

Alma hosts health careers symposium

By KELSEY BLADES
STAFF WRITER

United Health Professions of Alma College (UHPAC) hosted its third annual symposium last Saturday. The event started at 1:30 and consisted of two breakout sessions and networking, which lasted until 5 p.m. The sessions took place in Dow L4 and the Dow L2 environmental lab and featured presentations from professionals in various medical fields. This year, the organization brought in a medical doctor, a physician assistant, an epidemiologist, a biomedical researcher, and a professional in the health management field. **Anita Hemlich ('12)** said that the structure of the presentations varied. "It all depend[ed] on the presenter and what the audience [wanted] to hear," she said. "Popular topics are the application process, admissions requirements for the specific program, graduate school, and a day-in-the-life of the professional," said Hemlich. UHPAC started hosting a health symposium two years ago to benefit its members and other students in the sciences. "The organization saw a need for students to get more information about health careers and decided that a great way to do this would be to actually bring in health professionals and have them talk



Devin Brines: Staff Photographer

The Health Symposium, hosted by UHPAC, gave students an opportunity to learn from various people in the medical profession.

about what they do," said Hemlich. The organization prepared for this year's symposium by asking last year's participants for their opinions. The event was then structured around the students' comments. According to Hemlich, a difference from last year's event was that this year's schedule was streamlined. "The feedback we had from

the second year [said] that the symposium went on for too long, which is why we streamlined it this year," she said. "Also, we took feedback from past surveys and chose the careers that students were most interested in." The symposiums slightly adopted the feeling of a democracy as a result of UHPAC's focus on what the participants

wanted. Because the goal is to help students choose or at least narrow down their career paths, participants said this is helpful. According to Hemlich, some have become quite lucky at the event. "We've had a couple of students actually get shadowing and internship opportunities from the professionals they talked

to at the symposium," she said. Hemlich herself has benefited from attending the symposiums. "The presentations I have heard over the years have... reinforced my desire to become a doctor," she said. "They also opened up my eyes to the various medical specialties that exist, some of which I didn't even know about."

Two students attend international conference

By ELLEN MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

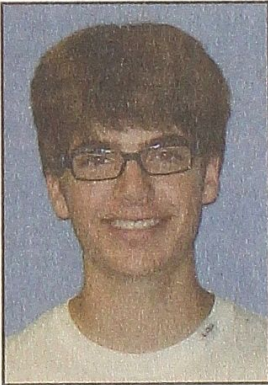
Ari Kornelis ('14) and **Ashley Yuill ('13)** recently attended a conference held by the International Criminal Court Student Network (or ICCSN). They left last Wednesday for The Hague in the Netherlands with Edward Lorenz, professor of history and political science and faculty advisor of Alma's chapter. "The conference is held annually in The Hague, which is the home of the ICC and a number of other international courts and gives us a chance to learn of current issues related to the ICC," said Lorenz. The International Criminal Court (or ICC), he explains, is "an outgrowth of the process that began at Nuremberg, after World War II, where Nazi leaders were tried for violating the law of nations in events such as the Holocaust." According to the official Website of the organization, "the ICCSN was founded with the firm conviction that students are the future, and that it is only when students and youth, and policy makers are united in their knowledge and support of the ICC that the revolution in international criminal justice in the past two decades can sustain itself and continue to grow." Lorenz notes that Alma College is one of only four colleges and universities in the United States to have a chapter of the ICCSN. "On campus, students from

different majors and disciplines are all involved in the organization; it's meant for any student who cares about or has any interest in human rights, law, or justice," said Yuill, who has been involved with this ICCSN chapter since it was beginning to be organized. "We aim to increase campus awareness of the ICC and its role in ensuring justice for the most heinous crimes, and also to improve American attitudes towards the court," he said. As Alma's ICCSN chapter was established in 2010, this is the first time that students from Alma will be attending the conference. Kornelis and Yuill were selected by Lorenz to attend the event after applying for the opportunity. For their applications, students had to write five short essays describing, amongst other things, their involvement in ICCSN and why they were interested in attending. The theme of this particular conference was 'The Lubanga Trial: The Lessons Learned.' Through it, students learned about the case of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo—the first case of the ICC. The trial opened on Jan. 26, 2009, and ended on Aug. 26, 2011—and important issues that it raised. These issues included how to reconcile the conflict between two prosecutorial duties; how to serve justice to victims of crimes that are not identified in the formal charges, despite evidence of their occurrence; as well as how to determine the precise nature of 'victim participation' and how to distinguish victims from non-victims.

Dyilo, according to the application form, "is accused of committing the war crimes of enlisting and conscripting of children under the age of 15 years into the Forces patriotiques pour la libération du Congo [Patriotic Forces for the Liberation of Congo] (FPLC)." He used these children to participate in international armed conflicts and hostilities from September 2002 until June 2, 2003, and in the context hostilities not of an international character until August 2003. "I feel very fortunate to have this opportunity to learn about the International Criminal Court, and the trial of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo," stated Kornelis. "I recently became involved with the ICCSN chapter on our campus after being introduced to the group by a friend." "It's an honor to represent Alma's ICCSN chapter for the first time at the international conference," added Yuill. "I think having students attend this conference is not only a good step for our ICCSN organization, but really is another great way to bring Alma College to activities at the international level."

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

Name: Ari Kornelis, '14



Notable Note: Participant in ICCSN Conference in the Hague

Memorable Quote: "I feel very fortunate to have this opportunity to learn about the International Criminal Court, and the trial of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo."

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

Name: Ashley Yuill, '13



Notable Note: Participant in ICCSN Conference in the Hague

Memorable Quote: "It's an honor to represent Alma's ICCSN chapter for the first time at the international conference."

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
A.M. Rain 62°	Partly Cloudy 61°	Partly Cloudy 68°	Partly Cloudy 61°	Partly Cloudy 61°	Few Showers 57°	Showers 54°

Almanian staff members attend journalism convention in Seattle

By MASON WARLING
OPINION EDITOR

Seven members of the editorial staff of the Almanian attended the National College Media Convention in Seattle during the recent break. The conference is aimed toward collegiate journalistic publications and works to help them improve journalistically and aesthetically. There are dozens of sessions over four days, each dealing with a different aspect of publication.

The event is held annually and occurs in a different city each year. It boasts over 620 attendees from 107 schools from all regions of the U.S. and several Canadian provinces with significant showings from the East Coast, but with a slight majority of schools from the Northwest, where the conference occurred.

Feature Editor **Joshua Zeitler ('14)** attended the event for the Almanian.

"I went to some really useful sessions on style for feature journalism, so there should be some improvements in that section," said Zeitler. "One of the panels I went to did a good job outlining topics that are specifically feature and how to match the style of our writing to those topics."

