

Documentary reveals Africa's war-torn 'Invisible Children'

By JOSHU ZEITLER
STAFF WRITER

Invisible Children, an organization working to end the longest running war in African history, visited Alma College last Wednesday for a screening of its new documentary, "Tony."

Since the 1980s, Joseph Kony and his Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) have waged war to overthrow the Government of Uganda, causing families to be dislocated and abducting children to serve as soldiers and sex slaves.

Despite significant peace progress in the mid-2000s, the LRA is once again ravaging villages in the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, and Uganda.

The army attacks communities with little outside communication and no emergency response system, where the violence may not be heard of until sometime after soldiers have left.

When the army was more active in Uganda, many children, known as night commuters, were forced to sleep huddled together in fear in city centers as a protection against abduction every night.

Tony, a teenager in Uganda and the subject of the documentary, was one of these children when three teenagers from southern California flew to Uganda to film a documentary and were inspired by the tragedy facing many Ugandan children.

Returning to the states with the "Invisible Children: Rough Cut" documentary, the students began to raise awareness of the problem and work toward solutions.

In the eight years that Invisible Children has been operating, it has grown and has branched out to include several programs.

The organization works closely with native Ugandans to implement programs that effectively serve the needs of



Photo by Kayla Roy

Alma students Barbara Otey ('14), Alaina Dague ('13), Madeleine Randolet ('13), Kaitlyn Gordon ('13), Ashley Yuill ('13), and Ryan Zavacky ('14) all came together to help Invisible Children save the lives of abducted youth in war-torn African villages.

the communities that have suffered at the hands of the LRA.

Among these programs is a protection plan to aid victims of the LRA's violence and prevent further attacks.

This involves connecting remote communities with radio towers to track the LRA's movements and catch Kony, establishing search and rescue teams to recover dislocated and abandoned children, and a rehabilitation center to treat the physical and psychological damage caused by Kony's army before returning of "Tony" was hosted by

In addition, Invisible Children established the Legacy Scholarship Fund in Uganda to promote higher education and assist in the creation of future Ugandan leaders inside the country itself.

"I'm really proud of Invisible Children - they've made me who I am today," said Fionah, a Ugandan woman completing her bachelor's degree in public administration and business management thanks to the Legacy Scholarship. "I don't know what my life would be like without education. It would be a terrible thing."

Last Wednesday's screening of "Tony" was hosted by

Alma's chapter of Amnesty International, an organization that advocates human rights across the globe, raises awareness of human rights violations, and works toward solutions.

"Our ultimate goal is to allow people to be more globally connected and active in the fulfillment of human rights," said Madeleine Randolet ('13), president of Amnesty International.

Barbara Otey ('14), an Amnesty member who played an active role in bringing Invisible Children to campus, said that her position was summed up perfectly

by the words of Holocaust survivor Elie Weisel: "...to remain silent and indifferent is the greatest sin of all."

"It's encouraging to know that it's not all blood and guts and horrific statistics, but that there are actually people trying to do something," said Otey.

Amnesty International will be working with other social justice student organizations such as the Multicultural Student Union and Literacy Beyond Borders for a social justice weekend, kicking off on Thursday, March 31, with a concert featuring musicians Koji and Joe Hertler, who are on tour to raise funds to aid child soldiers.

Alma celebrates 'women's month' with an array of informational events

By LAUREN ANDALORA
STAFF WRITER

This year, Alma College "kicked off the celebration of women's month with an international dinner with five presenters raising money for women's aid," said Chih-Ping Chen, chair and associate professor of English.

There are more events planned for throughout the month.

The Clotheslines Project will be held on Tuesday, March 15, in the Tyler-Van Dusen Rotunda.

This entails a visual display which will be presented from 4 to 9 p.m. that bears witness to the many forms of violence perpetrated against women and children.

"People make t-shirts every year that the counseling center stores and puts on display during women's month," said Carol Bender, professor of English. "Different colors represent

different types of abuse, and the visual is very impactful."

Also Tuesday, there will be a presentation on domestic violence called "Tread Marks on My Heart," by an Alma community member, at 7 p.m. in Jones Auditorium.

"Elisabeth Bletsch has been helping Lucille write her memoir for over a year now and I am looking forward to hearing a member of the community speak on campus," said Bender.

On Wednesday, the annual Take Back the Night march and discussion protesting rape and other violence against women is set for 8 p.m. in McIntyre Mall.

"The members of MacCurdy House rally to bring students together for this great event," said Bender.

On March 23, keynote speaker Norma Ramos, co-executive director of the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, will speak on issues of human

trafficking, prostitution and sexual exploitation at 8 p.m. in the Dunning Memorial Chapel.

"She is eager to see a world free of the commercial sex exploitation of humans—a world free of forced labor," said Jamie Smith, assistant professor of history, who helped organize Ramos' visit to campus.

"We will speak on her experiences working for her organization and her insights on serious social issues."

Ramos' subject matter is both relevant and important for campus dialogue, said Smith.

"Most people trafficked are women and children," said Smith. "And if you pay any attention to

the news, you see sex trafficking is a huge problem right here in America. Not only is it a women's issue—it's a class issue, a race issue and, ultimately, a human issue."

March 24, Shirley Geok-Lin Lim, an award-winning writer and scholar who teaches at University of California-Santa Barbara, will read from her works at 7:30 p.m. in SAC, Room 113.

"Both Professor Bender and I teach some of Lim's work in our classes," said Chen. "She received the American Book Award twice, as well as several other literary awards, for her fiction, poetry and memoirs."

Lim's research interests

include Asian American and post-colonial cultural productions and ethnic and feminist writing.

"We are excited and honored to have her come to Alma and be more than just a speaker but a scholar as our writer-in-residence," said Chen.

Relay for Life, the annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, takes place from 9 p.m. March 25 to 7 a.m. March 26 in the Stone Recreation Center at Alma College.

All events are free and open to the public and are sponsored by the English Department, Women's Studies and Women's Issues Advisory Board.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mostly Sunny 41°	Partly Cloudy 47°	Partly Cloudy 48°	Showers 53°	Partly Cloudy 48°	Mostly Sunny 45°	Cloudy 43°

Almanian staff travels to L.A.

By **SETH FAULK**
FEATURE EDITOR

Members of the Almanian staff attended the 27th Annual Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) National College Journalism Convention, which was sponsored by the Associated Collegiate Press.

Preliminary exercises began on Thursday, March 3 and sessions continued through the closing keynote address on Sunday, March 6.

In addition to this trip, Sports Editor **Maria Castaneda ('12)** also attended last year's convention. She said that the ACP conferences are "always a positive experience."

"This year's conference focused on the new ways media is being distributed, which is mainly through social networking sites," said Castaneda.

She also hopes to employ lessons she learned from the conference to enhance the sports section.

"Some of the sports [moderators] that I saw while at conference seem really cool and social sites are an interesting way to post statistics in our newspaper," she said. "I'm looking forward to including some of those in the sports sections in the following issues."

Not all of the attendees were impressed by this year's convention.

"I was really disappointed with the conference this year," said **Catherine Finley ('11)** photography editor, "but I think that it gives us a lot of motivation to make the paper better."

Finley agreed that the conference stressed how newspapers should employ Websites to communicate with their readers.

Editor-in-Chief **Anna Dysinger ('11)** came away from the conference with high hopes for the Almanian's online expansion.

"It was difficult to apply many of the sessions to our paper because right now we do not have a great need for things like a mobile Website and iPad applications," said Dysinger. "However, we were able to brainstorm how we can incorporate aspects of social media in our paper. For example, in the next few years we could possibly create a text alert system that students could subscribe to and receive texts for upcoming campus events."

