

Coach Herman Boone speaks about diversity

By MOLLY HENNING
STAFF WRITER

Coach Herman Boone, former head coach of the Titans at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Virginia, whose story was documented in "Remember the Titans", came to speak of diversity at Alma College.

Boone's speech, taking place last Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Art Smith Arena, opened with a clip from Remember the Titans.

"I hope you all have had an opportunity to see Remember the Titans," Boone said in the beginning of his speech. "The movie is not about football, but incredible boys who decided to break the racial mold in Alexandria, Virginia."

Boone explains that in 1971, the year he became coach at T.C. Williams, three schools were forced by federal court order to consolidate.

"They did not want to consolidate, did not like each other, not only because they were different races but because they had been rivals for years," said Boone. "Each three schools had their own distinct history and tradition. It was a very stressful time... Virginia was in turmoil."

Further, Boone explained that another challenge was bringing together the coaches, as to integrate the schools without integrating the coaches would defeat the whole purpose.

"By putting our differences aside, we were able to mold a group of angry boys into caring and responsible young men," said Boone. "These young boys were some of the first in the South—in the nation—to embrace their differences."

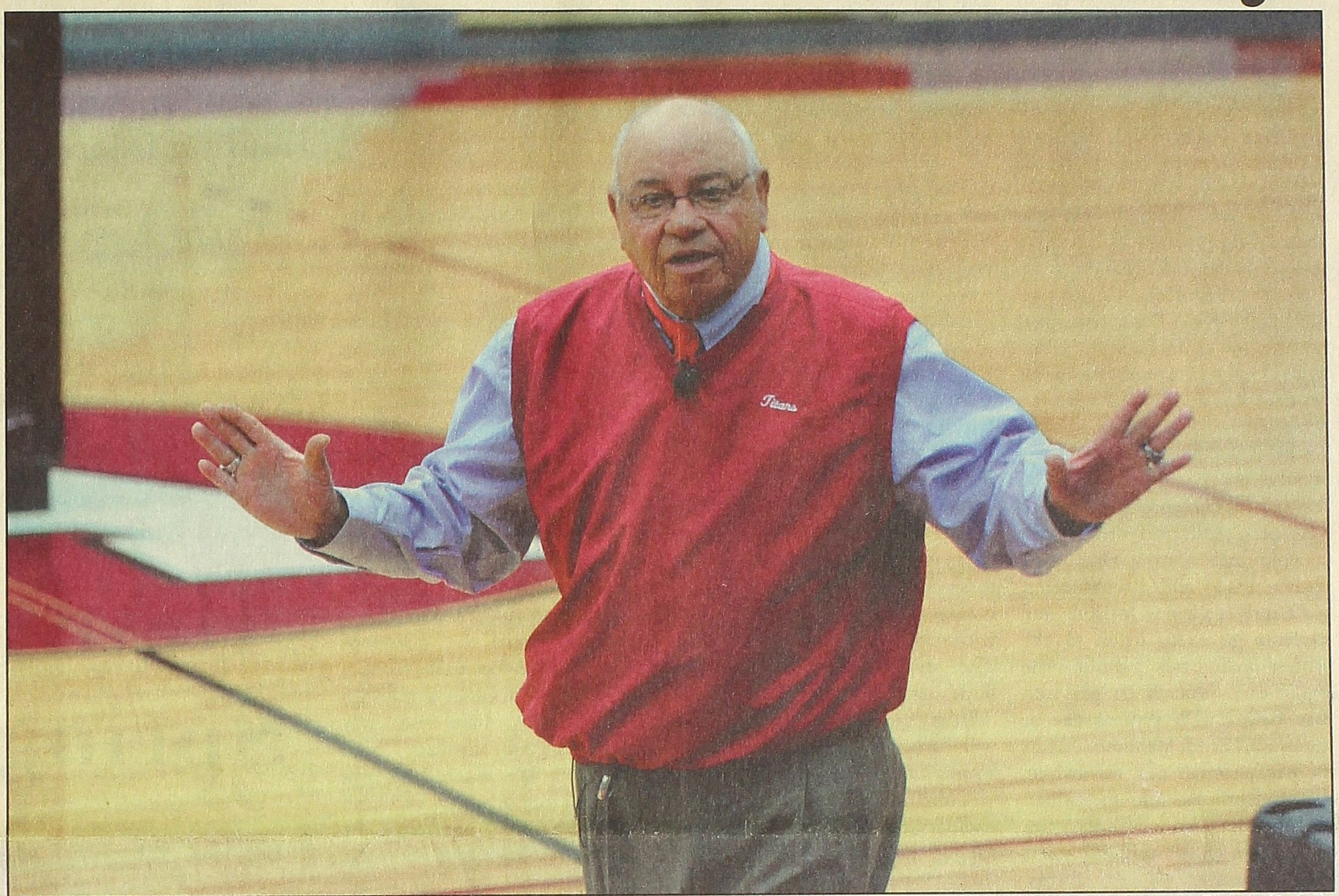


Photo by Kayla Roy

Coach Herman Boone, the man who inspired the film "Remember the Titans," spoke last Saturday about diversity, trust, respect, and doing one's absolute best.

Boone said that the young men learned to talk to each other. In talking to each other, they built trust, trust became respect, and respect became what binds them together even today.

"The Titans wanted to build a team, and build a team by God they did," said Boone. "We taught the world how to be a team of one."

Boone said that "Remember the Titans" relates to diversity, with how far the nation has come with racial diversity and where the

nation needs to go. However, he said diversity is not about the color of one's skin, but who you are.

"I don't know where we're going. Race relations change every single day," said Boone.

Boone said that at this point, we must teach our children not to label, because to label is to disable.

"If enough people care, we must take back the schools and neighborhoods from those who are intent on destroying it," said Boone. "If enough people

care, we must see to it that our children go to school every day, support leaders of our country... We must show the children that there are role models besides pimps and gangsters."

Boone added that good choices are the key to success; bad choices are the key to failure.

"The choices you make, you must support these choices," said Boone. "Choose to love not to hate, choose to laugh not to cry... choose to persevere not to quit,

choose to live rather than die."

Boone noted that people must do what the Titans did—learn to talk to each other rather than fight with each other—because dialogue is the right path to success.

Boone gave the audience three words to live by: good, better, and best.

"Never rest until good gets better, and better gets best," he said.

"I hope I have been able to inspire you as much as you've been able to inspire me."

Mo creates sustainability study for students interested in 'green living'

By ELISABETH BLETSCH
STAFF WRITER

Next year, students may have the opportunity to be part of a sustainability study on campus.

Sean Mo, assistant professor of chemistry, is heading a study that will take place in Carey-Bonbright if a grant proposal to fund the project is approved.

Jeff Beck ('11) and Miriam Lipman ('11) have helped Mo develop the effort.

"What we're hoping to do is allow students who are interested in green living to reside in Carey-Bonbright," said Mo.

The students living in Carey-Bonbright will attend monthly meetings to discuss sustainability ideas.

"The end goal is for these students is to come up with a

sustainability initiative that will benefit the college and student living," said Mo. "We hope they will develop a guideline that will be a starting point for more detailed discussion in a college sustainability program."

"I feel like this is a really important study because not only will students learn more ways to conserve energy, but they will also become aware of just how much energy they use on a daily basis."
-Miriam Lipman ('11)

"The main objectives of this project are to reduce energy consumption and implement energy efficiency, or 'green-living' habits at Alma College," said Beck.