Maria Castaneda ('12) is the editor-in-chief of the Almanian and also attended the convention.

"I mostly went to design sessions because I wanted to focus more on the layout of our paper. I learned a lot of different ways to make the Almanian look more interesting," she said. "We're hoping to make



Elaine Cunningham: Photo Editor

Elaine Cunningham ('13), Maria Castaneda ('12), Angela Flynn ('12), Taryn Handyside ('14), Kayla Roy ('14), Mason Warling ('13), and Joshua Zeitler ('14) attended the National College Journalism Convention in Seattle last week.

it less text-heavy and more visually appealing by breaking up big blocks of text with mods."

Mods, or modules, are design elements that include important information at-a-glance, or personal profiles so that information stands out and is readily available. The mods will begin appearing in this and subsequent issues,

according to Castaneda.

There were also a number of sessions on general journalistic skills, such as interviewing.

"I went to a session on interviewing that went over how to have a really good interview by asking the right sort of questions. I'll be starting to teach our writers how to conduct better interviews and ask better questions to get to

the heart of the story," said Zeitler.

Once sessions ended for the day, the students were free to explore Seattle.

"Some of us went to the historic Pike Place Market on the Puget Sound," said Zeitler. "We saw the Starbucks that started it all there, and toured Seattle's used bookstores for hidden gems. We also discovered a tiny hole-in-

the-wall vegan hot dog cybercafe called Cyberdog that was run by an old feminist Russian lady who blasts 70's music in the tiny eatery," Zeitler continued.

"We walked around the city and took a break from our typical small-town atmosphere and enjoyed the beautiful sights it had to offer," said **Angela Flynn, ('12)** news editor.

New party rules go into effect

By RYAN HERZOG
STAFF WRITER

Parties on Alma College's campus will take some advance planning and be limited in size, while larger gatherings will have to be at an off-campus location.

A number of students have expressed concern and anger about the new rules, citing dangers that can occur when events are held off campus.

The Executive Staff of Housing recently released policy changes on parties after a number of problems early in the year. While in effect immediately, the Student Life office plans to work further with members of the Greek community on shaping the policy in the future, said Nick Piccolo, vice president for student life.

According to Piccolo, a survey was conducted last fall by the Health and Wellness Center. Talks about changes in party policies ensued, and were planned to occur eventually but their implementation was moved up.

In an official statement last Monday, the Student Life office stated in an e-mail the purpose and contents of the new party regulations.

"Alma College's intent is to implement best policies and practices," said the message. "The primary benefit will be a safer campus, with a secondary benefit of reduced liability for the institution and guest organizations. Throughout the year a number of safety incidents have created a more acute sense of urgency on the institution's behalf."

The new policy states that any open party that has more than 70 people must be held off campus at a third-party location if alcohol is involved. A separate company must provide transportation. If there's no alcohol involved, there is a limit of 100 people. Any parties hosted at fraternity or sorority houses must now be registered with college officials a week in advance, can accommodate no more than 40 guests, and must be by invitation only. Any non-members without an invitation must be turned away.

"We're trying to make regulations that are closer to the residential halls' guidelines, and would work to further campus safety," said Piccolo. "We also want to make a policy that will work for everybody." Piccolo added that the new guidelines were produced after careful research, as David Blandford, director of Student Life, consulted the guidelines of all the Greek houses' nationals to make sure the new regulations were in the best interest of the organizations. Blandford and Piccolo also said they consulted the Interfraternal Council members to see what worked best for all. "There hasn't been that big of a change in the policy," said Piccolo, "although people effected say 'oh, yes it is.' It's all a matter of perspective." Opponents of the policy say it is too disconnected with Greek life on campus and it doesn't follow the stated goal of increased safety. **Tyler Jenkins ('13)**, member of Sigma Chi fraternity, said he is strongly opposed to the new

rules. He said the open party regulations won't increase campus safety — it would increase risk.

"When you move parties off campus, you're putting your students at a greater risk," he said. "When you're at a fraternity, you're in a controlled environment. We have at least five people sober at every party to watch what's going on and to facilitate risk management. When you go off campus, nobody's there to watch out for everybody."

"It removes our safeguards and everybody's only looking out for themselves. In a Greek house everybody looks out for everyone else."

He said he also sees transportation as a major issue.

"Transportation is a big problem," Jenkins continued. "I'm wondering: how are we going to pay for all of this? What happens if some people are left behind, how are they going to get home? What about intoxicated students who want to drive? Transportation is not a problem if parties are on campus. Here, students can walk home."

Jenkins said he conducted a survey of people in Greek life and those on his Facebook pages. He said he plans to release the results in the near future. He also wants to organize a petition to reverse the new policy. "I feel what the school's trying to do is not to save students, but to save its own liability by moving risky events off campus. The policy doesn't address alcohol consumption at all," said Jenkins. "It just doesn't seem safer to drink off campus."

This week at Alma College

Tuesday, March 13:

Women's Month Speaker Christina Chan presents at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center

Writing Effective Resumes and Cover Letters at 8 p.m. in the Smith Room of the Alma College Library

Wednesday, March 14:

Etiquette Dinner at 6 p.m. in the Rotunda

Screening of "Las Abuelas de la Plaza de Mayo" at 7 p.m. in Dow L4

Thursday, March 15:

ACUB Movie Night at 8 p.m. in Jones Auditorium

Friday, March 16-

Sunday, March 18:

Little Sibs Weekend

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK



Name: Rev. Carol Gregg, chaplain

Memorable Quote: “[Being director of spiritual life] also means making space and opportunities for folks of other religious traditions to practice their faith.”

Carol Gregg nurtures campus spiritual life

By KELSEY BLADES
STAFF WRITER

Although she is a devout Presbyterian minister, Carol Gregg will be working with several academic departments and student organizations to bring Muslim Chaplain Mohammed Tayssir Safi to address the Alma community on the subjects of diversity and his religious experience.

Gregg’s official title is Chaplain and Director of Spiritual Life, which means she is “supposed to encourage and oversee and nurture spiritual life for the campus as a whole,” said Gregg. “Given that the majority of our students affiliate with the Christian church, that means primarily working with Christians.

“But it also means making space and opportunities for folks of other religious traditions to practice their faith. . . .Our efforts to acknowledge and celebrate different religious traditions have expanded [over the past few years],” Gregg said.

“Three years ago I gathered with a group of students to talk about interfaith work, and that developed into the Interfaith Council. This is their first full year of existence. For the past two years we’ve had [primarily educational] events that celebrate non-Christian traditions.”

