

Relay for Life brings campus together

By ANNA WEBER
STAFF WRITER

Zombies ran amok Sunday morning at the Stone Recreation Center. Bodies marching slowly drifted toward dorms. But these zombies were not part of an army of the undead. They were students who had just spent 24 hours raising money to help the fight against cancer through Relay For Life. Beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, different campus organizations formed teams to raise money and show their support in the fight against cancer. "My mother is a three-time cancer survivor and both my grandfathers have had some form of cancer, so I personally find Relay For Life to be a very noble and honorable cause," said **Timothy Imber ('13)**, captain of the Hepcats team, Alma's swing dance group. During the event, team members take turns walking on the indoor track for the full 24 hours, while non-walkers manned their team booths selling various things on the tennis courts. "Our team has it split up so each member signs up a half-hour time slot," said **Erin Fleet ('14)**, part of the Alpha Gamma Delta team. "It's really the team effort that makes it easy." "Everyone's been working hard, whether they're on the board or in an individual group," said **Laura Hassold ('15)**, member of the executive committee. "The



Kayla Roy: Staff Photographer

Students signed a banner pledging to "Fight Back" against cancer. The event included other activities such as human bowling, board games, and other inflatable games. Each Greek organization also had booths with different activities.

effort is really phenomenal." The money raised in the weeks before and during Relay benefits the American Cancer Society, which educates people about cancer, provides support to sufferers of the disease, and funds research to find a cure. According to Imber, his team raised \$360 last year by

dancing for donations. This year they have already raised more than half that amount. "We set no official goal," Imber said. "Any money we can give to Relay is money they didn't have before" The Relay website reported a total of \$10,381 raised by Alma students as of Friday. With the

addition of Saturday and Sunday, that amount will have increased. "In regards to survivors and people battling cancer right now, it means a lot," said Fleet. According to the BBC, 1 in 3 people will be affected by cancer-1 in 3 people will know someone who has suffered from or even died from the disease. Relay

For Life provided a meaningful opportunity to show support and recognition of these loved ones. "To me, Relay is not just an organization, or even a charity event to raise money for cancer," said Imber. "It's a symbol of how, in times of crisis, mankind can unite under one cause for the betterment of everyone."

Shane Douglas retains office until close of term

By RYAN HERZOG
STAFF WRITER

Student Congress President **Shane Douglas' ('13)** two-week impeachment trial drew to a close last Monday after the motion to remove him failed. thirty-eight yes votes were required, 33 votes were cast. The voting came after a resolution was presented in front of the Congress two weeks ago by **Jessica Paige ('12)** of the MacCurdy organization. The resolution called for removal of Douglas due to various complaints from PRIDE and various Greek Life institutions. Douglas was given a week and a rebuttal before voting started. The resolution was brought up after dissatisfaction with Douglas' administration. Several organizations collaborated with Paige to bring grievances in front of the Student Congress. "His leadership style and the way he's been handling situations are something I don't agree with," said Paige. "I was hoping for the motion to be a catalyst for discussion about his actions. There hadn't been any formal discussion or anything that was holding him accountable. I didn't know if the motion would have been successful but I wanted to bring these issues to the forefront" As president of PRIDE, Paige worked on the resolution after she felt her organization was fairly mistreated. Her case comes

out of punishments dealt to PRIDE after their representative missed meetings. She claims that many other organizations were missing meetings as much as they were, and "cases across the board were handled unevenly." She felt that Douglas wasn't following the Student Congress constitution and its guidelines. She gathered evidence against Douglas, looking through emails and constitutional laws. "I wanted to ensure that everything I submitted I could back up with documentation." She said that she has several documented cases of Douglas operating outside of the Student Congress constitutional laws, which she presented during a meeting. Douglas said that his conduct has been kept to the utmost standard, following the constitution and its protocols. He also denounced any evidence against him, saying that there was no case against him. He said that PRIDE was dealt with the same way like every other organization, and claimed that he has documentation as well. According to Douglas, records show the attendance of PRIDE compared to other organizations was "the most grievous," which is why he took them off charter. Douglas said he would have helped solve these issues had Paige brought them to his attention. Paige said that she

didn't believe that it would have made any difference. "The way Shane has dealt with organizations in the past and recent events have made groups feel like they can't say anything without retaliation." For Paige, bringing up these issues were not revenge for PRIDE, but more about bringing up issues with the president. A major theme that showed up in response to the resolution was an admitted lack of communication from Douglas himself. Included was the fact that EC meeting minutes weren't recorded. He has mandated meetings start being recorded after the issue was brought up in the resolution since then. Paige is glad that she brought up the resolution. "I think the whole experience shows students how important it is in making sure that our structures on campus are represented in a way where members can be fairly represented and can speak up," said Paige. "This has shown the gaps in terms of representation," and student voices on campus."



Kayla Roy: Staff Photographer

A move to impeach Student Congress President Shane Douglas recently failed.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Sunny 46°	Cloudy 49°	Partly Cloudy 58°	Mostly Cloudy 51°	Partly Cloudy 54°	Showers 55°	Showers 62°

Old Kiltie Corner to become offices, airy common area

By ERIN STONE
STAFF WRITER

Last term, Kiltie Corner had a line out the door for textbooks and discount clothing—at appeared to be one of the most lively places on campus. Now the space stands as an empty shell, leaving the old Kiltie Corner as a mere remembrance of where many of us bought our first textbooks. Michael Selmon, the provost,



Elaine Cunningham: Photo Editor

The vacant space in the former Kiltie Corner will be renovated into a comfortable office area,

“It will be a lobby with soft seats rather than a row with this office, this office, this office. You’ll come into a common place that’s light and attractive with common reception and they can tell you who’s the right person to see.”