Besides media communication, methods of newspaper design were another focus of the conference, according to **Angela Flynn, ('12)**, news editor.

"I really learned a lot about the design of the paper—such as

different ways to add color and graphics to really enhance the story," said Flynn. "The speakers offered some really interesting ideas, such as using different fonts for the headlines, which I think may look good in the Almanian."

Almanian adviser and journalism instructor Ken Tabacsko accompanied the editors to Los Angeles. Photographer **Kayla Roy ('14)** also attended the convention.

"We learned ways to inform the community, while involving them and letting them interact with the Almanian staff to keep news relevant and exciting," said Roy.

College newspapers from around the United States and Canada were represented at the convention. Hundreds of students shared their ideas and gathered advice from others.

"It was truly a lot of fun to hang out with the rest of the staff outside of the office," said Flynn.

The editors agreed that the conference inspired them to keep experimenting with the Almanian.

"Probably the most beneficial part of the conference is that it gets us really excited about improving the paper," said Castaneda. "Getting that boost of motivation toward the last seven weeks is crucial in making our paper the best it can be for the student body."

Alma changes housing options

By **JOSHUA ZEITLER**
STAFF WRITER

Beginning in the 2011 fall semester, Alma College will implement several changes in its housing options and registration and selection processes.

Students may be glad to hear that one of the recent major changes was the removal of the requirement to purchase a housing card to obtain housing.

"I really appreciate that we don't have to buy a housing card anymore," said **Richard Cruz ('13)**. "I wasn't aware, but every extra little bit is helpful."

Students will, however, be required to register for classes before housing registration.

In addition, students will be required to have a roommate in order sign up for a room and retain the room. Each room, house, or apartment must be filled to capacity to avoid becoming available to those who meet housing lottery requirements.

The college will also be opening up a number of new on-campus small housing options due to the growing number of students being accepted at Alma.

"My freshman year was the first that they started accepting more students, and it got really crowded," said **Chelsea Clark ('11)**.

With this year's freshman class being the largest to date, the college continues to have to expand its options to

accommodate these changes.

"Alma has a lot of great opportunities, and I support the college expanding and making those opportunities more available," said **Elizabeth Wayne ('13)**. "However, I do not support growth at the expense of admission standards."

Selection for on-campus small housing options will be decided by a lottery in the Rotunda on March 30. Houses are exclusively available for seniors, and apartments will be open to juniors and seniors, but seniors will be given priority. Apartments will also be co-ed by apartment.

"It's nice that they're offering houses now," said **Jonathon Zeitler ('12)**. "Students will really appreciate being able to get together with a group of friends and share a house."

"I really like that they're offering apartments because it comes a lot closer to acclimating students to real life," said **William Freeman ('14)**.

Seniors will be given the option to live off-campus by lottery, but it will likely lead to a reduction in scholarship sums awarded. Students receiving full-tuition, tuition exchange, and Alma College National Merit scholarships are ineligible to live off campus.

For more information, visit the Student Life Office or see the Housing and Residence Life page on Inside Alma.

Economist speaks of economic freedom

By **MOLLY HENNING**
STAFF WRITER

Economist Joshua Hall spoke at Alma College last Thursday night on economic freedom.

Hall is an assistant professor at Beloit College in Wisconsin and, a former economist of the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress and has published over 100 works.

His speech, entitled "Economic Freedom, Entrepreneurship and Economic Growth" touched on three main themes: why are some places rich and others poor, the role of economic freedom in creating prosperity, and the role of entrepreneurship in being the conduit between freedom and growth.

"Traditionally, economic development is about input: how do we get more stuff we want?" said Hall.

Hall said that inputs are physical and human capital. "If we have more than just shovels, we have physical capital. If we are more educated, we have human capital," said Hall. "Development economists thought the way to help underdeveloped countries was to get more of these things: give them more machines, help them get more education to help them overcome their deficit."

Hall went on to say, though, it's not that inputs aren't important, but people need the proper incentives to use the inputs.

"Every entrepreneur uses inputs to create value for themselves and make themselves better off," said Hall. "Sometimes entrepreneurs use input and resources though

to enrich themselves or clients at the expense of society as a whole."

Overall, Hall explained that entrepreneurship lets input and resources turn into outcomes people may want, and an entrepreneur discovers that, given the right incentives, people may want a particular good or service.

Hall further explained that there are "rules of the game," and he explained what economic freedom is about: personal choice, freedom to trade domestically and abroad, freedom to enter and compete in markets, and security of property/rule of law.

"Society has rules of the game, such as, if you engage in a certain type of behavior, what will be your tax break? If you choose to use your property in a certain way, is that legal? Do you have the ability to trade with someone across the street, in another state, in another country? Can you enter and compete in markets?" asked Hall.

Further, Hall explained the process for collecting the Economic Freedom of the World (EFW) report.

Data is collected on 141 countries using 42 different components that are grouped into five broad areas.

These five areas are the size of government, legal structure and security of property rights, access to sound money, freedom to trade internationally, and regulation of credit, labor and business.

"These components are all things we think conform to our idea of what economic freedom means," said Hall. "Economic freedom is thinking about individuals and their rights."

Hall explained that the EFW report can determine if the world is becoming freer and can test hypotheses about the relationship between economic freedom and other aspects.

Hall said, though, whether or not economic freedom is a good is a major question: freedom is good, but there are still tradeoffs that come with freedom, such as the sacrifice of other social goals, like equality.

"The index measures economic freedom. It does not and cannot determine the optimal level of freedom: This is a value judgment," said Hall.

"I value economic freedom for itself."

Hall concluded that entrepreneurial discovery is the way to economic progress.

"We often don't know the things that will be successful. Economies undergo continuous change; some industries fall, others boom," said Hall. "The process cannot be planned or directed."

Feler Bose, assistant professor of economics, who brought Hall to campus, said the speech was very helpful.

"I think it's certainly useful to consider, regardless your major, whether or not economic freedom is a good thing, and if it is something people desire," said Bose.

Overall, Bose said that Hall's speech intended to show that economic freedom is important and valuable.

"We see good outcomes when we have more economic freedom," said Bose. "People are wealthier, they live longer, and the environment is cleaner."

This week at Alma College

Tuesday, March 15:

Clothline Project at 2 p.m. in the Rotunda
Women's Night Speaker at 6 p.m. in Jones Auditorium

Wednesday, March 16:

ACUB Movie Night at 7 p.m. in Jones Auditorium
Take Back the Night march at 8 p.m. in McIntyre Mall

Thursday, March 17:

St. Patrick's Day!

Friday, March 18:

Little Sibs Carnival at 6 p.m. in the Stone Rec Center
Little Sibs International Carnival at 7 p.m. in Van Dusen

Saturday, March 19:

Little Sibs Safari Pizza Buffet at 11:30 a.m. at Joe's Place
Cheerleading Try-Outs at 12:30 p.m. in the Hogan Lobby
College Positive Youth Training at 7 p.m. in SAC 214
Swing Line Dancing at 8 p.m. in North and South Commons

Kiltie Dancers, Alma College Pipers collaborate for innovative concert

By ELISABETH BLETSCH
STAFF WRITER

Those who attended the "Highlands and Islands" concert last Sunday were in for quite a surprise. "The audience at this concert did not see the typical traditional

Highland Fling in a kilt," said Kate DeGood, Highland Dance director and Highland Arts co-coordinator. "This concert featured modern, innovative choreography incorporating various dance styles to traditional and non-traditional music."

"This was the first concert

held since the creation of an official Highland Arts program at Alma College," added DeGood.

The concert included the Kiltie Dancers and the Alma College Pipers.

"Students should expect to see more performances and a greater variety of performances from the Kiltie Dancers and Pipers now that more resources are being devoted to the program," said DeGood.