Mo said the study came about because of the college's identical dormitories located on south campus.

"Carey-Bonbright and Nisbet-Brazell share the exact same architectural design. We thought it would be interesting to see what mechanical changes and student involvement

could do in terms of overall energy savings if we upgraded one dorm, while leaving the other the same," said Mo.

Mo said the new 'green' upgrades in the Carey-Bonbright building will include skylights, water-saving shower heads in all the bathrooms, and more insulation in the attic.

"Installed with certain energy efficient products, these dorms will be inhabited by students with an energy efficient and environmentally friendly

mindset. Together, the coupling of the energy efficient technology and the students with 'green' lifestyles, will hopefully result in a dramatic decrease in energy consumption for Alma College and ultimately save the school money in the long run," said Beck.

"I feel like this is a really important study because not only will students learn more ways to conserve energy, but they will also become aware of just how much energy they use on a daily basis," said Lipman.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						
Snow Shower 24°	Mostly Cloudy 22°	Mostly Sunny 32°	Rain/Snow Showers 38°	Snow Showers 31°	Cloudy 25°	Snow Showers 27°

Health Professions Symposium to be hosted by UHPAC

By MOLLY HENNING
STAFF WRITER

The United Health Professionals of Alma College (UHPAC), in conjunction with the Academic and Career Planning Office, will host for the second year the Health Professions Symposium on Saturday, March 12.

Anita Hemlich ('12), vice president of UHPAC, explained that for the symposium, UHPAC will bring in professionals from various health-related professions to speak to students. These professions include medical doctors, doctors of osteopathy, physician assistants, physical therapists, occupational therapists, researchers, and technicians.

"There are a few sessions and students go in to listen to the professionals talk about the application process to get into that field and a typical day at their job," said Hemlich. "After the professionals talk for awhile, the students can ask questions."

In order to attend the event, students can fill out pre-registration forms.

"On the forms, students will put which profession they're interested in and then we sort them into the sessions according to their interests," explained Hemlich. Pre-registration forms will be available after spring break.

The free event for students takes place in DOW with Sodexo Catering. It begins at 1 p.m. with registration for those who have not pre-registered.

Ginna Holmes, director of academic and career Planning, who serves as the faculty advisor of the event, has helped with contacting the professionals. Some of them will even be Alma College alums.

The keynote speaker will speak at 2 p.m., and afterward, there will be two timeslots of sessions. Each time slot has multiple sessions taking place with the various professionals. The two individual sessions both last around 45 minutes.

From 5 to 6 p.m., students will get an opportunity to speak with the professionals.

"This time is for networking for students. If the professionals are willing, they may give students their e-mail addresses to keep in

contact, or some professionals may offer shadowing or internship opportunities," said Hemlich. "This time is just a good way for the students to talk to the professionals on a more personal level instead of just sitting and hearing them speak."

Hemlich explained that this event can help students in many ways, one of them being the ability to connect with others who are going into similar fields.

"Students can meet other students who are trying to get into the same professions, and they can talk to those who may be further along in the process to share experiences," said Hemlich.

Overall, Hemlich said that UHPAC provided this event as a great opportunity for students to get information and have any questions answered.

"There's so many students out there who have the questions about what to do to become a doctor, or to become a physical therapist, but have no way of getting the answers," said Hemlich. "We wanted to give them an opportunity to have those questions answered by someone who has actually been through the process."

This week at Alma College

Monday, February 21:
ACUB Sing Off at 7 p.m. at North and South Commons

Tuesday, February 22:
Housing Information Night at 7 p.m. in the Rotunda
Crane Against Cancer at 9 p.m. in Jones Auditorium

Thursday, February 24:
Alma College Choir Spring Break Concert at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center

Have a Great Spring Break!

Honor's convocation replaced by family-oriented senior banquet

By ELEANOR KING
COPY EDITOR

This spring, instead of the honor's convocation, Alma seniors will be invited to a special senior banquet dinner on April 6.

The dinner will be an integrated event consisting of many of the same traditions but building on a sense of family and community within the graduating class.

To emphasize this atmosphere, the parents of all seniors will be invited to attend the dinner that will be held in the new Art Smith Arena.

Like the convocation, there will be a bagpiping ceremony, the presentation of the Senior Leader Award, Outstanding Faculty Award and Senior Gift.

Because the planning process is currently underway, there may be other events added to the agenda.

"I actually was one of the people who were impartial to the change," said Bri Harfmann ('11).

"Like many students, I appreciate not having to wake up early and this seems like a more formal situation. It will be interesting to see the differences between the two and I am looking forward to it."

Other students agree that the dinner is going to be a positive change.

"I am excited to be able to have a dinner with family and friends instead of the usual convocation," said Danny Hearit ('11).

The change from honor's convocation to senior banquet



Recent graduates Amanda Cavison ('10) and Fiona MacAlpine ('10) showed off their graduation caps at last year's honor's convocation. This tradition will remain intact at the new senior banquet.

Photo by Skip Traynor

dinner was intended to build on an already upstanding tradition.

"We envision the senior dinner as a way to recognize the Class

of 2011 and to foster a deeper sense of community among our achieving students," said Associate Provost Bob Cunningham.

Cunningham has been working with the Provost's Office and a committee of administrators to develop the banquet.

The committee hopes it will be able to create a warm atmosphere that encourages reflection on the college-experience and camaraderie among a close group of students.

"As a small and personal liberal arts college, we felt it would be beneficial to build on the already-close relationships among members of the graduating class," said Vice President of Student Life Nicholas Piccolo. "The best way to create a familial setting was to invite parents. We did not typically see many parents at the honor's convocation. This senior dinner can serve as a bookend for the tradition's dinner that occurs in the fall. It is my hope that the senior banquet dinner will amplify a week already filled with fond memories and celebration."

The dinner will begin around 6 p.m. and tentative meal plans involve sautéed chicken breast in caper sauce as well as chocolate mousse cake and vegetarian options.

Around 7 p.m. the awards portion of the evening will commence.

The dinner will close with an open invitation to hear special guest speaker Dr. Richard Heinzl in the Remick Heritage Center.

Heinzl is an esteemed physician as well as the founder of Doctors without Borders Canada.

Students can anticipate a more formal invitation to the event in the days preceding spring break and the parents of seniors can expect information in the mail in the month to come.

“Dancing at Lughnasa” challenges actors by mixing dance with theater

By SETH FAULK
FEATURE EDITOR

Last weekend, the Remick Heritage Center presented “Dancing at Lughnasa,” a play by Brian Friel, one of the most important contemporary Irish playwrights. “This particular play would be among my favorites,” said Theatre/Dance Associate Professor Joe Jezewski. “It’s one of those kinds of plays that has the power to lift people out of themselves.” The show was first brought to the Abbey Theatre of Ireland and was introduced to New York in the early 1990s. Essentially, the play is written from the perspective of the main character, Michael, as he reminisces about his childhood in Ballybeg, County Donegal, Ireland. This particular excerpt of his life takes place when Michael was a boy of 7, living with his mother and four aunts. The setting takes place during the Celtic harvest festival of Lughnasa, which is a month-long occasion that begins on Aug. 1. “It’s basically a Celtic pagan holiday and of course Ireland is very Catholic,” said Jezewski. “The conflict between Catholicism and

paganism is one of the dynamics.” In addition, Michael’s family obtains its first radio and, as a result, the members become spellbound by the “magic” that exudes from this musical box. “On the radio they don’t only hear traditional Irish music but the popular music of the ‘30s,” Jezewski said. “One of the big bands of that era around 1936 was the Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers productions. So you have this very poor family being influenced by this magic, this music, through the radio.” On the other hand, Michael’s family is in a very turbulent stage of its existence. Eventually, the family dissolves, leaving Michael to ponder the last fond memories of his family during this difficult event. “Instead of [Michael] looking back at the break-up as a disaster or catastrophe, he has a real awe of the atmosphere of this particular time of his life,” said Jezewski. “That’s one of the things I love about this play: how Michael comes through with such warm memories of his family.” He said the play entertained the audience for a number of reasons, including its five colorful female roles. “These are very complex characters,” Jezewski said. “They keep a lot of their longings, their passions, all bottled up. That’s part