**-Michael Selmon,
Provost**

held a meeting last Wednesday afternoon to discuss the plan for the future of this vacancy and other aspects of campus renovation. These plans, known as the Master Plan and the Strategic Plan, are plans made by the college that involve the major changes for the coming

years in the college. Most of these changes are in architecture. Selmon declared that the open space is going to be used for offices. These offices will include the Academic and Career Planning, a site for internships, Service Learning, the Center for Responsible Leadership, and the new Opportunity and Connections Program office provided by the King-Chavez-Parks Grant. It will also house the Director of Work and the International Student Support Position. The Writing

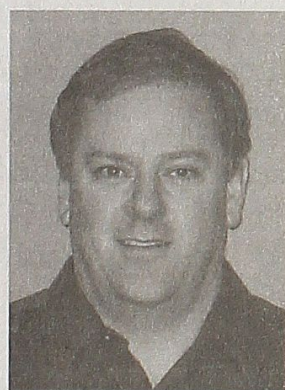
Center will also be affiliated with the new office center but it will remain in the library. The Center for Student Resources called for this change in the Strategic Plan. The plan currently contains multiple drafts. In Objective 1, the plan is to establish a centralized office, according to Selmon. It will more than likely resemble the Mac Lab in SAC. “It will be a lobby with soft seats rather than a row with this office, this office, this office. You’ll come into a common place that’s

light and attractive with common reception and they can tell you who’s the right person to see.” Architects have been on campus for preliminary discussion and understanding the concept of the project. Later, they discuss a design. Selmon hopes to see a design soon and to start this project this summer. “We want to have the move done for the offices before students get here because it’s disruptive.” Regarding the architects, Selmon mentioned: “They are working

in a timely manner. If we want to continue to begin in June, it’s an aggressive time frame.” Selmon is hoping that the campus and the students take this change positively. “We hope to have a place [where students can] go to find support for wherever they are in the academics—majors for freshmen, internships for sophomores, and graduate schools for seniors. You go to a place and know you can find that kind of support will ideally be an advantage,” said Selmon. “It will help offices cooperate, and that’s easy to do when the offices are in the same place.” The Master Plan includes expanding the library. Moving the offices to the Kiltie Corner space will prepare for that. A development in the library expansion includes constructing a new auditorium. This will replace Jones Auditorium, as Jones will become home to more offices. “If Jones goes, we have to find another place that fits that need. We know this is a place that is used frequently. We can’t say let’s build this in four years and close Jones. This is why we have architects—they can think through with what the process has to be,” Selmon stated. For more information on this project, contact Dr. Michael Selmon at selmon@alma.edu or by phone at x7176 or Dr. Nicholas Piccolo at piccolo@alma.edu or x7333. In the next month, they will have more information.

Scotland seeks independence

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK



Name: Britt Cartrite

Memorable Quote: “I hope it will inspire or intrigue students in learning about a place they don’t know much about. I hope it will encourage us to truly look at this place we look at in simplistic terms.”

By ELLEN MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

As a student body, we may call ourselves the Scots, but how much do we really know about the country of Scotland itself? For instance, did you know that it is possible that Scotland could win independence from the United Kingdom within the next couple years? It’s true, but many Americans do not realize this fact. However, it has been making headline news all over Europe, but has failed to make an impact in our own country. Few Americans know that there are many people who would like to hold a referendum trying to gain independence from the United Kingdom. “The whole issue is very exciting—it’s very dramatic,” said Britt Cartrite, assistant professor of political science. “This has been causing a real debate within Scotland.”

Cartrite, who has a research background in nationalism and ethnic politics, has been studying this movement closely. As of right now, he estimates that 35 to 40 percent of the Scottish people support the idea of becoming an independent nation. However, the Scottish National Party (SNP), which has a government majority until 2016, would like to wait to hold the referendum until the year 2014. Why the year 2014? What’s the significance? “2014 marks the 700th anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn, a significant victory in the Wars of Scottish Independence,” explained Cartrite. With the large majority of people feeling proud of their past and the rich history of their country, such emotions will make them more likely to support the idea of independence. Cartrite also predicts that if Scotland is successful in its pursuit of independence, it may

lead Belgium and Wales to split off or even lead to the entire break-up of the United Kingdom. But why would Scotland want to become independent? After all, they live in a wealthy democracy and have a relatively stable economy. “They want to be their own country,” said Cartrite. He explains that they are looking for the formality and symbolism of independence. They want to have formalities such as having their own Olympic team or their own seat in the European Union. “For some people, this is huge,” Cartrite noted. However, one reason that some people are unsure if the country should attempt to gain independence is related to that coveted seat in the European Union. Although Scotland currently has a voice in the Union through the United Kingdom, the European Union refuses to say if a country that splits off from another will be admitted into the Union. Other uncertainties about independence include military and the impact on their economy, although economic problems will probably be less of a concern if they keep the British pound. In relation to Alma College, Cartrite hopes that students will become more aware of these events happening in Scotland. “I hope it will inspire or intrigue students in learning about a place they don’t know much about,” voiced Cartrite. “I hope it will encourage us to truly look at this place we look at in simplistic terms.”

This week at Alma College

Monday, March 26:

Health Reform Panel Discussion at 7 p.m. in Dow L1

Tuesday, March 27:

Soul Food Night at 4 p.m. in Tyler-Van Dusen

Wednesday, March 28:

Speaker Mohammed Tayssir Safi at 6 p.m. in SAC 113

Speaker Mohammed Tayssir Safi at 8 p.m. in Dow L1

Thursday, March 29:

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

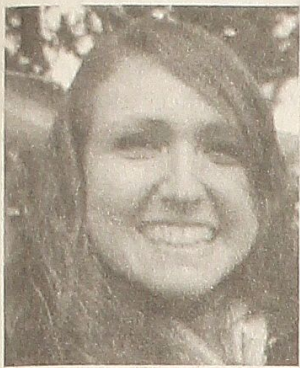
Friday, March 30:

ACUB Movie Night at 10:30 p.m. in Jones Auditorium

Saturday, March 31:

Slut Walk at 3 p.m. in McIntyre Mall
Symphony and Alma College Choirs
Masterworks Concert at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK



Name: Andria Baker ('12)

Memorable Quote: "Being an Alma Scot is more than just getting a degree, it's an experience that shapes you as an individual and prepares you to work with others when you leave here."

Senior student leader engages community

BY ERIN STONE
STAFF WRITER

Beyond balancing academics and athletics, **Andria Baker ('12)** holds multiple leadership positions in organizations on campus, as well.