"This concert is special because it is the first time the Kiltie Dancers and Alma College Pipers have taken the stage at Heritage in a mutual effort," said Director

"This was the first concert held since the creation of an official Highland Arts program at Alma College."

- Kate DeGood

of Piping Andrew Duncan. The dancers performed eight pieces, including "Scotland the Brave" and "A Jig Medley" with the pipers.

"Rock 'n Reel," a 1950's themed choreography, "Celtic Masquerade," "Do You Love Me," "Rhythm of the Dancer," and "Scotland Meets Africa" were also performed.

"The 'March Medley' represents a collection of marches that I hand picked to highlight the strengths of the Alma College Pipers," said Duncan. "This is what we will play when we compete and the two jigs we are playing with the dancers are relatively modern compositions."

"The concert is part of the official plan to expand the



Photo by Simone Boos

Alexa Gilbert ('12) dances in accompaniment with the Alma College Pipers.

Highland Arts program," he added. "It is important that Alma College Kiltie Dancers and Pipers put on at least one professional concert a year on campus."

Like Duncan and DeGood, the Highland Dancers also had high hopes for this concert.

"I hope people left the concert with the idea of just how versatile Highland dancing can be," said

Alexa Gilbert ('12). "It can be fun and modern while still maintaining a certain level of traditionalism."

"My hope is that people left the concert hall feeling that the Highland Arts are great to both watch and participate in and that, like other forms of dance, Highland has modern, creative aspects as well as a rich tradition," said **Maria Taylor ('12).**

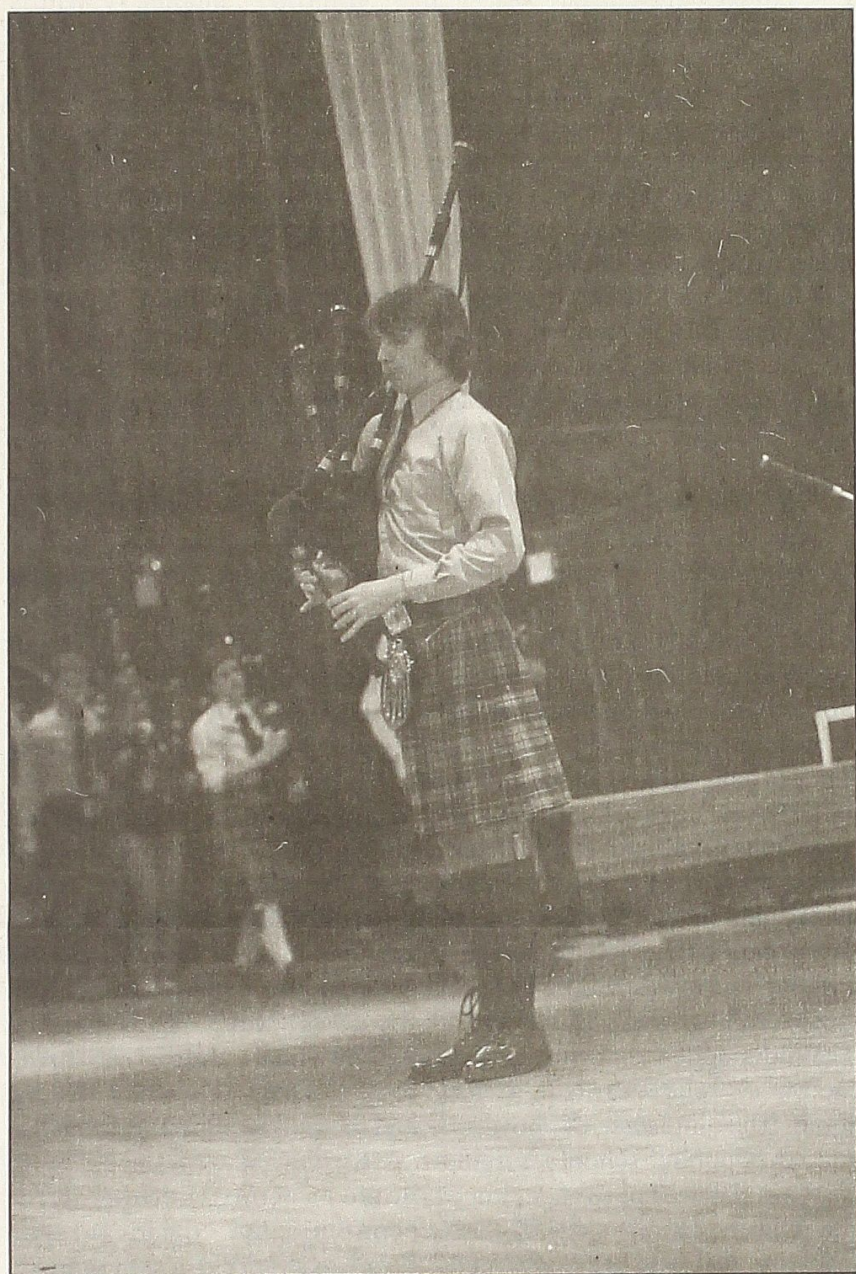


Photo by Simone Boos

Jared Aslakson ('12) performs with the Kiltie Dancers in the joint concert last Sunday.

Alma College EHS students compete, win Jeopardy competition at conference

By MOLLY HENNING
STAFF WRITER

At the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) Conference, three Alma College students competed in a mock Jeopardy game and captured first place.

The ACSM Conference was held from Feb. 3 - 4 in Gaylord.

"ACSM is a worldwide organization that has set the standards for exercise and sports medicine," said Marlene Wentta, instructor of exercise and health science.

"This was a small chapter that we have just for Michigan schools and it is solely a student run research conference—the only people presenting are students from Michigan colleges and universities."

Wenta said that the conference has a good representation of liberal arts schools as well as larger colleges and universities.



Photo Courtesy of the EHS Department

The team of exercise and health science students who represented Alma College at Gaylord's ACSM Conference won the final round of the event's mock Jeopardy competition.

"The great thing about the conference is that because it is all student presenters, it's a really nice and positive environment," said Wentta. "It gives a nice arena for students to present their research in front of college-aged peers. I think that students find

it less stressful and intimidating than presenting for the first time at a national or regional conference where you're not only presenting for students but also other faculty members and researchers in the field."

In addition to presentations

from students, every year the conference hosts a Jeopardy competition among all the schools at the end of the first evening.

"It is a nice, friendly competition on exercise physiology and it runs in a regular Jeopardy format," said Wentta.

Wenta explained that every school attending can have a team of three members.

"We don't have graduate students at Alma, but all of the other colleges and universities had the opportunity to put one grad student on their team of three," said Wentta.

The three students chosen to represent Alma College in the Jeopardy game were **Bri Harfmann ('11)**, **Sophia Hrutkay ('12)**, and **Miranda Hernandez ('11)** and they were also presenting at the conference.

The Alma team came in first place, being the only group to answer the final question correctly.

"It was very exciting to win," said Hrutkay. "It was cool because it was the first time that a smaller college beat out the big schools."

"It was a great, rewarding

experience all around for Alma College and Alma's EHS students, primarily because of the great research that those students presented in front of their peers and in front of all these other colleges and universities," said Wentta.

Hrutkay agreed that the best part of the conference is getting to see all the other student presentations.

"Jeopardy was a lot of fun and it's a great activity that they hold, but I think the best part about the whole conference is listening to other students' research, to hear what other schools are doing and what other students are interested in," said Hrutkay. "It helped in terms of getting a broad sense of different areas and it also contributed ideas for future research projects."

Wenta added that the students that presented receive an overwhelmingly positive response in all of their evaluations.

