

BY LAUREN ANDALORA  
STAFF WRITER

"There are many great old buildings in Alma not in use which could be renovated to help





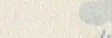




*Devin Brines: Staff Photographer*

"First, growing personal and professional. We want to fund internships and guarantee students some form of internship opportunity during their four years," he said. "Second, college growth, bringing more students to Alma and spreading awareness of our great school. And finally, sustainability -- utilizing the downtown, and renovation versus building from scratch."

He came to New York in 2001, where he is now a professional speaker and president of the John Dau Foundation, a cause devoted to building medical

While on campus, Dau will host three events. There will be a workshop on Wednesday from

Dau is the subject of the documentary "God Grew Tired of Us," and his memoir is published under the same title. Both are available at the Alma College library.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						
Thunder- storm 67°	Thunder- storm 61°	Showers 64°	Partly Cloudy 68°	Few Showers 57°	Partly Cloudy 55°	Sunny 60°



## CROP Walk returns for 29th consecutive year

By ERIN STONE  
STAFF WRITER

The CROP Walk, an ongoing event across the country, is now about to take place at Alma for its 29<sup>th</sup> year in a row. This is not only for the community, but it is also for the students of Alma College to participate in.

The CROP Walk was founded in 1969. The acronym "CROP" was given to the group in 1947 and stands for Christian Rural Overseas Program. The main mission was for the Midwest to share grain with Europe after World War II. This acronym was sponsored by the Christian World Service.

Today, the CROP Walk is an actual 5k walk that takes place across the country. The first ever CROP Walk was held on October 17, 1969, in Bismarck, North Dakota, where 1,000 people raised \$25,000. Currently, over 2,000 communities have CROP Walks, and 1,600 of these are held per year. More than 5 million walkers have been in more than 36,000 CROP Walks in the last 20 years.

**Jenny Campfield ('13)** is very involved in the CROP Walk. As an RA, a member of Phi Sigma Sigma, and a very active member of the Chapel, she has a lot on her plate.

Many student organizations are involved, such as Amnesty International, LBB, and the Chapel. You can join the Alma College team online, make a profile, and it only takes 15 minutes. People can donate to your

cause as well. The first 100 Alma College walkers will automatically raise \$10 towards the cause.

Mary Anne Justin, who has lived here since 1985, is also greatly involved in the CROP Walk. She has been a pastor at the Rosebush Presbyterian Church since 1996. That is when she became involved with the CROP Walk. She's also served on the Regional Advisory Board for CROP/CWO for 8 years and wrote a children's school curriculum on hunger issues called "Build a Better World".

Justin has been involved in the Isabella, Clare, and Gratiot Counties CROP Walks. She served on committees to help revive the CROP Walk in Gratiot County.

The first one was in 1972, and the next two were in 1979 and 1980. Then, in 1986, the walk began being held annually. She's been serving on the organizing committee from 1986-1995, and as a chairperson from 1988-1993 for Gratiot County.

In 2007, Justin began serving the Presbyterian Church in Ithaca, and returned to working on the Gratiot County CROP Walk. This is her third year chairing the organizing committee.

Last year, 114 people walked, nine people volunteered behind the scenes, and \$19,853 was raised, an amount that was only slightly less than the record of \$20,046 in 2000. Two-hundred and thirty seven people was the high in 2001. Overall, \$363,250 has been raised through the Alma CROP Walks.

This year, the goal is to

recruit 200 walkers in order to raise \$25,000. A challenge grant has been given specifically related to Alma College student walkers, so it is up to us to help us reach those goals.

"With unemployment in Michigan at record high levels and housing foreclosures still escalating, the need for food assistance is great right here," said Justin. "Twenty-five percent of the money raised will stay in Gratiot County to meet hunger needs."

"Seventy-five percent assists people worldwide when disaster strikes—such as the current flooding in the Northeast—and in the 40 poorest countries of the world where long-term food and water sustainability projects are supported through partnerships with other non-governmental aid agencies."

Of all the Walk fundraisers held by non-profits in the U.S., CROP spends the least amount of money. The organization spends less than 10 percent on overhead expenses and that percentage comes from non-walk income so that all the funds raised by walks are used to feed hungry people.

If you would like to participate in the CROP Walk, it is Oct. 2 and it starts at 1:15 p.m. at the College Corner Bookstore. You will walk to the Alma Library for opening ceremonies and you just might win a t-shirt and a pin, just for showing up and raising over \$150. Campfield also created a Facebook event, so you should keep an eye out for that as well.

## This week at Alma College

### Monday, September 26:

"The J-Spot: A Sex Educator Tells All" at 6 p.m. in the Heritage Center

### Tuesday, September 27:

Yoga and Pilates Class at 8 a.m. in the Stone Recreational Center

Cardio Dance at 5:30 p.m. in the Stone Recreational Center

Rock Climbing Wall Open at 6 p.m. in the Stone Recreational Center

### Wednesday, September 28:

SIFE Financial Health Workshop at 8 p.m. in SAC 113

"John Bul Dau: Journey to Leadership" at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center

### Thursday, September 29:

"Put Time On Your Side: Time Management and Organization Workshop" at 6 p.m. in the Academic and Career Planning Office (e-mail payovichn@alma.edu to register)

"Eat Healthy Challenge" all day at all campus dining facilities

### Friday, September 30:

"Evolution of Dance: Judson Laipply" at 9 p.m. in the Chapel

## A look inside Student Congress

By LAUREN ANDALORA  
STAFF WRITER

At Alma College, students who serve as representatives for organizations meet weekly for Student Congress sessions where they vote on constitutions, contingency requests, and discuss issues important to them.

The Student Congress is led by the Executive Committee, which consists of a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer elected by the student body.

"I ran for president because I wanted to have a say in when, how, and what gets done," said Student Congress President **Shane Douglas ('11)**. "I love being involved and I wanted to be an active voice for the people."

Members of the Executive Committee have many responsibilities that come with their positions.

"I am on the board for Student Life, I oversee committees and budget management, I serve on the Strategic Planning Taskforce for presidential plans regarding campus, I have weekly meetings with the VP of Student Life Dr. Piccolo, and I'm the go-to-guy if you have a problem," said Douglas. "I love expressing opinions to admissions but I want to have more students come in and raise issues."

As Student Congress President, Douglas works with students and administration to make changes to the campus.

"I want to be accessible to students and push issues forward quickly," said Douglas. "Recently

I have been working with Sodexo to see if we can get foods more reflective of students' tastes, we've ordered 30 bike racks for campus, and I've been working with administration to see if Alma could have gender-neutral housing as proposed by Jessica Alexander."