One such organization is Education Club. As president, she led the club to plan an event this year called "Story Time at Stucchi's." Students and kids would go to Stucchi's and read stories or do crafts together.

Baker enjoys being a positive influence on younger students, which explains her three year involvement with the Mentor Plus program, which enlists college students to mentor teenagers and expose them to the benefits of higher education.

"Basically, I work on recruiting college student to become a mentor to a local youth in the community, typically a middle school student who needs a role model. Also with this program, we run the Kids' Night Out activities," said Baker.

Baker is also the vice president of Kappa Delta Pi, the Education Honorary. This is a national organization that helps college students with resources and sharing new teaching ideas.

In addition, Baker serves as the Student Athletic Advisory Committee

(SAAC) president this year.

"We planned Jock Rock, a Sportsmanship Speaker, Diversity Day events with a wheelchair basketball game, and the Scotty Awards Show," said Baker.

For three years, Baker has been involved in the Center for Responsible Leaders (CRL).

"I have worked on projects like the community garden and the Fall Festival that happened this past October. We also work closely with the community to try and keep conversations about how we envision what our community should look like," said Baker.

To top off her already lengthy list of leadership positions, Baker became Team Captain of the volleyball team, which she has been a part of for four years.

"She's always smiling, always a sparkplug on and off the court," head coach Sarah Dehring said. "She's always positive and helps keep the team uplifted."

"One of my goals as a student at Alma has been to use the leadership skills that I have and bring people together to make our campus feel like a community," said Baker. "I want student groups to get involved with each other, and learn from one another. Being an Alma Scot is more than just getting a degree, it's an experience that shapes you as an individual and prepares you to work with others when you leave here."

Michigan poet shares compositional wisdom



Devin Brines: Staff Photographer

Diane Seuss, whose poetry draws heavily from her Midwestern upbringing, reads selections from her book, "Wolf Lake, White Gown Blown Open."

BY KELSEY BLADES
STAFF WRITER

"I don't wanna write poems where you can't find a place to be. To me, place is huge. I think it helps you and the reader and you as your own reader. . . [That special place] is yours. Don't give it away."

Such is the advice of Diane Seuss, writer-in-residence at

know that you don't have to know what to say beforehand, and it's better not to. So if you already know where the poem's going to go, don't write it."

She explained that the poems "Jesus wept and so did Rowena Lee," "The Lee girls had it bad," and "Men displayed the things we didn't want to see" are poems that "arose out of my conversations with my mother. . . I really considered it oral history."

"[That oral history is] really important to me, and so I started the book with 'Jesus wept and so did Rowena Lee' for that reason," said Seuss. "To me, from my religion major, it asserts the book's people and its theology in a really simple way."

Seuss doesn't like how bridled modern language has become, especially in writing poetry. "In Colorado...I was in an advanced workshop and boy, their poems were boring," she said. "I didn't say that, but I just realized how tamed the general classroom is about language." She told the workshop students, "Be glad that you have somebody that's not like that, because it's really stifling."

Seuss used a simile to describe her situation as a writer.

"I'm like a bead on a string between poles," she said. "One of those poles is structure and narrative and clarity, and the other pole is madness and hallucination and fluidity and the lyric that knows no boundaries. I'm always sliding between those two poles. That's what's so awesome about being a writer for your whole... life. Really, it's a religious, a spiritual practice that allows you to explore the poles in life."

Poetry workshop students **Kathleen Van Fossan ('12)** and **Erika Schnepf ('13)** enjoyed Seuss's visit.

"I thought it was amazing," said Van Fossan. "I think it's great

when you hear the poet herself read her poem, because then you get the voice in your head. As a playwright, I want that voice. And now that I go back and read the poems or hear her read the poems, it's like, 'Ooh, I get that voice back.' . . . Once you hear her, you really get it. . . [She's] just this awesome woman. She's very jazz."

"I absolutely adore Diane Seuss and her writing, so it was fantastic to be able to see her," said Schnepf. "It was great to meet her and to see the face and the human behind this masterpiece [of "Wolf Lake, White Gown Blown Open"]."

"Nowadays you get lost in

"...Hearing someone talk, hearing her describing what she was going through as she was writing the poem, listening to her read...It's more of the experience you're supposed to have."

-Erika Schnepf ('13)

that TV-and-movies aspect . . . poetry is something that is written down, but it's meant to be read and listened to," said Schnepf. "So hearing someone talk, hearing her describing what she was going through as she was writing the poem, listening to her read—it's just something completely different. It's more of the experience you're supposed to have."

"I think it's great that she came to Alma to read," said Van Fossan. "I think having more poets and more artists come to Alma is a source of continual inspiration, and I'm grateful that we have that here, even with our own professors."



Elaine Cunningham: Photo Editor

Andria Baker ('12) played wheelchair basketball against motivational speaker Matt Glowacki at Diversity Day, an event she planned as SAAC president to bring together athletes and Greek Life.

Sodexo picks produce closer to home

By RYAN HERZOG
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty alike will now be able to enjoy food grown closer to home.

Sodexo of Alma has introduced more Michigan-grown food in their supplies, and will feature them in all of their meals. The company is partnering up with other companies who contract exclusively with farmers in Michigan. Sodexo plans to make 40% of the food they serve in-state by the end of the semester.

Steven Watkins, general manager of campus dining, is "very excited" to work with Michigan companies such as Cherry Capital Foods and Prairie Farms after partnering with them

at the beginning of this year.

"Our move to local produce is a win-win for us," said Watkins. "Not only does this move support local families and farmers, but it helps to reduce our carbon footprint. The farther it has to come, the more diesel we have to burn to get here," he said.

Watkins hopes to one-day get food exclusively from Michigan, but doesn't know how far off that is.

Right now, Sodexo has secured companies to provide dairy products and produce, such as fruits and vegetables. All of the milk they serve comes from Michigan farms, said Watkins.

"The only dairy that isn't from the state can be found in the milk cartons in Joes."

While Watkins is always on the lookout for new sources of food, he has run into trouble with finding meat. He hopes to find a good

supplier someday, but "meat has certain complications," he said.

