

# SIFE holds workshop to prepare high school students for future interviews

By MOLLY HENNING  
STAFF WRITER

Alma College students in Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) participated in a workshop at Alma High School on Friday to prepare high school students for the interviewing process. The workshop was organized by the student teacher of a business class at Alma High School, **Marc Mankowski ('10)**. Mankowski contacted **Bill McHenry ('11)**, President of SIFE, to see if members would want to help with this project. McHenry participated in the workshop with eight other SIFE students—**Vincent Zanotti ('11)**, **Daniel Elliott ('11)**, **Kyle Weber ('11)**, **Katherine Gruber ('11)**, **Maricat Eggenberger ('11)**, **Holly Oemke ('12)**, **Larry Schlusler ('11)**, and **Sara Hirschman ('11)**.

There were two sessions for the Alma High School students in the morning, one from 8 to 9:30 and another from 9:30 to 11. In the workshops, the SIFE students conducted a mock interview for each high school student in Mankowski's class. Eggenberger said that most of the students were freshmen and sophomores in high school. "The students were instructed to act like it was a real interview," said Eggenberger. "They had to dress like they were going to

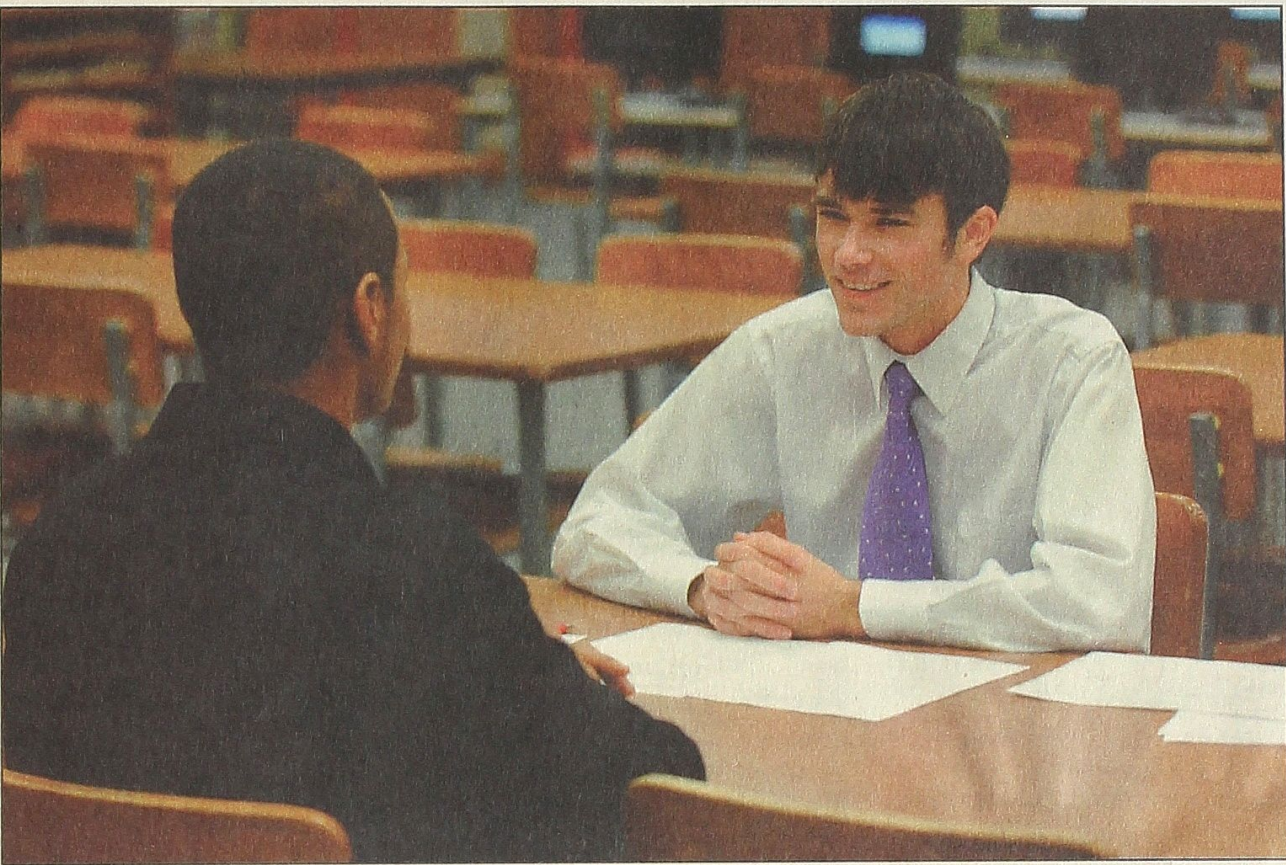


Photo by Kayla Roy

Kyle Weber ('11) works to help prepare an Alma High School student for future interviews.