"To top all of our successes off with a Jeopardy win really showed the quality programs that Alma College represents and has to offer," said Wentta.

Students partake in alternative spring breaks across the country

By ELISABETH BLETSCH
STAFF WRITER

As many Alma College students relaxed on sunny beaches during break, others traveled as far as Texas and West Virginia to offer their service and time.

Five alternative breaks were offered from Saturday, Feb. 26 to Saturday, Mar. 5, said Katherine Gagnon, AmeriCorps VISTA with the Center for Responsible Leadership.

One of the breaks took students to El Paso, Texas, where they "worked with immigrants on the border to learn about immigration policy and humanitarian issues," said Gagnon.

Though not all were, this particular trip was faith-based.

Mallory Quackenbush ('11) said, "The trip involved intense educational experiences and discussion."

Quackenbush added that the group worked alongside a non-profit organization called Casa Puente and the organization's founder, West Cosgrove.

"We devoted a lot of time at the end of the week to figuring out what we as a group and a collective nation can do to produce effective change on not only our campuses and communities but on the national level as well," said Quackenbush. "We must be aware of what we as consumers purchase and support, while



Photo Courtesy of Kyla Wojtas

Students could choose from five alternative breaks across the nation. This group worked with immigrants in El Paso, Texas.

being educated, active citizens."

Another of the alternative breaks focused on people with disabilities in Nashville, Tenn.

"In Nashville, students constructed wheelchair

ramps for individuals with disabilities," said Gagnon.

"We built five wheelchair ramps in five days for an organization dedicated to curbing the life-changes resulting from cerebral

palsy," said **Matthew Davis ('11)**. "We put up wheelchair ramps at five homes for homeowners. Also, on one night we played wheelchair basketball with a group of individuals afflicted with cerebral palsy."

Davis said his favorite part of the trip was seeing and interacting with the homeowners who the students helped.

David Maniez ('14) said, "There was a lot of learning done throughout the week, not just about building ramps, but about teamwork and how to really impact the lives of those in need."

Maniez said that they built one ramp for a man who had not been out of his house for three years (with the exception of doctor's appointments) as a result of his disability.

"He had to call and have a crew carry him out to his car for these appointments," Maniez added. "This was our most memorable ramp to build."

In Kansas City, Mo., students worked in classrooms and after-school programs. The focus issue of this trip was education.

"It was nice to work with kids for a week," said **Elisabeth Wilder ('12)**. "I was in a classroom of 2-year-olds and I wiped more snotty noses than I ever thought I would, but it was also one of the most fulfilling weeks I have had."

Wilder added that throughout the week she learned a lot about the impacts of poverty and the public school system.

"I am glad we got to experience the culture, too," said Wilder. "We ate real KC BBQ, learned

to juggle at a juggling club and on the way back to Alma, we visited Cahokia Mounds. We got to see and experience some very unique things."

Like many students, participating in alternative breaks is an important aspect of Wilder's "Alma experience."

"I really value the chance to be able to get outside of the Alma bubble and gain experiences from serving others," she said.

In another break in Knoxville, students focused on rural poverty.

Gagnon explained that on this alternative break, "participants worked and learned alongside members of the Cherokee community in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains."

Ryan Cramer ('13) said that the main highlights of this trip included working on a trail for handicapped kids, pulling invasive species in a national forest, spending time with seniors at the Snowbird Senior Center, learning Cherokee dances and songs and wrapping up the week with a hoe-down.

"I learned about the history of the Cherokee people, nation and culture. The main thing I took from the experience was how we can learn to respect others for their differences and seek to improve relations with them as well," said Cramer.

The final alternative break took place in Lewisburg, W. Va. and focused on affordable housing.

"Students assisted in home construction for economically disadvantaged families," said Gagnon.

Michigan Academy conference at SVSU features 400 participants

By LAUREN ANDALORA
STAFF WRITER

Approximately 400 students and teachers from around Michigan and the Midwest participated in the 117th Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters Annual Conference at Saginaw Valley State University last Friday.

The conference gave students and faculty the opportunity to present research across 34 disciplines.

"Michigan Academy is a conference very similar to Alma College's Honors Day," said **Dolly Van Fossan ('11)**.

Presenters had 15 to 20 minutes within their section to discuss the results of their study or research, typically in the form of a PowerPoint and oral presentation.

In the women's studies section, Alma College had two student presenters. "I presented socio-religious fieldwork that I conducted this semester in a presentation called 'Divine Dykes: Religious Attitudes and Identifications of Queer Michigan Women,'" said

Van Fossan. "I discussed the impact of coming out and how it affects the way college-aged lesbians, bisexuals, pansexuals and other gay-identified women think, feel and identify when it comes to religion."

"My presentation was about Buffy the Vampire Slayer, feminism, and the 'Rhetorical Construction

"Michigan Academy is a conference very similar to Alma College's Honors Day."
-Dolly Van Fossan ('11)

of Relational Power,'" said **Jessica Page ('12)**. "My paper examines the construction of female power in Buffy the Vampire Slayer, essentially presenting relational power as the true power in the series. I focused on using their relationships along with their supernatural power to defeat villains who often represent patriarchal institutions and modes of oppression."

Alma College faculty members also presented their research in a special series of sessions called "The Search for Meaning and Purpose in Life through the Liberal Arts."

Visiting Professor of Anthropology Megan McCullen presented a paper entitled "Everybody Mate Randomly: A Population Genetics Activity for the Introductory Classroom."

"The paper discussed an in-class activity that I have developed to teach Introductory Anthropology students the basics of Population Genetics, which is essential for understanding the development of our species over time," said McCullen.

"Using paper alleles, students produce offspring for several generations, over which we incorporate mutations, gene flow, genetic drift and natural selection."

Students then tracked the change in the class population on the board, allowing them to gain a clearer understanding of how the process of genetic change occurs in a population.

"By participating in an experiment that shows how the

different forces work upon a population, students get deeper comprehension of how population studies work," said McCullen. "This makes it easier for them to develop hypotheses about changes in human populations discussed later in the semester."

"Each year the location of the conference changes, but the basic purpose of the meeting stays the same: everyone is there to share their academic work, learn from each other, and engage in scholarly dialogue."
-Dolly Van Fossan ('11)

Professor of Sociology Timm Thorsen's also contributed a paper: "Meaning & Purpose: Culture, Wisdom and Liberal Education's Role."

"Our modern, now post-modern, world leads to an enormous increase in choices,"

said Thorsen. "Today's individual must seek purpose in a veritable tsunami of possibilities. Modern life, with visual, electronic media and low cultural context, conflicts with wise discernment. This is ultimately not sustainable; liberal arts education is necessary for meaningful action and purpose."

Based on the research presented, two awards will be given at next year's conference: one for Law and Public Policy, the Cohn prize, and the Ronald Kapp Undergraduate Award.

Kathleen Holstege of Lake Superior State University was the recipient of the Kapp Award for her 2010 Michigan Academy presentation on "The Varying Effects of Active and Passive Parental Involvement on Delinquency."

Next year, Alma College will host the conference.

"Each year the location of the conference changes, but the basic purpose of the meeting stays the same: everyone is there to share their academic work, learn from each other, and engage in scholarly dialogue," said Van Fossan.

U.S. debt ceiling: What does it mean?