Watkins has been pushing for more locally grown foods

"The only dairy that isn't from the state can be found in the milk cartons at Joe's."

*-Steven Watkins,
general manager of
campus dining*

since he was hired in the early 2000's. He says that when he got here, Michigan products only made 5% of all food served. Now that they have teamed up with local providers, that

number has shot up to 20%.

Sodexo also plans to show customers which foods are being home grown locally.

"We're doing a better job at advertising our Michigan-made products," said Karol Chubb ('15).

There are already green flyers posted on the tack boards in Hamilton commons. Not only can they tell you what foods they're getting from Michigan, they can tell you where in the state. Cherry Capital foods releases all of their information on the farms from which they receive their produce.

One supplier of produce, Cherry Capital Foods, is based in Traverse City. Founded in 2007, it is growing in area and size. They currently serve the area of St. Ignace down to Mt. Pleasant and over through Grand Rapids.

Watkins has already seen

an improvement in freshness

and quality since the switch.

"They're like a farmer's market on steroids," he said. "These guys go to farms to visit, and they're looking and touching and feeling. The best part is they're passionate about what they do. It's very neat to work with folks like that."

Sodexo has made plans to get food from farmers in Gratiot County. Watkins has already given the names of multiple farmers to Cherry Capital and has set up partnerships with the farmers he has recommended.

The new products Sodexo is buying do not usually cost extra, so meal prices are not expected to increase due to the change in supplier.

"This switch is good news and is something we should be talking about," said Watkins. "It's a win for everybody involved."

Curryoke Night adds international flavors

By ELLEN MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

What could be a better combination than great food and great music?

That's what sparked the idea to host Curryoke Night—an event that was part cooking competition and part karaoke.

Chih-Ping Chen, associate professor of English, explained that she had thought that it would be interesting to host a competition similar to the popular television show Iron Chef, giving each contestant a bag of rice and letting them create their own unique dish.

Kelsey Irland-Wright ('13), president of the International Club, suggested the idea of

combining such a competition (only using curry powder instead of rice) with karaoke, thus bringing about the event Curryoke Night.

"I wanted I-Club to have a bigger campus event outside of the World Kitchen, which, while they are very enjoyable, they have limited space for students," she explained.

Last Thursday night, Curryoke Night was held in the Heather room. A \$1 fee was charged for people to taste the various curry dishes, and the proceeds were donated to a local organization that provides housing and education in Honduras.

But what is curry? A curry is an Indian dish with gravy that uses curry powder, which is a combination of spices, one of which is the ground leaves from

the tree native to India. There are a wide variety of recipes for curries that can be made with meat, vegetables, or even fruit.

These various types of curries were represented by the three different recipes entered into the competition.

Contestants Katie Grunder ('15), Olivia Herrera ('15), and Caity Huffman ('15) prepared the winning curry—a unique and delicious fruit curry. The ingredients included pineapple, peaches, pears, cherries, coconut, pecans, brown sugar, butter and, of course, curry powder.

Irland-Wright prepared a green bean curry dish which won her second place in the competition.

Finally, the third place curry was entered by Nicholas Wracan ('15), Michael Cataldo ('14),

Aaron Bratys ('14) and Charles Sadler ('14), all members of the Alma College Pipe Band. The name of their dish was Lone Wolf Curry and contained chicken, pork, ham, red potatoes, curry powder, fresh peppers, garlic, cayenne pepper and rice.

The pipers decided to enter the competition because they won third place in the chili cook-off held last semester.

"We wanted to try our hand at Indian cuisine," said Sadler.

The first place winners were each awarded \$50 Amazon gift cards, second place was awarded a \$25 gift card, and the third place winners were each given \$15 gift cards.

Participating as judges for the event were Jane Vallejo, Instruction Assistant of

Spanish; Marcus Richter, Assistant Professor of Library Science; and Cynthia Walz, Executive Chef from Sodexo.

"All the dishes were really good—we enjoyed all of them," said Walz. "But we chose the [fruit] curry as first place because it was a little more innovative."

The karaoke was intermixed with the curry tasting. There was a variety of music played for people to sing to, including Spanish, French, German, and Japanese songs. The pipers also presented attendees with a taste of Scotland as they sang "Ae Fond Kiss"—a poem by Robert Burns—accompanied by bagpipes.

Between the music and the food, students sampled a variety of cultures from all around the world in one night.

Masterworks Concert brings musicians together

By KELSEY BLADES
STAFF WRITER

An exodus of biblical proportions is scheduled to occur Saturday as students, faculty, and community members prepare to leave their rooms and homes for a magnificent event: a joint performance by two of campus's musical groups.

The Alma Symphony Orchestra (ASO) is teaming up

with the Alma Choirs for their annual Masterworks Concert. They will perform "Israel in Egypt," an oratorio composed by George Frideric Handel.

The first section of the two-part oratorio begins with the enslaved Israelites' crying out to God in Egypt and chronicles the events recorded in the Book of Exodus—including the various plagues that wreaked havoc upon the Egyptians—up until the parting of the Red Sea. The second part consists of the Israelites' song of praise to God, based on the song recorded in Exodus 15:1-21.

According to Ilias Chrissochoidis, who earned doctoral degrees in musicology and wrote a dissertation on the early reception of Handel's oratorios, the success of "Israel in Egypt" was far from certain when it premiered in London on April 4, 1739.

"In just three performances, the oratorio enacted the story of Exodus, swerving from certain drowning to unexpected rescue," he wrote, noting that the first performance failed to achieve a 20-member audience.

Michael Moore, whom the program notes as editor for Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia, wrote that "Israel

in Egypt" generally stands out from the characteristic structure of Handel's oratorios.

"It has very little plot, no characters, few solo arias and consists almost entirely of choruses. Its original version was in three parts, the first being the previously written 'Funeral Anthem' for Queen Caroline, retitled for this occasion 'Lamentation of the Israelites for the Death of Joseph.' Opening with a long funeral anthem, the tone of this original performance was decidedly dark, unenlivened by brilliant arias featuring popular soloists, and it lacked an engaging plot," he wrote. "Handel quickly revised the oratorio, eliminating the first section entirely and adding several extraneous Italian arias, but the work still failed to please the public. He continued to tinker with the production, adding an organ concerto to a performance in 1740 and an entire new first movement with characters and plot for a revival in 1756, but the oratorio was never popular in his lifetime."