The formation of the Interfaith Council ties in to Gregg’s other campus duty.

“A large part of what I do is leadership development and event planning,” she said. “I encourage students to take the initiative to develop programming. Much of that is related to the Sunday night worship and the Christian community on campus, but it’s also involved the Interfaith Council and other parts of life.

“The event planning part is helping to facilitate things like the Passover seder . . . and the John Dau visit in the fall. So sometimes there’s event planning like that that’s just related more to the general administration of the college than to religious life in particular.”

Gregg’s family’s interest in biology inspired her to earn a bachelor of science in biology from Bucknell University; however, she broke the mold when she later chose to attend Princeton Theological Seminary.

“I studied biology because I like the subject and my family’s all science-related people,” she said. “Back in the dark ages, folks were not as intentional about career planning and all that kind of stuff. If there were resources at

my college, I was pretty oblivious to them. Through a lot of misconception, I decided not to go forward in the field of biology.

“But when I was in college, I said, ‘I really need to come up with a plan here.’

“I was in worship in my home congregation in suburban Detroit and was attending a service with my mother. I was watching the three male ministers lead worship and what came to my mind during worship was, ‘What if I considered ministry?’”

Gregg said she began to explore the idea of ministry and that her college friends of various faiths told her it made sense for her.

“Then a local Presbyterian church called our campus chaplain and said, ‘We love our pastor so much that we want to hire a student to work with him because we think he’d be a great teacher for a student who’s considering ministry.’

“I was the only person the chaplain knew of who was considering ministry, we happened to be of the same denomination, so I worked with this minister, who was in fact a wonderful guy and a great model,” said Gregg.

Before coming to Alma in 2000 and starting work with the college the following year, Gregg held positions as either associate or solo pastor at various congregations.

“Alma College has been a great place to work,” she said. “I feel like I’ve been treated very well. I’ve had interesting opportunities, so I’m grateful to be employed by the college.”

Knowing the students and watching them grow comprise her favorite parts about her job.

“A student asked me recently, given that students only stay three and a half, four, four and a half years, is it sad to see people move on and a new crop come in?” she said. “Yes and no. I guess I don’t feel so sad when people move on because that’s what they’re supposed to do. It’s exciting to see people move on, and it’s fun to see who comes next.”

“The Vagina Monologues” celebrates femininity

By ANNA WEBER
STAFF WRITER

The organ has many names, but the most correct one is also one of the most taboo: vagina! The word makes many people uncomfortable.

The forbidden word was said many times this past weekend during Alma College students’ performance of Eve Ensler’s play, “The Vagina Monologues.”

The show began with 13 girls filing into Jones Auditorium, all wearing black and red outfits—exchanging the two colors between belts, jackets, and hairbands.

The girls spread out over three different couches, some sitting on the couch backs. Audience members cringed as the actresses immediately began desensitizing them to the v-word with the line, “We were worried about our vaginas.” In the first five minutes of the play, the conversation between the actresses was more vagina-heavy than a gynecologist’s office.

By the time the performance was finished, though, the girls had accomplished their goal of raising money for various organizations

providing support for women, like V-Day, a non-profit organization begun by playwright Eve Ensler in an effort to raise awareness of the plight of women around the world.

According to **Kristine McNally** (‘12), the play’s co-director, the money raised from admission will be sent to V-Day, as well as to Gratiot County Women’s Aid, a local organization that offers women emergency shelter, counseling, and a 24-hour crisis line.

For co-director **Emily Neil** (‘10), an AmeriCorps member stationed at Alma College, a major goal of the performance was to help break the taboo surrounding women’s issues.

“We hope more people are comfortable talking about women’s issues, but not as women’s issues, more as a human issue,” she said.

In some of the monologues, even the women were uncomfortable discussing their own bodies. The play aims to break that taboo.

“I told people who were expecting to feel awkward or uncomfortable to come anyway,” said Neil.

This year’s performance of “The Vagina Monologues” consisted of 11 performances. They were originally compiled

by playwright Eve Ensler to “address women’s sexuality and the social stigma surrounding rape and abuse,” according to V-Day’s website, www.vday.org.

Ensler did interviews with a large group of women, and they became the monologues. The monologues came from women of all walks of life: old women, young women, African-American women, Hispanic women, married women, single women, lesbians, and more.

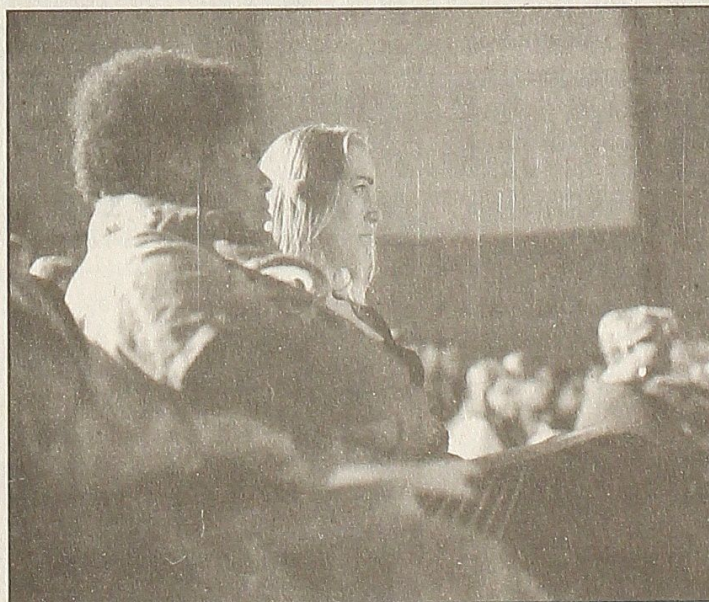
According to actress **Elizabeth Wayne** (‘13), every year, Ensler releases a new interview that can be incorporated into the play. This year’s monologue discussed sexual violence in Native American communities; last year’s was about transgender women.

Wayne is acting in “The Vagina Monologues” for the second year. She said that after seeing the play for the first time in her freshman year, she “fell in love with it.”

“I thought it would be awkward, but I just got wrapped up in it,” said Wayne. “I wouldn’t invite my grandma; that would be awkward. But so many of [the monologues] are just beautiful. It’s an empowering narrative on femininity and the female sex.”



Devin Brines: Staff Photographer



Top: Lauren McNabb (‘12) performs the monologue “The Flood,” about an old lady whose traumatic romantic experience as a young girl made her shun her “down there.”

Right: Emily Adler (‘12) performs the monologue “Hair,” arguing that, in order to love the vagina, one must love hair.

Left: Kimberly Thompson (‘13) and Roxanne Sheldon (‘12) observe Saturday’s performance of “The Vagina Monologues.”