Students can visit the fan page for Student Congress on Facebook, e-mail [acongress@alma.edu](mailto:acongress@alma.edu), or come to the office inside Hamilton Commons to make suggestions of their own.

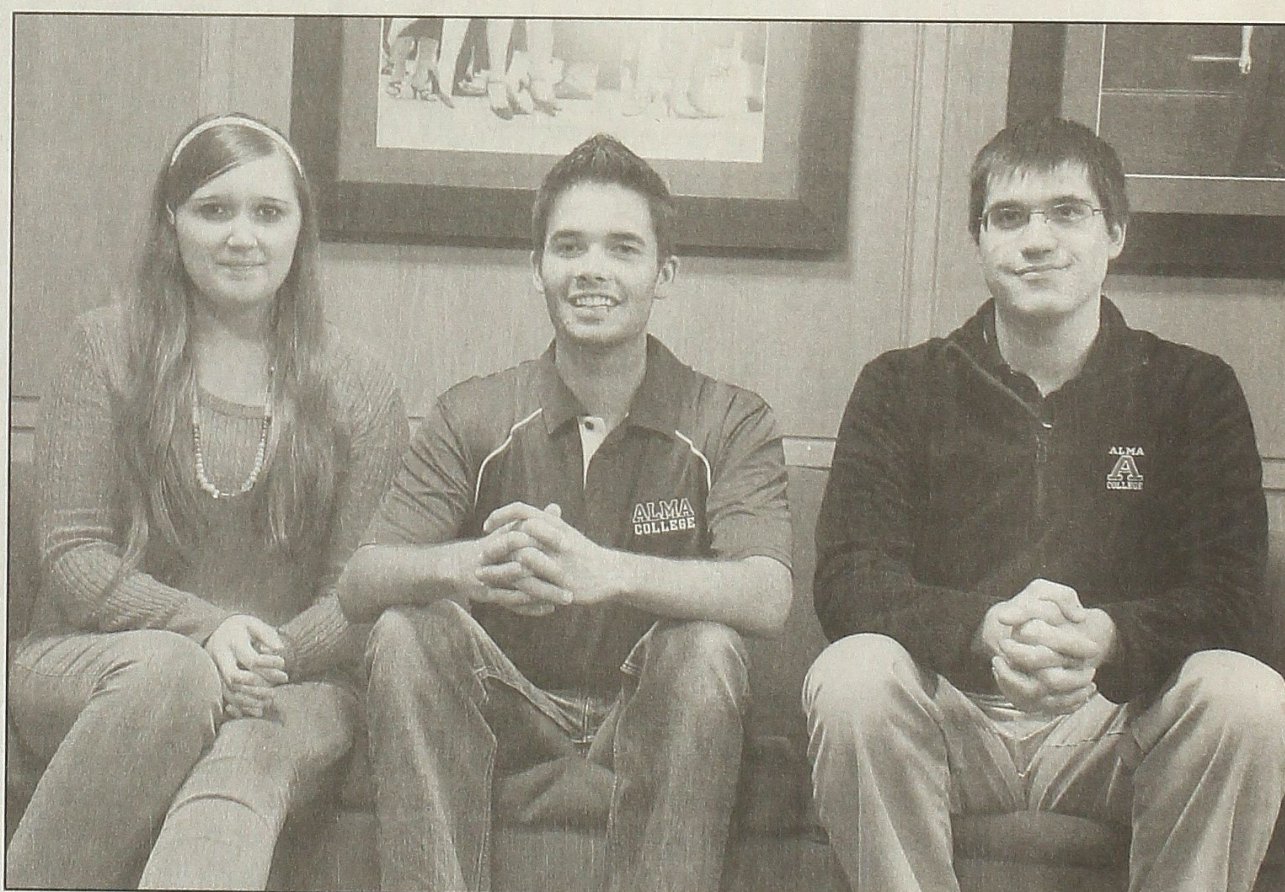
"I thought being on the Executive Council of Student Congress would put me in a position where I could try my hardest to make Alma College the best it can be," said Student Congress Vice President **Kelsey Allen ('12)**. "Additionally, I thought I would enjoy the duties of the Vice President—helping prospective new students with the process of becoming a new organization and drafting a constitution."

Allen desires to "encourage active participation in meetings" and "strengthen communication with various departments in the college."

"One of my goals is to strengthen Student Congress' capacity to serve as an effective vehicle for student input," said Allen. "I want Student Congress to hold people accountable when troubles arise, while at the same time allowing them to share with students what they've been working on."

Students can become members of the Executive Committee before they are seniors.

"I ran for treasurer because



Gwenevere Mueller ('14), Shane Douglass ('11), and Bryan Scheiber ('11) make up three of the four member positions on the Executive Board.

I've worked for a number of businesses and I own and operate a business in southeast Michigan. I wanted to take that experience and apply my talents to help the college and organizations save money, become more efficient in their budgeting process and improve our financial situation," said Student Congress Treasurer **Bryan Scheiber ('11)**. "As a business and computer science double major, this is also a good fit for my talents and interests."

Some duties of the treasurer include managing the Student Congress budget and

student organization funding. **Gwenevere Mueller ('14)** ran for secretary "to make a difference in how students have a voice in decision-making at Alma College."

"Plus I aspire to be a lawyer and possibly U.S. Senator within the next 10 or 15 years, and I'm very interested in politics and constitutional research," said Mueller. "For this college, I hope to be a role model to all students and encourage them to join organizations and become involved in any way they can."

Students can express concerns about dormitories, desires to

have speakers come to Alma, fill out comment cards in SAGA, and more, according to Mueller.

"Student Congress is not about distributing money and punishing students who do not attend meetings; it's about listening and responding to what students have to say," said Mueller. "This college should be oriented around the students, and Student Congress aims, supports and makes that happen."

Student Congress meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in SAC 113. Students are free to come and observe the proceedings.

