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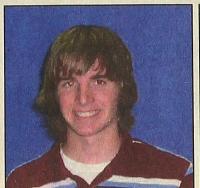
Softball sweeps on the road see page 7

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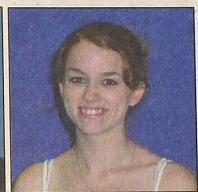


SERVING ALMA COLLEGE SINCE 1907









Photos courtesy of Alma Portal

The six seniors nominated for Senior Leadership Awards are Melissa Andrews ('10), Chris Duymich ('10), Kevin Everhart ('10), Taylor Gibson ('10), Martin Kuustik ('10), and Hannah Ropp ('10). The winner of the award will be announced on Thursday

# Senior Leadership Award winner to be announced at Honors Day

By Angela Flynn STAFF WRITER

Voting ended Friday, March 26, for the Senior Leadership Award, an event established by the Alma Leadership Alliance (ALA).

"About five years ago, service learning with Alpha Phi Omega and the former Discovering Vocation Project collaborated with ALA to expand their award ceremony to recognize additional students for their leadership and service," said Anne Ritz, the service learning coordinator.

The Senior Leadership Award is a process in which the ALA allows all student organizations to nominate one seniors from their organization for the award.

The students are then reviewed by faculty, staff, and students in order to select five to six finalists that the senior class may vote on, according to Ritz.

The student nominees are Andrews ('10), Melissa Chris Duymich ('10), Kevin Everhart ('10), Taylor Gibson ('10), Martin Kuustik ('10), Hannah Ropp ('10).

"I think that [the award] is one way to honor a senior who normally wouldn't want to be singled out to say thanks for your generosity to the campus and community," said Jamie McArthur ('11), the ALA chair and member of the Campus Leadership and Service Awards Committee.

"The thing is that everyone who was nominated for this award was qualified; they are always helping out their organizations when they need it." "Going'above and beyond' means doing what is needed to achieve a goal, not just what is required," said Ropp. "Sometimes what is necessary includes long hours and late nights but when the goal is accomplished, it's all worth it." Confidence is something that she said she has learned through her responsibilities of being a leader.

"Leadership skills are in a state of constant development and redefinition," she said. "What I will take with me is the confidence to be able to lead and the desire to do so in such a way that will help as many people as possible."

"In any kind of organization, the person that makes the biggest difference is the one that helps out anyone that is in need of help," said Duymich. "In a lot of the organizations that I have been a part of, I have tried to assist others even if it wasn't my job to do so."

To Duymich, being a good leader means being accountable of your actions, as well as holding others accountable to theirs.

See 'Seniors' page 2

#### The truth about the Anberlin concert

By Angela Flynn STAFF WRITER

Anberlin concert is cancelled professor of communication rescheduled, and why be happening. would

According to Janelle Phillips, Newberry Hall director and advisor to ACUB, the concert is canceled but will be rescheduled because of the construction of Hogan Recreation Center.

The band was set to play in April in the Hogan Center, but is now rescheduled for the fall semester.

The Alma College Union Board and the WOAC campus radio station are in charge putting on the concert.

"ACUB and WQAC did everything right and everything that was required of them to plan for the Anberlin concert," said Phillips. "The problem is that construction [of Hogan] is a fluid entity and at the point when the concert was scheduled we could not foresee where the Hogan construction project would be at during this date and time." According to Phillips, the concert was originally scheduled for April 10, until one of the band members has a family event and asked for the date to be changed to April 16.

"ACUB and WQAC have been saving money for the past two years to put on a big concert for Alma College," said Phillips. "They included the campus input in the vote after it was narrowed down to six bands. They really wanted to make this a huge success at Alma College."

Phillips also said that free tickets will be offered to any current seniors who would be missing out on the concert.

"We hope that alums do return

to enjoy the concert in the

new Hogan Center," she said. The Hogan Center is not ready yet for such a large event, but when it is finished it will work great for

There have been rumors holding such a large scale event, to whether or not the according to Janie Diels, assistant and co-chair of women's studies. "[The concert] was meant

to be a way for people to get together before exams and have some fun and hear some great music before people leave for the summer," said Diels.

"I'm sorry the event was postponed," she said. "I wish there was still time to try to plan something for the end of the term, but graduation is right around the corner."

Group members are currently working with the band to find an exact date to perform on in the fall, but if the band cannot work with any of the dates offered, Diels said that they would go with a different band.

"Although I am frustrated with the show's cancellation, the construction obviously takes priority and isn't something that can simply be set aside for a night," said Summer Coe ('10). "Potentially, once the building is complete, future students can enjoy even larger and more epic performances."

"I was really disappointed that the concert had to be cancelled," said Emily Tribley ('12). "But it is understandable, and I hope that they are able to reschedule it. It would be a really great concert."

Phillips has kept a positive outlook on this situation, saying how the new venue will be better for holding a concert. "Alma College has the opportunity this coming fall to have a 3,000 capacity facility instead of 1,000 and we will be able to utilize the beautiful new gym and have parking available," she said.

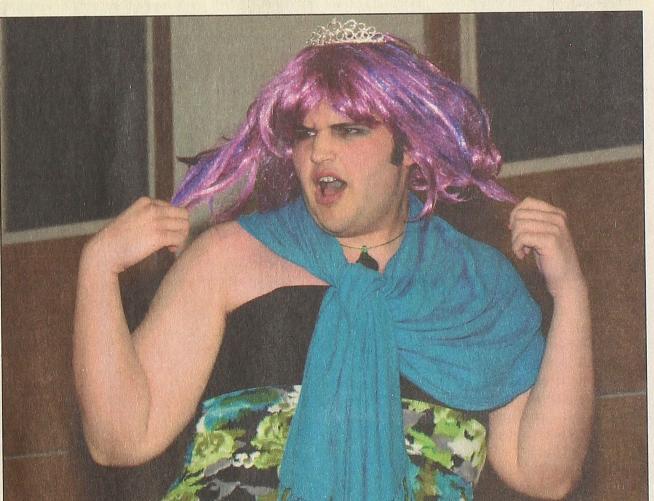


Photo by Devin Brines

The Drag Ball, hosted by the Gay-Straight Alliance, took place Saturday night. Gary Nemeth ('13) was one of the Drag Ball's participants. He performed the song "Fergalicious" by Fergie. Katie Hallam, co-president of Gay-Straight Alliance, said, "The Drag Ball is challenging the idea of gender, along with raising money for Perceptions, a non-profit organization that supports lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders." Janie Diels, assistant professor of communicaation, and one of the judges for the event, said, "Awesome performances. Great event. Hopefully this will bring some new involvement from people on campus." If you are interested in joining the Gay-Straight Alliance, formerly known as PRIDE, contact Veronica Hill ('12), Katie Hallam ('12), or Jessica Gauthier ('12).

Honors Day Convocation Thursday, April 1, at 9:30 a.m. Remick Heritage Center All students required to attend

# Alumnae challenges young women to lead

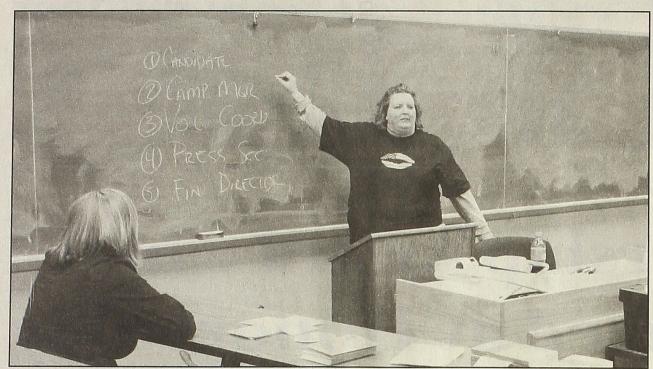


Photo by Lauren Kimpe

Shannon Garrett ('94), the first woman to graduate from Alma College with a minor in women's studies, returned to her alma mater to represent The White House Project and to speak to students about how women can realize their potential in government positions.