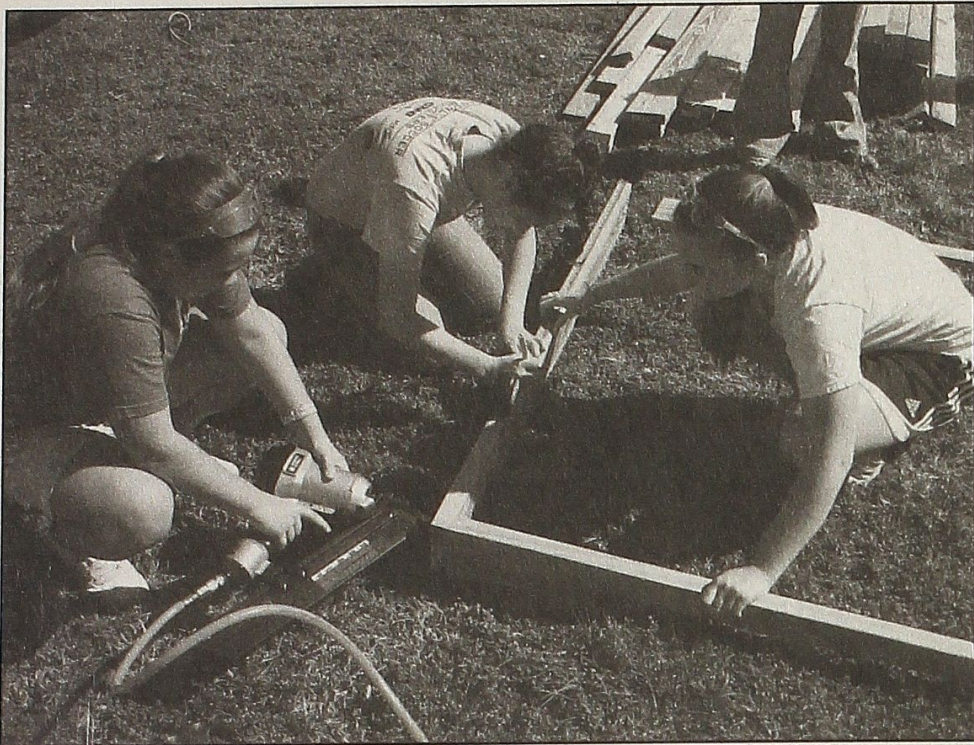
TUESDAY

WHAT: Christina Chan performs her play, “Unbinding Our Lives,” addressing the historical difficulties of being a Chinese American woman in the 1880s

WHERE: Remick Heritage Center

WHEN: 8 p.m.

Do something alternative

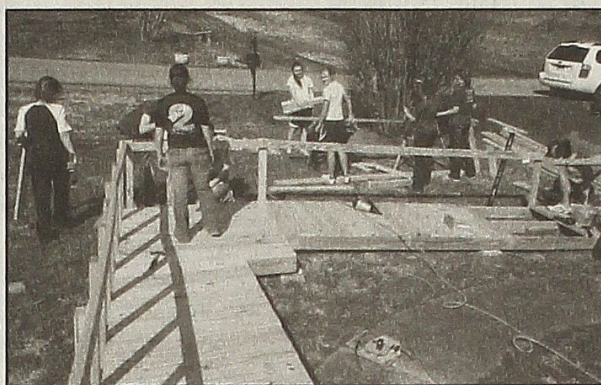


Left: Morgan Waier ('15), Quinn Huver '15), and Sam Waldrop ('15) attach boards to construct a wheelchair ramp in Nashville, Tenn.

Below: Student volunteers worked with the United Cerebral Palsy of Middle Tennessee to help the underprivileged overcome a simple, yet debilitating, barrier.

Below Right: The entire accessibility group for Winter '12 Alternative Breaks poses on the ramp members completed.

Photos courtesy of Sam Waldrop



By ELLEN MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

While many students spent winter break catching up on sleep and homework, five groups of Alma students spent their free time feeding the poor, building ramps and building homes.

The Alternative Breaks for the winter recess offered destinations ranging from South Dakota to West Virginia.

Those participating in Nutrition/Food Outreach went to Boston to work with Community Servings—a non-profit program that provides meals for those living with critical or chronic illnesses and their families.

Barbara Otey ('14) was one of two site leaders for this trip and worked with others to create and deliver meals.

When she, with other students, was able to personally serve the people by delivering meals, she felt that “it was really insightful to see the variety of clientele [Community Servings] serves.”

In South Dakota, students worked with Re-member and the Pine Ridge Reservation on a Native American outreach trip. They assisted with building and maintenance projects while learning about the Lakota people.

“Our main activities included chopping and delivering firewood to many houses and constructing bunk beds for the local community,” related Ryan Cramer ('13).

Through his service, Cramer was impacted by the great poverty in that area.

“At first glance, I was shocked at the view of [the reservation], since it reminded me of the conditions

I saw on the US-Mexican border during my break in El Paso.”

But in the midst of the hardships, Cramer still recognized the richness of the tribe.

“Despite all the poverty that the Lakota people live in daily, they still have a beautiful culture and many traditions,” he said.

Other groups that worked in construction included the Affordable Housing group, which partnered with Habitat for Humanity in Franklin, West Virginia, as well as the Accessibility group, which traveled to Nashville, Tennessee to work with the United Cerebral Palsy of Middle Tennessee to build wheelchair ramps for those who needed easier access to their homes.

Margo Brines ('12) took part in the trip to Tennessee and realized how building these ramps gave the

homeowners a sense of freedom.

“Steps are such a barrier [for these people],” Brines said, noting that not having an accessibility ramp could prevent them from being an active member in the community.

“We made a huge difference in these families’ lives,” added Rita Mulford ('15).

Students participating in the Urban Poverty break partnered with the Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky, as well as various service agencies in the Louisville area.

Overall, students had positive experiences on the Alternative Breaks.

“It’s just cool to get out of where you live and serve a different community,” Otey said.

“The best part was seeing the real impact of what we were doing,” concluded Mulford.

Kids’ Night Out ends for year

By ERIN STONE
STAFF WRITER

“Who doesn’t want to play dodge ball and win because they are the oldest person on the court?” said Susan Smoker, program director of the Explore After School and Mentoring Program.

“[Kids’ Night Out] helps college students to take some time out of their very busy schedule and let go for an evening to just be a kid again.”

The last Kids’ Night Out of the semester was last Friday. Typically held about once a month from October through March at 6-10 p.m., Kid’s Night Out offers youngsters a safe, fun, and educational place to hang out.