Kayla Roy: Photo Editor

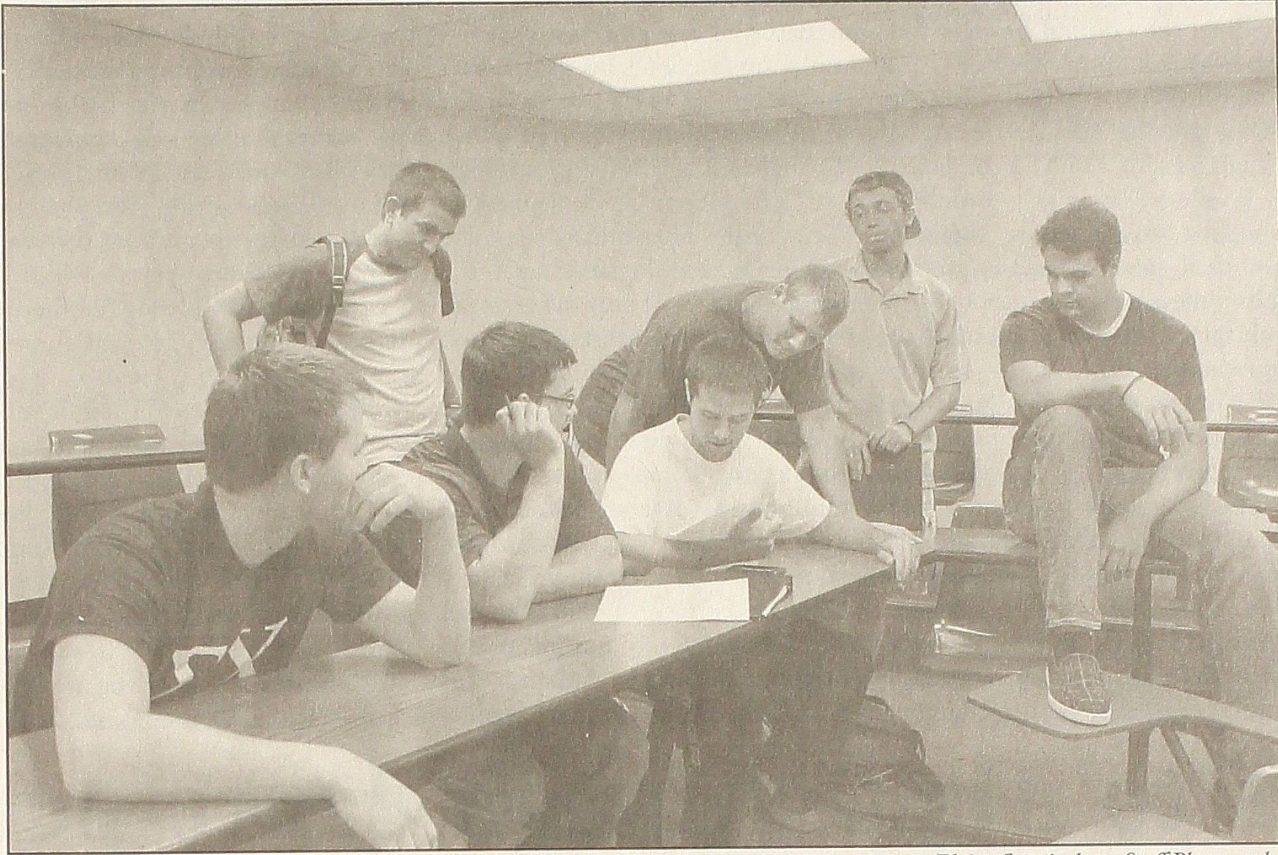


## New planning committee aims to improve Alma College Greek life

By ERIN STONE  
STAFF WRITER

Alma College has had a Greek life program for many years. Lately, however, there have been some weak points as well as some declines in enrollment. A few changes are being implemented this year in an attempt to move Greek life forward. There's a new and currently unnamed planning committee that is committed to keeping a positive outlook on the sororities

***"It is important for the students and faculty that are not Greek to realize what we do."***  
-Courtney Clafin ('12)



Elaine Cunningham: Staff Photographer

The new Greek life planning committee will meet once a week to go beyond what the Panhellenic Council and the Interfraternal Council (pictured above) currently discuss

('14) from Gamma Phi Beta. For the fraternities, Asa Smalley ('14) from Tau Kappa Epsilon and Will Johnson ('13) from Sigma Alpha Epsilon were elected to the panel during a separate meeting.

This new committee will be responsible for making decisions for the good of Greek life as a whole, as well as making improvements to make sure it remains a positive experience. It is believed that it will consist

of the four students elected, the president of the IFC, and the president of the Panhellenic Council. They will be meeting with President Abernathy and a committee once per week, as well as writing proposals about Greek life-related issues.

Courtney Clafin ('12), the president of Phi Sigma Sigma, was an attendee at the Panhellenic Meeting. She joined the sorority as a freshman in the winter

semester of 2009. She has no doubt that this new committee will do its best to erase the negative stigma that a lot of Greeks have obtained from the media. It will help the rest of the campus, both students and faculty, to see what Greek life is really about, she says.

"It is important for the students and faculty that are not Greek to realize what we do," said Clafin. "We aren't just doing this for fun. It is a large part

of our lives and our experience at Alma College. Not only is it great for networking for our future careers, it also helps us gain leadership and social skills." "Greek life is not for everyone, but for those who really

***"Greek life is not for everyone, but for those that really experience it, they love it and it can change their lives."***  
-David Blanford  
Student Life President

experience it, they love it and it can change their lives," said David Blanford, the campus life director.

In the end, Greek life at Alma will continue to move forward. Although enrollment has been down, and although fraternities and sororities often get stereotyped negatively, the college is determined to make a change for the better. The new committee hopes to lighten that load.

You can "Soar into Greek Life" with Fall Recruitment 2011. It officially begins on Oct. 2 and "Walk-Outs" will be the following Tuesday.

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are welcome to participate and tour the respective sorority houses.

For more information, look for list-signing in SAGA or contact the Student Life office.

## Leaders celebrate College Corner Coffee and Books

By ELLEN MARTIN  
STAFF WRITER

The grand opening of College Corner Coffee and Books was more than just an ordinary celebration: it marked a milestone in the history of Alma College.

***"We're excited that the store is now complete. It is a symbol of the college's connection to the community."***

-President Jeff Abernathy

Recently, the college has been making the effort to connect itself more closely with the community. One way by which it wanted to strengthen this connection was by creating a

***"I like how it intermixes both the college and the community. It's a good idea."***

-Jane Knowles, co-owner of Stucchi's



Devin Brines: Staff Photographer

President Jeff Abernathy, Mike and Jane Knowles, Alli Meurer ('12) and Donna Sinclair pose with Scotty at the grand opening.

business, Alma College purchased its building on the northeast corner of Superior Street and Wright Avenue with the plan to incorporate both Stucchi's and the college bookstore in one location.

"We envision a space that reaches out to both students and community members," President Jeff Abernathy said of the store before its completion earlier this year.

Today, College Corner is just that. With delicious food, a chance to shop for college apparel and books, and a place to just "hang out," both students and people from the community feel welcome.

"We're excited that the store is now complete," states President Abernathy. "It is a symbol of the college's connection to the community."