By SIMONE MISHLER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's hard to be what you can't see. This was Shannon Garrett's ('94) main message for young women during her presentation last Wednesday night. Her point was that most women do not see themselves going into politics, and without vision there cannot be action.

Garrett is the first Alma alumnae to graduate with a minor in women's studies and one of the first students to live in the MacCurdy house. She now works for the nonpartisan, organization White House Project. Carrie Chaffee ('10) is a resident of MacCurdy and was responsible for bringing Garrett to campus.

"I met Shannon at the Strong Leaders, Young Women Conference last year at Alma College. Ever since then I have been trying to bring her to campus," explained Chaffe. "I think that Shannon's work at the White House Project is invaluable and inspiring to see."

The White House Project's objective is to train and encourage women to be involved government at all levels. The organization released report called Benchmarking Women's Leadership, asking the

public if they believed women could lead in government roles. The finding suggested that 96 to 98 percent of the population felt women were ready to lead in this capacity.

"Women are not leading more than 18 percent in any sector," said Garrett after explaining the public's acceptance level of women leaders. "2010 is a big election year for Michigan. There could be huge turnover in the state legislature due to term limits."

The elections could prove a moment of great consequence for female leaders in Michigan. all four of the constitutional open, and seven of the women serving in the state Senate are being term-limited out.

"We need more diversity in our democracy," explained Garrett. "More diversity means that our democracy will look more like us."

One of the problems identified at the presentation was that most people perceive women's role in politics as being larger than it actually is. Women fill Michigan representation in two prominent roles: Gov. Jennifer Granholm and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow.

"What people forget to acknowledge is that those women were firsts. The first woman governor and the first woman senator for Michigan,"

commented Garrett. "People see a woman in office and assume, 'Check, we're done.""

The White House Project holds training seminars and boot camps to prepare women to run for office. The "Go Run" leadership training events focus on campaign planning and creating a message. The "Debate Boot Camp" is focused on sharpening public speaking skills. And the "Go Lead" sessions train women to organize their own political action committee or get-out-the-vote campaigns.

"I think it is incredible to In this year's state elections, see an organization taking the time to help women recognize offices are up for election, two their potential in government," Supreme Court positions are said Taylor Gibson ('10) presentation. the

> To conclude her speech, Garrett imparted on the group a message advocating for support of women running for office. She did not preach a certain female candidate's platform or idealogy, rather, Garrett stressed the need of women in leadership in general. Women in these more prominent roles allow our democracy to take another step closer to being truly representative, according to Garrett.

"We don't have to support a woman candidate just because she is a woman," said attendee Annie Jennings ('10). "You don't have to agree with her but you can support her ability to run."

#### Fall semester to bring housing and residence life changes as campus expands

By ELEANOR KING STAFF WRITER

While Alma College administration prepares for the 13th president (Dr. Jeff Abernathy) and the fourth consecutive abnormally large incoming class, students can expect some changes next fall.

The most obvious results of a growing campus population are developments in housing and residential life. Upon exploring students' thoughts on the matter the most common question asked was "Where are they going to put everyone!?"

Representatives from both the Admissions Office and Student Life said that the class size for next year's freshman should be about 400 students with hopes of reaching closer to 420. If this goal is met, Alma College (as a residential campus) will have one of the largest students populations in its history.

Currently the housing divider is Superior street. In addition to the South Complex housing (Carey, Bonbright, Nisbet, Brazel and Wright Hall) there have always been options for off-campus housing such as the Greek houses and organizational houses (e.g. Model UN and Creative Writing). However, this year new homes have been purchased by the college even further south of Superior.

These purchases are only a beginningforsomeoftheexpansive plans of Vice President of finance Dave Buhl. In one conversation Buhl said that eventually he plans to expand the campus all the way down to the Pine River.

One of the houses that the college looked into purchasing was on Mechanic Street and is owned by John Horwath ('10).

"When I bought the house, I looked at it as a long term investment. I knew that I could get students in it every year. I also knew that I would not be making a lot of money each year because of the mortgage payments but still, some income on the side is better than none.

"It was a great house to live in and a nice experience to be able to live off campus," said Horwath.

"I think that is a very good move that the school is providing more options for student housing. And I figure that as long as the school keeps giving students more housing options, students will be happy until they see all the inadequate facilities in Dow and SAC."

Betsy Gowell ('11) mentioned that similar issues impacted her decision to leave Alma and transfer to Ferris.

"I was once in an organic chemistry class in one of the main lecture halls, and part of the ceiling literally fell onto my desk. It had been raining all weekend and as I was trying to pay attention, a ceiling tile and about a buckets, worth of water fell right in front of me. It is generous to say that I was a little disappointed in the building maintenance at Alma."

However, hopefully with some of the new changes, more students will feel compelled to stay at Alma as opposed

transferring, like Gowell. Another change for next year occurred in the structure of the Student Life Office. Traditionally there were four hall directors on North Campus and two student assistant hall directors on South.

However, this year a fifth was hired to work in Gelston while former Gelston HD Willard Korson will move to become the HD on South Complex.

"South Complex, including the non-Greek small houses and a few additional houses that have recently been purchased, has become the largest area on campus, housing over 300 students. We felt that it was very important that those students living on South Campus had the same access to [the Student Life Office]. So we hired a fifth HD. These plans have been in the making for a couple years," said Dave Blandford, interim director of campus life.

As the campus is south bound, there have been more alterations to make meal plans accommodating to this development. Currently there is a brand new Café a la Cart in the lobby of the Carey-Bonbright Complex.

This set-up is something entirely new for Sodexho and it offers small meals to go, coffee and snacks. These products can be paid for by Munch Money or cash. As of now, there are no options for utilizing meals to pay.

a la Cart are Monday through Friday 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m., as well as Sunday night from 7-11 p.m. Additionally, next year there are a whole new selection of meal plan

options for SAGA and Van Dusen.

The operating hours of the Café

The Director of Sodexho, Steve Watkins said that the changes were not costing the college and additional money. So, if changes appear in the board plan in the next year, this will be considered a reflection of the college's decision, not that of Sodexho.

There are essentially four plans that will be available next semester: 14 meals/week with \$150 in Munch Money, 19 meals/week with \$100 MM and the 210 meal block-plan with \$100 MM. The 210 plan allows for conversion Munch Money during designated times each semester. The fourth meal plan is unique to those listed above. "This plan will be exclusive to students that will be residing in Wright Hall. This plan will allow Wright Hall residents to enjoy any 160 meals of their choice, plus \$150 in Munch Money for the semester," said Watkins.

Traditionally, living in Wright Hall allowed students to purchase a slightly cheaper meal plan in order to save money in their room and board fees to the college.

Starting next year this will no longer be an option. All of the meal plans listed cost exactly the same amount and, due to the new Wright Hall meal plan, Alma will making more board money next year without compensating Sodexho for the change.

The combination of alterations in Campus Life next year is ultimately the result of the colleges long term expansion plans. Students should monitor these changes and vocalize their "likes" and "dislikes" to assure the maximum level of satisfaction over a college career at Alma.

#### 'Seniors' from page 1

leader does not mean that one must be the president or the head of an organization, but it is how you accomplish your own specific "I have learned how to deal with different social styles and how to analyze group dynamics," he said. "I also am a more confident public speaker, which is also a nice trait to have when holding officer positions within organizations."

"My own leadership skills will follow me well past Alma," said Andrews. "Leadership is easily transferable to many aspects of life, which is why it is so valuable a skill to have."