“It also gives [college] students the opportunity to give back to [their] community,” said Smoker.

All funds from the event are put back into the program to help youth who are at risk both academically and socially.

According to Smoker, “They love it! And the chance to hang out with their peers and near peers in a fun, safe environment gives parents peace of mind and the opportunity for them to have an evening out.”

Smoker mentioned that working with the volunteers from the college is one of the best parts.

“Alma College has an amazing group of young people and I am thrilled they are always willing to step up and volunteer to help the great youth of the Alma community.”

Morgan Beeler ('14), who has been involved since last year, stressed the importance of the program’s existence.

“[Kids’ Night Out] gives students the chance to receive help on their homework, and a lot of the time, this is one of the only motivating factors for students to get their work done.”

For Beeler, the time spent at Kids’ Night Out is for getting to know the children and listening to the aspirations that they have.

“I get the chance to meet kids who have really big dreams and are genuinely excited about their futures, which is something that I tend to forget in the stresses of college life,” she said. “It is a good reminder to stay positive through tough times and to stay excited about my own future plans.”

Club climbs without ropes in Alabama

By RYAN HERZOG
STAFF WRITER

Known for their adventurous trips, the Climbing Club members went to Alabama for five days of activities at the famous climbing hub, Horse Pen’s 40. An ideal location for bouldering, which is a style of climbing a short distance without a rope, Horse Pen’s 40 gave the students experience with “real rock,” said Al Franko ('13).

The group left the beginning of break and returned on Wednesday, Feb. 29.

“Generally in Michigan, there are no rocks except for only one place, so we have to go out of state to find a more suitable location,” said Franko. “Not only does the trip provide a bonding opportunity for members, but it provides an incentive to be part of the club.”

Every year the climbing club visits Horse Pen’s 40 in Steele, Alabama, located in the northwest corner of the state. The place is family-owned and features many opportunities to climb.

Not only is it famous for its camping and climbing opportunities, but it also plays host to the Triple Crown Bouldering Competition Series, a worldwide event where the most avid climbers come. It is “one of the largest outdoor bouldering competitions in the world, with several hundred in attendance,” according to Horse Pen’s 40’s Website.

Bouldering is considered

one of the more physically challenging types of climbing.

“Of all the climbing sites, the most difficult was ‘Bum Boy,’” said Franko. “There were a lot of ‘slopers,’ which meant that there weren’t many sections of the rock to grab hold of. The friction of your hands was all you could depend on.”

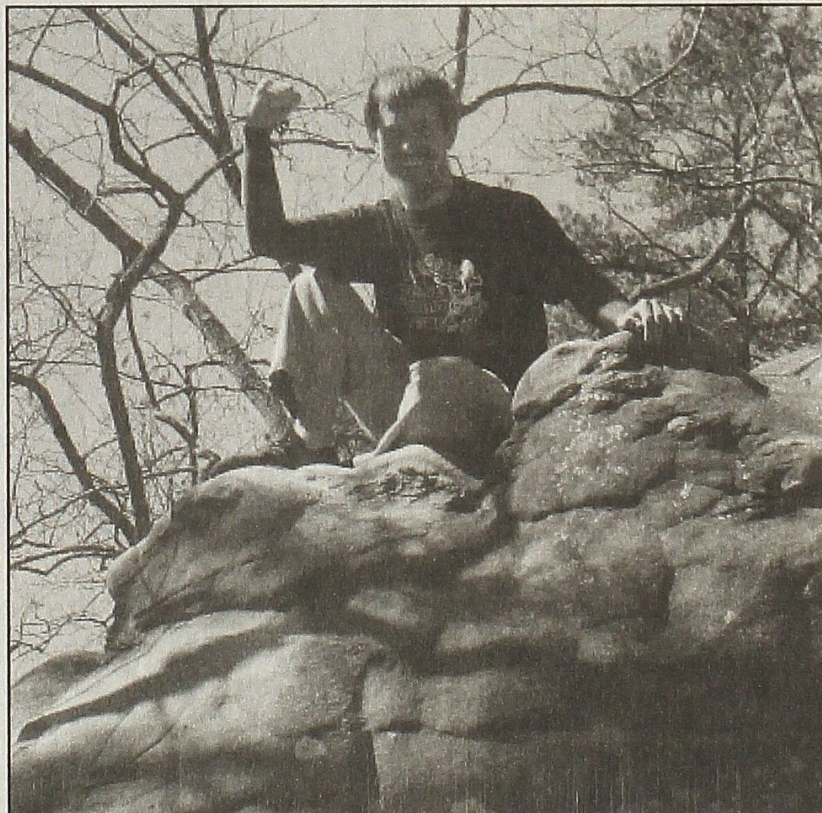
Harder still was the trip back to Michigan, he said. The climbers experienced a blizzard on their way home. Everywhere north of Indiana was hit with a snowstorm.

On rainy days, the group didn’t just stand still. For one day, they visited surrounding areas such as Birmingham to “expand their cultural horizons.”

Franko said the trip was more successful than others, as everybody who came had a good time. He was glad nobody got hurt and the trip was beneficial to the friendships everybody shared on the trip.

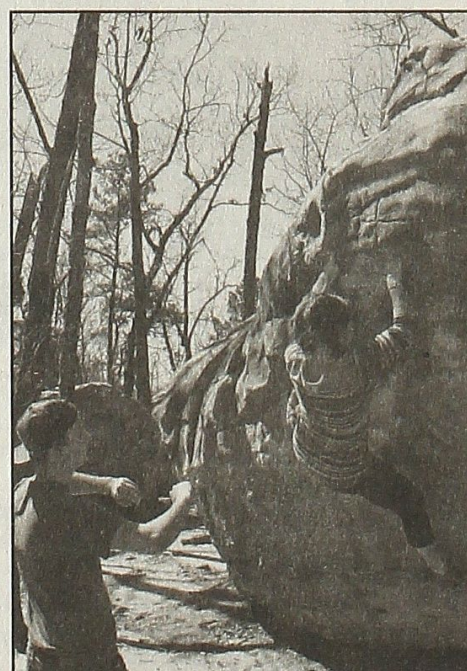
To go on a climbing club trip, one first must be an active member of Climbing Club, which means attending 75 percent of the group’s meetings, and paying dues. The Climbing Club requires much out of a member to make sure those going on a trip are passionate about climbing; however, Franko feels the process is worth it.

“These trips are all about hanging out and getting to know each other through climbing,” said Franko. “If you are looking for a way to broaden your experience, then I encourage you to come to our meetings.”



Photos courtesy of Geoffrey Bohren

Above: Geoffrey Bohren ('12) rests and celebrates reaching the top of a large boulder without the assistance of rope.