Photo by Kayla Roy

Graham Morgan (‘14), Katherine Johns (‘11), and Amanda Ewing (‘11) enact a scene from “Dancing at Lughnasa.” The play, which focuses on an Irish family, was a challenge to the actors because it required them to learn to dance.

of the Irish-Catholic straitjacket that they wind up having to wear.” In addition, spectators got to hear the actors experiment with a variety of dialects, including Welsh, English and Irish accents. But besides the challenges of the roles and the accents, the actors also had to master another feat: dancing. “Except for Michael, all of them dance in some form,” said Jezewski. “It combines music and dance in such a way as to speak beyond the words.” Jezewski asked Theatre and Dance Department Chair Carol Fike to plan the choreography for the play. “It’s a very different animal when you choreograph for a theatrical piece instead of one of the dance pieces,” said Fike. “Of course, I’m more familiar with the dancers in the dance studio than the actors on the stage. The other challenge is that I am working with untrained dancers. I had to choreograph something that would make them look good.” Fike choreographed the three main dances featured in

“Dancing at Lughnasa.” Two were romantic pieces, while the remaining dance—the sisters’ dance—was a rite of liberation. “Each dance says something completely different,” Fike said. “In the sisters’ dance, the goal was to let loose and let go of inhibitions. “This dance was a release for them, an outlet; they had to lose themselves. The other two dances were romantic, expressing emotions without words.” Not only did Fike have to struggle with the constraints of a set, props and lighting but she also had to choreograph for “the good of the play” and try her best to bring out the “true characters.” Though she was working with untrained dancers, Fike and the acting team managed to get along very well and the actors quickly picked up on their dances. “The whole play deals with the idea of using dance as a vehicle to communicate,” she said. “Thank goodness everybody on board was very clear and able to pick up on the beat and feel the rhythm. I couldn’t have asked for a more

talented and attentive cast.” This play is Fike’s fifth collaboration with Jezewski. Fike said that though the experience is exhausting, she always has fun interacting with the actors. “It’s the students’ love and dedication to the arts that keep us cranking out these great productions,” said Fike. “From mid-October to mid-April we are creating a major production every month. For a college this size, we are doing remarkable stuff. Our spaces are heavily used.” As for most of the theatrical and dance productions, the rehearsal process for this performance took six weeks. Auditions for the roles began last December, right before winter break. “It’s always a learning process for the actors,” said Jezewski. “That’s primarily why we do theatre productions in academic institutions, so they can learn what an actor or designer professionally does. There’s been a lot of growth in the students who have been involved in this production.”



Photo by Kayla Roy

Tara Bouldrey (‘11) and Emily Roberge (‘14) perform during last weekend’s show.

“Neon Trees” band to visit campus

By ELISABETH BLETSCH
STAFF WRITER

The alternative rock band Neon Trees will light up campus this spring. The concert will take place on April 7 in the Hogan Center. ACUB President **Jaclyn Dittmar (‘11)** said this concert is special because it is the first one on campus since Ben Folds was in Alma in 2007. “It’s been something that has been pushed to the side and I am thrilled that it will be happening this year,” said Dittmar. Neon Trees is comprised of four members: Tyler Glenn (vocals, keyboards), Chris Allen (guitar), Branden Campbell (bass guitar, vocals) and Elaine Bradley (drums, percussion, vocals).

The band started with Glenn and Allen who were neighbors in their hometown of Provo, Utah. Though they began in 2005, the group did not gain widespread exposure until three years later when it opened for fellow Utah musicians, The Killers. “This month, Neon Trees started on a European tour, opening for the alternative rock band Angels and Airwaves,” said Dittmar.

“This is beneficial to Alma College because it will help bring more exposure to the campus and the community.”

-Ryan Olson (‘12)

Neon Trees released its debut album, *Habits*, on March 16, 2010. The song “Animal” was its lead single, which eventually reached the top spot on the Billboard Alternative Songs Chart and is a regular on America’s Top 40. Dittmar hopes this concert will create excitement and pride on behalf of the campus. “It is happening during President Abernathy’s inauguration weekend, which is already a huge, important weekend and he is happy to share it with us,” said Dittmar. “He is thrilled and I hope his excitement spreads through campus.” The concert is free for Alma students. “The tickets became available this week and when we return from winter break they will go on sale to the general public,” said Dittmar. “Students should hurry and

get their tickets and if they have friends or family who want to attend, the tickets are \$10 and can be purchased before being sold to the general public,” Dittmar added. Other ACUB members

“This is an important and unique event for Alma for a couple of reasons, but primarily because we have struggled to have a concert in the past. It is also an important event because of the timing; it’s during the president’s inauguration.”

-Kayla Braidwood (‘12)

are looking forward to the concert as well. “I think Neon Trees will do a fantastic job,” said **Kayla Braidwood (‘12)**. “They are a good band and I am really excited they are coming to Alma. “This is an important and unique event for Alma for a couple of reasons, but primarily because we have struggled to have a concert in the past. It is also an important event because of the timing; it’s during the president’s inauguration,” Braidwood added. “This is beneficial to Alma College because it will help bring more exposure to the campus and the community,” said **Ryan Olson (‘12)**. “How often does someone get the chance to see a good band live and for free? People should really take advantage of this opportunity.”

Beck Gallery presents the artwork of Rebecca Mott

BY LAUREN ANDALORA
STAFF WRITER

A new installation in the Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery presents a wide range of prints, drawings and sculptures from artist Rebecca Mott. Like many artists, Mott's interest in the world of art has been

longstanding and she has enjoyed creating things since childhood.

In an interview with Director of Communications Mike Silverthorn, Mott described the relationship she has with her work.

"I always made things when I was younger and when I became older I decided to go into a field that married creative and critical thinking with the manipulation of

materials," said Mott. "It promised to always offer new challenges."

Mott's primary medium is clay and her earlier work included a series of Raku fired shrines. However, she also enjoys printmaking and drawing.

"I'm very much drawn to the textual qualities that can be achieved in the surfaces of both my sculptures and prints," said Mott. "I particularly like to carve into surfaces."

Mott has presented on subjects such as Buddhist art and architecture and her work reflects a continued interest in pre-historic and indigenous artwork.

"I'm very interested in the use of mythic, or what some might call archetypal, imagery," said Mott in her interview with Silverthorn. "I have always been inspired by art of the past, as well as literature, poetry and the natural world."

Mott believes that no artwork exists in a void and that all art is somehow related to its predecessors.

"I think it's important to be familiar with the artwork of those who have come before because we don't create something out of nothing," said Mott. "We may rearrange forms and ideas but nothing is completely new."

Poetry, literature, comparative religion, mythology and art museums are some of the many sources from which Mott draws her inspiration.