"Leadership is taking initiative in order to accomplish something you feel strongly

about," she said. "Without initiative, nothing gets done."

"In everything I have done, For Duymich, being a I have tried to give it my all," said Everhart. I don't believe in doing something half-way, you either do it or you don't."

> Everhart said that he will advisor with be a financial Edward Jones in Grand Rapids after graduating. On campus, Everhart was

president of Student Congress, along with being involved in such activities as a Center for Responsible Leadership Fellow, a resident assistant, a Special Olympics referee, among other things.

"I hope the leadership skills that I have developed during my time here will benefit my future clients," he said. "I hope to serve others in this position." "I enjoy being involved and

setting my goals high enough that they are in my reach, but never in my grasp," said Kuustik. "I enjoy challenging myself and I think that sets a tone for my personal industry."

He explained that he will try his hardest always in life to be successful, but that he knows he may experience failures and challenges on the way, and is able to accept that. He also said that he will constantly working

reach goals. his "I want to utilize my strong work ethic and communicate to other people that anyone is capable of leadership—it is just a matter of hard work and personal dedication," Kuustik

The winner of the Senior Leadership Award will be announced Thursday at Honors

# Preterm shifts to a different approach: semester-long freshmen seminar class

By Elisabeth Bletsch

STAFF WRITER

The week designated "Pre-term" will look different in the fall.

"I think this is going to be a positive change," said Michael Selmon, provost and professor of English. "There were a lot of strengths of the previous preterm. One of the things we learned is that people like to be together in groups. But it just ended, and then students started all over again when fall classes started,"

The incoming class of freshmen will not enroll in a one credit week long class. Rather, students will join a freshmen seminar.

"This will allow students to continue on with the same group throughout the semester," Selmon

He added that the administration had to reconsider the pre-term week, now called orientation week, when the general education requirements changed this past year.

"Students will still be going to class during orientation week, but instead of a class that ends in a week the class will be carried on into the semester," said Selmon.

Nicholas Piccolo, vice president for student life, thinks this change will give students a chance to make more connections during their first week in Alma.

"Students will work closely throughout the week with those in their freshmen seminar. This will really increase the connections they have on campus, especially since these connections will continue on into the semester," Piccolo said.

During the fall semester, all freshmen seminar classes will meet on Tuesday and Thursday in the 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. time slot, so as not to conflict with other classes, said Selmon.

"Orientation week will give students a taste of what it is like to be here. There will still be activities that help students socially, as well," Piccolo said.

Selmon and Piccolo agreed that the structure of orientation week will be similar to that of pre-

Students will be in their freshmen seminar class Saturday through Friday for two hours per day.

An activity will be offered in the afternoons, provided by the Student Life office.

Popular events, such as the hypnotist, will still be offered.

"We like to offer incentives so that they get used to being involved," said Piccolo.

Piccolo added that there will still be an Orientation Committee, of upperclassmen comprised students.

"The idea is for each member of the committee to be available to a freshmen seminar class. This will offer incoming students more connections yet," Piccolo said.

Selmon said that because of the academic component of the freshmen seminars, professors will still play an active role throughout the week.

"Because the class will be carried into the fall semester, professors will be able to look at bigger topics," Selmon said.

Mary Theresa Bonhage-Freund, chair and associate professor of sociology and anthropology, believes this change will make incoming students' first week on campus more practical.

"I don't see it as an elimination of pre-term, but as an evolution of pre-term into something that, in the end, will be more useful for the incoming students," she said.

Professors will now have the option to take their incoming student advisees from within their first year seminar class.

"This sets up a much better initial advising situation for the students," said Bonhage-Freund.

"Having the class start a week before other students come in allows the professor to devote all of his or her time to the freshmen students. It gives the professors a really good opportunity to know the students better," she added.

"In these seminars, students are not only learning content, but also necessary skills. I think this will give students a head start on what college is all about."

## Honor's Day speaker discusses connections between arts and science

By SETH FAULK STAFF WRITER

The host of Discovery Channel's show, "Time Warp," will be present the annual Honors Day address to the student body this Wednesday.

Jeff Lieberman, a professional photographer and artist, will feature his message, "Asking Why? The Nature of Curiosity," in commemoration of Alma College's 14th Honors Day celebration.

According to his website, www. bea.st, Lieberman "performs electronic music in the duo gloobic, publishes photography, and shows kinetic sculpture around the world."

In addition, the site says that Lieberman has previously performed in Carnegie Hall and also been featured in the Cooper-Hewitt Smithsonian Museum.

Marc Setterlund, associate and professor of psychology, was involved in the speaker selection process.

"The co-curricular affair committee selects the speaker typically," said Setterlund, adding that the committee works with an agent who suggests speakers from which to choose.

"Here's a guy who manages to bring the idea of the liberal arts to fruition," he said about Lieberman. "It really seemed like a kind of interesting opportunity to celebrate the liberal arts."

Lieberman, who frequently dabbles in music, science, mathematics, and photographyother thingsamong characterizes the experiences that Alma College, as a private liberal arts college, intends for its students.

In lieu of Lieberman's various fields of expertise, Setterlund expects that Lieberman will promote his analytical outlook of the world to the student body.

"One of the things I anticipate he will be talking about is regarding how being curious about the world around you will lead to good results," said Setterlund.

"Time Warp," the television show hosted by Lieberman, specializes in presenting its viewers with intricate portrayals of elements of our everyday world, such as water trickling from a sink faucet, through the use of high-speed

Lieberman has also acquired two bachelor's degrees in physics and math, as well as two master's degrees in mechanical engineering and the media arts and sciences.

While in the midst of procuring his doctorate degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Lieberman has expanded his expertise into the field of scientific inventions.

"At MIT, he led the design of the Cyberflora installation, a robotic flower garden that senses and responds to people in a lifelike manner," said Michael Silverthorn, director of public relations, in his description of Lieberman's accomplishments.

Silverthorn included that Lieberman also devised the Motor Learning Robotic Wearable Suit, which is a "robotic suit that teaches motor skills like dance, sports, and rehab."

"He also has produced kinetic art sculptures, including Absolut Quartet, a music-making machine that incorporates the audience into the performance, and an electromagnetically levitated and wirelessly powered light bulb," said Silverthorn.

Over the years, Honors Day has regularly offered distinguished speakers the opportunity to present themselves and their work to the Alma College community in the form of public discussions.

Last year, the award-winning German author, Anna Rosmus, gave the Honors Day address; past speakers have also included an undersea explorer, a Nobel Prizewinning chemist, and a quantum gravity researcher.

Lieberman's presentation will be given at 8 p.m. at Presbyterian Hall in the Remick Heritage Center.

Little Sibs Weekend remains once again an 'out of this world' success



Jarred Kilpatrick ('13) escorts his little brother Collin to the large mound of ice cream provided for Little Sibs Weekend on Saturday in Hamilton Commons.

By Elisabeth Bletsch

STAFF WRITER

Little siblings are out of this world.

Well, they were during the outer space themed Little Siblings Weekend anyway, which took place from Friday, March 26 through Sunday, March 28.

"I think a lot of kids at home want to see their older sibling at college. It's a fun way for the student to show their sibling what their life at college is like," said Janelle Phillips, Newberry Hall director and Little Siblings Weekend coordinator.

Phillips said 150 students signed up to bring their siblings to campus.

Events on Friday included Play painting, cotton candy, and raffle Fair and Craft Extraordinaire in the Stone Recreation Center.

themed crafts, and a goldfish toss," said Phillips.

The big event Friday night from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. was Mad Chad Taylor, a chainsaw juggler.