Left: Cody Neeley ('13) spots Amanda Gatlin ('14) as she boulders, a particularly challenging method of climbing short distances without a rope.

KONY 2012 campaign draws fire from activists

BY BRIAN MCCALLISTER
STAFF WRITER

A video documentary by The Invisible Children activist group has raised awareness for Joseph Kony, a man who recruits child soldiers for his Lord's Resistance Army in sub-Saharan Africa. KONY 2012, a viral video that wants to make Kony infamous, may have some good intentions, but Invisible Children does not fully utilize donations to actually find him. thirty-two percent of the donations that Invisible Children received in 2010-2011 went towards salary, travel, and film-making, according to a tumblr blog called Visible Children. Normally a source such as a blog would hold little weight, but considering that Invisible Children is a registered not-for-profit organization that has publicized finances, anyone who does a little bit of a research can figure out how the group is using its resources. I could never find myself donating to a charity that uses so much on money on stuff that is not directly related to the cause. If even 20 percent of my donations were not being utilized, I would consider my contribution wasted. Everyone should take it upon him or herself to see if the cause is worth the time and money. If not, you'll find that your efforts are being wasted. This is the underlying issue behind all of this. Not enough people gather the appropriate amount of information before taking a stance. I had no idea what to think when I first heard about Joseph Kony, so I remained neutral until more information arose. Yet people will share anything via social networks if it looks like a good cause. So why is it that the video documentary, as well as those in

support of it, act as though this is a new issue? I would understand if there was literally no effort to capture this man, but there have been attempts to capture him long before KONY2012 went viral. President Barack Obama sent out Special Forces soldiers to capture Kony in October of 2011. Sending out the Special Forces means that our government was already pretty serious about bringing this war criminal to justice. The last time President Obama was pretty serious about capturing someone, it was Osama Bin Laden. The United States Special Forces took care of him the moment he was found. When Bin Laden was caught, it wasn't because of the eyes of the public. I expect the exact same thing with Kony. And even more, an article from The Telegraph discussing Kony has quotes from Ugandan locals saying that he hasn't been present since 2006. At this point, donating money to fight a man who hasn't been seen in northern Uganda for years seems almost ridiculous. And while Kony is an awful human being, his actions are a result of the highly oppressive Ugandan government. The Ugandan government has killed more people than Kony could ever dream of. Not a single mention of this is in the KONY 2012 video. So while Invisible Children has succeeded in raising overall awareness of Kony, it is anything but productive. The reality is that we're now aware of a man who hasn't had any presence since 2006, is much less dangerous than the Ugandan government, and will likely be killed on sight by United States Special Forces. And yet, this campaign that has made him famous could provoke him back into activity. This publicity can in no way help Northern Uganda.

Slow food: dorm cooking

BY LISA FOLKMIRE
COPY EDITOR

My father made his own recipe for pizza when he was a teenager. My mother can master any family recipe within two attempts. My brother makes grilled cheese taste like a \$20 entrée. My sister has baked more delicious sweets than Betty Crocker herself. I don't mean to brag, but I'm a top notch mixer of noodles and salad dressing. I'll admit, my culinary experience is slim to none. Don't get me wrong, I love food a lot—I am a fantastic eater. The whole cooking process is another story. I grew up in a family of cooks, bakers, and eaters. Seriously, we have a holiday based entirely around food—a progressive dinner, if you will, involving all three main courses, desserts, and then some. But for some reason I was able to sneak past my family's adoration of the culinary experience, and completely avoided any essence of raw ingredients as a youngster. Well, not completely avoided. I have cooked before. When I was in eighth grade, my dad decided that I was worthy

of his secret pizza recipe. Side note: the recipe is a secret because he has never written it down. Which means that the recipe changes every time. My family is notorious for this. Anyways, I mastered that craft in no time and proceeded on to the family's mac 'n' cheese recipe, which I also succeeded at. Still, it didn't take me long to realize that eating is way easier than cooking, and so I decided to go back to my old ways. The whole cooking phase was fun, but after three dinners made solely by myself, I decided that I would much rather be on the other side of the table. This is why I spent 17 of my 18 years at home waiting for 8 p.m. dinners with my ever-busy family. But when college came around, with its scheduled meal times and the occasional rift between the selection of meals and the preferences of my taste buds, I had to crack down on the cooking business. So I decided to master the art of making ramen noodles. I know what you're thinking—whoa. Slow down. Never fear. I tried, I learned, I conquered. So here I sit, with a family-

sized bag of pretzels opened on my desk—a sure sign of previously missed meals—and a package of gum at hand, just in case I miss any more. Needless to say, I grew tired of ramen. In all honesty, this whole concept of dorm cooking is quite mystical to me. I grew up listening to my siblings' friends and our older neighbor talking about how they learned to cook at college. My brother-in-law-to-be spent his college career eating Kraft macaroni and cheese. My cousin learned how to make a cake in the microwave. My other cousin decided to live off of peanut butter and celery. I follow her example. It's easy, quick, and dish free. Really, if I wanted to, I could make whatever I want. It's not as if I am only able to make microwave meals. I know that there are kitchens located in the basements of the dorms. People seem to enjoy them—baking cupcakes, making the occasional meal, enjoying the beauty of home-cooked food. Personally, I think of the kitchens as a type of Narnia. I mean, beautiful things come from them, but I would rather enjoy than explore. It's simpler that way.

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!

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

Posey Global trips lack variety, fall into ruts

BY ANNA WEBER
STAFF WRITER

Every summer, Alma College students embark on expeditions around the world in an effort to make a difference. They travel to Uganda, Sierra Leone, and the Ukraine. For most people, the huge cost of trips like these stand in the way of service trips to foreign countries. Fortunately, though, Alma students are not "most people." Alma students have the Posey Global Leadership Fund, which pays for service trips overseas. Students are expected to work full-time in service positions, benefit the community, grow personally, and then bring back

what they have learned to Alma. Recently, however, the breadth of possible trips that a student could do has become rather reduced, with the same trips repeated every year. More P-Global fellows should opt for trips outside the usual spectrum. For example, there are a few trips that students take every year, such as expeditions to the Ukraine and to Sierra Leone. The Ukraine trip involves working in European orphanages, and students in Sierra Leone work to teach English. Trips to India to work in AIDS clinics are also common. There is no denying that all of these are very worthy causes. Orphanages in the Ukraine are notorious for their poor conditions, to the extent that Alma even has an organization to benefit them: Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe. However, these particular trips

have become somewhat cookie-cutter. A tendency to repeat the same trips year after year has begun to emerge. Because these particular outings are done so often, a student who applies for one knows exactly what he is getting himself into. And to me, this defeats the purpose of the foundation. Alma's Web site explains P-Global as "[offering Alma students scholarships] to travel anywhere in the world and complete a project of their own design." The problem is that this is no longer what P-Global is doing. Of course, the students on these trips do make a huge difference in the communities where they work. They help many people, and they do grow personally. However, they are not "completing projects of their own design"; they are doing projects that have become standard.