By MASON WARLING
STAFF WRITER

The U.S. Treasury is running up against the national debt ceiling, and it's up to the new Congress to decide how the Treasury gets its breathing room, either by raising the ceiling, or allowing it to default on its loans. The national debt ceiling is an arbitrary amount, currently \$14.294 trillion, of debt that the U.S. Treasury can owe to other entities, including individuals, corporations and foreign governments. This debt is represented by U.S. Treasury Bonds, widely regarded to be the safest

investment one can make with one's money in the world. When the Treasury has issued bonds whose total value equals the national debt ceiling, it cannot legally continue to issue additional bonds until some of them are bought back, lowering the national debt below the ceiling, which is set by an act of Congress. The Treasury was recently expected to run out of bonds in mid-April, and Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner on Jan. 6 told lawmakers the U.S. could reach the congressionally imposed debt limit of nearly \$14.3 trillion as early as March 31 and probably no later than May 16. During the midterm elections, a slew of new Republican congressmen, many of whom were backed by the Tea Party, went to

Capitol Hill with the intent of slashing spending, and Speaker of the House John Boehner has made it clear that the Republicans will make it difficult for the Democrats who wish to raise the debt ceiling. With the deadline fast approaching, Republicans could force a government shutdown if they block the debt extension. If the Treasury does indeed run out of bonds, it will eventually have to default on some of them as people begin to attempt to collect on their bonds, seeing that the climb of U.S. debt has halted. To default on Treasury bonds would be catastrophic; the value of the bonds, oft-traded between third parties, would plummet, and, should the Treasury begin to issue bonds again, there would be

little demand for them as their credibility and signature reliability would be damaged by the default, much like your credit score should you default on a payment or loan. This would make it very problematic for the U.S. to acquire funds to pay for the sorts of things on which it spends money: law enforcement, the military, federal student aid, subsidizing health insurance, universities, and prisons. Should Congress raise the debt ceiling, the U.S. is in no danger of "running out of steam." As economist Paul Krugman so aptly put it, "the nation is not, in fact, 'broke.' The federal

government is having no trouble raising money, and the price of that money—the interest rate on federal borrowing—is very low by historical standards. So there's no need to scramble to slash spending now, now, now; we can and should be willing to spend now if it will produce savings in the long run." I hope you all enjoyed this brief lesson in macroeconomics. The national debt isn't some scary thing we need to kill right away: if we practice good long-term investment in our future through things like, oh, paying teachers, we will reap the benefits in the future.

Lent is a time for spring cleaning

By ELIZABETH CORBIN
STAFF WRITER

For Christians, Lent is a time for preparation and, in alignment with the tradition of spring cleaning, during this period we have the opportunity to declutter and to get our priorities straight. Doing so can help us in virtually every aspect of our lives, including our spiritual lives. I realized that I was desperately in need of this as I looked around my room. My desk was covered in a stack of papers that were a mixture of high importance and complete insignificance. Friends would come over so that we could spend time together and instead have to help me in attempting to locate whatever various item of the moment. I constantly found myself losing things and was in a horrible state of disarray. This is not how I normally am. On Ash Wednesday, I decided to begin tackling this mess and it made me feel much more

liberated from my own doings. Oftentimes, we want to hang on to those things that we don't really use but still feel may come in handy someday. But, more often than not, these things just pile up and become more of a burden than they are worth. Our possessions can come to own us if we are not careful. In an active attempt to lessen your stash, you can place these extra things in your hall's bathroom with a "please take me" sign. I did this often last year and my hall mates loved it. Others even decided to do the same. You could also ask friends if they would like to have any of these items or take them over to the thrift store downtown to be donated. I always find that getting rid of unnecessary clutter helps me to kind of breathe a little more easily. Other than material items, we also have the tendency to fill our time with activities that are relatively meaningless to us. Now, I'm not talking about

having to go to classes; I think the fact of us being here proves we agree that earning a degree is important. What I'm referring to are those various time commitments that we agree to even though we find ourselves unenthusiastic about them. These are the organizations that we join voluntarily and often for little reason at all. We really don't need to feel the need to do everything. Then there are also those obvious time wasters that are so easy to fall into, such as creeping on Facebook and watching television. We need to make time for the things that we truly value,

"We need to make time for the things that we truly value, along with ensuring that we don't find ourselves scrambling at the last moment to get assignments completed."
-Elizabeth Corbin ('12)

PUZZLE CORNER

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

Puzzle courtesy of dailysudoku.com

along with ensuring that we don't procrastinate and find ourselves scrambling at the last moment to get assignments completed. In addition to high levels of stress, I feel that the other major drawback to having a hectic schedule is that we are unable to pay attention to those around us. We begin to disregard our relationships, even though they should be at the top of our priorities list, and they correspondingly suffer.

One good thing that we can do is meditate on our lives for just a few minutes each day to contemplate where we currently are at and what we need to do to achieve our goals. It's easy to begin to feel as though we are drowning in the demands of our daily lives but there are ways that we can alleviate this feeling. With Lent and spring at hand, now is the perfect time to take action.

the Almanian.

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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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House GOP attempting to implement some crazy bills

By ELIZABETH CORBIN
STAFF WRITER

Lately, House Republicans have been proposing some absolutely crazy bills while, at the same time, eliminating funding for valuable organizations.

First off, I'm not one to side with Republicans or Democrats in matters.

In fact, I like to stay out of political party controversies and consider myself an independent.

However, what I'm trying to explain isn't even a matter of party alignment, and is instead an issue of common sense.

I really think, or at least hope, that any logical person would have to argue with the majority of things that our Republicans are

currently trying to get away with.

There has been a move to end Title X, which is the only federal program that provides our nation with family planning with priority to people of low income, and which helps prevent instances of generational poverty.

Republican congresspeople also aim to eliminate all federal funding for Planned Parenthood.

In addition to sexual health services, the organization also helps to provide general health care in our own nation and around the world.

Planned Parenthood definitely does a lot more than assist with abortions and provide access to birth control.

For some, the anti-abortion stigma is so strong that, in South Dakota, a bill has been proposed that would allow the relatives of a woman seeking an abortion to murder the doctor

performing the procedure.

Crazy, right?

Well, it's argued that it could be done out of defense for the life of an unborn child.

Thankfully, the nation strongly back-lashed against this idea when it was made public, but the fact that it was ever addressed should cause fear.

In the midst of all this, Republican Dan Burton of Indiana wants to pass a bill that will implement birth control for wild horses.

The irony is incomprehensible, but this isn't to say that wild horses don't need to have their reproduction put into check.

With the number of wild horses doubling about every four years, there simply are so many that they have been intentionally herded off cliffs in masses and gathered into pens to be slaughtered in order

"When women happen to be in danger of being denied the same necessities of birth control, one really needs to wonder what it means."

-Elizabeth Corbin ('12)

to control the population.

There's no denying that the situation is cruel and needs to be alleviated.

Burton himself stated that this would be the humane way of dealing with the situation.

But when women happen to be in danger of being denied the same necessities of birth control, one really needs to wonder what it means.

Republicans also intend to cut funding for Head Start by \$1 million.

Head Start is a preschool program that attempts to overcome the effects of poverty by providing education along with health and nutrition services to low-income families.

We have a Head Start on our own campus and it is indeed a valuable resource.

How could it be seen as a trivial way to spend money?

And this is just one instance of planned decreases in education funding although education is what can help move our country forward.

With the federal budget being five months overdue of the original announcement date, the newly proposed deadline is April 18.

Hopefully, House Republicans have been using this extra time to instill a bit more common sense into the decisions that will be made.

Strange fringe laws popping up across the country

By MASON WARLING
STAFF WRITER

Here are a few things you probably haven't seen in the news yet: state lawmakers around the country are considering, or recently considered, bills that would make it legal to hunt and kill doctors who perform abortions, implement the death sentence on women who miscarry, and make it a first-degree felony to photograph or take movie footage of farms.

Wait, what?

Is any of that shocking to you?

I hope so, because these are the kinds of extremist fringe laws that freshmen state legislators are pushing in states like South

Dakota, Georgia and Florida that run flagrantly in the face of our rights as American citizens.