Saturday kicked off with cartoons, followed by a Science Blowout, put on by the biology and chemistry clubs. There was an outer space themed dinner, and the giant ice cream sundae made a reappearance this year as well, added Phillips.

Also on Saturday, there was an outer space themed carnival where there was laser tag, face

tickets.

"This weekend gives siblings a "There was a cake walk, alien taste of college life. Even though it isn't a typical Alma weekend, it still gives them a feel for how fun college can be," said Robin Morrison ('12).

"Not only does Little Sibs Weekend allow your siblings a chance to see where you spend your time away from them nine months out of the year, but it's also a huge bonding event," said James Thomson ('10). "The Little Sibs Committee does a great job of making sure there are constant activities for siblings of all ages. It's a great time that shouldn't be missed."

#### Seder honors cultural tradition Guest scholar and the beginning of Passover present on merging receiving the threat. This support receiving the threat. This support encouraged her to pursue her religion and ecology is a week early, but the Rabbi By Molly Henning wasn't available on the actual

STAFF WRITER

The Passover Seder is a Jewish holiday which marks and celebrates the beginning of Passover, an 8 day period.

Alma College hosted a Passover Seder on campus on March 23 at 6 p.m. in Van Dusen Commons.

Joanne Gilbert, professor of Passover is about two really important things for Jews.

"It's about the liberation of the Israelites from Egypt-Exodus, the path to freedom," said Gilbert. "The other thing Passover has always been about for me is family and friends, because it's a cultural tradition to be with the people you care about the most celebrating this holiday... it's a much more important Jewish holiday than Hanukkah."

Rabbi Michael Zimmerman, from the Kehillat Israel Congregation, Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, came from Lansing to perform the ceremony. Gilbert has always performed the ceremony in years past, but Rabbi Zimmerman was invited this year because he was connected with Alma when he taught students Hebrew.

"The date we're doing the Seder

Passover day, so we moved the date so we could have him," said Carol Gregg, the chaplain.

Gilbert began having a Seder on campus in 2004. This Seder was the fifth one on campus. Gilbert said she started doing the Seder for two reasons.

"The first reason is because when communication, explained that I asked students if they had ever been to a Seder, they all said no, and when I asked how many knew what Passover was most said no," said Gilbert. "I realized there was a total lack of experience and knowledge about this major, major cultural holiday so I wanted to teach about it."

> The second reason is that in 2004, Gilbert received an anonymous yet violent, anti-Semitic death threat slipped under her door.

"The FBI investigated it as a hate crime. I decided rather than be intimidated by it, that what needed to happen was more education about difference," said Gilbert. "I think the only way to combat hate that is born of ignorance is through education."

Gilbert does mention, though, that she was very grateful for the enormous amount of support she received on campus after mission to educate others.

"The chapel does the bulk of the funding, and I'm very appreciative of that," said Gilbert.

Gregg described how one of the main reasons Alma celebrates the Seder on campus is to support the Jewish students on campus and gives the opportunity to celebrate traditions.

"We have a small Jewish community at Alma, so it's nice Alma is recognizing the holiday, recognizing there's people of other faiths," said Jeramy Peters ('II). "I'm interested in how it'll be run-if it'll be similar to Seders I've participated in before, or if it'll be an interpretation of a Seder."

Gregg also believed this was an opportunity for students who had not experienced the Seder to get the chance to experience it and for people to appreciate whose who are part of Jewish tradition.

"The Seder is usually something people enjoy because they're just learning about different traditions. Students have given me a lot of positive feedback over the years and they're so glad they were introduced to this cultural event," said Gilbert.

By SETH FAULK STAFF WRITER

Dr. Kevin O'Brien will be tying the topics of religion and ecology together in his presentation "Do Christians Live On Earth?" on Tuesday, March 30.

"The talk is entitled 'Do Christians Live On Earth?" because I will argue that it's important for Christians to recognize the importance of our natural world in order to be part of a constructive response to environmental problems like climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution," said O'Brien.

"However, I will also be talking about why religion in general matters, and why complex environmental issues call for collaborative responses from lots of different kinds of people," O'Brien said.

O'Brien is an accomplished essayist who teaches a variety of ethics classes, including Christian ethics and environmental ethics, at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. He is also involved in co-editing the development of the textbook, "Grounding Religion, Rethinking Nature: A Field Guide to Religion and Ecology."

"An Ethics of Biodiversity," O'Brien's first book, is due to be published this year.

Kathryn Blanchard, professor of religious studies, met O'Brien at a teaching seminar through Indiana's Wabash Center. Blanchard introduced O'Brien to Director of Environmental Studies Murray Borrello.

Borrello, who is also Co-Director of the Center for Responsible Leadership, "thought that I could say something useful to the Alma community about the role of religion in responding to environmental issues," said O'Brien.

Borrello had been previously attended a conference on faith and the environment in Alabama. "It opened my eyes to an area of discussion and interest that my program has not had at Alma College," he said.

Hoping that O'Brien could expound on this area of debate, Blanchard and Borrello then invited him to share the fruit of his studies at Alma College.

Blanchard anticipates O'Brien's message to strike a chord with the interests of many students.

"Since a lot of Alma students selfidentify as Christians, they might find it interesting to think about what their identity means with regard to their responsibility for the environment," she said. "For students who are not particularly religious, but who care about the earth, they might be interested to know something about nonsecular ethical approaches to environmentalism."

Borrello also hopes that O'Brien's visit will encompass the breach between the scientific and Christian communities over the topic of climate change.

"First, it is important to hear from a student of theology who accepts the science of climate change and the teachings of the Church," said Borrello. "Second, it is important to find common ground between and among religious leaders on the issue of climate change."

Rev. Carol Gregg, the chaplain for Alma College, believes that O'Brien's presentation "will be a great opportunity for us to again recognize the connections between faith and environmental concerns."

"Sometimes Christians want to divide themselves into two camps: those who focus on a personal relationship with God and those who focus on doing God's work, or social justice," Gregg said. "I expect O'Brien will remind us that personal faith and social justice go

hand in hand." O'Brien will be conferencing with students and community religious leaders throughout meetings during the day on March 30. He will then give the general public a presentation at 7:30 in the Dow Science Center, Room L-4, which will be followed by an informal discussion session.

## Take Back the Night offers the opportunity to join together against sexual violence



Photo by Lauren Kimpel

Elizabeth Wayne ('13) decorates posters for protestors to hold throughout the night.

By Molly Henning STAFF WRITER

The annual "Take Back the Night," hosted by the MacCurdy House and the Women's Issue Advisory Board took place Friday, March 26 as the final event for Women's Month.

"Take Back the Night is an international event," said Amanda Cruickshank ('11). "The purpose is to protest sexual violence and reclaim the streets so people feel safe."

Take Back the Night at Alma began at 8 p.m. in McIntyre Mall. To start, there were three speakers: Susan Tapp ('11) from Active Minds, Cruickshank ('11), and Adam Ellsworth ('11).

After the speakers, the men and women split up—the men went to the basement of the chapel to have a discussion about sexual violence, led by Ellsworth. Wesley Clark, from Sexual Aggression Peer Advocates at Central Michigan University, also spoke during the male discussion.

The women marched through campus, shouting chants and holding up posters with phrases such as: "We are women, we are strong, violence against us has lasted too long."

When the women were done with the march, and the men with the discussion, everyone came together in the basement of the chapel to hold a group discussion.

"People usually share extremely personal stories. There's a very serious overtone," said Elizabeth Wayne ('13). Cruickshank, prior to the event.

Cruickshank said her goal, essentially, in Take Back the Night is for people to stand up and make Alma campus a safe place.

"I think it's ridiculous that a man can walk alone pretty much anywhere at night but women always have to be escorted because the streets are unsafe for them," Ellsworth said. "There should be no reason women should be scared of walking across campus, walking home, and having to fear something going wrong just because they're a woman."

