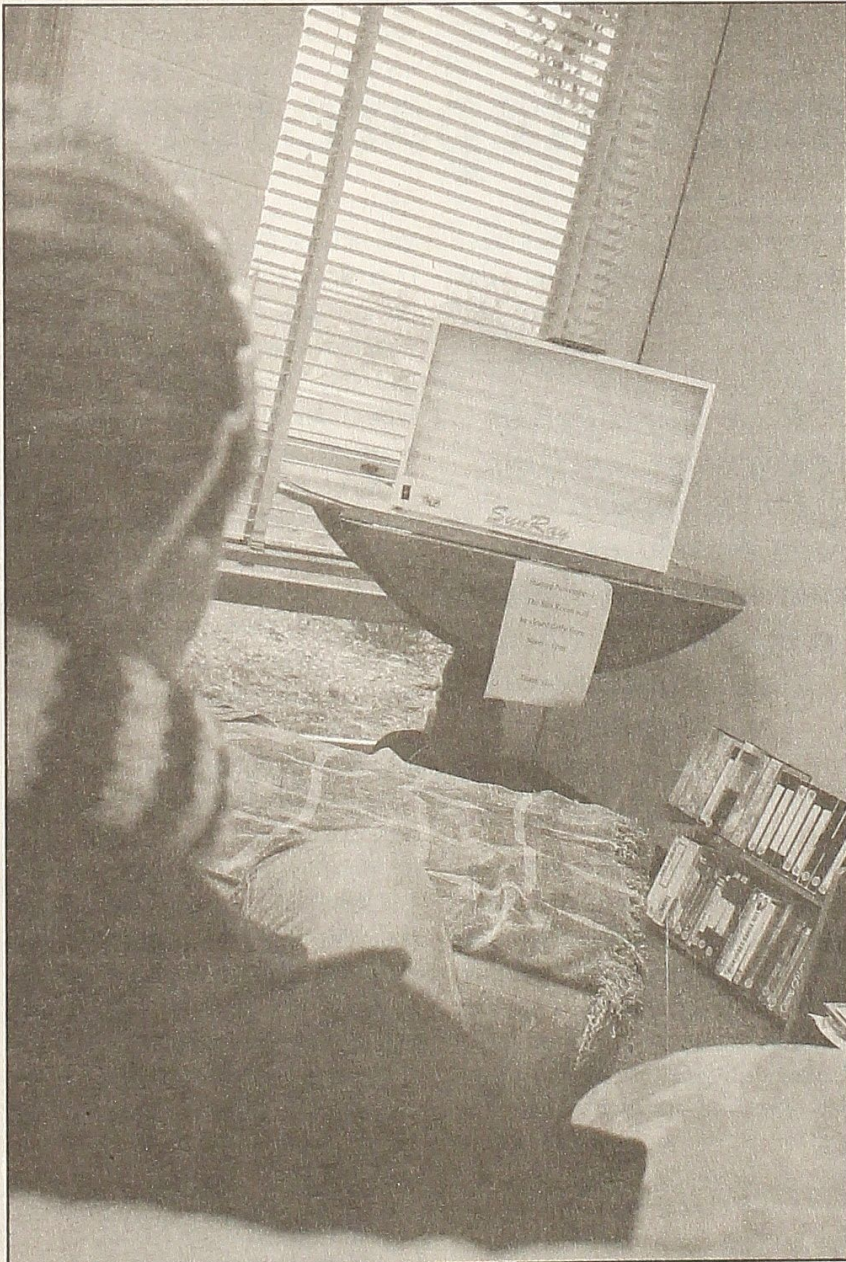
***-Jennifer Cary, professional counselor***

motivation and sleeping habits.

One huge challenge students may face during the winter months is a condition known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

SAD occurs when a person does not receive enough sunlight throughout their day to keep their mood up. Due to the lower amount of daily exposure to light, a person's brain does not get enough serotonin, a chemical that elevates the mood of a person's body.

Commonly known as the "winter blues," SAD combined with the winter semester



Kayla Roy: Staff Photographer

**Since decreased exposure to sunlight causes SAD, morning light therapy is one of the most beneficial treatments.**

can take a toll on students, according to Jennifer Cary, professional counselor at the Counseling and Wellness Center.

"For this time of the year, the number one conversation I have when a student walks in to my office is about how they have a

lack of motivation," said Cary. "They tell me that all they want to do is sleep, then their grades slip, then they skip class. These are red flags that tell me we need to work with this individual."

While symptoms appear to be the same as clinical

depression, SAD is distinguished by the fact that it only shows up during seasonal bouts.

While SAD appears mainly in winter, a rare form called summer SAD can occur. Summer SAD occurs due to excessive heat and humidity.

Different forms of the disorder can appear. For some people, the disease shows up only once in their life. Others have to live with it their whole lives, pro-actively taking medicine in October and sitting next to a light box.