Despite its rough journey, the work survived and, perhaps unexpectedly, flourished.

"Israel in Egypt" remains one of the most beloved of all

choral works, more than 250 years after its composition . . . and now stands second only to 'Messiah' as Handel's most beloved oratorio," wrote Moore.

Performance of such a highly esteemed piece requires hard and diligent work and hours of preparation and rehearsal time.

"We have three combined rehearsals [this] week to get us ready for the Saturday and Sunday concerts," violinist Jenny Campfield ('13) said. But the painstaking efforts put forth by each individual are paying off

"Rehearsals are going well," said Campfield.

Campfield said that the experience has its negatives and positives.

"Combined concerts can be a bit more difficult simply because you're trying to unite a larger group of people and because you are playing or singing for a conductor you may not be used to," she said, noting that conducting responsibilities transition each year between Dr. Murray Gross, assistant professor of music and Alma Symphony Orchestra director, and Dr. Will Nichols, Secrest professor of music and director of choirs.

"Doing a joint concert is a lot of fun," said Campfield. "It's a great opportunity to join together with friends who are in choir to use our talents and gifts to work toward something we could never accomplish on our own."

SATURDAY

WHAT: Alma Symphony Orchestra and Alma Choirs perform Handel's "Israel in Egypt" for their annual Masterworks Concert

WHERE: Remick Heritage Center

WHEN: 8 p.m., additional performance Sunday at 4 p.m.

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

BY BRIAN MCCALLISTER
STAFF WRITER

El Vaquero is a Mexican restaurant located at 330 E Center St that offers good Mexican cuisine, with a lot of chips and salsa as appetizers before your meal arrives. The chicken fajitas are delicious and the menu is plentiful with its options. The walk there is a tad long, but at least it allows for walking off what was just consumed. "The best thing they have on the menu is the Steak Chimichonga, which is big and has a lot of rice, guacamole, and obviously steak. It's pretty much the only off-campus

Alma may not have the amount of dining options that large universities offer, but there are still several restaurants worth visiting. I rarely regret eating in downtown Alma instead of SAGA, and I'm sure a similar result will occur for anyone that does the same.

I understand that many of us don't have a forte for politics and some can't even fathom the idea that their vote does matter. Your vote may be the difference

I was pleased when I realized that someone wrote a statement

So the next time you decide to sarcastically participate in an event, or the next time you decide to add some unneeded humor to a serious matter. Take a moment to think of all the people who you are offending. Those people will read you as an ignorant person, someone that is not meant to be taken seriously. Is that the kind of person you want to be known as?

There are many different types of sudoku, so if you like this, try out some more!

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

BY ANNA WEBER
STAFF WRITER

Who doesn't love a good sob story? They make a person feel better about his own life. But in all seriousness, the cafeteria is not that bad. As sob storie

However, these same people

Even if a person is so picky that he really can't find appetizing hot food at SAGA, it isn't very hard to improvise. Make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Reheat food

Otherwise, complainers should either learn to adapt or buy their own food. SAGA

Chances are that, with some of this food, if it was served at a friend's house, we wouldn't have any problem with it. In fact, if our own homes had as large of a dessert selection as SAGA has, visitors would be very impressed. If we complained about food from a friend's house as much as we complain about SAGA, that friend would be very offended.

Florida hate crime captures attention

BY ISRAEL PACHECO SANTOS
STAFF WRITER

It has been almost a month since Trayvon Martin was fatally shot by George Zimmerman, a vigilante who claims that it was in “self-defense,” in Sanford, Florida. The only thing Martin had on him was a pack of Skittles and a bottle of iced tea after going to a convenience store. So what was it that Zimmerman was protecting himself from? Skittles and iced tea pose no threat to anybody. There is nothing aside from the color of Martin’s skin that could have been threatening to Zimmerman. It’s clear that this is a case of racism. President Obama, Jesse Jackson, Mitt Romney, and several others have spoken out in response to this tragedy, with Obama issuing a statement at the White House press conference, saying, “If I had a son, he’d look like Trayvon.” It’s incredibly depressing that African American males can still be viewed as being dangerous in today’s society.

“I think it’s sad that we live in a world where people are judged by their appearance and not their character. There’s absolutely no explanation for these actions aside from bitter prejudice,” said **Brendan Lodge** (‘14). This is not to say that all police officials are prejudice against minorities, but police officials are also citizens, and our nation has citizens that are guilty of racism. The fact that Zimmerman was not arrested because police officials thought his self-defense claim was legitimate, despite the fact that Martin had absolutely no weapons on him, is what makes this story even more unsettling. Zimmerman is a reminder that there are still American citizens who discriminate against other human beings. Some of these citizens are police officers that either propagate or do little to stop acts of racism. Discrimination from police officials, who are still citizens like the rest of us, is an issue that needs to be examined more thoroughly. This is not to say that all police officials are prejudice against minorities, but police officials are also citizens, and our nation has citizens that are guilty of racism.

In an ideal world, those police officers would have arrested Zimmerman upon finding the dead body of an unarmed teenager. We ought to strive to make sure that justice is delivered and that America becomes a safe place for minorities. I’m glad that the nation has taken notice of this issue because this deserves to be known by the entire country. A petition calling for Zimmerman’s arrest has gained more than 1.5 million signatures on the website change.org. Moreover, Police Chief Bill Lee has stepped down as a result of the Trayvon shooting. While America has progressed in the acceptance of minorities, there is still much more work to be done. Every American citizen needs to realize that racism still exists in our nation. To think this is just an extreme example of racism is turning a blind eye to the issue. Downplaying the issue is telling the entire African American community that it’s okay to commit violent acts of racism. We live in a country where a girl threw flour on Kim Kardashian and got arrested, but a man who shot a 17-year-old kid lives freely.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