**CONTINUED ON PG. 4**



## Sex educator Jay Friedman to discuss health and sexuality

By RYAN HERZOG  
FREELANCE WRITER

Sex and humor are known as the most entertaining elements of a show; Jay Friedman's brings both.

Friedman, a certified sex educator and public speaker, will visit Alma Monday for his show, "The J-Spot: A Sex Educator Tells All." Friedman will provide his audience a combination of sexual education and stand-up comedy, according to Anne Lambrecht, counselor at the Health and Wellness Center.

As a professional public entertainer and certified sex educator, Friedman has spoken all over the world, discussing sex and various related topics.

"People call me a sexual provocateur," says Friedman. "My performance is at times

personal, philosophical, political, and prophetic. The storytelling, the cultural observations, the predictions—they're all relevant to the students' lives, getting them to perk up, laugh a lot, and also learn."

Friedman is an expert on modern sexual issues, including political and cultural aspects. His message is intended to educate people about the misconceptions and realities of sex in this day and age.

"Unfortunately, we live in a sex-negative, sex-repressed, and sex-phobic society which has trouble talking about sex and which provides inadequate sex education," says Friedman. "My goal is to give a thought-provoking, conversation-creating and perhaps life-changing

performance that breaks the taboos in talking about sex."

Based in Seattle, Friedman not only speaks, but he also writes on modern sexual issues and runs a radio talk show in which he gives relationship advice.

"The J-Spot: A Sex Educator Tells All" is similar to "The Vagina Monologues" in the sense that it provides an insightful and entertaining look into sex and sexuality," says Lambrecht. "He brings a frank, upbeat message that addresses important sexual issues widely ignored by society and culture."

As a counselor for Alma College and member of the Healthy Choices Week committee, Lambrecht is committed to bringing mental health and awareness to everyone on campus.

"Not only does he talk about sex in terms of being 'intercourse,' he also talks about sex as being 'outercourse,' meaning that sex just doesn't happen in the bedroom; it's something that is connected to the whole relationship," says Lambrecht. "Friedman's show teaches us all how to have better, healthier relationships."

Student Life, the Women's Issues Advisory Board, and the Counseling Health and Wellness Center endorsed Friedman's visit to campus.

The talk is part of the events in "Healthy Choices Week," a week full of events promoting mental health and awareness. Lambrecht says this speech will "hopefully be a great kickoff to the rest of the week."

Healthy Choices Week will

have events every day, with each day containing different themes on healthy choices, such as physical or financial health.

Events on the schedule will include a "Time Management and Organization Workshop," and a returning appearance of Judson Laipply, star of the "Evolution of Dance" video featured on www.YouTube.com. More information on these and other events is available on the "Healthy Choices Week" flyers posted around campus.

"The J-Spot: A Sex Educator Tells All" is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 26 at 8 p.m. It will be in Presbyterian Hall of the Heritage Center. Any questions can be directed to the Counseling Health and Wellness Center, located next to the Mail Center.

## Asia comes to Alma through dance performance

By KELSEY BLADES  
STAFF WRITER

The past week has been one unlike any other for Alma College as it played host to its first-ever Asian guests, the 31-member Tainan University of Technology Dance Company.

"This was a very valuable opportunity for our dance program, [and also] a great opportunity for all students," said President Jeff Abernathy. "[The experience] was really exciting... and the whole town feels different [because of their presence]."

The dance company, comprised of 26 college-age students and five teachers, arrived in the evening of Friday, September 16. Their first weekend was spent getting to know their host families and was rounded off with a welcome barbecue at President Abernathy's home. Other guests included the host families, the Alma College Dance Company, and coordinators and professors Chih-Ping Chen and Carol Fike.

The visitors' week at the college was packed with activities and events such as dance classes, rehearsals, and a meet-and-greet. The Taiwanese students offered some dance classes and became more familiar with some Western styles of dance, such as modern dance, ballet, Zumba, and Highland dance.

"We had tap on the schedule [to teach them], but we decided to teach them jazz because none of them have their tap shoes here," said Kristen Bennett, tap and jazz instructor.

Class experiences were not limited to the dance department. Several of the Taiwanese students came to Kate Blanchard's Women, Gender, and Religion class.

"Three of [the students] made presentations in English on the topics of indigenous Paiwan rituals, patriarchy and girls' foot-binding, and Taoism," said Blanchard.

On Thursday, the students gave a performance at Alma Middle School, their first for an American audience.

The crowning point of their visit was a performance on Friday evening at the Heritage Center. The concert featured exotic costumes, traditional music, and different styles of dance. The program consisted of "Voice of the Heart," "Sword Dance," "Songs of the Flowers," "Rhythmic Flow of Bamboo," "Watermarks," and "Impressions of the Aborigines."

"The performance was spectacular," said Erin Fleet ('14). "The colors were amazing, and it was so visually stimulating I felt immersed in the culture. I wish I could see it again."

"I really like that the show wasn't something you typically see, so it's really cool and unique. The colors meshed and it was awesome," said Leslie Warren ('14).

The visitors experienced



Devin Brines: Staff Photographer

After only a week, Samantha Coykendall ('15) has formed a special bond with one of the 26 Taiwanese students who came to Alma.

American capitalism firsthand with a shopping excursion to Frankenmuth and Birch Run on Saturday before spending Sunday with their host families and leaving for Taiwan on Monday morning. The cultural exchange has

met with positive reviews.

"[This has been a] very rewarding and eye-opening experience," said Fike, chair of theater and dance department.

"It takes a lot of courage to leave the place where one is an insider, where everything comes

naturally, and to enter a place where one is an outsider and everything is foreign," said Blanchard. "We owe these courageous students, as well as [Professors] Chen and Fike, a debt of gratitude for bringing this cultural exchange right to our doorstep."

## College Corner continued from pg. 4

Employees at College Corner are also excited about the new involvement of the college in the community. Donna Sinclair, manager of the Alma College bookstore, says that "It's nice to have [the bookstore] here because it's closer to the downtown area and more convenient for people from the community to come in."

"I like how it intermixes both the college and the community. It's a good idea," says Jane Knowles, co-owner of Stucchi's.

So to recognize this dream, which has finally become a

successful reality, the college hosted a grand opening ceremony at College Corner.

**"We envision a space that reaches out to both students and community members."**  
-President Jeff Abernathy

A saxophone quartet composed of Alma students **Maggi Jarvis ('12), Annie Bruce ('14), Megan Jurek ('13),** and

**Thaddeus Rule ('13)** entertained the crowd for a few minutes before President Jeff Abernathy warmly welcomed those present.