Those who feel they need help can visit the Health and Wellness Center, located by the train tracks. They have a "sunroom" for students. The room has a box that exposes them to a bright light, simulating the effects of the sun.

Director of Counseling,

and have those benefits last you through the rest of the day."

Lambrecht also says that the sunroom is a good alternative to a tanning salon. While the

***"The morning is when you are most sluggish. It is better to get a good dose of light therapy during the start, and have those benefits last you through the rest of the day."***

***-Anne Lambrecht, Director of Counseling and Wellness Center***

***"For this time of the year, the number one conversation I have when a student walks in to my office is about how they have a lack of motivation."***

***-Jennifer Cary, Professional Counselor***

Health & Wellness Anne Lambrecht, says the effects of the sunroom are most beneficial when used in the morning.

"The morning is when you are most sluggish," she said. "It is better to get a good dose of light therapy during the start,

tanner does provide the same effects as the sun room, it is not advisable due to the risk of cancer.

An on campus group, Active Minds, worked to bring awareness about SAD in January.

Active Minds is a nationwide organization on campus that is "changing conversations on mental health."

Devoted to bringing awareness on mental health issues, Active Minds publishes "stall street journals," and holds various activities throughout the year.

This month, it also posted flyers of tabs containing smiles and words of compassion for students to take.

For March, Active Minds plans on introducing "The Synaptic Gap"; a collection of real-life stories on people with mental illnesses who have overcome them.



## Dance-a-Thon earns dues for Phi Sigma Sigma sorority

By ANNA WEBER  
STAFF WRITER

Alma College students proved that no one needs professional ballet lessons to have fun dancing. Students gathered in Van Deusen last Saturday to groove with a Zumba dance class, the Wii game "Just Dance," classic group dances like the "Cha Cha Slide" and the "Cupid Shuffle," and music by '90's boy bands.

The event was hosted by women from the Phi Sigma Sigma sorority, who charged \$2 for admission to the Dance-a-Thon. Beginning at 2 p.m., the women alternated hour-long blocks of dancing with 15-minute breaks until 5 p.m. The party started with an hour of the popular workout dance Zumba, taught by Phi Sigma Sigma alum Tara Roberts, according to **Christina Dennis ('13)**, the sorority's fundraising chair.

After a break, the sisters attached a Wii game system to a projector for a mass game of "Just Dance." During the 15-minute breaks, Dennis planned to play popular music and take requests.

"I'm sure someone will request some boy bands," she said before the event, laughing. "Not Jonas Brothers, though—'90's bands, like NSYNC."

The funds raised by the admission fee went to assist members with their dues, tuition, or any other financial aid they might require. Many new members of

fraternities and sororities pledged over the previous weekend, and each student was required to pay a pledge fee. Additionally, all Greek organizations require regular dues from their members.

"The dues are pretty hefty for a college student budget," says Dennis. "We don't want money to be an issue [in joining a sorority] at all, especially if a student has

*"The dues are pretty hefty for a college student budget. We don't want money to be an issue [in joining a sorority] at all, especially if a student has found her home with that sorority."*

-Christina Dennis ('13)

found her home with that sorority."

The sisters hoped to raise at least \$300 to benefit their new and current members. According to Dennis, fundraising is the norm for both fraternities and sororities.

The sisters of Phi Sigma Sigma were very excited in the days leading up to the event.

"Not many dance parties are held on campus, and there should be, because they bring a lot of joy," said **Janelle Young**



Kayla Roy: Staff Photographer

Participants learned Zumba, a variety of popular dances combined into a workout routine, from alum Tara Roberts.

**('15)**, a new member. "I'm excited. I love to dance, love to get my groove on. I love Zumba, I've been a 'Zumba-er.'"

Young wasn't the only one excited, either; Dennis said that students, faculty, and community members were all invited, and she anticipated a large turnout.

"Tincy Goggin teaches here, and that girl can kick it!" said Dennis.

Not only did the Dance-a-

Thon help sisters pay their various fees, but Dennis also hoped that the event would help to form friendships between the current and incoming members.

"The majority of the chapter will be there," she said before the event. "It's a great time for [new members] to get to know active sisters and for sisters to get to know them." This will be one of the first major events for new sisters to participate

alongside returning members.

Dancing has been a part of Phi Sigma Sigma culture for some time. **Catalina Martinez ('12)**, a current member, related an anecdote from last semester.

"One of the sisters got married on Dec. 3, and someone requested the 'Just Dance' song at the reception. All the Phi Sigs who attended got in a circle around the bride to do the dance together," she said. "We dance to it all the time."

## Concerto contest winners prepare for performance

By ANNA WEBER  
STAFF WRITER

Music students assembled to compete with each other in mid-November in an audition-style contest. The winners will play solos with the Alma Symphony Orchestra, in a concerto of their choice, at a 4 p.m. concert on Feb. 12th in the Heritage Center.

This semester, the orchestra has been hard at work preparing

*"We don't always get this kind of opportunity to perform in front of a large audience. It's a good experience for us as musicians."*

-Dana Wygmans ('12)

begin to practice together.