"A lot of the time, I just wait for some image to emerge that I can't stop thinking about," said Mott. "Usually, I start with that image and eventually it works itself into an idea and then a form."

Mott earned a bachelor's degree in three-dimensional studio art in 1984 at Eastern



Photo by Elaine Cunningham

The works of artist Rebecca Mott include a variety of drawings, prints, and sculptures.

Illinois University. She followed up with master's degrees in fiber art, sculpture and ceramics at Southern Methodist University.

Mott supplements her career as an artist with her role as a professor at West Shore Community College in Illinois. Since starting in 1993, she has taught a range of courses that

include art history, painting, digital photography and art appreciation.

The Rebecca Mott exhibit opened on Feb. 14 and will continue through March 17 in the Clack Art Center. On the final day of the exhibit, a gallery reception will take place at 7 p.m. Exhibit hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday.

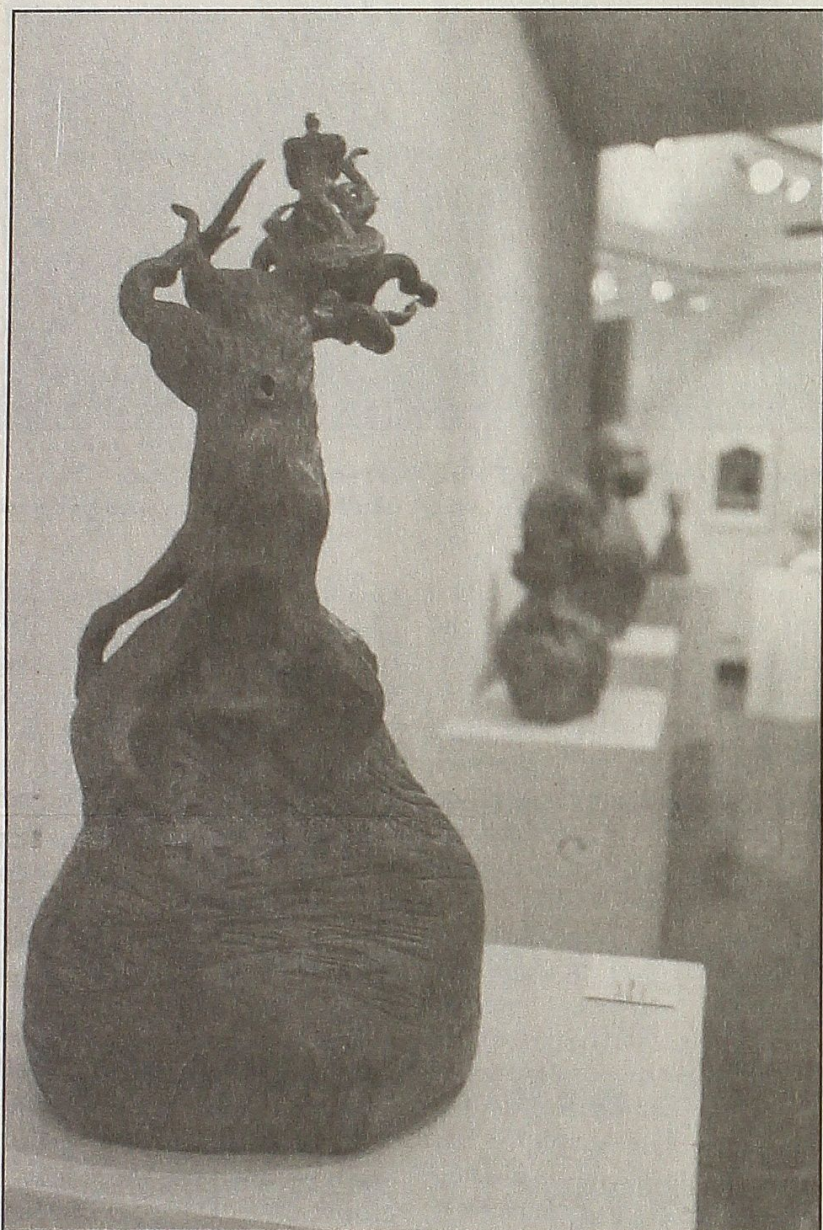


Photo by Elaine Cunningham

Mott's artwork will be on display in the Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery through March 17.

Women's Glee Club, Chorale concert features hymns, Scottish folk songs

BY LAUREN ANDALORA
STAFF WRITER

The Women's Glee Club and Chorale concert boasted a full repertoire of church hymns and Scottish folk songs and featured faculty and students alike. The performance took place in the Remick Heritage Center last Sunday and was open to the public.

Choir Conductor Will Nichols and accompanist Anthony Patterson sang two Scottish songs entitled "My Heart's in the Highlands" and "Weaving Lilt." "Rejoice in the Lamb" by Benjamin Britten and "Mass in G" by Franz Schubert featured both of the choirs, a small orchestra and nine student soloists.

"This was the big work for the concert," said Nichols. "We began rehearsing in January and have been working hard."

"Rejoice in the Lamb" is a

particularly challenging piece," said **Mary Ottoman ('13)**. "However, we practiced a lot and got some really cool sounds from the group."

Four student music education majors shared the conducting responsibilities for the Schubert piece: **Donald Best ('11)**, **Courtney Claflin ('12)**, **Brittany Lewis ('11)** and **Brett Yzquierdo ('12)**.

"It has been a great experience going from being a student singing in the choir to standing up there conducting them," said Best. "It's neat to be able to lead the group and run rehearsals each and every day! You get to hear how things sound and help the choirs to progress and eventually come to a successful final product."

"I conducted 'Gloria' and 'Agnus Dei' from the Schubert 'Mass in G' and I also conducted one of the Glee Club's songs," said Claflin. "I have really enjoyed the experience of conducting the glee club and chorale and I look forward to the day when I

have my own choir to direct."

The choir students will be touring Florida over spring break from Feb. 26 through March 4. Last year, the Alma Choir did a "home tour" through Illinois and Michigan singing many songs from homecoming concert.

"Traveling with the Alma Choir is an experience that no one ever forgets," said Best. "We get to share our talents with other communities and the choir also grows closer as a family during tour. We create so many memories and fun times that will last forever."

"Fifty-four voices will combine in harmony to sing American songs, Scottish folk, African-American spirituals, hymn tunes and world music," said Nichols.

"Ain't No Grave" is my favorite; it's very upbeat and soulful," said Parker.

"I am so excited; I love the choir tour," said Claflin. "It is a time when we bond and have fun away from college. I love the fact that the choir consists of



Photo by Elaine Cunningham

Alma College Chorale rehearses for the concert that took place last Sunday.

so many different people from different majors; it makes the tour more exciting and enjoyable."

The choir stops at various churches and middle schools along the tour. All shows are free and open to the public.

"We hope to show people

the great music program that Alma has and maybe convince some prospective students," said **Jessica Parker ('12)**. "This is my second tour and it's what I look forward to the most every year; it is fun meeting alumni and bonding with choir mates."

Alma students need to recycle more

By ELIZABETH CORBIN
STAFF WRITER

Throughout my three years at Alma, I've noticed that students commonly neglect to recycle, and it really annoys me. The college makes it so easy, yet many students still haven't managed to catch on. Even, in Bonbright and Carey, when recycling bins were kept in the kitchenette rather than in the halls, I would too often see cardboard food packaging and plastic bottles placed in the trashcan despite it being directly next to the recycling bins. If students would have only moved their arms another few inches, these items would have made it into their proper destinations.