Guest speakers included Mike Knowles, co-owner of Stucchi's; David Buhl, vice president of Business Affairs at Alma; Melvin Nyman, mayor of Alma; and **Seth Murray ('13)**, who is not only an Alma native, but also an employee at Stucchi's.

In addition, the bookstore offered a 10 percent discount off everything in the store while Stucchi's offered a 25

percent discount off purchases. To entertain the younger

**"Now, with the new College Corner, it's great that the college is branching out into the community."**  
-Seth Murray ('14)

audience, College Corner also provided a table with pictures of Scotty and of ice cream to color and hang in the windows.

So far, many students seem to be enjoying the new setting and hope that College Corner will continue to serve the college and community successfully.

"College Corner...definitely makes [the college] unique and is just a wonderful thing for the campus and community to share," says **Erika Schnepf ('13)**.

"Alma College seemed like another world when I was growing up. Now, with the new College Corner, it's great that the college is branching out into the community," says Murray.



Jersey Shore complex: are you the problem?

BY ISRAEL PACHECO SANTOS  
STAFF WRITER

The serenity of the chapel lawn and the harmonious feel of the campus grounds have been adulterated by the presence of the Jersey Shore complex. This complex consists of people who always need to be the center of attention, have a penchant for working out, and possess a confidence that is downright unflattering. Coming from far and near, these characters are ones who sport the trendiest sunglasses –even at nighttime and while indoors. Sensitive corneas and care of one’s eyes is a major concern, but there is a point when overzealous shades become a symbol of the wearer’s elitist attitude and self-proclaimed superiority. Furthermore, the Hogan Center now echoes with the clash of falling weights and the mirrors are crowded by men of vanity

who constantly preach about protein while complimenting their own muscular definition. Consequently, the definition of masculinity is being redefined according to how much weight a man can bench. Some may refer to this as male-inverted anorexia, or “bigorexia.” Also, some women on this campus are going to extreme lengths to depict themselves as the women of the Jersey Shore cast. They overaccessorize, attempt

*...the definition of masculinity is being redefined according to how much weight a man can bench. Some may refer to this as male-inverted anorexia, or “bigorexia.”*

*- On brutishness*

to dominate stilettos, and wear overpowering perfume. These women constantly display the need to be the center of attention by performing outside their norm—i.e. dancing on anything that even slightly resembles a pole and getting into unneeded altercations with others who suffer from the Jersey Shore complex. In so doing, they increase their chances of placing themselves in situations that they will regret in the morning. This constant need for attention has led to the distortion of male and female gender identities. The distorted belief that men need to be buff and loud in order to attract women has redesigned what it means to be a man. In addition, women are being forced to adopt a hypersexual role by dressing and acting a certain way, which forces them to accept certain labels and reputations. Even if they don't perform the deeds of a licentious Snookie or

*The distorted belief that men need to be buff and loud in order to attract women has redesigned what it means to be a man.*

*-On societal norms*

J-Woww, they are deemed to be one because of the role they portray. I personally believe that there is nothing wrong with admiring and nurturing the human form, and I encourage everyone to dress outside the limits of sweats and hoodies. However, I don't care for the wearing of sleeveless t-shirts just so that the wearer may showcase his muscles. Also, if you further decide to mimic the Jersey Shore cast and do end up “smushing” with a regrettable someone, take

your tears and conversation outside of the library –some of us are trying to study. We are all humans, and confidence and lust is within our nature. But when confidence and lust begin to take over a person's character and re-define him or her as a person, a true problem has emerged. The cocky attitude that men around here are adopting not only labels men as brutes, but also forces women to adopt a hypersexual role. Men of this caliber are not attracted to the demure library-dwelling women on campus, so women feel the need to reinvent themselves into Jersey Shore wannabes to grasp masculine attention—even if it is just for one night. Overall, this campus is digressing when it comes to male and female gender identities. Thanks to the Jersey Shore complex, male and female roles have become narrow and shallow.

Striking a balance: making the critical choices

BY LISA FOLKMIRE  
STAFF WRITER

Good grades, social life, or sleep. Which two would you choose? It's a tough choice. One offers a promising future and supports your main reason for carrying on with an education. The second balances the studying with fun. The third is literally impossible to live without. So what if you pick all three? Is it really impossible to experience it all? For a lot of college-aged students, the notion that being able to do all three seems impossible. There are a few good reasons why. Between lectures, studying, and homework, most of the week can be taken up by academics alone. These are usually a deciding factor on where to go to school, and are also the main reason we all further our education. Certainly, it's true in pursuit of true success, even more time is needed to be devoted to studying. Of course, for most, if not all college

students, this is the number one priority, and has no chance in reaching the chopping block. Social life is one of the most famed aspects of college. TV shows depict social life as being exciting. Filled with non-stop partying, they give off the idea that it is the highlight of your college career. From these observations, most people plan to try a hand at the

*Between lectures, studying, and homework, most of the week can be taken up by academics alone. These are usually a deciding factor on where to go to school, and are also the main reason we all further our education.*

*-On time management*

social aspect well before they even get accepted. This, too, requires its own time block, as there is often a necessary “recovery period.” The other side of social life is still a huge time commitment. Keeping up relations takes a lot of work: even more so when they are new. Still, relationships, whether they be with old friends or people you just met a week ago, are completely necessary for sanity's sake. To know somebody is there for you when you need them is a huge stress relief, and takes a lot of pressure off of the school year. Besides, who would opt to be a dorm room hermit? Through all of the studying and socializing, many people forget about the necessity of sleep. Most of us love it and hate it at the same time. On one side, it is probably the most beautiful feeling in the world, since it allows you to not have to worry about anything for six or so hours. On the other, that is a whole six hours we could have spent with friends or catching up

on studying. Still, this is absolutely necessary and is physically impossible to do without. Without any of these pieces of the “college experience,” you are either unable to survive, will flunk out, or will never gain any social experiences. So how do you even leave one out? The question of “which two would you pick?” is one that is often asked, and yet never questioned. In reality, it is possible to be able to participate in all three. It just takes some prioritizing and time management. While all three put together do take up a huge amount of your time, you can still live your college life to its absolute fullest. Try reconsidering your answer to the first question. Remember the fact that all three of the answers are necessary for the full experience. Through prioritizing and scheduling, a balance is absolutely possible to obtain. There is no reason why the answer to that question cannot be “good grades, social life, and sleep.”