an interview, and they prepared resumes and cover letters for us." Eggenberger explained that the SIFE interviewers were given a list prior to meeting with the students showing what career each student was interested in. "Some of the questions were career specific to what they had said they want to do, with questions along the lines of what experiences have you had related to this career, what have you learned from those experiences," said Eggenberger. After the students' interview was finished, the SIFE members gave them feedback on their

interview and their resume. "They're now at the point where they can start working, and in the next few years, they'll likely be applying for a job and interviewing," said Eggenberger. "It's good practice so they'll know what will happen at the interview and they'll feel a bit more prepared." Eggenberger added that this workshop can also help the students get more career-focused at a younger age and collect their experiences on a resume in terms of career goals. McHenry said that he, too, thought

the workshop was very successful. "It's really crucial to understand interviews before you go into one, and I think this will benefit them in the long run so they know what they're getting into and what to expect," said McHenry. McHenry and Eggenberger also agreed, though, that this mock interview process was helpful for the SIFE interviewers as well. "It'll help to understand why the interviewer is asking the questions that they ask... it also helped you see what you need to do to differentiate yourself in the interview," said McHenry.

# Alma to offer health care administration major in 2011

By JOSHUA ZEITLER  
STAFF WRITER

Beginning in 2011, Alma College is offering a new major: health care administration. In the coming winter semester, Dale Sanders, assistant professor of business administration and health care administration, will teach two courses, "Introduction to Health Service Management" and "Strategic Planning in Health Care," for the health care administration major. "While the introductory course provides a fundamental understanding of the principles of health service management, the strategic planning course evaluates practical skills and strategic management assessing the internal and external organization environment," said Sanders. Since the introduction of the current plans for health care reform in the United States, the topic has become more controversial, if not more important. "From an educational perspective, the goal is to keep students informed of what is currently being done so that

they can keep up with the field," said Sanders. "We want to offer a historical liberal arts approach, emphasizing accounting, finance, social and philosophical theories as they relate to changing health care, but augmented with strategic and critical thinking." **Frances Jackson ('14)**, a student in Sanders' first year seminar on the United States health care system has chosen health care administration

**"While the introductory course provides a fundamental understanding of the principles of health service management, the strategic planning course evaluates practical skills and strategic management accessing the internal and external organization environment."**

-Dale Sanders

as one of her majors. "Even if you're not sure what you want to do after college, there's a lot of diverse careers involving business and health care that you could potentially take," said Jackson. Beyond her personal career interests, Jackson said that she learned valuable information during the course of Sanders' seminar. "It's surprising that so many people are so uninformed about something that plays such a huge role in their everyday lives," said Jackson. "Students probably don't often think about how difficult it may be for their grandparents to pay for health care, but it is a serious issue," said Sanders. "People are being forced to face problems that they should not have to, considering the level of technology available and the enormous amount we spend on health care as a country." In true keeping with the

college's mission statement, Sanders said that he hopes to encourage students to approach relevant problems with a consideration of diverse methods and perspectives. "The health care system

**"People are being forced to face problems that they should not have to, considering the level of technology available and the enormous amount we spend on health care as a country"**

-Dale Sanders

isn't perfect, but the most effective thing we can do is to mold individuals who will continually ask questions and challenge the systems for better outcomes," said Sanders. "I could go on and on about everything I've learned concerning our health care system, but the most important thing I learned in my first year seminar is to keep an open mind to new ideas and solutions," said Jackson. Preparing to conclude his first semester teaching at Alma College, Sanders said that he is grateful to have joined such a thriving academic community. "The new programs will work hand-in-hand to build upon the strengths of the programs that are already offered," said Sanders. "We would not be able to do what we're going to do without the solid foundation that has already been laid here at Alma." A few open slots are still available in each of the winter semester health care courses.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Snow Showers 27°	Flurries/ Wind 28°	Partly Cloudy 29°	Mostly Cloudy 32°	Snow Shower 35°	Few Snow Showers 26°	Partly Cloudy 27°



## Scholarships: Making Alma more affordable

By JOSHUA ZEITLER  
STAFF WRITER

Given the large number of valuable opportunities and experiences available at Alma College, a student's tuition money is well-spent.