Verizon iPhone good transition to living in the 21st century

By AMANDA LABBY
OPINION EDITOR

Famous last words: "I hardly use my phone at all." And that statement was true, up until over a week ago when I recieved my shiny new Verizon iPhone. I had been eligible for an upgrade in December (not to mention needing one badly, as I've come to slowly learn over the past few months that having a phone without Internet is so inefficient for those rare-but-extremely-important-respond-immediately-or-forever-hold-your-peace-e-mails.) However, I was holding out for the iPhone to come to Verizon; there had been many rumors back then that it was just a matter of weeks, and I'm glad that I waited. As the owner of an old-school iPod, I knew I could understand the iPhone well enough, with its layout and features, which was more than I could say

Given the circumstances, this wasn't even a matter of being lazy. It was really almost as though students were actively trying not to recycle out of pure spite. Maybe there is an anti-environmental movement spreading across campus. You can't even begin to realize how furious this makes me. Neglecting to recycle is probably my biggest pet peeve and instantly conjures up an image of the person as being irresponsible and careless. Some may consider this to be harsh, yet I feel it's pretty accurate. How can you realize that the items you are throwing away will virtually never decompose and still feel ok with tossing them into the landfill?

If I'm out where no recycling is offered, I almost always take recyclable items with me so that I can recycle them later on. However, this is not even an excuse on our campus. Recycling bins are quite literally everywhere. In SAC there are multiple recycling stations per floor and I still see plastic bottles in the classroom trashcans! All that one would need to do is take the item out into the hall where recycling bins are located near the stairs. In the future, I personally don't want to live in a world that is covered in heaps of landfills, and the ideas like sending trash into space are ridiculously absurd. Something needs to be done

about the levels of trash now. Recycling isn't something that should be thought of as a good thing to do for the environment. Rather, it should be thought of as each person's responsibility. Perhaps it would even be beneficial for recycling to be required and, judging on some things that I have seen, this may be the only way to ensure that everyone does recycle. To me, recycling is a rather moral obligation. If I even contemplate not recycling something, no matter how small, I will feel guilty. However, my conscience leads

me to recycle nearly everything so maybe this is something that should be instilled from an early age. You can even purchase a reusable plastic mug with a removable lid for \$2.99, and then you can get coffee and fountain drinks for a discounted price of 79 cents when using this mug. It also comes with a hook so that you can attach the mug to a bag or backpack and always have it on hand. This will help reduce the amount of Styrofoam cups that are used while also saving you money. It's truly a win-win situation.

PUZZLE CORNER

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Puzzle courtesy of dailysudoku.com

Another thing is the autocorrect feature. The Internet has already taken advantage of the hilarious autocorrect feature in Websites like damnyouautocorrect.com While autocorrect can be helpful for adding apostrophes or capitalizing a word so you don't have to, sometimes it's a little more hassle than it's worth. Sometimes it's spot-on for words that you just hit the wrong key, and other times you're

sending a text message, and other times it's trying to replace a simple word with NASDAQ, or something else completely random. While some features are annoying, nothing has turned me off from my iPhone, and I think it is my best recent investment. No matter how much I love my iPhone, I will not become one of those people who are glued to it, texting and Tap-Tapping 24/7. Famous last words.

the Almanian.

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House Republicans aim to cut funding for both NPR and PBS

By ELIZABETH CORBIN
STAFF WRITER

Public service media such as National Public Radio (NPR) and the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) provide priceless benefits to society, yet the recent budget released by the Republicans of the House of Representatives plans to remove all funding to these services. The announced plan of the House Republicans will zero out financial support to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which is a nonprofit corporation that was actually created through an act by the Congress and is endowed by the federal government to

promote public broadcasting. The Corporation for Public Broadcasting distributes its attained funds to various public media services.

If this corporation were to lose all of its funding, those that it serves would be forced to rely on donations and likely be left in near ruins with many being unable to continue broadcasting.

National public broadcasting only accounts for .0001 percent of the total federal budget.

How is it possible that this amount of funding can't be attained by removing various instances of truly wasteful spending?

How about, for example, the \$190,000 used for bottled water by the House of Representatives in just the first quarter of last year?

And they somehow have the nerve to complain about

budgetary constraints. Public service media provides education, arts, culture and news and public affairs information to citizens.

Being free and easily attainable, these services reach millions of listeners and viewers.

In fact, Americans have consistently rated public service media as one of the best uses for taxpayer dollars.

In the face of corporate news media, which so often compromises necessary information with news that will catch the attention of Americans, NPR offers substantial broadcasting and gives unique perspectives on global affairs to an extent that I have not seen anywhere else.

Even from childhood, PBS hosts developmentally appropriate educational

programming for children that teaches basic skills that allow them to be successful in school and properly socialize with peers.

For adults, PBS provides a window to the arts and various shows promoting hobbies, home improvement, and further learning.

Deciding to zero out funding on such beneficial services implies that the House Republicans would actually prefer to keep American citizens ignorant.

Additionally, a multitude of cuts to educational and community services are also included in the proposed budget.

However, President Obama submitted his retaliatory Fiscal Year 2012 budget to Congress and recommends that \$451 million are ensured to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

This is actually an increase in funding, which

shows the president's acknowledgment of public service media's positive impact.

Back in 1969, the host of "Mister Roger's Neighborhood" Fred Rogers appeared before the Senate Subcommittee on Communications to argue against President Nixon's intention to cut funding to public service media in half.

This is definitely not the first challenge that the government has presented to public broadcasting.

There is a petition at MoveOn.org for those who would like to oppose the planned cuts for public service media, and more information can be found at 170millionamericans.org.

Although the funding drives may be annoying, it is becoming more and more essential to donate money to these services in order to keep them around.

A glimpse into the world of Model United Nations

By MASON WARLING
STAFF WRITER

Last Tuesday afternoon, 14 Alma students boarded a plane bound to St. Louis in order to attend the Midwest Model United Nations conference, the first time for many of them.

The conference, which was attended by delegates from as far away as Oklahoma, lasted for four long days.

The longest day, Thursday, included 11 full hours of debate and policy writing.

Teams spent hours, both in shouting matches and

quiet meetings, to create and refine documents that would be argued about by even larger groups of people for even longer periods of time.

Days started as early as 6:30 in the morning for many delegates, who showed up early to the conference rooms and set immediately to work, though they had often worked well past the end of their late-running committees.

More than 70 countries were represented in the sessions, and with four General Assembly committees plus a few special committees, the number of delegates was in the hundreds.

The committees first met separately, and then on Friday and Saturday packed themselves into the Grand Ballroom of

"Occasionally, some delegations got way too mad, as lack of sleep and long hours grated, and civilized debates became petty squabbles."

-Mason Warling

the Union Station Marriott just blocks from the famous Gateway Arch.

The conference took a toll on the delegates, with sessions for some committees only beginning at 1 a.m.

Occasionally, some delegations got way too mad, as lack of sleep and long hours grated and

civilized debates became petty squabbles.

College rivalries flared up, and competition raged (quietly) between the Alma and University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh delegations.

At time of writing, awards had not yet been decided, so no word on who "won," to the extent that you can win at Model U.N.

Alma outpaced UWis-Oshkosh last year in the count for most "Outstanding Delegation" awards received, a feather in the cap of Sandy Hulme, professor of political science and Model U.N. advisor.

When the delegates returned on Saturday night, a few of the Model UN team members they had left behind, **Madeleine Randolet ('13)**, **Ashley Yuill**

('13) and **Elizabeth Wayne ('13)**, provided a late-night reception for the delegates at the Model UN house on the Alma campus.