"We don't always get this kind of opportunity to perform in front of a large audience," says Wygmans. "It's a good experience for us as musicians."

Wygmans will perform a bass concerto at the concert, while her fellow soloists will be featured on trombone, trumpet, and piano. She says that this is a particularly special concert because the instruments that will be featured are not ones commonly given much attention in an orchestra performance, which usually revolves around the performance of string instruments.

The four winners endured a grueling audition process along with their competitors; Wygmans says that her audition piece is one that she had been practicing since the first semester of last year.

"Preparing for the concerto competition took many hours

of practice," said Schmeltzer. "Winning the competition took me completely by surprise."

*"It's a very different experience—exciting for the soloist, the orchestra, and the audience. It isn't about competing, it's about playing music and making art."*

-Dana Wygmans ('12)

The students returned from Thanksgiving break one day early to audition at their assigned times. They played their various instruments in front of a panel of three judges, including Alma faculty members Scott Messing

and Alma Symphony Orchestra Director Murray Gross.

"It was nerve-wracking, it was hard," says Wygmans. "One bad day can make or break it. One performance determines whether you win or not."

Even though she won the contest, she was still impressed with her fellow music students, saying that everyone was equally deserving of the opportunity, "because of the amount of work they put in."

"Having four winners is almost unheard of," said Gross. "Performing a complete concerto in front of 500 people is a daunting task."

Officials expect a larger audience for this concert than most of the orchestra concerts receive, including students, faculty, and community members. Although the music department frequently holds concerts on

campus, it is unusual that this one features student soloists. This gives the community of Alma the opportunity to see students shine individually, when they normally expect students to perform in a large group.

"It's a very different experience — exciting for the soloist, the orchestra, and the audience," said Wygmans. "It isn't about competing, it's about playing music and making art."

In addition to the four concertos, the concert will also include some four non-concerto symphonic dances that Wygmans described as "crowd-pleasing," such as "Hungarian Dances" by Brahms.

Admission to the concert will be \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors over 62, and free for Alma staff, students, and youths less than 18 years. Seating is reserved; call (989) 463-7304 for more information.

for the concert with the four winners: **Adam Ferrara ('15)**, **Jacob Schmeltzer ('15)**, **Christian Gilbert ('12)**, and **Dana Wygmans ('12)**. Until this week, the soloists and the orchestra have been practicing their individual parts separately, but this week, the group will

### The Tanner

103 W. Superior Street 989-463-9063

**Hours**  
 Mon-Fri: 8 am- 8 pm  
 Saturday: 9 am- 5 pm  
 Sunday: 12 pm- 4 pm

**30 Day Consecutive Tan For \$30.00**

**MANCINO'S PIZZA & GRINDERS OF ALMA** 989-463-0047

**10% Off with Student Id's**  
\*Cash orders only

Award-winning Pizza, Grinders, Salads and More!

*"It's with great regret we can no longer accept munch money, due to a decision beyond our control."*



# Party moratorium quiets campus for February

BY BRIAN MCCALLISTER  
STAFF WRITER

A four-week moratorium on parties has been issued by the Executive Staff of Alma College, with the safety of the campus community kept in mind. The fire at the Tau Kappa Epsilon house Jan. 29, concerns not only the Greek community, but also the rest of the campus. The temporary ban will be used to review fire safety and other hosting policies on campus. This is not the first time that a fire has broken out on Alma College. In my three years of attendance, there have been fires at Gelston, Sigma Chi, and

Tau Kappa Epsilon. Thankfully nobody has been injured in any of these fires, but students will not always be safe if fires continue to break out on campus. This is why it is necessary to have a moratorium on parties, so that we are able to prevent any further fires that can endanger students. Students need to stop viewing this as a punishment, but rather as a way to further improve housing safety. Safety is of higher precedence than partying. It's really lucky that nobody has been severely injured from any of these incidents. "This," said **Roxanne Sheldon ('13)** "is a wake-up call for housing. At the same time, while I understand the need for official action, this still has negative repercussions on our lives." Four weeks is a pretty short

period of time, but this is not going to stop everybody from drinking. Since this moratorium does not make Alma College a dry campus, students will now be drinking in privacy because there are no open parties. This encourages students to start drinking with much less supervision, such as in dorm rooms. I am concerned that there will be some students that go a little overboard as a result of opposition to this temporary legislation. There may be some people who have the mentality that they can still do what they want and will drink as much as they do at open parties. At least at open parties there are multiple people who try to make sure everyone remains safe. "If people can't go out here, they're going to find a way to have fun anyway, which could

put them in riskier situations, like drunk driving," said **Joslyn Potter ('13)**. "It's obviously going to increase the amount of people drinking in the dorms" The fact that all of the Greek houses just got new members through recruitment means that this moratorium should not severely affect those who are Greek. Open parties should not be of high importance after having recruited new members for fraternities and sororities. This is a time where fostering bonds and proceeding with pledging events is far more important. "I really do not mind the four week hiatus," said **Kimberly Thompson ('13)**. "I'm worried about what may stem from it though. But this will give KI and the other fraternities a nice little break from all the hassle