We'll start by examining the first of these strange proposed laws: The South Dakota "kill all the abortion doctors" bill.

This bill, sponsored by State Representative Phil Jensen, a committed foe of abortion rights, alters the state's legal definition of justifiable homicide by adding language stating that a homicide is permissible if committed by a person "while resisting an attempt to harm that woman's fetus or the fetus of that woman's spouse, partner, parent, or child."

This law effectively makes it so that if women were to go to a clinic and mention that she was considering an abortion and enter into counseling, her family would

"Georgia State Rep. Bobby Franklin... has now introduced a 10-page bill that would criminalize miscarriages and make abortion in Georgia illegal."

-Mason Warling ('14)

be allowed to kill the doctor she was consulting with, construing it as "resisting an attempt to harm" the woman's fetus.

Thankfully, this radical law has been tabled indefinitely in the South Dakota House, a move that effectively dismisses the crazy law until someone wants to bring it up again.

The next law comes to us

from the Peach State, Georgia.

Georgia State Rep. Bobby Franklin—who last year proposed making rape and domestic violence "victims" into "accusers"—has now introduced a 10-page bill that would criminalize miscarriages and make abortion in Georgia completely illegal.

Both miscarriages and abortions would be potentially punishable by death.

Any "prenatal murder" in the words of the bill, including "human involvement" in a miscarriage, would be a felony and carry a penalty of life in prison or death.

The last of our strange laws this week comes to us from the great state of Florida.

A bill submitted by Florida State Senator Jim Norman would make photographing

a farm a first-degree felony unless the photographer has prior written permission, according to the Florida Tribune.

The law is designed to make it illegal for journalists or filmmakers to obtain footage of factory farms and animal pens that are a staple of anti-meat media.

The law is undoubtedly ineffectual and harsh: if it's illegal in Florida, why wouldn't you just go to any of the other tons of states where there are thousands of square miles of feed lots to film, rather than risk the massive fines and jail time?

The law supposedly "protects farmer privacy," but trespass law is apparently not enough?

Moral of the story?

Watch who you vote for, or we'll end up with laws like these in Michigan, too.

Following the Beat with Ben King: Fun St. Patrick's Day activities, other celebrations

By BEN KING
GUEST WRITER

With Saint Patrick's Day coming just around the corner, one should take a moment to look at all the fun and exciting ways to celebrate this holiday.

With spring break behind us, many students seem to be disappointed with returning to their studies.

They think fondly upon their days off and the enjoyable time they had over their breaks.

However, it is important to remember that there are scores of small and not as well-known holidays that college students can partake in, in an attempt to

break away from a monotonous lifestyle.

Wearing clothing with green coloring is perhaps the most common way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

It is painfully easy and exceptionally cost effective: almost everyone has at least one article of green clothing in his or her wardrobe.

Wearing the color green for this event is a reminder to the wearer that not every day is the same and almost every day can be a celebration of some sort.

There so many lesser-known holidays that individuals can celebrate in order to brighten up their daily lives.

St. Urho's Day is a great example of a holiday that anyone can celebrate.

The Finnish-American holiday of St. Urho's Day is said to have originated in the town of Virginia, Minnesota.

Local lore and legend suggests that in the mid-1950s on St. Patrick's Day, several individuals of Finnish ancestry concocted their own saint to celebrate.

They claimed the St. Urho, like St. Patrick, was the hero of their homeland.

Urho is said to have driven all of the locusts and grasshoppers from the nation of Finland, ridding the country of the insects and saving the harvest from destruction.

St. Urho's Day is celebrated in areas of the U.S. with large Finnish populations.

These celebrations can be found in the Upper Peninsula, northern Wisconsin,

Montana, and Minnesota.

"The colors of St. Urho are purple and green" stated St. Urho historian and enthusiast Thomas Golden.

Golden further stated that, "[anyone] wishing to celebrate St. Urho's day should wear purple and green on March 16 of any year."

However, a true St. Urho enthusiast will remember St. Urho's creed, "Heinäsirkka, heinäsirkka, mene täältä hiiteen!"

This creed which St. Urho shouted when driving the locusts from Finland translates

"Almost every day can be an extraordinary or special day if one makes it that!"

-Ben King ('14)

to "Grasshopper, grasshopper, go from hence to hell!"

So whether you are a diehard St. Patrick's Day enthusiast and will sport green and memorabilia related to Ireland on March 17 or if you are one to try new things and will celebrate St. Urho's Day on March 16, remember to take the time and celebrate every day.

Almost every day can be an extraordinary or special day if one makes it that!

So, enjoy the holidays that come around.

Celebrating is always a fun experience so one should take these opportunities whenever they arise.

And remember, the next time a grasshopper crosses your path don't forget to say St. Urho's creed.

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

Baseball team starts training in South Carolina for spring season

By TARYN HANDYSIDE
STAFF WRITER

The Alma men's baseball team started its training for the spring season in Myrtle Beach, S.C. The Scots came home with one win and three losses; they defeated College of Staten Island 1-0, but fell short to Ohio Northern, Christopher Newport and Penn State-Burke.

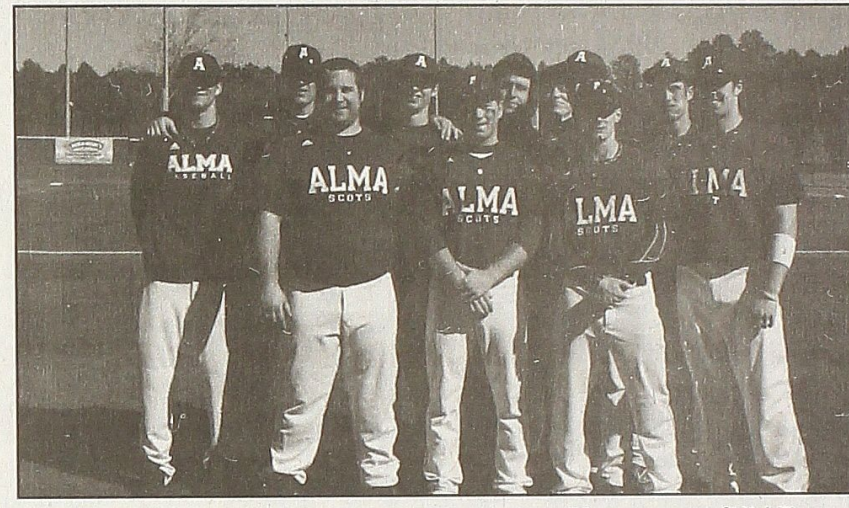
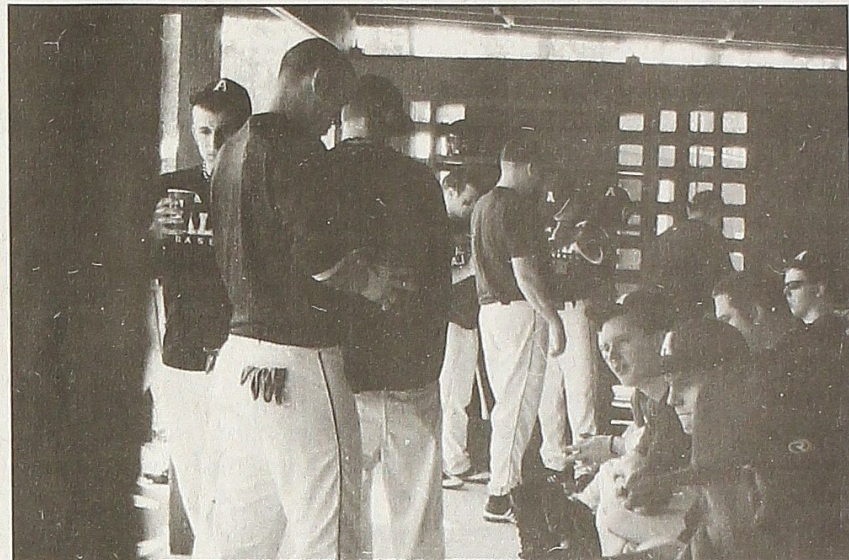
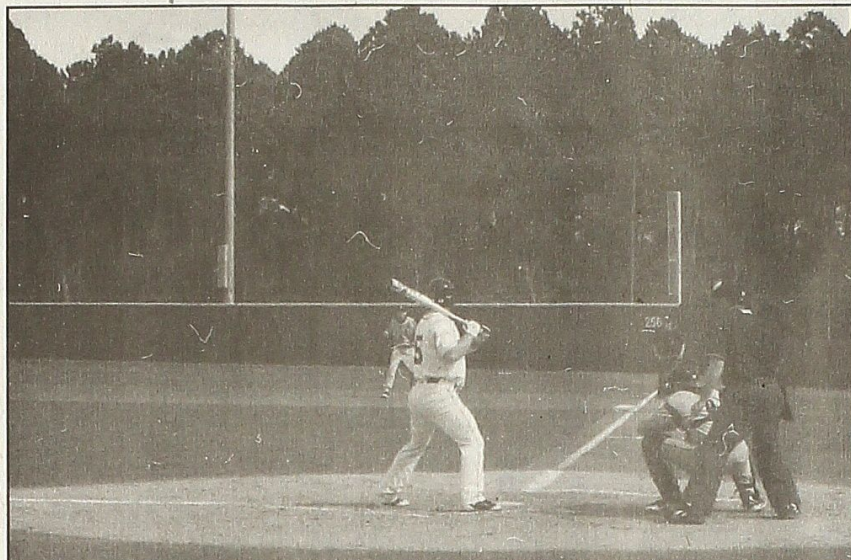
Regardless of the losses, baseball team members says that their trip to Myrtle Beach was definitely worth it.