This helped cap off a stressful and exhausting week with a positive note as the team was able to settle back into Alma life—just in time for mid-terms.

The next Model U.N. convention for Alma is the National Model United Nations in New York, which will be attended by delegations from all across the U.S., as well as colleges abroad.

All members of the Alma team will be attending the conference in mid-April, which will, for its conclusion, be held in the actual General Assembly Chambers in the United Nations building in Manhattan.

Following the Beat with Ben King: Winter break offers opportunities, even if staying home

By BEN KING
GUEST WRITER

With spring break, or Winter Term Recess, just around the corner, many Alma College students are planning or preparing for their breaks.

There are many enjoyable and relaxing things for students to do over break.

Some students, like myself, travel and venture away from their homes.

Some prefer, or have to, stay at home.

Whichever one of these break methods you choose, there are so many different and interesting things that one can do.

For those of you that are staying at home, this is an excellent opportunity for you

to explore your hometown.

Explore parts of your community that you have never been to before or have visited less frequently than others.

This experience is vastly rewarding; it can potentially give an individual a very new and strong sense of identity and community.

For those of you who are fortunate enough to have state parks or community parks, use your vacation to explore these wonderful pieces of the wilderness.

Allow this opportunity to give you a strong and beautiful connection to the natural world.

For those of you who are more city slickers than cedar savages, explore your nearest urban center.

Get out and finally stop by

that store or restaurant that you drive by everyday but never go in.

You may make a wonderful new discovery.

For those who are worker bees and always enjoy making a little more money, spring break can be a perfect time to return to a summer job for a few days and earn a little cash.

Many college students return to busing or waiting tables and other jobs they have held in the past over spring break.

When these students return from break they usually have enough money to satisfy their minor cash flow needs for the rest of the school year.

Staying at home can also be a great opportunity to get reattached to your roots.

While staying at home,

spend time with the members of your family that you do not spend much time with normally.

This could potentially be a great opportunity to get to know both your family and history very well.

Spending time with family members is not exclusive to older family member or people at all.

If you have younger relatives, use your break as an opportunity to bond with them.

Spending time with pets that one cannot bring to

"This could potentially be a great opportunity to get to know both your family and history very well."

-Ben King

If you see anything in the Opinion section that you want to respond to, please write a letter to the editor!

E-mail 11amlabb@alma.edu with any thoughts/feelings on the articles

Men's tennis opens season with loss against Lake Superior State

By ADAM MUNCY
STAFF WRITER

The Alma College men's tennis team opened match play last Thursday against Division II Lake Superior State University at the Stone Recreation Center. The match ended with the Scots on the losing end of an 8-1 final score.

"We played an excellent Lake Superior State team today and I'm incredibly proud of how we competed," said Alma Head Coach Chris Sandro.

"I'm disappointed we didn't come out on top, but it was great experience for us moving forward."

With the event taking over four hours to complete, the Scots and Lakers battled back and forth throughout.

"It was a tough match; playing a Division II team is always a tough task," said Benjamin Schippers ('13).

"I'm disappointed we didn't come out on top, but it was great experience for us moving forward."

-Chris Sandro, Head Coach

"While the score wasn't very close, there were a lot of good matches and a lot to build

on for the rest of the season."

In doubles play, the number one doubles team consisting of Kace Lovejoy ('11) and Zach Kerr ('11) dropped a pro-set 8-3 as did Josh Gove ('14) and Shanden Delamater ('12) in the number three pairing.

"The courts in the Stone Recreation Center are certainly not ideal for tennis," said Schippers.

"While the score wasn't very close, there were a lot of good matches and a lot to build on for the rest of the season."

-Benjamin Schippers ('13)

"The transition from playing at other schools back to playing at Alma is always tricky. This year we are having some practices up in Mt. Pleasant at Morey Courts, which have a more true tennis surface. That should help us quite a bit."

Playing the number two spot for the Scots, Logan Beard ('14) and Gordon Rumschlag ('14) fell to the Lakers 9-7. The Scots trailed 3-0 following doubles play but in singles Beard acquired his first collegiate victory: 6-1 and 6-3.

Lovejoy and Gove were both locked in tight third sets however both of their GLIAC opponents came through

with victories securing the match for the visiting Lakers.

The Scots continued to fight but dropped the remaining three matches: Kerr lost a close two-set match in the number four slot, while Delamater and Rumschlag fell at five and six.

"We have great depth this year; we are solid from top to bottom and have a shot to surprise some opponents this season," said Schippers.

"With the level of talent we have on this team and by working hard every day in practice and building on each match, we have a chance to have a very successful season. We need to continue to focus on playing smart tennis; staying consistent and waiting for the right opportunities to attack."

The Scots traveled to Grand Rapids Community College at Orchard Hills Athletic Club last Saturday where they picked up their first win of 2011 and beat the GRCC Raiders 8-1. The match lasted just over three hours.

Lovejoy, Gove, Beard, Kerr, and Rumschlag all picked up victories in singles play for the Scots. The men swept doubles play as the tandems of Lovejoy and Kerr, Beard and Rumschlag, and Gove and Schippers also came out victorious.

The Scots will next face Concordia College on Saturday in Orlando, Fla. The match against Concordia kicks off the men's spring break trip where they will play six matches in six days.