of parties" What is concerning is that this will give the college greater grounds to transform the campus into a dry one. Right now, Alma College doesn't have it bad. Other campuses, such as Hope and Calvin, can't ever openly drink because they are dry. I can't imagine Alma College becoming the same way. I feel as though that with the new changes in security, and now this moratorium, the campus is slowly working its way toward dry campus legislation. This would severely limit the amount of fun that students have in their free time, and would serve to hinder students who drink responsibly. I can only hope that Alma College can realize that the level of fire safety is perhaps lacking at Alma College, and not the level of control students have over themselves.

# Republican candidate wives put in spotlight

BY ISRAEL PACHECO SANTOS  
STAFF WRITER

In the race for the Republican Party nomination, all eyes are focused on the man who will lead this country out of these tumultuous times. But what about the First Lady? Should we not also focus on the presidential hopefuls' better halves? Do wives not have powers of persuasion over their husbands? How will this affect our Commander in Chief and our country? Two wholly dissimilar hopeful first ladies are Callista Gingrich and Ann Romney; Callista is passive and quite in the public sphere, while Ann is forward and voluble in front of the cameras. However, much skepticism is reserved for Callista Gingrich: her need to control her husband's political campaign resulted in some of GOP hopeful, Newt Gingrich, campaign party members to resign, according to the New York Times. Also, there is the little fact that Callista is the third Mrs. Gingrich; a position she obtained by partaking in an adulterous relationship. As the possible future face of the conservative political party, this scarlet letter of hers may prove to be a stain that will

*Do we really want to elect a man who puts his wife before our country?*

*-On careful choices*

deter her from winning over conservative party members. According to the Huffington Post, "Gingrich would sometimes be late to meetings with donors because his wife needed some time at the hotel to freshen up." Do we really want to elect a man who puts his wife before our country? Sure it shows some loyalty, but the last thing we need is a Commander in Chief whose schedule is micromanaged by his stoic wife. Furthermore, the first lady is a public figure who, by tradition, is expected to host events at the White House. The question that comes to mind: would Callista's stony disposition and questionable background drive visitors, diplomats, and leaders away? However, in Callista's defense, they have been married for 11 years and their relationship is successful, though in a non-traditional way. But maybe an overbearing, adulterous relationship is

what this country needs. Contrasting Callista is Ann Romney. Despite the probing into her personal life, she has accepted her new role with enthusiasm and is always ready to share a delightful anecdote that attests to her husband's character. Throughout this election, Ann Romney has been depicted as a supportive wife who shares the political stage with her husband, but does not steal

attention away from him. For example, during the Florida primary, Ann defended Romney's conservative nature and inspired the crowd to cheer for her husband. Their vast differences invite the public to ask why Callista does not speak in public forums, like Ann. Is Newt afraid that the press will bombard Callista with questions about their affair? Will her answers have a negative effect on his polling? Why does he silence

his wife? Is Callista's nothing more than a "trophy wife" validating Newt as a responsible husband? I am not advocating that you base your vote on who has a more approachable wife, but rather that voters examine how a wife may impact the White House. What lies behind that statuesque posture, graceful clothing, tense expressions, and flawlessly coiffed elitist hair of Callista Gingrich?

## 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 through 9) no more or less than once. -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 "hard." There are many different types of sudoku, so if you like this, try out some more!

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

# Generation raised delicately, gets bruised feelings

BY ISRAEL PACHECO SANTOS  
STAFF WRITER

Are we victims of being coddled to the point where we have become too sensitive? That is the impression I got when I came to Alma. People are too worried to say what is on their mind because of the fear that it will offend the other person. Call it small town charm or being raised with manners—sometimes a bit of constructive criticism is needed in order to prepare people for the real world. Going home always reminds me that I am a foreigner within the Alma Bubble. My family is blunt and to the point. If I look overweight, my parents tell me to lose a few pounds or no one

will love me. If I say something idiotic, my sisters call me out on my ignorance and bombard me with facts. And if one of us has an opinion about the another, we freely speak our minds. We do this because we have each other's best interest at heart. As a freshman, I learned the hard way that my forward and blunt up-bringing is not accepted by all and some people take offense to some constructive criticism. Therefore, I changed my nature of giving advice and tailored it to fit the sensitive style of my fellow colleagues. As of late, I have been wondering if I am helping them, or only further crippling them? Have we become so advanced with our technology and medicine that we are now focusing on our sensitivity? Our parents were raised by people who were stained by economic hardships, forcing them to not pay attention

to such trivial matters as people's feelings because they were too busy trying to find their next meal or pay the bills. Is our sensitivity a result of being reared by parents raised on strict and limited understanding of each other's feelings? Our parents' efforts to give us everything—from the best clothing to the newest toys to the best education available—resulted in self-absorbed and sensitive children. If children are acting up in class, they are prescribed ADHD medication. If they show symptoms of depression, they are given Cymbalta. And if they are introverted, they are taken to the local or high-end psychologist to diagnose a traumatic experience that permanently and negatively imprinted the child. This sensitivity and/or over-protectiveness does not end when the child leaves the nest.