However, this doesn't keep many concerned parents from wondering whether they and their children will spend the remainder of their lives paying back student loans after glancing at the initial costs.

However, Alma College offers many chances for assistance.

According to Alma's Website, "The average student award for 99 percent of our students, based on both need and merit, is \$23,085 against a cost of \$36,280."

This means that the college handles over 60 percent of the average student's debt.

When multiplied across Alma's approximately 1,400 students, Alma distributes over \$30 million in financial aid.

In the present day's unreliable economy, how can the school afford such generous awards?

A large portion of this gift comes from the support of

alumni, or even non-alumni who simply believe in the college's mission, according to the Website.

"Alma College is blessed with wonderful support from alumni who support a vision for Alma's future and the promise of successful lives for new generations of alumni," reads the Alma Fund page of the college's Website.

The Financial Assistance Office encourages students to search for additional scholarships on such scholarship sites as FastWeb, Broke Scholar, FinAid, and The College Board.

Numerous opportunities are even offered to learn and serve outside the community and in diverse cultural settings.

High-ranking awards such as the British Marshall, Gates Cambridge and Fulbright Scholarships are available for upper-level students, but funds are available to support the experiences of those new to the Alma community.

**Katie Gordon ('13)** was able to spend a month in Dharamsala, India doing volunteer work with community development issues, all expenses paid from the Posey-Global Scholarship, or P-Global.

"One of the incredible things about the P-Global scholarship is that it's offered beginning after your freshman year at Alma," said Gordon. "Right into your liberal arts experience, you're able to get involved in the world in ways almost no other students have the opportunity to. It puts one's education in an entirely new and meaningful context."

Started with a generous \$2 million donation from alumni Lee and Sally Posey, P-Global funds travel, service, research and work opportunities of the students' design.

One year ago, four students from Alma were supported by P-Global to participate in the COP15 international conference in Copenhagen, Denmark.

"The scholarship's purpose is to help students who want to use what they learn at Alma and apply it by helping the world in some little way," said Gordon. "Once I heard about this scholarship and related programs that enable students to travel and really understand the world the world around us on a whole new level, I knew Alma was the right place for me."

## This week at Alma College

Monday, December 6:

Vagina Monologue Auditions from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the MacCurdy House

Tuesday, December 7:

ACUB Movie Night at 7 p.m. in Jones Auditorium

Wednesday, December 8:

"July in Christmas" with Literacy Beyond Borders will be showing "Finding Nemo" during open swim at the Hogan Pool at 8:30 p.m., admission is \$2

Thursday, December 9:

Vagina Monologue Auditions from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the MacCurdy House

Friday, December 10:

ACOG Movie Night at 6:30 p.m. in Jones Auditorium  
One Act Play Festival at 8 p.m. in the Strosacker Theatre in the Heritage Center  
Alma College Percussion Ensemble in the Presbyterian Hall in the Heritage Center

Saturday, December 11:

One Act Play Festival at 8 p.m. in the Strosacker Theatre in the Heritage Center

Sunday, December 12:

Free Practice LSAT at 10 a.m. in SAC 213

## Highland Java sales see over 220 percent growth

By LAUREN ANDALORA  
STAFF WRITER

Highland Java café has seen an increase in sales of over 220 percent between the last school year and this first semester.

"Part of this is due to a problem which kept us from accepting Munch Money last year," said Ron Lemmon, assistant professor of business administration and international business administration and Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) faculty advisor. "That notwithstanding, we've still seen a 165-170 percent boom in sales."

Highland Java café staff believe this is due mostly to product recognition and recommendation.

"I personally believe that sales up because more upperclassmen now recognize the products at Highland Java and recommend them to freshman," said **Justin Goike ('12)**, vice president of Highland Java and SIFE participant. "We have newer products, and drinks such as our best-selling Awkward Turtle, muffins and organic chapstick."

"Our hours are also broader and better," said Lemmon. "We used to be open only four hours a day, and now we're open five hours in the morning and evening."

While sales are expected to go down towards the end of this term due to Munch Money running thin, members of the staff expect that sales will continue to be strong next semester also and this increase will become a trend.

"It has become accepted that we are in the library and people like to study or socialize on the couches while enjoying a drink or snack," said Lemmon.

What this increase in sales means for Highland Java is paying off loan

debt and saving money for future equipment repairs and purchases.