Cruickshank explained, though, that women are not the only ones sexually assaulted many men have been sexually assaulted, as

Cruickshank also emphasized that with Take Back the Night this year, she tried to appeal to Greek systems.

"I feel Greek life has a huge stereotype that we're sluts, that we're easy, if you go to such-andsuch place you'll be raped... I'm challenging Greek systems to show up to the event... to show people on campus that their houses are safe and okay-they are protesting and taking a stand against this," said Cruickshank. "I want Greek life to be associated with safety."

Many students that attended Take Back the Night agree sexual violence is a very serious issue in society today, yet a majority of the problem with sexual violence is the lack of awareness about it.

"I don't think people understand [sexual violence] is common," said

I think people would be surprised how much it's an American issue, how much it happens here."

"Lack of rights for women equals increased dangers for women," Ellsworth added.

"No matter how involved you are in this, you are always shocked by the statistics," said Cruickshank.

Tapp said she came to Take Back the Night to inform people about mental illnesses associated with rape. She described how victims to sexual violence are much more at risk for depression, among other disorders.

"I really hope for anyone who's had problems with abuse and violence that they'll get the proper help they need... they shouldn't be ashamed to get help, there's no reason to be," said Tapp.

Cruickshank said she feels Take Back the Night gives sexual violence a real feeling, and brushes aside the "it couldn't happen to me" feeling.

"I feel like when people come to Alma, you have this deeper connection with people on this campus, because it's such a small pool as compared to a larger university," said Cruickshank. "You think because it's small that things don't happen... Sexual violence doesn't discriminate against gender, race, or religion. It doesn't consider your family or your friends. This event shows sexual violence happens everywhere, it doesn't matter who you are."

## The new health care bill will have positive effects on many

By LAUREL TILOT

STAFF WRITER

I am your average college student in every way possible.

I scramble for signatures on drop/add forms, I complain about the food, I sleep very little, and sometimes I party a little too

This mundane sort of lifestyle also applies to my approach to politics and religion, the big, taboo "not for the dinner table"

I care very little about either subject and I know only what I've seen on the news or read in the ranting Facebook statuses or on a few political or news based

Websites that I visit.

The newest irritation flooding my Facebook and MSN sites is new healthcare legislation that is getting so much attention.

I didn't know a whole lot about it, so I looked it up via our friendly Internet and found out that it basically means, in part,) that lots of people who couldn't have healthcare before are now going to be able to.

This is good, right?

Let's look past all of the money it's going to cost, the fact that it will take a long time to affect everyone, and all of the other negative aspects of it and focus on something positive for once.

People having health care is

Especially for those who couldn't afford it before.

Terrible things happen to people every day and, sadly, there are a lot more people out there who can't afford to go to the doctor than the amount of people who can.

In fact, I could give a whole list of people, some of whom go to this very college, who can't afford or don't qualify for health insurance.

Rarely do I write about anything highly controversial, but this is something I feel that I can approach.

I want those people who I care about to be safe.

I want them to be able to have the same sort of benefits in life that I have.

Whether or not this new health care policy is going to cost a whole bunch of money, if the people I love are going to be able to have health care of some fashion when they had none before, then I am

Just think about all of the little things that you go to the doctor for if you have insurance or can afford the care.

The list piles up rather quickly and you probably never even realized it.

And if you look at these reasons for your doctor or hospital visit, you notice that some of them could have become major problems.

Preventative care is something that is invaluable.

You get your vaccinations and it saves you a lot of pain and a lot of money later in life if you had happened to contract mumps, measles, hepatitis, or HPV.

Emergency care is also something lots of us take for granted.

Sure, they have to treat you and bill you, but being hounded by debt collectors for the rest of your life because you fell off a ladder and split your head open or got seriously sick is something that many people would rather avoid.

So can't we all just decide to pitch in and keep those we love a little safer, rather than bashing every little semantic about the bill?

I say yes, so bring on the doctor's visits.

## A second look at Apple's iPad

By Stephen Sorenson

STAFF WRITER

The day the iPad arrives is not one week away, my friends.

Apple's press conference back in January really did not impress me, but, two months later, is there anything about it worth a second look?

We know that the iPad is Apple's big 2010 project.

We've seen plenty of advertisements already for this "magical," multi-touch device. Most importantly, however, we recognize the similarities between it and the iPhone.

It doesn't take long to see that the iPad and the iPhone are the same device, only one's bigger.

It was like that when the iPad was announced and much to my disappointment hasn't changed a bit since then.

You must be wondering how the iPad can possibly be a justifiable is a good size for watching videos purchase.

I mean after all, it's so much the same as the iPhone it even packs the same amount of gigabytes, vet the iPhone is smaller, more portable and cheaper.

How could anyone benefit from choosing an iPad over an iPhone?

I have tons of complaints in the way of the iPad, but I see two rays of hope.

These are not distant rays that must be carefully guided by Apple in order for them to shine through, but rather, I am already certain of the goods they yield.

First, this device must be the traveling businessman's dream.

I've called Apple a dozen times since the iPad's announcement just to make sure I knew what to expect.

The one thing every representative mentioned is that it will be so much fun to hold and

I know they're right and I think the people who buy an iPad will discover this, especially traveling businessmen.

The device is very light and its single screen nature makes it easy to pull out and immediately put it

The display is 9.7 inches, which

on a flight. Also, since it was designed to browse Web pages like the iPhone, it's great for quickly surfing the Web, and it's capable of displaying

iPhone. Probably the best part is that

a whole page at a time, unlike the

the screen keyboard allows the room for normal typing with two

I can't imagine using an iPad to text, but when you're on the go and you need to make last minute fixes to a word processing, PowerPoint, or spreadsheet project and e-mail it to your boss, it's possible to do so on the iPad since it supports iWork.

Now, it's important to remember that an iPad is not a computer and cannot multitask or download things online, but certainly can be nifty if put to good use.

It's true that there's nothing the iPad can do that the iPhone can't, and in fact, doesn't even have a camera, but the iPad's size alone accounts for the fact that it feels like a book when holding it.

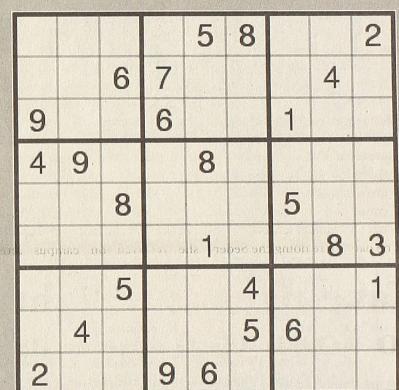
I think that's just enough to distinguish itself as a product.

This brings me to the second

In January, Apple also announced the iBookstore, which downloads electronic books onto the iPad allowing you to read them exactly like you'd read a normal book.

I think this is a good idea since there are pretty much no decent book apps for the iPhone, but it doesn't stop there.

Included in the store are



Puzzle courtesy of dailysudoku.com

textbook rentals; any student could download all the textbooks needed for a semester for a cheaper and lighter solution to carrying them around.

overpriced for more of the same, only different, and I will not ever be buying one.

However, if you do fall into the group of businessmen I talked about or if you are a student who would be willing to purchase an expensive device in order to Personally, I still think the iPad is briefly rent inexpensive textbooks and lightly carry them, then it is in your interest to give the iPad a second look

If you need someone to talk to, there's a safe, confidential place to go. MacCurdy House

Residents on duty Friday & Saturday night 11-2, but free to listen any time.

## the Almanian.

"ALMA COLLEGE'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SERVING THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY SINCE 1907."

#### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

The Almanian is a newspaper published not only for the students at this institution, not just for the faculty on campus, and not solely for the administrators who work for Alma, but for all people interested in Alma College and the lives it touches. The writers, editors, publishers, and distributors of this newspaper are dedicated to producing an interesting, accurate, timely, fun, and error free newspaper on a weekly basis in order to inform and educate the people for whom it is intended about the culture and nature of Alma College.

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## Catholic priests must be held accountable for sexual molestation

By SEAN WEBBER

STAFFWRITER It's that time of year again. Catholic priest scandal!

It's been a tumultuous week for the Catholic Church.

First Irish bishop John Magee resigns in response to allegations that he mishandled several sexual abuse cases in the church.

And now, the Pope himself is catching flack for not acting on reports of sexual abuse.

There are even rumors that Pope Benedict XVI opted to place a child molester back in a church position.

Granted, apparently these actions were performed by the Pope before he was the Pope.

Still, according to recent reports care in Munich, and suggested the by church officials, the Pope saw the memo, and did not remove said molester from his churchy

The boy-touching reverend in question is German Rev. Peter Hellermann, who in 1979 was removed from his post in Essen after allegations of inappropriate contact with young boys.

The guy went to rehab (they have rehab for everything nowadays) and Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI) saw fit to transfer Rev. Hellermann to another church.

This action was despite Essen Diocese Klaus Mangere's advice to put Hellermann in psychiatric reverend "work at a girls' school" if anything.

Instead, Hellermann was reinstated with full priest status in Munich.

For those of us who have seen it, the film "Doubt" comes to mind.

For those of us who haven't, men in collars with altar boys on their lap comes to mind.

I understand that this subject is very sensitive for many people, and to those people I must apologize for any offense I may make during my discourse on the subject of child-molesting priests.

However, I must address the issue as honestly as I can.

When any individual enters into

inappropriate sexual contact with a child, that individual, no matter what the office or status, must adhere to the penalty of the law of the state.

Furthermore, when the knowledge of such actions is hidden by any third party or parties etc, that is a conspiracy, and any individual included is also subject to punishment.

News of another church scandal is doing nothing but severely damaging the Catholic Church, and, by association, other denominations.

For all the criticism, the church plays an important part in millions of people's lives worldwide. With this development (which has come to be somewhat of an annual event) we must discuss the concept of accountability.

Accountability is certainly something that Wall Street and the American economic sector must learn in order to move forward.

Now, we're seeing a parallel with the Catholic Church.

Unfortunately, this scandal goes straight to the top, much like

Cover-ups are never good for publicity, and if the Catholic Church wants to continue championing itself as the model of morality in the world, someone in the institution had better learn to lead by example.

## Let us live off campus!

BY LAUREL TILOT

STAFF WRITER

We all have those dreams about the day that we move out of our parents' house.

It's a hazy afternoon, your car is packed up, you have a place in mind, your parents are at the kitchen table and you confidently stroll in and announce: "Mom, Dad, I'm moving out!"

There's no argument or tears, it's simple and you just go on your way, out the door and into your

Does it ever happen this way?

Moving out of your parents' house is never easy and you would hope that moving out of college would be at least a little bit less of a hassle, but it's not.

So far this year, I've known five or six people who have all been flat-out refused when they've applied to live off campus.

Some of these people have been in a rather binding situation

Stuck in a lease, a partner who needs help paying the rent, or just the plain fact that it is less expensive for them to live in their own apartment (or at home with parents for those who live in.

You would think that the college would jump at the chance to keep some students enrolled here to be able to free up some living space so that they can fit more students in the upcoming class.

I know that the class I entered with, the class of 2011, had over 400 students and there was a bit of trouble trying to fit us all into residence halls.

The next class had just as many,

next graduating class will have around the same number.

So what is the problem with letting a few of us soon-to-be-

Are we not trusted enough to

Does the school honestly lose that much money when a handful of students decide that it's time

paper is in the right place?

In truth, I have no idea.

Once you get in, you can't

their own bit of space.

They've tried dorm life, they've

with their reasoning for living off of a Residential Campus states campus like ours is "to promote an environment which recognizes degree of privacy."

> strive for this, there's just not that much privacy to be had.

> share a bathroom with lots of other people.

that's still five to 10 other people who live with you, keeping you up at night, not doing their chores, or simply bothering you with their heavy breathing.

if not more, and I'm sure that this out if we think we're ready and

seniors leave campus?

keep attending class?

for them to move on?

Why can't we just pack up our stuff and leave, so long as the right

I just think it's a bit ridiculous.

I've heard several of my friends start referring to the whole process of campus residency as prison.

Sometimes people just want

lived in small housing, but they just can't seem to make any of it

Alma College's Philosophy that one purpose of having a each individuals need for some

I've noticed that even as we

You live alone, sure, but you

You live in a small house, but

Alma College, we're all adults

I think it's time you let us move

I'M LOOKING AT THE COLLEGE SEE, WEBSITE FOR THE HOURS OF THE REC CENTER, AND I CAN'T MAYBET CAN HELP. FIND ANYTHING.

DUDE! YOU'RE SPELLING RECCENTER, "WRECK CENTER!" AND YOUR POINT WHAT CRUEL ENGLISH EACHER DID YOU HAVE?

Pulled from file

### Cheers & Jeers in the video game industry

By Stephen Sorenson

STAFF WRITER

Square Enix released Just Cause which is perhaps the coolest free roaming (sandbox) game ever

Square officially announced that he true sequel to Kingdom Hearts 2, Kingdom Hearts 3, is currently under development and it won't oring the series to close.

However, that last statement is mplied because I'm sure there will e at least three handheld Kingdom Hearts games after 3.

Let's just hope it's not another four years before we hear of Just Cause 3 and five years before we hear of Kingdom Hearts 4.

Jeers:

Again, I mention Square Enix,

only this time, to call them out for Final Fantasy 13.

The game had a shallow story, an extremely linear quest, especially for an RPG, and unsatisfying, easy

It's a good thing Final Fantasy 14 is a massively multiplayer online game... oh wait, so was Final Fantasy 11, whose server was announced to shut down before the release of Final Fantasy

#### Cheers:

The Wii is getting Netflix! A disk required for the service will be shipped to Netflix and Wii owners soon.

Now, Nintendo will finally have a console with the ability to play movies, an option Sony and Microsoft had a whole game generation ago.

Way to go, Nintendo! Jeers:

Bungie has announced that a Halo movie is again under

Apparently, once Halo Reach is released, Bungie thinks a movie

Being a huge fan of Halo myself, this news disappoints me. Halo Reach is a prequel to the Halo trilogy, which I thought would be a great opportunity for Bungie to completely fill gamers who haven't read the books in on every piece of

would. Congrats, Bungie, for lowering my expectations.

#### Problems with Microsoft's technical support

By Stephen Sorenson STAFF WRITER

Microsoft dominates the computer operating industry and is a massive player in the video game industry.

However, its products have quite a history of upsetting consumers.

Sure, every company is bound to have problems, but Microsoft is definitely one of the worst cases I've experienced.

Given how large the company is, there's no excuse for this.

As it releases new products, for every one previous issue that is resolved, two are left unresolved.

The real issue here is the technical support horrendous they provide.

It's one thing to sell a product of

to the injury sustained from the amount of money you've spent, by establishing a counter productive support service?

Unforgivable.

Almost every call I've made to them has resulted in a 25 minute waste of time. First, I speak in gibberish so

that the automated help service can't understand me and has no choice, but to transfer me to a human being because, let's face it, the answering machine is worse than useless.

Then, once I've successfully gotten a hold of a barely coherent representative, he reads to me straight out of the technical support manual as if I'm an idiot who hasn't already tried.