Even at college I hear students saying that they are extremely depressed and need to go tanning to receive the positive light rays to

but how needy has our civilization become that we need light therapy to pass the winters or that there is a pseudo-degree offered for a "life buddy," who is a person that you pay to hang out and chat with you, a.k.a. a friend. Does the deliberate avoidance of not mentioning others' weaknesses also lead to creating false gratification, for fear that it will hurt the confidence, feelings and self-esteem of those who don't have those particular talents or strengths? Constructive criticism is a fact of life that many people have yet to appreciate and need to learn to accept fast. College will soon be over and we will all be fighting for jobs. Employers have no problem criticizing your work and if you can't keep up, there are hundreds more college students with the same degree and tougher exteriors willing to do your job.

*If a child is acting up in class, they are prescribed ADHD medication. If they show symptoms of depression, they are given Cymbalta.*

*-On the overuse of pharmaceuticals*

soothe the cockles of their heart. Even worse is that there is a condition called Seasonal Affective Disorder or SAD. Perhaps I am being insensitive,



## Kicking bad habits for good: cold turkey

BY BRIAN MCCALLISTER  
STAFF WRITER

I have been a man of addiction for as long as I can remember. It is not with pride that I admit this, but I do take pride in the fact that I am able to curb my addictions.

Learning how to take control of annoying addictions is an important skill to have as a college student. We lead busy lives where there is too much work to be done to be wasting time on addictions.

Nobody is completely immune from addiction. Everyone is susceptible to some level of it, whether it's caffeine, the Internet, television, video games, movies, sex, cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, etc. But there is a fine line between enjoying something and letting it take control of you. Instead of letting addictions take control, it's better to replace them with more productive habits.

One way to help yourself is to let friends within your community know that you have a problem. I recently got rid of my smoking habit and I decided

to immerse myself with friends that are willing to support me. Getting help doesn't mean having to go to official support groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous; however, if the problem is severe enough, I encourage you to do so—but by being around friends who care about you.

**“Learning how to take control of annoying addictions is an important skill to have as a college student.”**

-On self-control

By letting friends know that I was quitting smoking, not only did I get their support, but I also increased the expectations I have for myself. I felt that if I were to go back on my word, I would disappoint everyone that I know.

For those who dislike disappointing others, this is

a very effective method of curbing addiction. Guilt is a great motivator at times.

Another way is to constantly keep your mind occupied. Do something that allows your mind to reach a state of flow. For me this was playing music rhythm video games, watching movies, and forcing myself to do homework. Gum and sunflower seeds were also helpful in keeping myself occupied.

The withdrawal phase of an addiction will always be difficult, especially when going cold turkey. Within a single day of having quit smoking, despite not smoking an extreme amount, I became extremely irritable. It got to the point where I would snap out at people for little things, such as people playing around with a Frisbee indoors. I didn't actually consider the Frisbee to be that big of a problem. I just wanted to lash out, for any reason, because I was so frustrated with not being able to smoke.

Even something as simple as boycotting facebook for a few days

has similar withdrawal symptoms for me. I'm cranky, anxious, my mind is constantly wondering what people have posted, I wonder what events are upcoming, and it's a hassle to remove myself from it.

Going cold turkey on any of your addictions is the most efficient way of kicking your bad habit. By merely reducing the intake of your addiction, you are still letting it take control of you. If you're still partaking in it, you're not convincing yourself that you're completely

**By letting friends know that I was quitting smoking, not only did I get their support, but I also increased the expectations I have for myself.**

-On accountability

**Going cold turkey allows you to completely remove yourself from what it is you're addicted to.**

-On force of will

independent from the addiction. Going cold turkey allows you to completely remove yourself from what it is you're addicted to.

While I have yet to have an addiction that has caused a lot of damage to myself, this doesn't mean that it can't happen to me in the future. I know that there will always be something that I'm addicted to, but I also know that I'm able to help myself. Should I ever have a friend who is also trying to get away from their addiction, I will give them my full support, because that support is exactly what helped kick my bad habits.

## Following the Beat with Ben King: Amani Winds

BY BEN KING  
BEAT WRITER

The Imani Wind Quintet came to play for Alma College students and community members last Friday at the Remick Heritage Center.

The quintet, based out of New York, played a variety of music ranging from classical chamber to New Orleans' Dixieland style jazz to ethnic inspired music from the Middle and Far East.

The event was very interesting and enjoyable. It was very apparent that the musicians in the quartet were an immensely talented group of individuals. The show was relaxing and musically enlightening.