"We have \$25,000 in loans to pay back for the equipment we bought four years ago. The espresso maker alone cost around \$10,000," said Lemmon. "Now we can pay those loans off and reserve for equipment all in this one year. It's very exciting."

***"It has become accepted that we are in the library and people like to study or socialize on the couches while enjoying a drink or snack."***

***-Ron Lemmon***

Not only will Highland Java be able to pay off their loan debt, but they will be able to make money for the first time in fall term.

"These past few years we weren't making money, we were just breaking even," said Lemmon.

"This year we broke even on November 15, four months earlier than the typical April 1 date. This takes a lot of worry out of the equation."

These excess funds can now be used for what the café was intended for which is community-oriented projects and student travel to regional or national competitions.

"One of the best things about Highland Java is the business experience it offers the students who run it," said Lemmon. "They make all of the purchasing decisions, and when they lose money it is their responsibility to figure out how to keep the business going. They're entrepreneurs."

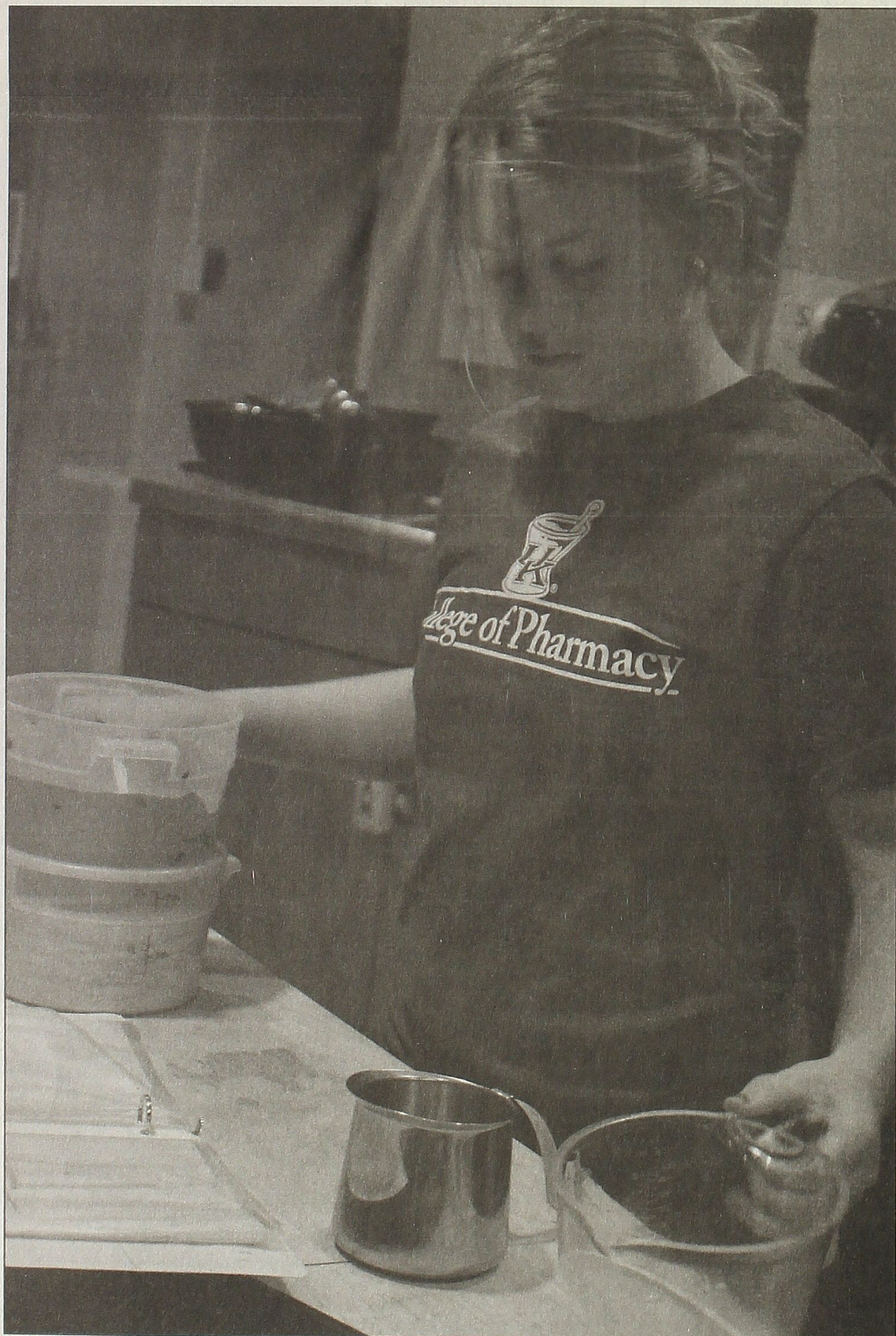


Photo by Kayla Roy

**Hannah Bauhof ('12) works at Highland Java. The student operated cafe has seen an increase in sales of over 220 percent, partially because students can now pay with Munch Money.**