"During our trip we bonded on our 18 hour bus ride, spent a large portion of our time at the field working on our fundamentals and had 10 games between JV and varsity," Nick Townsend ('11) said.

"It was nice to finally get outside and see live pitching because in the gym it's a completely different feel but we really struggled with that transition," said Micah Parshall ('12). "The more games we can play outside the better."

Leading the team for the fourth year is head coach and Assistant Athletic Director Judd Folske. He took the position after being an assistant coach for two years. He has also coached at Central Michigan University, Saginaw Valley State University and Ferris State University and has been named the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Coach of the Year seven times.

The team believes that strengths this year will truly show once games begin. Hoping to improve their 2010 records (6-22 MIAA; 10-30 overall) the men are banking on pitching, team



Photos courtesy of Nick Townsend

The men's baseball team began their spring training in South Carolina during the week of spring break.

chemistry, determination and leadership to get them through.

"As of right now it looks like pitching is going to be a big strength for us this season," Richard Schreiber ('12) said.

While the eleven seniors are planning on finishing their career on a high note, the rest of the team is also anticipating a winning season.

"The thing I'm looking most forward to is seeing which freshman and transfer students

are going to step up and scrap for playing time after only losing one senior last season," Parshall said.

"We are working on [pitchers fielding practice] because if there is one error by any pitcher all season than we have problems," he said.

A lot of the work the men put into Myrtle Beach was in preparation for their games in Greencastle, IN that they played last Saturday.

Prior to games against DePauw

University and Manchester College the players talked about their hopes and expectations.

"We really don't know much about DePauw but I think that if we play our A-game we can come out of our Indiana trip with a couple of nice wins," Schreiber said.

"We can beat anyone—we showed that last year—but we are a different team this year and are now working towards consistently beating the teams we should,"

added Townsend. "We hope to start this trend in Indiana."

The Scots came home with two, 13-4 and 9-1, losses against DePauw. "I'm looking forward to seeing how well we are going to be playing once we get into conference play and see how hard we are going to be competing in all of our games," Schreiber said.

The baseball team will travel to Eastern Michigan University for a 2 p.m. game on Friday.

Spotlight: McCue leads women's tennis

By ADAM MUNCY
STAFF WRITER

Abby McCue ('11) returned for the 2011 season as the lone senior and captain of the Alma College women's tennis team.

McCue came to Alma College from Bay City Western. As a Warrior, McCue began playing tennis at the age of 16 during her junior year of high school, after a brief basketball career. She was also a thrower in track and field.

"My brother has really been the one to push me through on sticking with tennis, even when it becomes very frustrating," said McCue. "I am also motivated because of my high school tennis coach; she is the one who encouraged me to play and it is because of her that I am playing now."

Following in her brother's footsteps, McCue decided to go to Alma College and continue her career on the court.

"I enjoyed playing tennis, so when I was looking at schools I got a hold of Coach Fox and met with him and I decided to give it a try," said McCue. "I chose Alma because my brother went here and we are really close."

McCue is studying in the

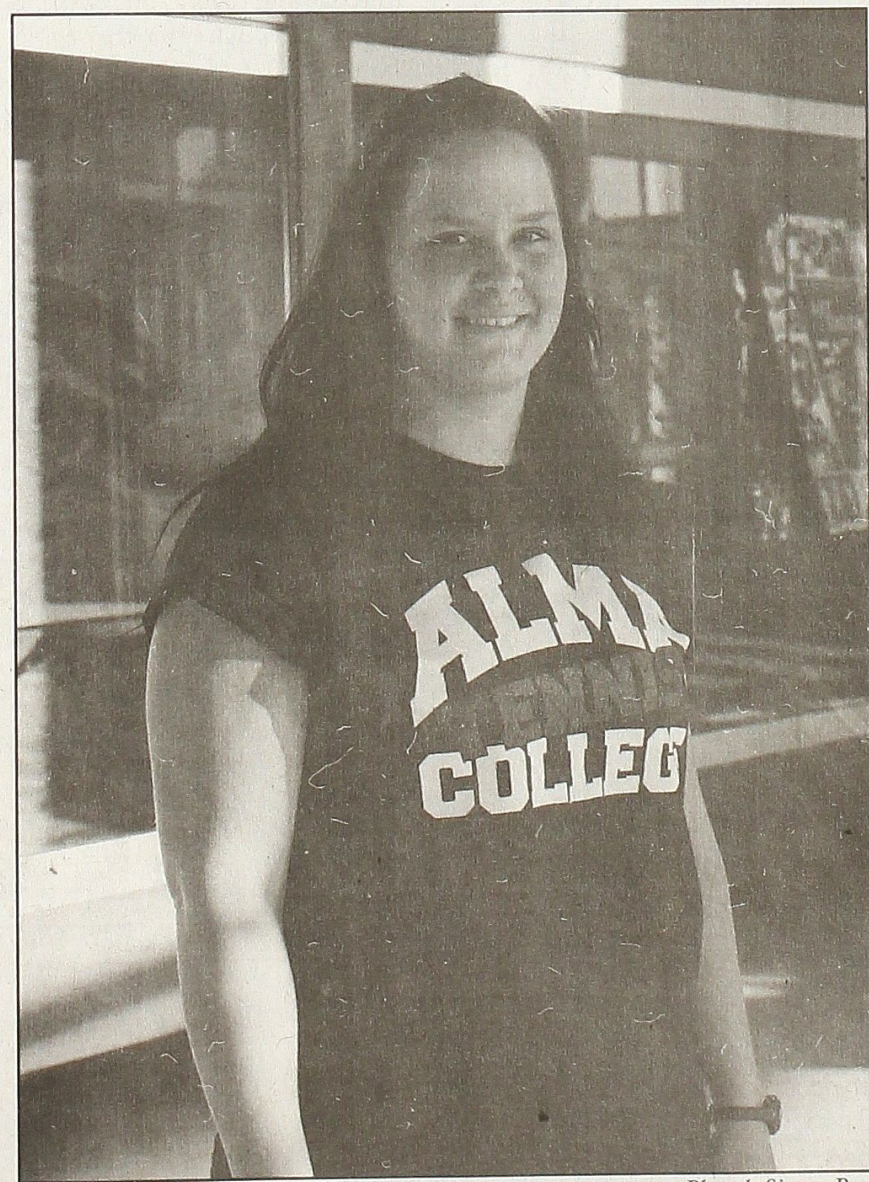


Photo by Simone Boos

Abby McCue ('11) stands in front of the trophy display case in the Art Smith Arena. McCue is the only senior on the women's tennis team this year.

sciences as she is currently working toward her biology major. After graduation her goal is to enroll in a physician assistant program. She would like to specialize and work with trauma patients.