The Imani Wind Quintet is

internationally renowned. In 2006 the group was nominated for a Grammy in the category for best Classical Crossover Album.

After hearing about this group for several weeks and discovering their "famousness," I was quite surprised to see how few Alma College students showed up to the event.

With the Alma College Executive Staff announcing a ban on registered parties for the next four weeks, I thought that spending a relaxing evening listening to culturally charged music might be refreshing. The school provides many opportunities and events for Alma College students to enjoy.

Campus events are constantly occurring. Some may not be your cup of tea, but I like to branch

out every now and then and try something different. That is not to say that I do not enjoy listening to classical chamber music, but it is something that I would not typically find myself doing on a Friday evening. However, after listening to the Imani Wind Quintet, I left with a sense of feeling more cultured and well rounded. The college offers many events like these for students to enjoy aspects of culture they may not or may not normally enjoy.

Even the Alma College Library hosts events for students to become more culturally aware. Every year the library hosts a reading in there Michigan Author Speakers Series. Throughout the year the library and the English Department sponsor readings of essays and poems

by faculty members. This April the English Department will be having John Rybicki, an adjunct professor and poet, reading

**The college offers many events like these for students to enjoy aspects of culture they may not or may not normally enjoy.**

-On opportunity

from his book of poems titled "When All the World Is Old."

While this reading is several months away the reading will sounds like it will be an intense

one. Rybicki's work in his latest collection honors the love he shared with his late wife Julie Mould, who passed away after a 16 year battle with cancer.

The Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery also holds many events and art showings for students to come and view. Along with the art that is shown the gallery, often artists are invited from around the state and nation to come and give talks on their artwork or on art in general. This year already the gallery has had three visiting artists with one more coming in the middle of February. These showings are incredibly enlightening.

So whatever you may be into whether it may be art, music or poetry and prose, there is usually something going on here at Alma College for a young liberal artist.

## the Almanian.

"ALMA COLLEGE'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER, SERVING THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY SINCE 1907.

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

The Almanian is a newspaper published not only for the students at this institution, not just for the faculty on campus, and not solely for the administrators who work for Alma, but for all people interested in Alma College and the lives it touches. The writers, editors, publishers, and distributors of this newspaper are dedicated to producing an interesting, accurate, timely, fun, and error free newspaper on a weekly basis in order to inform and educate the people for whom it is intended about the culture and nature of Alma College.

### PUBLICATION:

The Almanian is distributed to Alma College's campus on Monday morning and is sent to subscribers the following day. The paper is published weekly with the exception of academic recesses.

### ADVERTISING:

Ad sales managed by the business manager. Contact Jessica Page at [page1jm@alma.edu](mailto:page1jm@alma.edu) for more information.

### 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 the editor to [castane-daiddm@alma.edu](mailto:castane-daiddm@alma.edu) or address letters to:

The Almanian

Alma College

614 W. Superior St. Alma, Mi, 48801

### STAFF EDITORIAL POLICY:

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

Maria Castaneda

Angela Flynn

Joshua Zeitler

Mason Warling

Taryn Handyside

Lisa Folkmire

Allison Zink

Jeff Aldridge

Elaine Cunningham

Kayla Roy

Devin Brines

Ben King

Josh Spratt

Erin Stone

Brian McCallister

Lauren Andalora

Kelsey Blades

Ellen Martin

Israel Pacheco-Santos

Ryan Herzog

Anna Weber

Jessica Page

Ken Tabackso

Editor-in-Chief

News Editor

Feature Editor

Opinion Editor

Sports Editor

Copy Editor

Copy Editor

Web Editor

Photo Editor

Photographer

Photographer

Opinion Beat

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Business Mgr

Faculty Advisor



# Men's basketball demonstrates ability in victory over Trine, 68-64

By JASON POPIEL  
STAFF WRITER

The Alma men's basketball team rebounded from a tough loss to Hope last weekend with a hard-fought 68-64 win over Trine University at Art Smith Arena last Wednesday night.

The win improves the Scots to 3-6 in the MIAA and 7-13 overall. It dropped the Thunder to 5-4 in the league and 12-8 on the season. The Scots are currently sitting

*"After the Hope loss we knew as a team that we had to win the next game to have a chance at making the tournament."*

*-Dustin DeShais ('13)*

in seventh place in the MIAA, with their next game Wednesday in Grand Rapids, where Alma will face Calvin College.

"After the Hope loss we knew as a team that we had to win the next game to have a chance at making the tournament," said guard **Dustin DeShais ('13)**. "The top four teams make the tourney and if we win out then we should be in. Every game from here on out is just as important as the next."

The squads were fast-paced in the first half and good defense was exemplified by both teams. The teams went back and forth to the tune of five lead changes and three ties. Neither team could pull away in the first half, as the largest lead for either was five, but the Scots held a 32-30 advantage heading into the lockerroom for halftime.