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Open up your eyes: new experiences abound

BY LISA FOLKMIRE  
STAFF WRITER

If you walk around with your eyes closed, you are going to miss out on the view. The same goes for having a closed mind: except this time the view is life. Out of the countless club meetings this month, have you gone to more than one? Have you tried anything recently that you usually never would consider? What about that class that everyone says is a real timesuck, but at also a wonderful opportunity—do you still want to take it? As college students, this is the prime time of our lives to be adventurous. Studying at a liberal arts college, we literally have the world at our feet. With hundreds of opportunities to travel to new places, study any subject we can think of, and experiment with what life has to offer, staying stagnant in your beliefs and considerations can only hurt you. Think about it. When most little kids eat, their possible menu consists of chocolate milk, plain noodles, and chicken nuggets. The main condiment is almost infallibly ketchup. To a 4 year-old, this is the

*While English majors in a science class may feel like they are complete outsiders, their eyes are still being opened to new ideas that they otherwise would not have thought of.*

*-Out-of-major classes*

Arguing with an open mind is another and probably more prominent example for when it comes in handy. In an argument, do you usually rant about your point and plan new comebacks while your opponent says theirs? Or do you actually listen and take something from what they have to say? If you do the latter, then you hold yet another trait of an open mind. Many people live their whole lives sticking to the same morals and beliefs simply because they are unable to master the quality of listening. While they are able to become experts for their own worldviews, they are still giving up the chance to learn about things that may—if not avoided—have been life changing.

*Much like in life, if any of us were given the same plate we had requested when we were 4, our taste buds would be left unsatisfied.*

*-On new experiences*

It is for this reason that we are pushed into new classes that do not fit our anticipated majors. While English majors in a science class may feel like they are complete outsiders, their eyes are still being opened to new ideas that they otherwise would not have thought of. As college students, our minds are not yet set on one certain idea; we still have the ability to straighten out our beliefs and ways of life. This allows for these discoveries to guide us to eventually choose the right courses and degrees to pursue. Those who refuse to venture out of their comfort zone are only

afraid of one thing—failure. They are afraid that what their whole life was based on will be proved as a fallacy; in doing so, they close all other possible doors. An open mind is a powerful thing. Remember that the view would be certainly much less exciting with your eyes closed.

*Remember that the view would be certainly much less exciting with your eyes closed.*

*-On open-mindedness*

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Following the beat with Ben King: kickin’ it with a janitor

BY BEN KING  
STAFF WRITER

From cleaning blood in a sink, changing a light bulb or just being a friend, Alma College custodians do it all. In an attempt to get a fix on the heartbeat of Alma’s inner workings, I signed on to work with Facilities and Service Management for a morning.

I arrived at the facilities office a little past 6 a.m. Most of the staff had already arrived and were preparing for their day. After a brief meeting, I paired up with Trent Wiederhold.

Wiederhold spends the first part of his shift cleaning the Wilcox Health and Wellness Center. Being that I was still a little groggy, I took a brief nap on a bench while he cleaned the Wilcox Center.

Shortly after 7 a.m, we headed over to Gelston Hall.

The first thing we did was a quick sweep of several of the bathrooms; collecting the garbage and assessing the situation of what needed to be done. Wiederhold moves quickly, it is easy to tell that he knows what he is doing. There are certain aspects of his duties that he has down to an absolute science, such as the ability to balance numerous objects on his mop bucket so he can carry them all down the hall without making unnecessary trips.

After we completed our visual sweep of the building, we began to clean the bathrooms. Custodians begin by replacing the toilet paper and paper towels in the dispenser. Then the cleaning begins. The sinks, toilets and showers are sprayed with a disinfectant and cleaned. The showers are sponged out, then the floors are mopped. First-shift custodians work fast

*“Working as a care taker is like being a part of a family. I am always excited for the students to return.”*

-Trent Wiederhold,  
Custodian

trying to get everything cleaned prior to the morning showers of students. With only two custodians per hall and one for all of South Campus, these tenacious janitors do not have time to dawdle.

“I would be willing to use everything I clean,” said Wiederhold. “I wouldn’t want to work in a factory or behind a desk. Working as a care-taker is like being a part of a family. I am always excited for the students to return. My job has the perfect amount of change.”

As we work, he tells me of students he remembers and of some he still remains in contact with.

Wiederhold discussed his passions such as bicycling and photography. A devoted

*There are certain aspects of his duties that he has down to an absolute science, such as the ability to balance numerous objects on his mop bucket so he can carry them all down the hall without making unnecessary trips.*

-On efficiency

photographer, Wiederhold takes thousands of photos of Alma College events and posts them on the Internet site Facebook for students to enjoy.

I thoroughly enjoyed my morning with Wiederhold. It became apparent as the morning progressed that Alma College custodians are not only an important part of the infrastructure and maintenance, but they are also a part of the Alma College family.

Custodians like Wiederhold and many others genuinely care about their residents. It is vital that students keep in mind that custodians and other members of the Facilities and Service Management team are working hard and always with the student in mind.



Kayla Roy, Photo Editor

A few of the many tools of custodian Trent Wiederhold’s trade; the noble mop and bucket allow our custodians to keep those tile floors shining.

the Almanian.

“ALMA COLLEGE’S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER, SERVING THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY SINCE 1907.

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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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# Scot's football suffers loss against Washington and Lee



**Matt Lewan ('12) runs with the ball during practice before the Scot's game against Washington and Lee University last Saturday.**

*Kayla Roy: Photo Editor*

**By JOSH SPRATT**  
STAFF WRITER

The Scot's football team took to the road and traveled to Lexington, Virginia, to match up against Washington and Lee University, Saturday, but came up short, 49-42.

It was an out-of-league game against an opponent the Scots had previously never seen play.

After traveling for 16 hours on a bus, the game came down to the wire and easily could have gone either way.

"Our defense played extremely tough against a very good offense, but unfortunately came up one play short. The level of play we elevated ourselves to definitely gives us confidence going into conferences next week," said **Brett Mageli ('12)**.

Alma started the game on defense after a 61-yard opening kickoff by **Michael Reeves ('14)**. Three plays into the game the Scots forced a fumble and recovered, but couldn't capitalize on their first offensive possession, which ended in an interception.

Washington and Lee scored first by capping off a nine-play, 85-yard drive with a touchdown

run, and then scored again late in the first quarter on a 20-yard field goal attempt.

After recovering another fumble early in the second quarter, the Scots started a drive with great field position.

**Jarrett Leister ('13)** then completed a 21-yard pass to **Ricky Roth ('13)**, which put Alma inside the opponents' 15-yard line.

Soon after that, Leister scored on a quarterback keeper and Reeves finished off the drive by knocking home the point after touchdown.