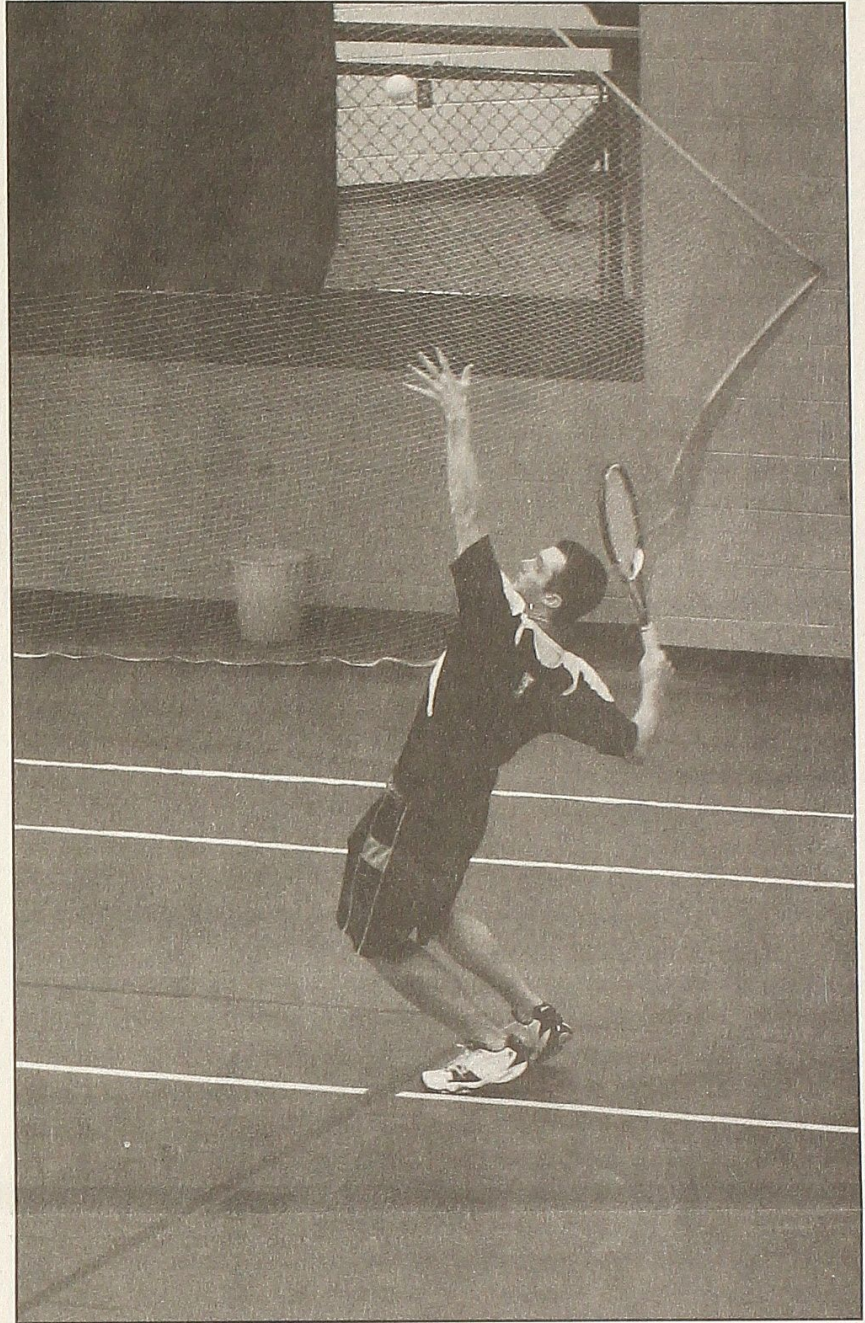


Photo by Catherine Finley

Kace Lovejoy ('11) serves in the season's first match against Lake Superior State University at the Stone Recreation Center. The Scots lost, 8-1.

Spotlight: Havrilla starts lacrosse team

By TARYN HANDYSIDE
STAFF WRITER

Christie Havrilla ('13) came to Alma College from Okemos to study exercise and health science and is currently majoring in it with a psychology minor. While attending Okemos High School, Havrilla played varsity lacrosse all four years and was also on the dance and dive teams.

Havrilla started playing lacrosse when she was in seventh grade and helped to start a girl's team during her eighth grade year. However, when she entered a high school with no girl's team, she became one of three girls to join the boy's team and she has continued to play ever since.

"I joined because it looked like a lot of fun," she said. "I was, or at least I thought I was, pretty tough back then and I wanted to show that I could keep up with the boys. All of my guy friends were on the team and always talked about it and how much they loved it, so I wanted to give it a try."

Paralleling her previous experiences, Havrilla was a part of the Alma men's lacrosse club team last year and is now a member of the new women's lacrosse squad that she started and coached.

Partially the result of her dedication to the sport, lacrosse has recently been admitted as a varsity sport for the 2012 spring season at Alma and Havrilla

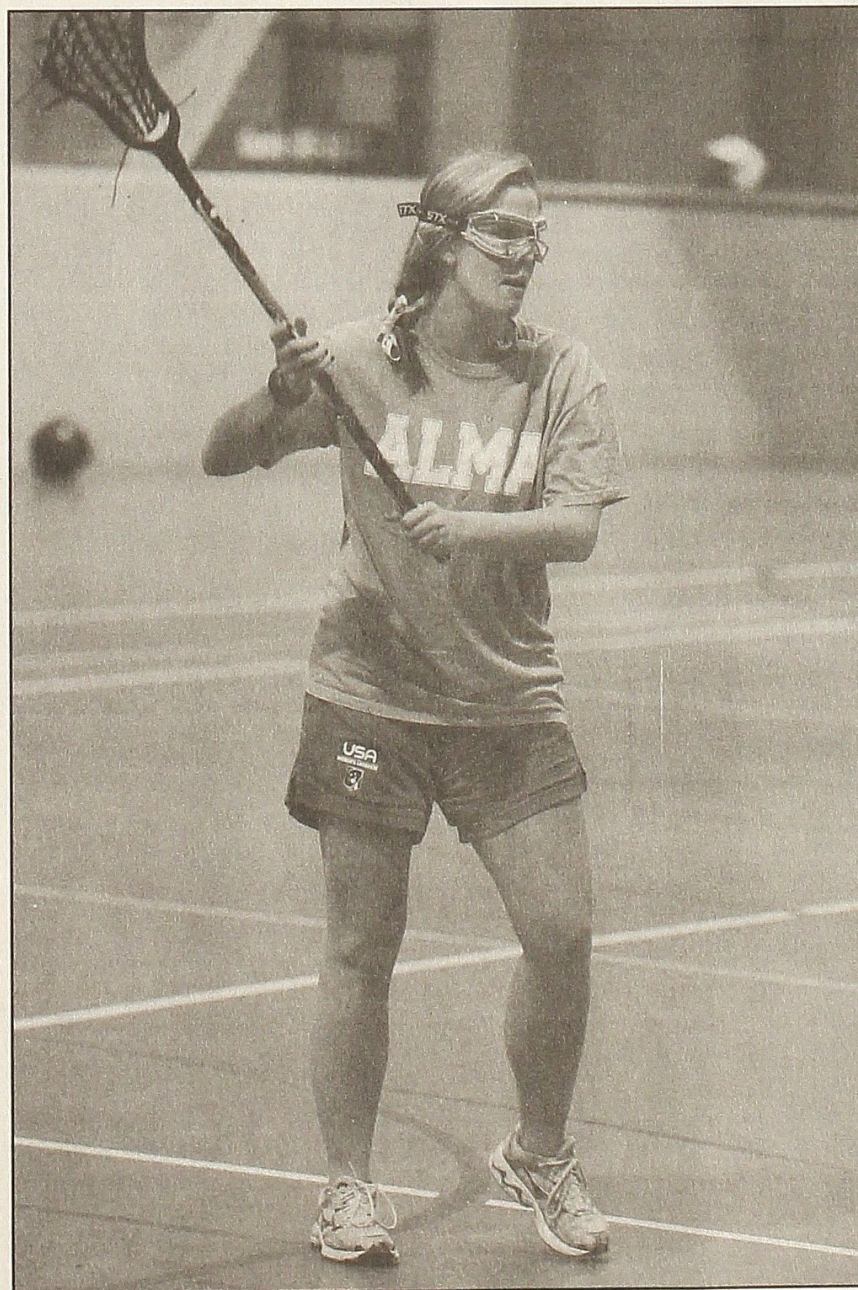


Photo by Kayla Roy

Christie Havrilla ('13) and the lacrosse team practice at the Stone Recreational Center in preparation for their upcoming season in the Spring.

is very excited to participate.

"Lacrosse is a growing sport and it's growing at a fast pace," she said.

"I love being the coach, but being a full time student and a full time coach is extremely difficult. I am looking forward to stepping on the lacrosse field and just being a player. Having this team go varsity was a dream of mine even before I went to school here," she said.

"I love the people here and the small classes. I love the Greek life that I'm a part of and of course, I love the lacrosse teams."

-Christie Havrilla ('13)

Though it helped in her decision making, lacrosse is not the only reason that Havrilla came to Alma. She says that she chose this campus because she loves the atmosphere and people.

"Everyone here is so friendly and I really enjoy the size of the campus," said Havrilla. "Also, I knew that there was no women's lacrosse team here and I thought it would be a perfect opportunity for me to try and start one."

When Havrilla is not juggling classes and lacrosse, she is a sister at Alpha Xi Delta, a sister of the

fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon and a member of Student Congress.