Alma shot only 35 percent in the first half, but a stellar 43 percent on 6-14 shooting from the three-point line helped the Scots to the lead.

The Maroon and Cream came out on fire in the second half, and pushed its lead to nine around



Devin Brines: Staff Photographer

**Cory Schneider ('12)** scored a game-winning three-pointer with only 30 seconds left on the clock to give Alma a 68-64 win over Trine University.

five minutes in the second frame. The lead came from the fifth three-pointer of the game for guard **Greg Silverthorn ('13)**.

The Alma run continued over the next few minutes, and an 18-4 run quickly opened up the Scots' largest lead of the

game at 48-34 with about 11 minutes remaining in the game.

"Playing well in this game was really crucial," said forward

**Tommy Erickson ('12)**. "We felt like we could really push the tempo if we were able to rebound and get out and fast break."

The Thunder, however, would counter Alma with its own 10-minute run that would eventually tie the game 61-61 with 51 seconds left.

Guard **Corey Schneider ('12)** came to the rescue making a clutch 3-point basket with 31 seconds remaining to put Alma up 64-61. The Thunder would then miss a 3-point attempt at the other end, and Silverthorn would hit two free throws to increase the lead to five. A Trine 3-pointer and foul followed and Schneider would ice the 68-64 win with two free throws.

Alma shot 45 percent on 13 of 29 shooting in the second half, and made six of seven free throws down the stretch to earn the victory.

*"We felt like we could really push the tempo if we were able to rebound and get out and fast break."*

*-Tommy Erickson ('12)*

"The win definitely goes a long way, seeing as Trine is a pretty good team," said guard **Kyle Aho ('14)**. "For us to knock off another top team keeps us rolling. Hopefully the momentum keeps carrying."

Silverthorn had a team-high 27 points, and also recorded a double-double with his 10 rebounds. Guard **Chris Williamson ('13)** posted nine points and added three assists, and Schneider scored eight points, earned six assists, and came down with six rebounds.

"We know what intensity level we need to bring day in and day out to practice and in games," said Erickson. "We can't afford to take a single day off down the stretch."

# Women's basketball suffers loss against Calvin

By JOSH SPRATT  
STAFF WRITER

The women's basketball team took on top ranked and undefeated conference opponent Calvin College at home last Wednesday. The Scots were soundly defeated with a final score of 79-49.

"Going up against Calvin, which is 19-0, our mindset was that we have nothing to lose. They're an extremely talented team and we wanted to prove that we had gotten better than the last time we played them," said **Rachel Jaksa ('12)**.

After the loss, the Scots record moved to a 5-15 overall record and 3-8 in conference play while Calvin

continued its perfect season and now stand at 12-0 in the MIAA.

The next game for the Maroon and Cream will be on Wednesday as it travels to Albion to take on the Brits with a scheduled tip time of 7:30 p.m.

The Scots quickly dug a hole for themselves as the Knights started the game on an 8-0 run. Four minutes into the game, Alma responded with a triple from **Mallory Pruett ('15)** to cut the lead to five, but on the night the game belonged to Calvin College.

Alma kept the contest manageable in the first part of the first half as Pruett put up a few more points including a second make from downtown.

"Calvin has a very deep bench," said Jaksa. "We talked about always having to know where Verkaik was on the floor, who has

been league MVP twice, but at the same time we knew that they have

*"We have an opportunity this weekend to go out and get another win on the road against a very beatable team."*

*-Rachel Jaksa ('12)*

many other offensive weapons, both in the starting five and in a few rotations off the bench."

The real strength of the Knights started to show as they ended the first half on a 9-0 run to go into the break up by a margin of 28.

"We didn't prepare any

differently for this game. We did however focus on a few major key players, but they are so well rounded it's hard to shut down their offense," said **Danielle Hicks ('13)**.

As the second half began, Calvin had not lost any of its momentum and continued to increase its lead.

The Knights poured on points and eventually the margin ballooned to 38 points with just over six minutes remaining.

**Bailey Gooding ('14)** stopped the bleeding with a pair of shots from the charity stripe, but by this time the game was more than out of hand.

**Payton Lupu ('14)** sunk the last shot of the game to end with an even 30-point loss on the night.

"Coming off a loss like this we can take away a lot of good things from the game. We can see that

we improved from the last time that we played them in a couple different categories, but like our coach said, we have to give credit where credit is due," Jaksa said.

"We have an opportunity this weekend to go out and get another win on the road against a very beatable team for us so we are going to get back after it in practice these next two days and carry over our aggressiveness against Calvin to Kalamazoo," said Jaksa.

Leading offensive players for the Scots were Pruett and **Morgan Henry ('15)** as each contributed nine points and a combined assist total of six.

Calvin shot with 44 percent accuracy from the field and held the Scot's to only 27 percent shooting which proved to be one of the determining factors in the Alma loss.