The Generals of Washington and Lee quickly countered the Scots' drive by scoring another touchdown in a matter of 12 seconds off a 62-yard rush. This made the game score 14-7 in favor of the home team.

Lee scored again, but late in the first half, Scot receiver **Michael Lenneman ('13)** caught a 12-yard touchdown pass to bring Alma within 10. As time expired in the second quarter, the Generals connected on a 35-yard field goal to increase their lead going into the break.

Maroon and Creme came out strong in the second half and put up some big scores to eventually have the lead 42-35, with 13 minutes left in the game.

The Generals came back with a touchdown to tie up the score

42-42 and then, with 37 seconds left, Washington and Lee scored the game's winning touchdown.

Leister completed 21-of-39 passes for 350 yards and five touchdowns. He also rushed 11 times for 42 yards and another score.

**Ed Mason ('13)** rushed 18 times for 79 yards, while Roth snared seven balls for 110 yards and two touchdowns.

Lenneman had four catches for 45 yards and two touchdowns, and wide receiver **Barak Henderson ('12)** caught five passes for 174 yards.

Defensive backs **Andrew Funsch ('13)** and **Scotty Cole ('12)** led the Scots' defense with 12 tackles each.

Alma's passing attack was strong. Through the air the Scots racked up 123 more yards than its opponent, but the rushing-yard totals were lopsided, favoring the Generals 444 to 125.

"We saw some really good things in the game that will translate into wins come conference play. All we can do is learn from the loss and look forward to Hope," said **Eric Story ('13)**.

The Scots left this game with a 1-3 record in the season. The team's next game is Saturday at Bahlke Field at 1 p.m. against Hope.

## Maroon Monsoon increases school spirit

**By JASON POPIEL**  
STAFF WRITER

A number of ambitious students have laid the groundwork for an organization that will improve school spirit and provide support for all of Alma's athletic teams.

Drawing inspiration from the University of Michigan's "Maize Rage" and Michigan State's "Izzone," the "Maroon Monsoon" will feature a loud student section at every sporting event, in addition to t-shirts and other apparel.

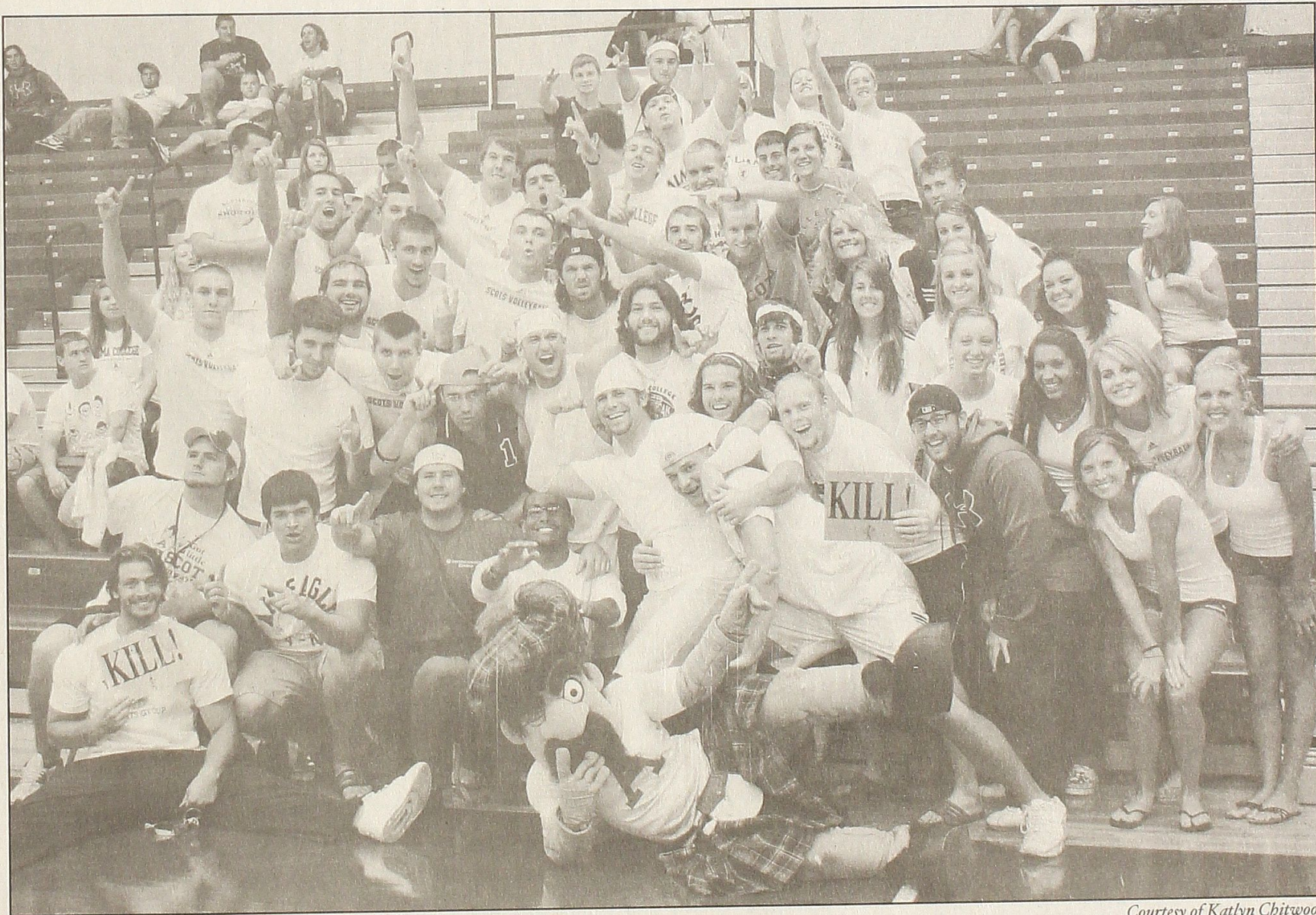
After many years of dwindling student attendance at athletic events, the group hopes to raise information awareness, such as game times and locations, as well as coordinated cheers and clothing that can be featured at every game.

"Our primary goal is to get students back involved in Alma athletics and to support our sports teams," said **Derrick Walker ('14)**, one of the group's founders.

The organization is currently working on its business plan, trying to find ideas for fundraising and other efforts to improve its outreach on campus.

"One thing we are currently in the process of doing is getting local businesses to donate gift cards that we would hand out at sporting events as an incentive for students to support their fellow classmates," Walker said.

"We have t-shirts and aviators on their way now," said another one of the group's creators, **Alyssa Adams ('14)**. "We hope that this allows us to have a spirit section that supports all athletic teams."