These repeat trips do not allow students to do their own research, choose an issue that they are passionate about, and find their own project to do. The trips have been perfected over the years, which in some ways is positive. At the same time, it isn't as much of a learning experience for the student. It's too easy to do a trip; designing an original project takes a special level of commitment. A student acting on a whim can apply for one of these repeat trips and receive the grant easily. However, a student with a real passion, who designs his own original trip, has to take risks and work harder, but the originality makes it more difficult for him to receive the grant. The trips that P-Global currently funds are wonderful causes and require real work; no disrespect is meant to fellows who embark on

trips that have already been done. Many of these fellows truly are passionate about the causes they support, but asking students to design their own trips ensures that they have the commitment necessary for a service trip of this intensity. There are also many other worthy causes that P-Global does not address; it tends to restrict itself to human health issues, literacy problems, and supporting orphanages. Encouraging original trips will expand the possibilities of P-Global; for example, students rarely embark on environmentally focused trips. They could rebuild houses in Haiti, and help the cause for disaster relief in Japan. There are so many possibilities for trips that students don't take advantage of; the service trips will immediately become more varied when students design their own trips.

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SPORTS

March 12-18, 2012

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Softball begins season with annual trip to Florida for spring training

By JOSH SPRATT
STAFF WRITER

While in Florida the softball team showed why it is ranked number one in the MIAA preseason coaches' poll.

The Lady Scots finished their road trip with a record of 8-2 as they posted numerous shut outs and double digit wins.

"Being picked to win the MIAA definitely puts a target on our back, but we are ready for it," **Kayla Smart ('13)** said. "We are a strong team this year and I think the extra pressure makes us that much better."

The home opener for the Scots will be on March 20 at 3:30

p.m. against Anderson College.

In its first game of the season, Alma lost in a close matchup against Ferrum, but bounced back later that same day with a decisive 9-1 victory over U of M Dearborn.

In the win against Dearborn **Rebecca Dewyse ('12)** led the Scots with four RBI's on two-for-two hitting.

The Maroon and Crème pitching was able to shut down the Dearborn offense and only allow three hits and a run, most of which came in the second inning.

"We only have one returning pitcher from last year, and the rest of the pitching staff is freshman," Dewyse said. "Even though we have many freshmen in the mix, I think they held their own and

they know what they need to do to improve for the season."

In the second day of play in Florida, Alma again split their two games, first dropping to Augustana 11-8 and then shut out Capital University with a 6-0 rout.

For the remainder of the time in Florida, the Scots were lights out and picked up four straight wins to end the week long road trip.

"Florida was great," said **Camille Dittmar ('12)**. "We really got to see how good of a team we have this year. We could have easily put 16 different girls on the field and the results would be exactly the same as the starting nine."

This team is very deep, position and ability wise, and we saw that in Florida. Every

team, no matter how good, can always improve, and we all are working our hardest to fix little things and get that much better."

In the last four games of the trip, the Scots outscored their opponents by a combined 42-3 run margin first defeating Wartburg 9-0.

The batting power came alive for the Scots in the second inning of that game where they posted seven of the nine runs on four hits.

"We started off kind of slow with our hitting at the beginning of the week, but by the end we were all ripping the cover off the ball," said Smart.

In a 7-0 win versus Grove City, the pitching staff was able to hold its opponent to only two hits and

the offense for Alma brought firepower led by **Amanda Schneider ('13)** who finished the game with three RBI's.

The Scots finished out the week with two high octane scoring performances, first defeating SUNY-Canton 15-1 and then Capital 11-2.

"We have to work hard every single day to show people that we have the chance and the ability to be the best, which was very evident down in Florida," **Louise Rezmer ('12)** said.

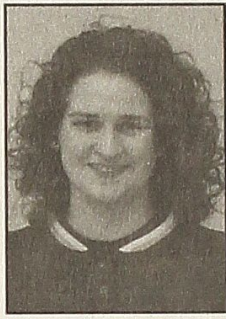
"We are also all driven by the same passion and goal. We love the game of softball and know that if every one of us are willing to work, together we have a chance at a national championship."

MEMORABLE MOMENTS OUTSIDE OF THE BUBBLE



"We could have easily put 16 different girls on the field and the results would be exactly the same as the starting nine. This team is very deep, position and ability wise, and we saw that in Florida."

-Camille Dittmar ('12)



"Besides all of the hours of practice and the games that we have played through, the one thing that truly stands out about the team this year is how close we all are. We are a family; we would do anything for each other, both on and off the field."

-Louise Rezmer ('12)



"Being picked to win the MIAA definitely puts a target on our back, but we are ready for it. We are a strong team this year and I think the extra pressure makes us that much better."

-Kayla Smart ('12)

Baseball team begins season at Myrtle Beach

By JASON POPIEL
STAFF WRITER

The Alma baseball team began its season last week by embarking on its annual journey to sunny Myrtle Beach. The trip proved to be a very successful one for the Scots: Alma came away with a 2-2 record on the week against very strong competition from southern and eastern conferences. After being picked to finish sixth in the MIAA by the media and coaches, the strong showing in South Carolina proves that the Scots are going to be tough in the conference this year.

North Carolina Wesleyan was Alma's first opponent of the year, and the Scots came away with a 6-3 win behind the exceptional pitching performance from starter **Richard Schreiber ('12)**.

Schreiber went the distance in the complete game win, scattering six hits and allowing three earned runs across the nine innings, and also added three strikeouts.

Infielder **Donny Lee ('12)** spearheaded the offense in the win, going three-for-four with three RBI's. Outfielder and leadoff man **Ryan Henris ('13)**

and cleanup batter **Blake Leddy ('15)** each had two hits for Alma.

"We got a great pitching performance today from Schreiber and some timely and clutch hitting that helped us get the win," said Alma head coach Judd Folske. "We scored four runs in the third inning on a couple of big suicide squeeze bunts and then later in the game, got two-out hits that knocked in wins. A good way to start."

The Scots failed to capitalize

"We got a great pitching performance today from Schreiber and some timely and clutch hitting that helped us get the win."

-Judd Folske,
Head Coach

on the momentum gained from the first win, and fell to Ferrum (VA) College by a score of 9-6, despite a strong pitching effort from starter **Anthony Derrer**

('12). Derrer went six innings and allowed four earned runs while recording four strikeouts in the loss. The Scots trailed 9-3 going into the ninth, when their bases-loaded rally fell short.