# Alma club hockey shows great potential, fans travel to watch



Elaine Cunningham: Photo Editor

**Austin Smith ('14) scored a goal that tied the game against Main Street and went on to help lead the team to two additional goals.**

**By JOSH SPRATT**  
STAFF WRITER

Season play has now been under way for a couple of weeks for the unofficial Alma hockey team. Last Monday night the team picked up its first win of the season with a 4-2 victory over team Main Street and now

stands at an overall record of 1-1-1. "This season we can see a significant amount of improvement in our team," **Christopher Bilski ('13)** said. "With some of the returners on the team, and fresh new talent, we have been able to be in every game we have played and I expect nothing different moving forward." The team's next game

is tonight at 11 p.m. at the Mount Pleasant Ice Arena located on East Remus Road.

Against Main Street, the Alma team's offense was stagnant in the first period, but picked up in the second as The Scots were able to light up the scoreboard with two goals. The first goal of the second period came from **Jacob York ('15)** and

then—with just over a minute remaining—**Austin Smith ('14)** tied the game with another.

As third period play started, **Patrick Curran ('15)** wasted no time as he put the puck in the back of the net to give his team its first lead of the night.

At around the 12-minute mark in the final period, **Kevin Thompson ('14)** scored the last

goal of the game to help propel Alma to the win. With a few power plays late in the game, Alma had chances to add to its lead but was unable to convert. Still, the team defensively held off its opponent to pick up the decisive victory.

"Bilski is playing really well," said **Drew Grant ('13)**. "He keeps us in the game and allows our offense to put the puck in the net. The guys adjusted well with two of us being suspended as well as a couple more not being able to make it to the game. I'm excited to see what else we can do as the season goes on."

The Alma team was outshot 36-28, but was still able to come out on top thanks in part to a strong performance in the net by goalie Bilski.

"We never gave up, even when we got down early," Bilski said. "The team did a good job of letting me see every shot, making my job much easier and letting me play to the best of my abilities. I can't say enough about how everyone contributed to our victory, it really was a team win."

In its short history, the Alma team has already begun to build a buzz around campus and groups of students are traveling to Mount Pleasant to cheer the team on.

"We are getting a great fan base that come to watch the games and it makes playing fun. We are hoping to see the crowd at our games grow throughout the season," said Grant.

With continued support from the student body, the team members look to bring hockey to Alma as an official club sport in the near future.

## Jock Rock displays athletes' talent off the field

**By JASON POPIEL**  
STAFF WRITER

The Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) continued the tradition that it started two years ago when it hosted 'Jock Rock' last Friday at Art Smith Arena.

'Jock Rock' is an opportunity for Alma's athletes to show their creative side and participate in a fun-filled skit performance designed to raise awareness for the organization and for the athletic department.

According to the NCAA

**"We are trying to get rid of athletic cliques, get to know each other, and let everyone know that we support each other."**

**-Scotty Cole ('12)**

put the event on," said **Scotty Cole ('12)**, a member on SAAC's executive board. "We've learned that we need to work together to get a successful night."

The events SAAC holds, including 'Jock Rock', are put on to create a sense of unity for Alma's sports teams. 'Jock Rock' is an opportunity for athletes from all sports to get together and make each other laugh, Cole explained.

"These events are mostly just for fun, and 'Jock Rock' is another example of this," said Cole. "We are trying to get rid of athletic cliques, get to know each other, and let everyone know that we support each other."

Last year's event saw the women's basketball team take first place over a football and golf combined team. Other competitors included the volleyball team, the women's soccer squad, and the swim and dive team.

"The goal is obviously to get every team involved, but we realize that this simply will not be able to happen every year," said another SAAC representative, **Alyssa Adams ('14)**. "The best we can do is let every team know they have the opportunity to perform and see what they can do."

This year's event was once again hosted by men's golf coach Ryan Duckworth. This year though, athletic trainer Phil Hanson co-hosted.

The athletes competed in good spirits against one another. The

softball team, using a fake softball game to make fun of a variety of Alma coaches, came away with first place in the competition.

"Coach Leister definitely got it bad," said **Erica Adams ('12)**. "The softball team was definitely very funny."

The volleyball team took

the runner-up prize with a skit that included some traditional Alma highland dancing and also a segment in which they made fun of last year's skits.

The women's basketball team failed to defend their title from last year, but earned third place with a performance that

included popular dances to songs like LMFAO's "Party Rock."

The night proved to be a success with a variety of teams participating and even more in the audience cheering on their fellow athletes. Coaches also stood in the audience supporting their teams.



Elaine Cunningham: Photo Editor

**The women's softball team won first place in this year's Jock Rock. The winner was chosen by a panel of three judges selected from staff in the athletic department.**

Website, a college campus' SAAC is "a committee made up of student-athletes assembled to provide insight on the student-athlete experience."

The group also offers input on the rules, regulations, and policies that affect student-athletes' lives.

The Alma group is working hard to fulfill those requirements, in addition to working with other campus groups and organizations to create events.

"SAAC worked with ACUB and the athletic department to