## CMU's No Zebras event informs students on sexual assault prevention

By **LAUREN ANDALORA**  
STAFF WRITER

Student representatives from Central Michigan University came to Alma College to perform a variety of vignettes about topics such as sexual assault, harassment, stalking and rape.

"Sexual Aggression Peer Advocates (SAPA) is a student-driven, non-profit organization on CMU's campus which offers the student body a 24/7 crisis hotline manned by trained crisis advocates," said Kevin Carmody, CMU and SAPA alumni. "No Zebras is part of CMU's sexual assault prevention program and each year the incoming freshmen are required to attend a performance."

SAPA is comprised of 40 students, each with 40 hours of training, who are there to listen to and believe survivors.

"Steve Thompson founded SAPA about 12 years ago to create an outlet for students on campus," said Branden Thompson, CMU alumni and SAPA member. "As head of sexual aggression services, he found students were more likely to talk to peers than professionals as first responders."

"I've had friends and family who were affected by sexual assault, so it has been something that I've been extremely passionate about since high school and now I want to educate others," said Carly Johnson, CMU senior.

"I took a class with Steve Thompson on sexual assault awareness and avoidance and

became very passionate about the subject," said CMU senior Kiara Gholston. "It's something that's not talked enough about and we need to spread the word."

During the performance, members mentioned the importance of judgment versus responsibility, removing the blame and making sure not to distance yourself from the possibility of a crisis.

"There's a difference between poor judgment and responsibility," said Branden Thompson. "Just because someone acted with poor judgment doesn't mean the perpetrator isn't responsible

***"We want to break the bystander mentality. It doesn't matter who you are when you come into this room; we only care about who you are when you leave."***

-Anne Milne

for his or her actions."

"Don't distance yourself from a victim or situation," said Katie Kleve. "When you start saying 'I don't dress promiscuously,' 'I don't drink,' 'I don't go to clubs,' 'That can't happen to me,' you distance yourself from a very real possibility."

Though advocacy groups like these are common on many college campuses, this particular group is unique in its approach.

"This is the first organization that really targets bystanders as opposed to many sexual