Alma fell to Manhattanville (NY) College in the third game of the trip by a score of 14-9, as the pitching staff struggled to contain a consistent attack from the opponent.

Five different pitchers came into the game for the Scots, and none of them could stop the onslaught.

The offense was the right point for Alma in this contest, as they put up a then-season high of nine runs. Third baseman **Alex Kravat ('14)** went four-for-five on the afternoon, and second baseman **Matt Cresswell ('13)**, infielder **Bryn Ludlow ('14)**, and catcher **Matt Stephens ('12)** all had two-hit performances for the Scots.

Alma then defeated PSU-Abington 13-3 in the final game of the trip to improve their overall record to 2-2 as they get closer to league play. The Scots are now off until this weekend, when they will travel to Terre Haute, Indiana for a series of games against teams from Indiana and Illinois.

"We had our best spring

training in Myrtle Beach in quite a while," said Derrer. "The team chemistry is at its best which is helping us come together as a team, and we hit

ball very well, played exceptional defense, and pitched great. If we keep up the hard work like we have been, this season should show very positive results."

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Athletes and Greeks celebrate differences on Diversity Day

By **JOSH SPRATT**
STAFF WRITER



Above: Matt Glowacki spoke to students of the difficulties he has had to overcome. Glowacki runs his own business making custom wheelchairs and traveling all over the country speaking on diversity. **Top right:** Brian Sheridan ('13) represented the men's basketball team and experienced playing his sport from a different position. **Bottom right:** Shelby Gray ('12) represented the women's volleyball team playing for the Alma College Rollers.



Elaine Cunningham: Photo Editor

In an effort to bring diverse groups together, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and Greek Life collaborated to bring Diversity Day to the Campus.

There was a large turnout for the day's events, as students and community members alike showed up to celebrate our differences.

At noon the main event started with a wheelchair basketball game that pitted the Alma Scots Rollers against the Grand Rapids Pacers.

The Rollers consisted of members from all athletic teams, Greek organizations and community groups, including the Alma Police Department.

Fitted in wheelchairs the Rollers players were out of their element and no match for the experienced Pacer team.

"It just amazed me how difficult basketball was in a wheelchair," said **Jarrold Lynch ('13)**. "I have so much respect for those guys."

In the end, the Scots Rollers pulled through with a victory with help from all sorts of shenanigans such as sideline scoring and point handicaps. The Rollers had the advantage of each made basket counting for ten points and baskets made from the three point line counting for 20.

"Playing basketball from a wheelchair is no easy task," **Josh Gove ('14)** said. "The Pacer players are very talented and to see the obstacles they have overcome is inspiring. I hope Alma continues this event in future years."

The game ended with a final score of 80-77, with the victory for the Alma Scots Rollers, but really meant nothing as the event was just good quality fun

to celebrate and showcase the diversity of our community.

Throughout the duration of the game spectators were given chances to participate in contests like free-throw shooting from a chair to show their competitive spirit and see what it would be like to live with a disability.

A Kindle Fire and other prizes were raffled off including

gift cards to local businesses to support economic growth in the Alma community.

All proceeds and donations will be put back in the program to benefit future Greek life and athletic activities.

After the final buzzer sounded, the day was then finished off with a speech on diversity by Matt Glowacki. Glowacki, who

was born without legs, spoke energetically about his optimistic attitude for life despite challenges he has had to overcome. He encouraged students to take challenges head on and stressed the fact that a positive attitude is necessary to succeed.

"A disability is a magnifying glass on your character," Glowacki said during his speech.

He spoke of the importance of looking past people's appearances and judging them instead for their character.

"It was a really great experience to be able to participate in the wheelchair basketball game," Gove said. "To have the opportunity to be put in someone else's shoes even for just a few minutes and see what they go through is humbling."

Lacrosse travels to Georgia

By **JASON POPIEL**
STAFF WRITER

The men's and women's lacrosse squads officially began their inaugural seasons over spring break, when they competed in games that took place in Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, and Indiana.

The men, playing shorthanded, did not come away with a win on the trip, and started their season 0-4.

The story was not the same for the women, as they came away with the first win in program history when they defeated LaGrange College, Ga., 14-9. The Scots then followed up the program's first win with a road win last Wednesday against conference rival Olivet.

"Our trip got off to a rough start against Centre, but as a team, we knew we had a lot of experience to catch up on compared to the teams we'd be playing," said midfielder **Mary Harwood ('13)**. "Our team is extremely unique, and our coach agrees that our chemistry is not something she could have recruited."

Both teams began the trip in Kentucky with games against

Centre College, and both teams proved to be overmatched.

The men were defeated in convincing fashion 22-2, and the women fell 21-3; both matches served as the first official game in each program's history.

After leaving Kentucky, the squads traveled to Mt. Berry, Ga. where each faced Mt. Berry College. The men once again struggled, losing to an experienced Mt. Berry team by the score of 20-0. The women fell 20-11, but put together offense behind six goals from midfielder **Tracy Gallihugh ('15)**, and three goals from attacker **Christie Havrilla ('13)**.

The men's squad faced Piedmont College, Ga. in their next contest, and once again went up against a team with significantly larger numbers and much more experience. The result was a 24-2 loss, with the Alma goals coming from midfielders **Cole Mulder ('15)** and **Tim DeFillipo ('15)**.

Following a 22-5 loss to Shorter College, Ga. the women traveled to Rome, Ga. to take on LaGrange College. A complete team game was highlighted by Havrilla's hat trick, two-goal

efforts from Gallihugh, and midfielder **Sydney Bryce ('15)**, all of which helped that cement the first win in program history.

The men completed their trip down south with the team's best efforts yet, losing to Huntington Ala. 12-4. Mulder scored the first goal of the game, giving the Scots their first lead in program history. Attacker **Adam Debevec ('15)** scored two goals for Alma, and midfielder **Tyler Bennett ('15)** also scored. Goaltender **Daric Mueller ('15)** was solid yet again for the Scots, recording 19 saves in the losing effort.

"We suffered some tough losses but that's to be expected as a first year program," said defenseman **James McCoy ('12)**. "We learned some valuable lessons on that road trip and I know we'll be ready to face the Dutch for our home opener."

The men will continue their season with the first home game in program history. They will take on the Flying Dutchmen of Hope at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Bahlke Field.

The women will be off until March 24, when they will face Davenport University at Bahlke.

If you choose to drink know this:
on a typical **Thursday night,** most **Alma College students** are doing something other than **drinking**

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