When taking office as Student Congress President, I was originally overwhelmed with the opportunity of being able to speak on behalf of an amazing campus and student body. Upon becoming President, one of my main initiatives was always to encourage students to voice their opinions and to make positive changes. However, upon recent events I have begun to look at the campus from a greater perspective. Many students have begun to speak out, but at the cost of their own poise and other’s. As students of Alma College we must all remember the Alma College Mission. “...to prepare graduates who think critically, serve generously, lead purposefully, and live responsibly as stewards of the world they bequeath to future generations.” While it is very important to think critically and question authority to keep it in check, it is even more essential to do this tactfully. It disappoints me to see recent defacing of campaign materials and of verbal disrespect between students around campus. When addressing issues it is imperative to be considerate of one another and to keep an open mind. As my term as your 2011-2012 Student Congress President

comes to a close, it is my hope that our student body will reflect on the year as I have, and seek to amend the unity that has been lost. All of the unbecoming and inappropriate comments that are exchanged among students and towards administration at Alma College only tears us down and tarnishes the reputation of this fine institution. As we become graduates from here, we should leave proud and exemplify dignity when we communicate with others. This should apply under all situations and result in a calm and collected approach to overcome any hurdle we may face. Each of us has the ability to make a difference and make a change for the better. As such, I encourage each of you to smile at a fellow colleague and offer a simple hello. Only by working together can we reinstate the unity that has been lost and go into the future with a positive attitude. I have greatly enjoyed being able to serve you this year and wish you each the best of luck as the year comes to a close. May you all take a step back and ask of yourself how you can speak up without sacrificing your own poise and the respect that your fellow peers deserve. Go Scots!
-Shane Douglas (‘13)

Following the Beat with Ben King: The Alma Bubble

BY BEN KING
BEAT WRITER

In the past year I have heard a term thrown around that I have not really been able to wrap my head around completely. The “Alma Bubble,” it seems to be a word often said with much disdain and perhaps even scorn. It seems to be something that students have come to resent about this small liberal arts college. Before I can resent something I would like to think that I have to understand it as well. My understanding is that the Alma Bubble is the concept that

Alma students are cordoned off from the rest of society and sectioned away from the outside world. It is fact that geographically Alma is separated from larger communities fifteen minutes from Mt. Pleasant and a little under one hour away from Lansing. However, if one is becoming bored with the happenings here in Alma, all one has to do is hop in the car and take a short drive to excitement and whatever culture Alma is unable to offer. There are many interesting events being held in mid-Michigan and most are less than an hour away from our small campus. Again, as with any event one must look for new opportunities to get out and have fun. Being that the

academic year is coming to a close, I am finding myself every so often wanting to escape campus and the Alma community. So when I heard the world renowned primatologist and anthropologist Jane Goodall was going to be speaking at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant I was ecstatic. Goodall is without a doubt one of the planet’s most famous scientists. Her work with primates was very groundbreaking and her forty-five year study of both social and family interactions paved the way for many scholars and scientists. At the event Goodall will speak on the Gombe chimpanzees of the Gombe Stream National Park of Tanzania. At the Gombe Stream National Park, Goodall

studied chimpanzee behavior and social structure. Her findings, as Goodall stated, suggest that: “it isn’t only human beings who have personality, who are capable of rational thought [and] emotions like joy and sorrow.” Goodall found that chimpanzees, like human beings, possess behaviors such as hugs, kisses, pats on the back, and even tickling. Goodall argues that that these gestures are evidence of “the close, supportive, affectionate bonds that develop between family members and other individuals within a community, which can persist throughout a life span of more than 50 years.” Goodall’s findings suggest a

strong similarity between the relationships chimpanzees form and those that humans form. These findings revolutionized the way society thinks about animals and how we perceive the emotions of other living creatures. More specifically, her findings suggested a strong relationship between the mentalities of human beings and primates. Being such a scientific revolutionary, it is truly amazing that students in Alma and in the area in mid-Michigan have the chance to see Goodall speak. So if one wishes to breach out of the Alma Bubble all one has to do is keep and attentive ear to the ground listening and following the Alma beat.

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.

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Scots' softball starts regular season play with impressive record of 12-4

By JASON POPIEL
STAFF WRITER

The Alma softball team was in action on Tuesday and Thursday of last week, and came away with a 2-2 record in the four games. The Tuesday match-ups, with Anderson University, resulted in a 3-0 Alma loss and a 5-2 Alma win.

The Thursday games, against Ohio Northern, featured a 4-0 Alma win in the first game and a 4-1 Alma loss in the nightcap. The Scots are now 12-4 going into the weekend series against Ohio Wesleyan, and will next be in action this Thursday when the squad will travel to take on Kalamazoo College.

The defending MIAA champion Scots debuted their beautiful new field at Scots Park.

"This beautiful new ballpark is something that Denny and this successful program has deserved for some time," said athletic director John Leister. "It will be a great new venue for this team and for many Alma College softball players in the future."

Tuesday's first game saw Anderson shoot out to a 3-0 lead through three innings.

Pitcher **Louise Rezmer ('13)** pitched a complete seven innings for Alma, and gave up three earned runs on five hits.

In the second game, pitcher **Samantha Pierce ('15)** went the distance for the complete game, notched five strikeouts,

and gave up only two earned runs on five hits as the Scots cruised to a 5-2 victory. Infielder **Kayla Smart ('13)** lead the offensive charge, going 2-for-3.

Thursday Alma welcomed the Polar Bears of Ohio Northern to town. A complete team effort propelled the Scots to a 4-0 victory in game one, as Rezmer once again pitched a complete game.

The Scots lead 1-0 going into the 6th inning, when Smart reached first on an error. A successful suicide squeeze bunt by second baseman **Erin Pintek ('12)** scored Zill, and advanced another runner to third. Next up came shortstop **Erin Rodes ('13)**, who laced a hot line drive up the middle that would score two runs and clinch the 4-0 win for Alma.

Pitcher **Cori Witham ('15)** had a hard time finding her groove in the nightcap, as the Scots would ultimately lose 4-1. Right fielder **Amanda Schneider ('13)** led a sparse Alma offense by going 2-for-4.

"It was great to get out on the new field for the first time this week. Even though we would have liked to take all four wins, it gave us that extra push to keep working hard in practice, as well as developing the chemistry we have as a team," said Rodes. "We've definitely got a fire lit under us for the conference games next week."