"I am the senior captain and I want to give motivation to the younger players."
-Abby McCue ('11)

"I work better under pressure and I love that kind of stuff," said McCue of her future career.

McCue has been an athlete and part of the women's tennis team for the entirety of her tenure at Alma. Tennis has provided a great way for her to ease the stress of school and it has opened her to new friendships that she may not have had otherwise, she says. McCue also credits tennis for her growth as an athlete.

"I have definitely improved over the course of my four years here at Alma," said McCue. "I have worked hard during the whole year. I enjoy playing and have pushed myself not only for me, but also for my team."

McCue said that during her free time she likes to socialize

and spend time with the other members of both the men's and women's tennis teams. She also loves to read at night as it provides a means to get her mind off of school and functions as a sleep-aid. Regardless of what she is doing during leisure hours, she says her mind is still on improving as a tennis player as the member of a very close team.

"I want us to be good my senior year and I figured if I could make myself better it would also help the team," said McCue. "I am the senior captain and I want to give motivation to the younger players. I believe we have all improved since our fall practices so we are headed in the right direction."

"I enjoy playing and have pushed myself not only for me, but also for my team."

-Abby McCue ('11)

Looking ahead, the Lady Scots will travel to Midland where they face the Saginaw Valley State University Cardinals on Friday. The women will begin MIAA play as they host the Trine University Thunder on Saturday Mar. 26, at 1 p.m.

Women's softball starts season with a 9-2 record

By ADAM MUNCY
STAFF WRITER

Alma College softball finished spring training in Clermont, Fla., with a final record of 9-2.

The team began winning on Sunday Feb. 27 as the Scots defeated Augustana College with a seventh inning comeback. The ladies won 3-2.

Alma trailed 2-0 after the first inning but in the seventh **Louise Rezmer ('13)**, **Kayla Smart ('13)**, pinch-hitter **Erin Pintek ('12)**, and **Lauren Davis ('12)** each hit singles. The Scots scored the winning run as **Chelsea Jensen ('11)** punched a ground ball that scored pinch-runner **Grace Westerman ('14)** from third.

"There wasn't really a particular game that stood out during the week," said **Tara Leddy ('11)** "However, before we started out our week in Florida we had a chance to hear softball great Dot Richardson. She gave us a very inspiring talk and the things that she mentioned affected our performance on the field throughout the whole week. That event really defined how our team wants to be this year."

In the night-cap of the double header, the lady Scots defeated regional competitor Hanover College 11-3. **Brittany Gryns ('11)** picked up the win while **Amanda Schneider ('13)**

led Alma with three hits. Gryns had 10 strikeouts and allowed only four hits in the contest.

Alma also faced nationally ranked Messiah College on Tuesday, Feb. 28, where they lost 7-6. In the second game the Scots defeated Widener University by a 12-0 count. Leddy helped to pick up another win while the Scots had 14 hits in 4 innings of offense.

"Our pitching staff is strong and experienced," said Smart. "We have three solid pitchers who are going to be a major bonus going into every game this year. Our batting line-up has the key components that are important in a game: power, contact hitters and speed on the bases. If a player gets on base, we can count on the next batters to bring them in."

The Scots picked up three more wins on Mar. 1.

In a rematch with Widener University, the Scots prevailed with two runs in the seventh to win 8-6. Not long after, they tallied another victory against midday opponent Marywood College; they won via the mercy-rule in five innings by a score of 9-1. Rezmer picked up the win allowing only two hits while striking out seven.

"Defensively, we have a strong infield with speed and range in the outfield," said Smart. "We also have great catchers behind the plate with strong arms, good communication and the



Photo courtesy of Tara Leddy

The women's softball team poses for a picture in Clermont, Florida where they began spring training.

mentality that our team needs to keep us playing smoothly."

In the Scots' final game of the day, the ladies defeated regional opponent Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in a 9-0 shutout. Leddy threw a no-hitter through four innings and allowed only three in the game finishing with 12 strikeouts.

Alma College faced Augustan

College in the first of two contests on Mar. 3 and won 4-3. The women lost the second game to St. Xavier University, 6-1.

"We have one of the closest teams that we've had in a few years and you can see what effects that has when we play on the field," said Leddy. "Everyone is picking each other up and has great intensity. Hopefully,

this carries throughout the season because it does make a big impact on the field."

Mar. 4 concluded the Alma softball team's spring training as the ladies won both games defeating St. Xavier, 10-4, and Johnson and Wales University, 8-0. The Scots open their regular season on Wednesday as they host Bluffton College at Scots Park.

Men's tennis begins rough

By TARYN HANDYSIDE
STAFF WRITER

The Alma men's tennis team traveled with the women's squad to Orlando, Fla. for its spring training.

During their time in Florida, the men went 2-4, defeating Hanover College 6-3 and Capital University 7-2. The Scots came up short against Concordia College, Augustana College, Ohio Northern University and Webber International.

"Our Florida trip was a little rough; we certainly didn't come away with as many wins as we would have liked, but it still

created a great team dynamic and lots of camaraderie," said **Zach Kerr ('11)**. "That is important for us, even though most of what we play is an individual sport."

"We played a lot of great teams in Florida," added **Kace Lovejoy ('11)**. "We really got to know each other off the court, which will help us later when we are playing."

The men said it was different for them to hit on hard courts, as opposed to the usual indoor surface.

"As a team we are very dedicated to the sport," said **Josh Gove ('14)**. "We are getting better each day at practice and really working together on the court for doubles and encouraging each other during matches."

With only two seniors,

one junior, two sophomores and four freshmen, the team considers itself to be very young.

"Our biggest strength is that we are very competitive and new. More than half of our team is made up of a solid core of freshmen," Lovejoy said.

With an overall record of 9-14 and 1-5 in the MIAA in the 2010 spring season, the team members say they are excited for this year.

"I am looking forward to league matches," said **Mark Hotz ('14)**. "Our team should be able to finish in the top half and be more competitive than in years past."

The team is working hard on different aspects of the game during practice to improve for this spring season.

"We have focused a lot on

doubles play and strategy because that is something we are not as experienced in but we also work on fitness in order to stay tough during long matches," Gove said.

The men's team traveled to Davenport University last Saturday and came out with a loss, 7-2, which put the Scots record at 3-6 for the season.

"Davenport will be a tough team, but I think that we have the talent to beat them," said Kerr.

The men will host the Alma/Trine Challenge Cup on Saturday at 10 a.m.

"Team bonding and just enjoying the trip to Florida will be the key to our success," said Gove. "We got to have a lot of fun and now we can take that positivity onto the court."

Staying on top of the game: This week in sports

Women's Softball: Wednesday vs. Bluffton College at HOME

Men's Baseball: Saturday vs. Goshen College at HOME



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