After Havrilla graduates she plans to go to graduate school for physical therapy but she says that all she really wants to do is coach lacrosse.

"I plan on applying for assistant coaching jobs when I'm a senior and if I could get a job as a coach right out of college it would be a dream-come-true," she said.

Currently, Havrilla is preparing for the next season of lacrosse and she is using all that she has learned from coaching to improve her own game.

"The team only played in one tournament that consisted of three games," said Havrilla.

"We won our first game ever in Alma College history against a varsity team with a score of 11-1. I'm so proud of the team because the players only had been practicing for about a month and our goalie had only practiced for four days."

Like their former coach, the lacrosse team is excited about the spring season and will be working to get better for next year.

"I hope that everyone will come and support the Alma College women's lacrosse team in its first home game ever on March 25th on the football field," Havrilla said.

As for being a student-athlete at the college, Havrilla is thriving.

"I love the people here and the small classes, I love the Greek life that I'm a part of and of course, I love the lacrosse teams."

Women's basketball earns two wins and a loss to end season

By TARYN HANDYSIDE
STAFF WRITER

The women's basketball team earned its first league win on Feb. 12. The Scots faced Adrian College in the Art-Smith Arena and left with a score of 65-44. "Getting our first league win felt amazing," said **Brittney Deerfield ('14)**. "We have been working so hard this whole season and finally our hard work paid off. We are a very good team and our win against Adrian proved that."

The game started with Alma earning the first basket at 16:36 when **Danielle Hicks ('13)** hit a lay-up. The Bulldogs then took the lead four minutes later with a score of 7-6 but Alma came back to make two free-throws by **Anna Mattson ('14)**. Following Mattson's lead, Alma began an 18-0 run putting the Scots in the lead at 24-7. The half ended with a score of 35-14 in Alma's favor.

The Scots earned their biggest lead of the game with 5:02 left when **Payton Lupu ('14)** hit a lay-up to put the score at 61-30 and the game ended with a victory of 65-44.

Sydney Beckwith ('11) led the Scots in scoring with 15 points and also contributed three blocks and three assists. Respectively, Deerfield and **Sarah Stinson ('14)**

earned 10 and 13 points.

The Scots then faced Calvin College in Grand Rapids the following Wednesday and returned to campus with a loss of 74-48.

Calvin earned a 10-0 lead at the start of the game and ended the half with 42-17 edge. Though there was a short comeback for the Scots, Calvin eventually won the game.

"Coming off of a big game last Saturday, we came into the one with Calvin thinking we were going to have an upset," said Beckwith. "Although we didn't make it into the tournament, we still play a major part in determining who gets what place in the conference."

Beckwith led the Scots with 15 points while Deerfield had seven. Hicks contributed nine points and 10 rebounds for the night.

The Scots rebounded from their loss against Calvin to defeat Olivet in their last game of the season with a score of 61-57.

"The Olivet game was definitely a special one, not only for this year but for next as well," said Deerfield. "We wanted to end the season making a statement. We wanted to win big, to basically tell the MIAA to watch out for us next year and to set the tone for our upcoming season."

The game started with a made shot by Mattson. The half ended at 38-26 and Alma never fell behind.

The Scots were led by Beckwith, with eight points,

while **Jessica DeBruin ('12)** had seven and Hicks had six points and five rebounds.

Beckwith is the only senior graduating this year and team members says that they will truly miss her. Beckwith earned Player of the Week three times this season and four times in her career.

"Sydney has stepped up and been an amazing leader," said Deerfield. "She was faced with a young, inexperienced group but she had the best attitude and never gave up on us. She has been a huge asset to our team and I'm really going to miss her."

"[Beckwith] is a fantastic leader and we can go to her about anything," said Stinson. "Sydney was a huge part of our team this year and we will miss her very much next year — it won't be the same without her."

The Scots ended their season with a record of 3-22 overall and 2-14 in the league. The women said that they made many memories, including their trip to California and the breast cancer awareness game.

As Beckwith leaves with a much accomplished college basketball career, she gives her team some advice:

"Play hard every game and put it all out there because you have so much potential to compete in the MIAA championship game in the years to come."



Photo by Catherine Finley

Sydney Beckwith ('11) and her team celebrated Senior Day.

Swimming and diving breaks three records

By ADAM MUNCY
STAFF WRITER

The Alma College Scots concluded their swimming and diving season at the 2011 Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association Championships. They were held at Jenison High School from Feb. 17 through 19.

"Mental toughness will be the most important thing," said Head Coach Chris Hamstra. "We have been putting in tons of training yards for the past five months. There is no doubt we are physically tough, our mental toughness is what is going to play the biggest role."

The Kalamazoo Hornets out-matched the three-time defending champion Hope College Flying Dutch to win their first MIAA men's swimming and diving championship since 2003.

The Calvin College Knight won their seventh consecutive women's championship. Four members

of the team concluded their collegiate career at Alma College with the end of championships, **Andrew Brunner ('11)**, **Jordan Bryde ('11)**, **Shaina Buhl ('11)** and **Chrisine Vicari ('11)**.

"We have been hammering out a lot of yards preparing for the conference meets; everyone just wants to do their best," said **Jacob Hammar ('14)**. "We have to be strong both mentally and physically. You can't have one without the other."

The Alma College men's swimming and diving team finished sixth in the contest as the scores follow: Kalamazoo College Hornets with 815, Hope College Flying Dutch with 775, Olivet College Comet's with 672, Calvin College Knights with 486, Albion College Briton's with 292, and finally The Alma College Scots with 220.

"We had to prepare mentally and physically for a three-day meet," said Hamstra. "When we finish we will be physically exhausted

and mentally drained. Also most of us will have lost our voices."

The final women's team scores are as follows: Calvin 850, Hope 679, Kalamazoo 604, Albion 341, Saint Mary's 314, Olivet 297, and Alma 235.

The Alma College Scots had extremely encouraging result heading into Saturday. The Scots broke three school records during Friday's competition. The Lady Scot's, Bryde, **Madison Behmlander ('12)**, **Jordan Newhouse ('12)**, and Vicari, in the 200-medley relay swam a 1:52, setting a new school record.

"The rest that we have been going through the last couple weeks is paying off, said Hamstra. "We are putting up lots of personal records and season bests so far. It's only been one day (of three) and we already have one record."

Individually for the Lady Scot's, Behmlander became a part of the second school record broken as she set the new record in the 100 Breaststroke with a 1:07.31.

On the men's side, Hammer, **Ryan Tobin ('12)**, Brunner and **David Case ('14)**, recorded the new men's 800 free relay record with a time of 7:10.25.

"We got off to a bit of a slow start Thursday morning, but we came back very strong Thursday evening," said Hamstra. I foresee us making vast improvements as the weekend goes on, which is always a good thing."



Photo by Catherine Finley

Cory Schneider ('12) goes up for a layup against Adrian College last Wednesday night. The men's basketball team won their last game at Art Smith Arena for the 2011 season, with a final score of 54-53. In a close battle against the Bulldogs, the Scots managed to pull out a win with a three-pointer by **Greg Silverthorn ('13)**. One point ahead and only 15 seconds left in the game, Adrian College could not retaliate and the Scots earned the victory. The Bulldogs were fourth in the league before suffering a loss to the Scots. Last Wednesday night, the Scots also honored their lone senior, **Kevin Ginther ('11)**. The men's basketball team went on to play last Saturday at Olivet College and lost, 71-47. This concludes the 2011 men's basketball season with a record of 6-18 overall and 2-12 in the league.

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