The next home game at Scots Park will be Thursday, April 7th when Alma will take on the rival Comets of Olivet.



Photo Courtesy of Katlyn Chitwood

Becca DeWyse ('12) led the MIAA with 13 doubles and was named 1st team all conference last season. She finished one for three in a 4-0 loss against Ohio Northern.

Women's lacrosse plays first home game

By JASON POPIEL
STAFF WRITER

The women's lacrosse team played the program's inaugural home game last Saturday but lost in overtime following a controversial call.

The Scots fell to Davenport 14-13 in overtime. The loss drops Alma to 3-5 on the season, and they will next be in action on Thursday when they will take on the Olivet Comets at home.

"Coach is always telling us to play hard for the full 60 minutes," said midfielder **Mary Harwood ('13)**. "I believe that is exactly what we did, and we came out strong and played hard."

The Scots were hot out of the gate, with midfielder **Tracy Gallihugh ('15)** scoring two goals and **Christe Havrilla ('13)** scoring one in the first three minutes of play. Both of Gallihugh's goals came on very strong passing plays from midfielder **Addy Duffy ('15)**, who played very well defensively all day.

Despite the Alma onslaught at the beginning of the game, Davenport fought back and scored the game's next four goals to take a 4-3 lead about halfway through the first half. Another Havrilla score was answered by two Davenport goals, but the Scots would have the last say in the half. Attacker **Tricia Reynolds ('12)** answered the Davenport run with a goal, and then midfielder **Jess Page ('12)** made an outstanding defensive play that lead to a Gallihugh hat-trick goal. Another goal, this time from Page, was

the last goal of the half and left the score deadlocked at 7-7 as the teams went into the break.

The scoring slowed down at the beginning of the second half, with only three Davenport goals and another goal from Havrilla being scored in the first ten minutes.

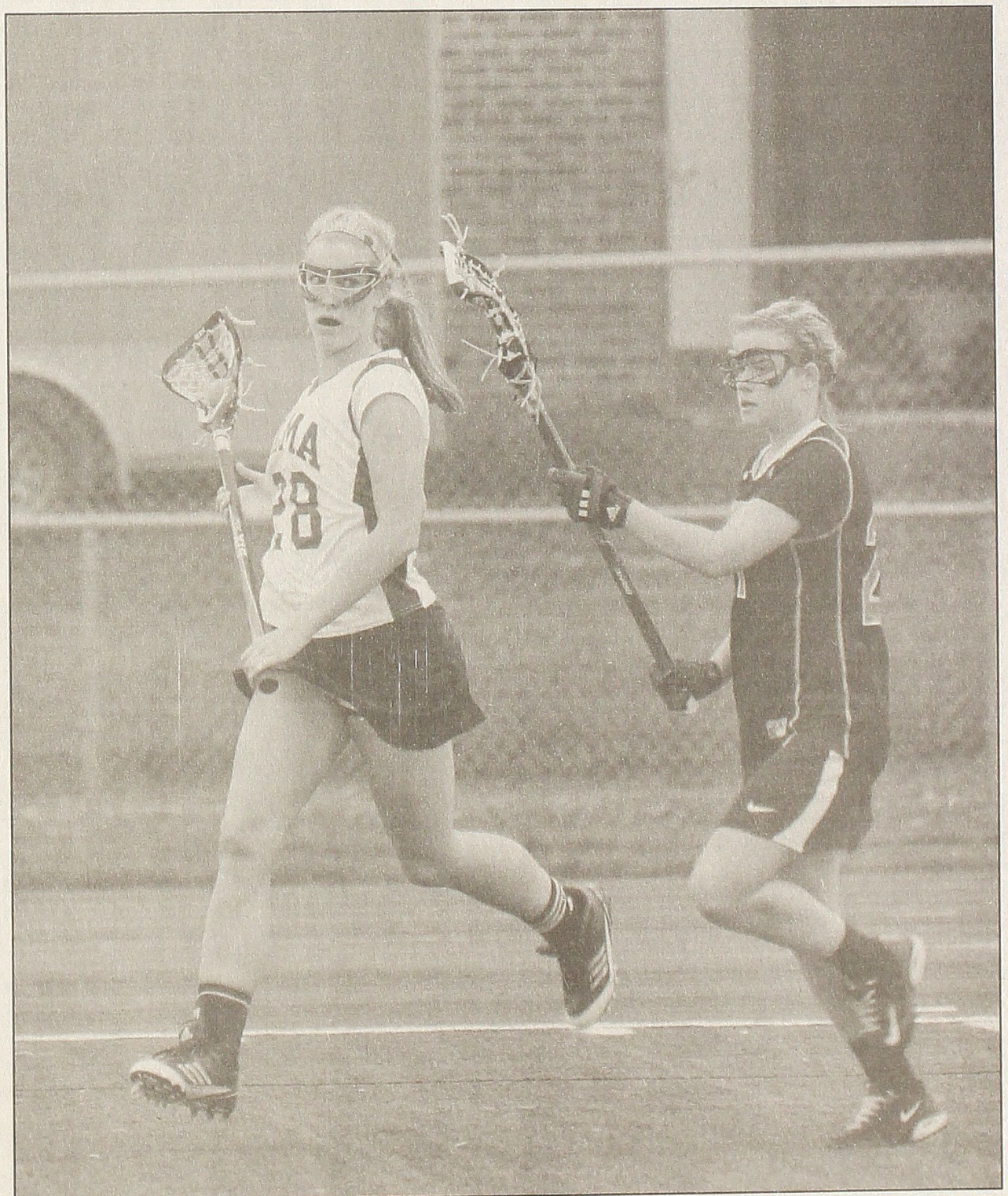
The Scots trailed 11-9 halfway through the second, but the deficit was erased by two more goals from Havrilla and another from Gallihugh.

The game was tied at twelve with four minutes left by Davenport, but Gallihugh's fifth goal of the game put Alma ahead with two and a half minutes left.

Davenport put on pressure in the final two minutes, but it appeared their effort would be futile when the ball flew out of bounds with 1.2 seconds on the clock. The referees, however, agreed to put 3.1 seconds back on the clock. This controversial call allowed Davenport to pass the ball in play, get it on front, and put the tying goal past Herman as time expired.