Finally, he concludes that it's

terrible quality, but to add insult, probably user error and directs me to the website. End of conversation.

> Look, when everything's working all right, I love Microsoft.

Windows operating systems are able to run an incredible line up of programs that provide almost every tool anyone could possibly want in a computer.

The Xbox 360 has the best modern generation video games in the market for people who are more than casual gamers. Before the end of the year,

Project Natal, an entirely motion control add on to the 360, will The reason these brilliant

products don't work is because Microsoft hardware is absolute

vehicles and support. They didn't have much Computers and Internet devices competition and were profiting,

development.

will be appropriate to complement the franchise.

the story currently missing. Now, the fact that a movie is even being considered leads me to believe that Halo Reach doesn't quite cover everything I'd hoped it

so they had little incentive to are capable of causing fatal errors in their design alone and,

transporting them. And don't even get me started with the 360's red ring of death.

in my experience, sometimes

break beyond repair by simply

Fortunately, I'm starting to see slow, but sure progress in fixing all problems with the Xbox 360 and I believe this is because Nintendo and Sony are providing the fierce competition it needs.

However, in the computer industry, I'm actually seeing a digression of quality with every product.

This should remind us of what's going on in the auto industry.

Ford used to have poor quality

change anything. Toyota and Honda provided Ford a painful wake up call, and

now look how much better Ford

vehicles have become. Since Microsoft makes up more than 85 percent of the computer industry, it has no reason to improve.

I really hope Apple can one day surprise Microsoft by showing them up in sales and motivate build Microsoft to hardware.

Unfortunately, I don't see Apple sales improving when they release the new failure of a smart phone known as the iPad.

So, we can all look forward to at least another year of suffering with Microsoft's terrible computers and relentless technical support.

# SPORTS

March 29- April 4, 2010

PAGE 7

## Softball sweeps on the road

By Maria Castaneda

STAFF WRITER

After a cancellation last Friday, the women's softball team played a doubleheader against Ohio Wesleyan University. The Scots beat the Bishops in both games, winning the first 8-2 and the nightcap 5-2.

Originally, the women's squad had planned on playing Bluffton College in a doubleheader on Friday afternoon but the game was canceled due to cold weather and about an inch of snow on the field.

Last year, the Scots split games with both Ohio Wesleyan University and Bluffton College. In the first game the Bishops won 7-0, but the Scots came back to win 6-4 in the second game. Against Bluffton, the women's softball team won the first game 2-1 but lost the second 1-0.

This year the Scots traveled down to Ohio expecting to come back with four wins.

"They lost some good hitters," Dana Fend (12) said. "They're not a running or short game team, they're just average. We should take four wins this weekend."

In the first game, Tara Leddy ('11) pitched all seven innings,

earned run.

Kelly Koenigsknecht ('11) led the Scot's offense going three for four with three RBI's and scoring

Although defensively the Scots allowed three hits, they played flawlessly to allow no errors.

In the nightcap, Brittany Grys (12) pitched all seven innings allowing four hits and no earned runs. Grys pitched a solid game and had eight strikeouts and walked only two.

In preparation for this season the Scots traveled to Florida twice and have increased repetitions at

"We've increased our sharpness and determination," Emily Ross (12) said. "We've done a lot more hitting."

Playing in Ohio will be the team's first competition since Florida. Although the squad has not competed in almost two weeks, constant practice has kept them on their toes.

"It should come natural and not have to talk about it between every play," Fend said.

This year the team has less home games than in past years and although this decreases the

allowed only four hits, and one Scots' home field advantage they have prepared for this.

"We're used to it because we traveled a lot last year," Ross said. "Florida prepares us too."

"We just have to adjust to every condition since we don't have as many home games," Fend said. "But it's fine because we always have a lot of supporters anywhere

With a couple wins already under their belt, the Scots hope to continue their success, even into playoffs. "We have a lot of returning players and we're determined to win some titles this year," Ross said.

Earlier last week, on Thursday evening, the women's JV softball team played Jackson Community College and mercied them in both games.

"We definitely hit the ball well," Rachel Bowker ('13) said. "We had good hits at good times. Our pitching was solid and we made very few errors in the field."

Bowker is among the players who play for both JV and varsity.

"It's really good for learning because if you go right to varsity you're afraid to make a mistake," Bowker said. "With JV you can get experience at the college level."

#### Men's tennis hopes for successful MIAA season

By RYAN KAISER

STAFF WRITER

The 2010 version of the Alma College men's tennis team is much different from last year's. The team lost a few of its top players from last season, however the Scots are confident that they can continue to improve as they begin play in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

However for the team to be successful some young players are going to have to step up for the Scots. After an up and down start to the season the players are hoping that they can improve.

The team started the season out with wins over Adrian and Defiance colleges. The team then traveled to Orlando, Fla. where they went two and four. The team returned to Alma with a win over

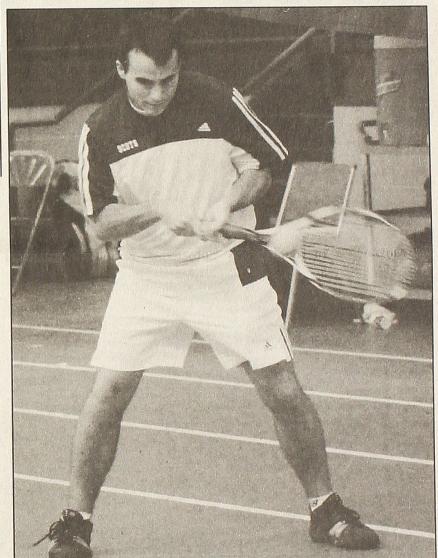
Davenport, but then dropped matches to Adrian and Lake Forest College.

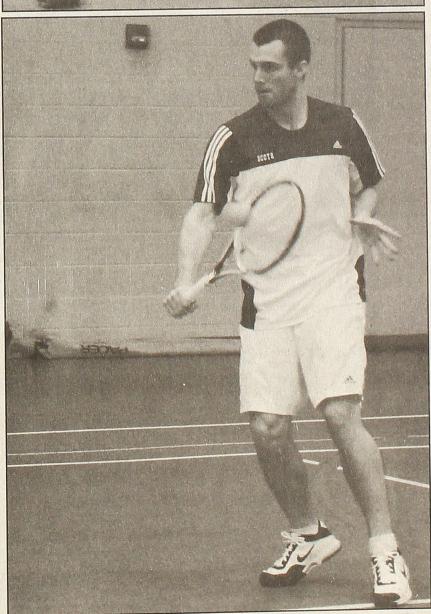
Returning to Michigan, after the team's trip to Orlando meant getting back to Michigan's usual unpredictable climate, something the boys were ready for.

"The weather has not really been a factor, I think. At this point in our "tennis careers", we are all use to playing in all types of weather, especially the cold," said Zachary Kerr ('11). "While it is certainly more fun to play when the weather is nice and warm, I don't think any of us are afraid to play our games because it's a certain temperature outside".

The Scots biggest challenge this year has been overcoming tough

See 'Tennis' pg. 8





Photos from file

Zach Kerr ('11) and Kace Lovejoy ('11) shown earlier in the season playing indoors at home.

# Baseball opens conference play with a split at home

By Maria Castaneda STAFF WRITER

The men's baseball team lost the conference opener at Klenk Park against Kalamazoo College last Saturday. In the first double header of conference play, the Scots lost the first game 5-0 but second 12-6.

On Sunday the Scots traveled to Kalamazoo to play another training in Myrtle Beach and

doubleheader against Kalamazoo College.

Despite the loss, the men's baseball team felt prepared going into the double header on Saturday. "We had two out of conference games in preparation for conference games so we didn't just come back from spring came back strong and won the break and go into a gym," Adam Rezmer ('11) said.