*Courtesy of Katlyn Chitwood*

**The Maroon Monsoon fan group promoted a "white-out" for the Alma volleyball team in its game against Kalamazoo last Tuesday.**

The group is hoping to host a large week-long spirit contest to celebrate homecoming. There will be contests between the grade levels, in addition to special clothing days and a gathering at the women's soccer game, all leading up to the football game against Trine.

"We will have dress-up days along with a sports crawl planned for Wednesday that will consist of a grill-out with a root beer keg at the soccer game," said Adams. "We will have fun there, and then head over to the gym to support the volleyball team."

The creators of the Maroon

Monsoon hope that the raised awareness of Alma athletic events will translate into positive results on the field.

Many Alma athletes want students to come out and appreciate the hard work they put into practice, and they want to use the positive energy to

perform well on the playing field.

"A good student section come out early, gets extra rowdy, and stays for the whole game," said football player **James McCoy ('12)**. "I get pumped up to perform my best when I see all my classmates and friends cheering me on from the stands."



# Women's soccer team works to continue early season success

By JASON POPIEL  
STAFF WRITER

The Scot's women's soccer squad got down to business this week with four straight victories, three on the road.

They started with a 9-0 win over Olivet College last Saturday at their home field.

They next moved on to a 2-1 victory over Calvin College, then took on St. Mary's for a 1-0 win.

For their last game of the week, the Scots came home with another win against Hope College, 3-1.

In the St. Mary's game, **McKenzie Smith ('15)** scored the lone goal for the Scots in the 53<sup>rd</sup> minute, and goaltender **Monica Witt ('12)** held strong in the net for the shut-out. The final score was not indicative of how Alma dominated in every facet of the game, outshooting the Belles 19-6 overall and 8-1 in shots on goal.

Next up for the Scots was the Olivet College Comets.

The Scots have been careful not to get too confident from their early season success and to continue to carry their momentum into conference play. Team members say they are willing to make the necessary improvements in order to end with a different outcome from last year, when the highly-ranked Scots were upset by Calvin in the MIAA Championship game. That loss resulted in the Scots

being excluded from the NCAA Division III Tournament, and made many of the players feel like there was unfinished business.

"Our goals for this year are to win the MIAA, and to win the MIAA tournament," said midfielder **Annette Stromberg ('12)**. "Another goal for this year is to send a message with every game that we deserve to be in first place, and that last season's success wasn't a fluke."

The Scots have a few players who have found personal success that has stemmed from the team's overall effort.

**Ann Kennedy ('14)** was named the MIAA's Defensive Player of the Week for the first time in her career thanks to her strong play that spearheaded the Scots' two season-starting shutouts.

A week later, **Elaine Cunningham ('13)** was named the MIAA Offensive Player of the Week after she scored the lone goal in Alma's 1-0 win over Kenyon.

"Last year, after not winning the tournament, we were hoping that our pre-season games would help us get the bid, but we didn't get in because of early season mistakes," said Witt. "This year we remembered that and took care of business early, so we wouldn't regret it in the post-season."

The Scots won all four of their pre-season games, all being shut-outs. Being a tight-knit and close team is something that the squad prides themselves on, and they work on improving their chemistry on and off the field.

"We also have great team



Courtesy of Jamie Hiller

Defender Ann Kennedy ('14) helped the women's soccer team to a victory against Hope on Saturday.

chemistry and we trust each other," Witt said. "That comes mostly from selflessness and everyone having the same goals in mind."

"Women's soccer is working

very hard to become a team that Alma College can be proud of year in and year out, and that comes from working hard and putting in effort all year 'round. We're really trying to

focus on getting better everyday, especially since we play each team twice this year," said Stromberg.

The Scots continue their season Wednesday at home against Kalamazoo at 4 p.m.

## Scotlight: Adams named Player of the Week

By JOSH SPRATT  
STAFF WRITER

With 71 digs, **Erica Adams ('12)** led the Scots' volleyball team to a 3-1 record at the Great Lakes Regional Challenge in Wittenberg, Ohio, last week.

Adams led the team with a personal best of 38 digs and served up three aces to help Alma win a close match against Ohio Northern. Her efforts in the Regional Challenge did not go unnoticed as she was named the MIAA Specialty Player of the Week.

**"My goals for this season are to win the MIAA tournament and get a bid for nationals."**

**-Erica Adams ('11)**

On receiving the award, Adams said, "I am very honored, excited and appreciate the thought."

Adams started playing competitive volleyball her freshman year at Milford High School, where she soon became a standout player and was named to the all-conference team her senior year.

So far this season, the

Scots have been playing strong, thanks in part to the defense of Adams, who consistently leads the team in digs as well as providing service power and sets.

Adams has high expectations for what the team can accomplish this season.

"I love this team. This is my favorite team I have ever played on and I know we all have each other's back. We have been up and down this season, but we are still winning, so I am in full confidence our team can pull it out and do great things this season," she said.

There is no doubt that Erica loves her team and is a team player.

"My goals for this season are to win the MIAA tournament and get a bid for nationals," she said.

The team currently has a 11-3 record after picking up a 3-0 win last Saturday night against Olivet.

There is no doubt Adams has been working extremely hard to make these goals a reality through hard work last off-season and high intensity in practice and games.

This past summer Adams said she stayed in shape and worked on her game by playing in a beach league, as well as an indoor league. She also said she stayed in condition because she never missed a workout.

Adams shows incredible work ethic, both in the



Kayla Roy: Staff Photographer

**Erica Adams ('11)** was named Player of the Week in the MIAA last week and set an MIAA record with most digs earlier in the season.

gym and in the classroom. Academically, she has worked hard in the field of business administration and will graduate this spring with a degree in accounting.

She said she plans to "pass the CPA exam and work at one of the big four firms, or a Michigan regional accounting firm."

When looking back over her four years of volleyball

at Alma College, Adams said that she will miss it.

"Volleyball has taught me many things about leadership, how to adjust to other people, putting others before yourself, perseverance and mental toughness."

"I just love playing with the team and appreciate the opportunity to play with all my best friends," she said.

**Staying on top of the game: This week in sports**

**Football:**  
Saturday vs. Hope  
at HOME 1 pm

**Men's Soccer:**  
Tuesday vs. Adrian  
at HOME at 4 pm  
Saturday vs. Kzoo  
at HOME at 2:30 pm

**Women's Soccer:**  
Wednesday vs. Kzoo  
at HOME at 4 pm

**Volleyball:**  
Friday vs. Trine  
at HOME at 6:30 pm