In overtime, Davenport scored early in the first three-minute segment, and ultimately would hold on for a 14-13 win. Havrilla scored six goals on the day, and Gallihugh notched five goals in a superb effort for Alma.

"I believe that this was the best game that we have played thus far, and unfortunately the odds were not in our favor," said Harwood. "We know that we were robbed, so we're keeping our heads up and preparing to win the next time that we see them on our home turf."



Kayla Roy: Staff Photographer

Christie Havrilla ('13) scored six goals for the Scots against Davenport. The Scots fell, 14-13, in overtime.

Baseball drops home opener to Olivet



Kayla Roy: Staff Photographer

Matt Cresswell ('13) gave the Scots their first hit of the day and went two for three against the Olivet Comets. Alma dropped two close contests, 2-1, 2-0.

By **JOSH SPRATT**
STAFF WRITER

With play starting this past Saturday it is now officially college baseball season in Alma. Rained loomed on an overcast afternoon, but the Scots were able to get in both games of the double header against Olivet to kick off this year's conference play.

In the end the Comets got the best of the Alma team winning both games 2-1, 2-0.

After the games **Adam Jock ('12)** commented saying, "We had great pitching performances from Richard and Anthony, but we had a hard time stringing hits together. The few times we did we left the runners on base. We need to hit better with runners in scoring position in order have a successful season."

Alma will continue play this week with a game on Wednesday against Aquinas at home starting at 2:00.

This weekend the Scots will again have back to back days of in conference double headers this time against Adrian on the road on Saturday and then back at home Sunday at 1pm.

In the first game of opening day Olivet came out swinging and posted two runs, one of which was earned, in the first inning off of three hits and an error.

With one out in the first **Matthew Cresswell ('13)** singled for the first hit of the day for maroon and crème however they were unable to bring any runners home that inning as he was followed by two consecutive fielder's choice outs.

Good pitching by both sides led to little offense as the second inning was three up three down

for Alma on offense and defense.

The Scots managed to get a hit in both the fourth and fifth innings, but couldn't capitalize first stranding **Donald Lee ('12)** and then **Matthew Stephens ('12)** after a double play that ended the fifth.

In the sixth Lee got on base after a short stop error then advanced on a fielder's choice and fly out by pinch hitter Jock before scoring the only run of the day for the Scots.

Alma was unable to rally in the seventh and the game ended on three consecutive scot outs.

Richard Schreiber ('12) pitched a complete game for Alma as he faced 25 batters and gave up four hits with all the Olivet runs coming in the first.

In game two of the double header Alma managed to get hits in the first four inning of play, but was unable to light up the scoreboard with any runs.

Alma pitcher **Anthony Derrer ('12)** took a no-hitter into the fifth and that's were problems began for the Scots.

Derrer forced the first batter he faced in the fifth to ground out, but then gave up back to back singles and Olivet ended up scoring a run due to an Alma error.

In the seventh Derrer again retired a batter before giving up back to back singles and a run; then was pulled in favor of Alex Ruhlman ('13) who got the final two outs for Alma.

The Scot's were unable to muster any offense in the final half inning of the game which ended with Olivet on top by two.

Offensively Lee and **Ian Rhynard ('12)** led the Scots with two hits apiece and Cresswell and **Ryan Henris ('13)** both contributed another.

After the two losses the team now sits at an overall record of 2-7 and 0-2 in conference play.

IM basketball: friendly competition

By **JOSH SPRATT**
STAFF WRITER

It's time for the competitive spirit to fade away and the fun of the sport to rule the game.

Every spring Alma College puts on an intramural basketball league.

IM sports are made possible through the hard work of Alma staff and students. A lot of preparation goes on behind the scenes to make it possible for teams to come out and play on a nightly basis.

The IM supervisor has to make schedules, recruit officials to come and officiate and make sure everyone is doing their jobs and things are running smoothly.

Games are played on Monday and Wednesday nights with twenty minute running halves. Just like normal NCAA basketball rules each team is allowed five players on the court at a time and is required to play at least three.

"IM sports are generally about going out there and having fun and enjoying the camaraderie," said **Eric Plisko ('13)**. "It's not really about whether you are good or not but it's just about having fun."

Some teams and students are more competitive and take the idea of winning more seriously than others.

"Just win baby," said **Mitch Perry ('12)** about his words of advice to his team.

"My pep talk to the team is always one word, win," and that's all I say before we go out on the court each game," he said.

To participate in the co-ed play a team must have at least two females on the court at all times.

"The general atmosphere of IM basketball is very great and fun to be around," said **Joey Jerisk ('14)** "Especially when it comes to Men's IM, that league is super competitive. Every team wants to win and everyone plays super hard."

"The coed league is still competitive, but not nearly as much as the men's because in men's basketball it's a time were all guys' sports can come together and compete with one another. It's super fun and kind of funny to watch different skill sets play against one another," he said.

Along with having a good time with friends and exercising, the league prides itself on participants practicing good sportsmanship.

Teams are not only judged by the number of points they put on the board or the tally in the win or loss column, but also by how the players conduct themselves on the court.

In order to be eligible to move on to the post season teams must maintain an average of what the league deems to be an "acceptable" sportsmanship score throughout the regular season.

To receive this rating, team members and spectators for that team must be respectful of their opponents and official. Teams are allowed one or two minor lapses in sportsmanship during the duration of the season to still qualify for playoffs.

"In general most games go smoothly but sometimes refs cannot see a call. They are human and not professionals at the job," said Jerisk.

"The games that get the most heated are usually players of the same Alma College sports team playing each other in the IM's because it's kind of a pride issue on who wins. Those games are really fun to watch because both teams want to win a lot."

Regular season play will continue this week in the rec center with games at 8:00 and 9:00pm. On Wednesday games will be played at 10:00 and 11:00.

The league will continue to have regular season games every Monday and Wednesday evening through April 4 and will start post season the following Monday.

If you choose to drink know this:
54.1% of Alma College students **drink less than 3 times per month**

Be a true Scot.

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