After returning from spring

before beginning conference play at home, the men's baseball team played Rose Hulman and Goshen College. The Scots beat Goshen College 10-1. Less than a week earlier, the Scots split with Rose Hulman, winning the first game 6-2 and losing the second 9-2.

"We split with Rose Hulman and they were ranked in the top 20 when we played them so that

See 'Baseball' pg. 8

## This week in sports

March 30

Women's Tennis v. Kalamazoo home @ 4 p.m.

March 31

Softball v. Calvin home @ 3:30 p.m.

Men's Tennis v. Grand Rapids CC home @ 3 p.m.

April 2

Baseball v. Albion home @ 2 p.m.

Men's Tennis v. Trine home @ 2 p.m.

SPORTS

# Scotlight: Dylan Jehnzen, Latecomer to the game of baseball

By RYRAN KAISER STAFF WRITER

Most young baseball players get their start in the game before they can even read. Youngsters start playing the game at the age of five or six. Dylan Jehnzen ('12) picked the game up a little later than that.

"I actually got a late start," said Jehnzen. "I played a lot of other sports when I was younger, mostly football and basketball. I picked up baseball when I was 10 or 11."

However, despite his late start, the game came pretty easily to the young athlete.

"I picked it up pretty fast, I watched it a lot before, and I was still pretty young," said Jehnzen.

Jehnzen played high school sports at Reed City High school. He starred in football, basketball and baseball. Participation in other sports played a part in Jehnzen picking Alma over other schools.

"The chance to play sports in college was a start in my picking Alma," said Jehnzen. "I actually came here to play football and baseball. But my freshman year fall baseball was happening at the same time as football and I decided to focus on baseball."

Jehnzen also found the small size of Alma's campus to be a good match for him.

"It fit for me. The campus is small, everyone knows everyone,"

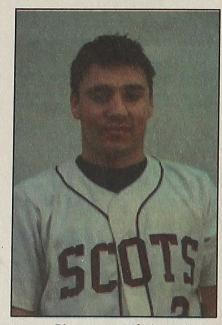


Photo courtesy of Alma Athletics

Dylan Jehnzen is playing shortstop for the Scots this spring. The team's record is 4-6.

said Jehnzen.

Once he had decided to focus his efforts on baseball, instead of basketball and football, his next goal was to work on his game to earn playing time in the more competitive college game.

Jehnzen has picked up playing more second base in college, instead of primarily shortstop, which he played in high school. It also means fighting through a long season. And in a sport like baseball, setbacks from injuries are commonplace.

This season has been no exception for Jehnzen. Although, it's early in the season for the Scots baseball program, he already has to fight thorough injury to try to earn playing time.

"I popped my bursa sac in my elbow. The swelling was the worst part for a while," said Jehnzen. "It kept me out a lot. I've only been able to play in one game this season for the J.V. team. The swelling has gone down, and I think I'm over the swelling. I shouldn't have to get it drained or anything at this point."

For Jehnzen, this means entering the season in spring training form when everyone else is working their way towards mid-season

Baseball is a sport that requires repetition to make progress. This means players need to get as many at-bats and plays in the field as possible. And even though these can be worked on in practice, it is not comparable to what a player gets out of live game situations.

Jehnzen thinks that will help him, when he is fully recovered.

"It's hard not getting a chance to play at this point," said Jehnzen.

"I hope I can get a better strategy for getting as much time out there as I can."

The Scots baseball team plays several times in the upcoming week. They will play at Aquinas College on Wednesday, home against Albion on Friday and then travel to Albion on Saturday.

## 'Tennis' from pg. 7

competition and early season

"It's been a tough year, we lost a couple of close matches down in Florida that we probably should have won," said Ben Schippers

Still the Scots feel they have the ability to compete with anybody, and to be a top team in the MIAA. This means shaking off early season rust is a must for the

"We are moving into the hardest part of our schedule, the MIAA is one of the best Division III conferences in the country," said Schippers, "We expect some really tough matches coming up."

Still even the idea of a grueling schedule ahead can't deter the confident Scots.

"So far I think the season is going well," said Kerr. "I think we have struggled a little as everyone finds their games, but I think we have some wins to be proud of."

The loss of players also means that virtually everyone has had to move up in position on the team. This means facing tougher competition every week.

"After losing a couple of key players from last year, everybody has had to move up in the lineup," said Schippers. "Everybody

worked hard during the off-season but the adjustment to the new spots is still continuing."

"I think this year's team is much different than last year's team," said Kerr. "I certainly think we have to work harder for our wins".

Having to work harder for wins may also translate into better team chemistry and relations between players, during practice and matches.

"The team chemistry is an interesting one this year, said Kerr. "We are all very supportive of each other on the court, though and that's what is important."

The presence of growing positive team chemistry has Kerr excited for the rest of the season.

"I certainly hope we will finish the season well! We have a lot of confidence, I think, as a team and that's going to translate well when it comes down to close matches. This team has a lot of heart for tennis and while we may not be the most skilled team in the MIAA, we aren't going to lay down for anyone".

The team will play at Spring Arbor on Tuesday, before returning home Wednesday for a match with Grand Rapids Community College and then will play at home on Friday against Trine University.

Students: Remember to buy your housing card in the Business Office in the basement of Hamilton Commons! You must have a housing card before going to the housing lottery!

#### Scots play doubleheader against Kalamazoo





**Photos by Devin Brines** 

Baseball opened league play Saturday with a doubleheader versus Kalamazoo. The Scots lost their first game, 5-0, and won the second 12-6. Corey Brohl ('11) pitched a complete game in the first of the pair. Also shown is Scots catcher Jay Sackett ('11).

#### 'Baseball' from pg. 7 was huge for us," Rezmer said.

"Hopefully that will transfer to conference play."

Unfortunately, conference play did not start in the Scots' favor. The Hornets were able to shut down the Scots and not allow any runs to be scored in the first

Corey Brohl ('11) pitched all seven innings allowed five hits but no earned runs.

completely turned the tables on the Hornets and scored 12 runs. Andrew Zimcosky ('11) pitched

the first five innings of the second game with Joe Yourchock ('11) clinching the win.

Nick Townsend ('11) led the team offensively going two for three with three RBI's and crossed the plate twice.

"Our hitting finally came through and we finally played as a team. The first game we just didn't hit when we needed to," Sackett said. "Their first pitcher was really good and that's why we couldn't In the second game, The Scots hit him. Their second two pitchers didn't throw as well."

In between doubleheaders the Scots quickly regained their

composure for the comeback. "The first game we were really lackadaisical but we came back with much more energy in the second game," Sackett said.

On Sunday the Scots again faced the Hornets and felt confident after the split on Saturday. "We should be able to win both tomorrow," Sackett said. "They don't have much pitching and our hitting should be much better today. I'm hoping to take three out of four in the series tomorrow. Hopefully our hitting will come through and we'll get a couple runs."

Earlier in the week, the Scots played Davenport University and won 4-0, earning a victory for their first home game and marking a three game winning streak.

The Scots maintained a strong game throughout with Sackett pitching three scoreless, hitless innings.

Anthony Derrer (12) started the game pitching with Brohl relieving him. Sackett then pitched three innings with

Yourchock closing the game. "Our pitchers did a good job of keeping hitters off balance," Rezmer said. "When someone

messed up in the field we turned around and made a double play to make up for the error."

Although pitching was steady, the Scots' hitting had room for improvement. "We could've hit better and hit more consistent throughout the lineup," Rezmer said.

Tyler Periard ('10), Yourchock, Nate Smith ('11), and Luke Prudhomme ('13) each recorded a hit and scored a run for the Scots.

The Scots continue their season playing Aquinas College in Grand Rapids on Wednesday.