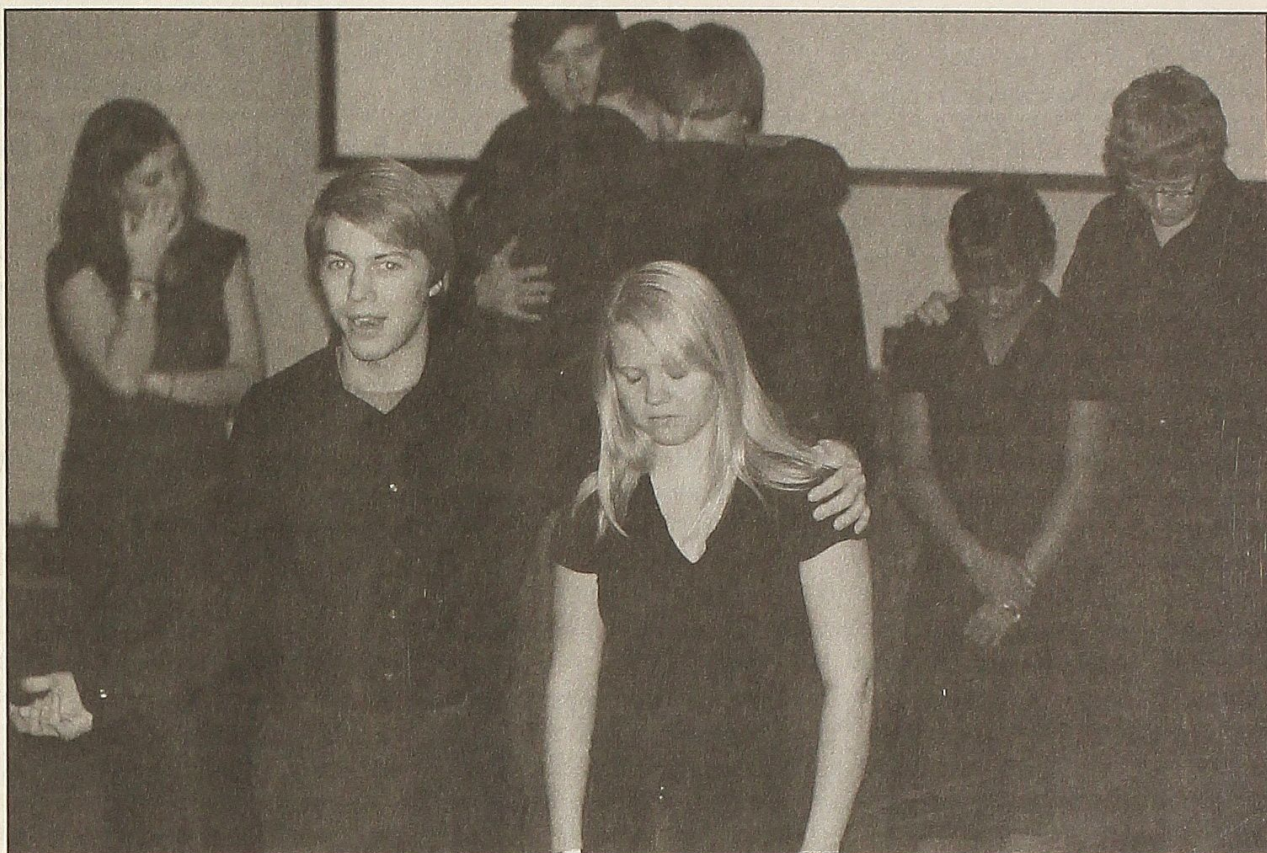


Photo by Kayla Roy

**Miller Dugalech and Carly Johnson, members of Sexual Aggression Peer Advocates, perform during the No Zebras event, which informed Alma students on how to prevent sexual assault.**

assault programs which try to target potential offenders or teach potential targets self-defense," said Carmody. "Targeting bystanders has been found to be more effective."

"We want to break the bystander mentality," said Anne Milne, CMU senior. "It doesn't matter who you are when you come into this room; we only care about who you are when you leave."

While No Zebras is unique to CMU, Alma does provide different types of resources with people who are passionate about the subject. One of the sexual

assault student resources at Alma College is the MacCurdy House, which deals with a variety of issues ranging from sexual assault, domestic violence, sexual harassment and stalking.

"We are trained through the Women's Resources Center here in Gratiot County and are on duty Friday and Saturday nights for anyone who wants to come over," said **Jessica Gauthier ('11)**. "You can also call anonymously or find all of our emails on the It Gets Better page on Alma's Website."

MacCurdy House will be sponsoring a self-defense

workshop on Thursday from 6-8pm where students will learn basic tactics to protect themselves against assault.

"The event that I'm planning is going to be a 2-hour self-defense course with a professional from Schaefer Self-Defense," said **Patricia Reynolds ('11)**.

"I hope that this workshop will be an eye-opener to a sad truth: that even though we may think we live in a nice and safe community, people are still assaulted. I'm hoping it will give students the confidence to be able to protect themselves against assault."

## Students aim to raise \$20,000 for St. Jude's through Up 'til Dawn fundraiser

By **ELISABETH BLETSCH**  
STAFF WRITER

For the third consecutive year our campus will be hosting the Up 'til Dawn fundraiser to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

"My hope for the campus is that they can put themselves in someone else's shoes and realize that there are others out there that may not have the luxury of worrying about day-to-day things, when instead they are worrying about if they are going to be alive the next day," said **Nicole Bursach ('12)**, executive director of the program.

"This program helps students become more well-rounded and informed citizens."

Up 'til Dawn will be held on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Stone Recreation multi-purpose room.

In previous years the event has been well received and successful on campuses across the nation as students unite for a common cause.

"St. Jude's has developed many protocols for a variety of cancers and rare diseases and genetic disorders that are used in the hospital and around the world," said Bursach. "In some cases, their research is helping to raise the survival rates for children

from 4% at the beginning of the hospital's research to 94% today.

Not only does the money that we raise go to provide a child with free treatment, but their research helps increase the probability a child is going to live if they become sick," said Bursach.

Alma College's main event for Up 'til Dawn is the letter-sending fundraiser where each participant is asked to bring 50 addresses of friends and family members.

"With these 50 addresses students will send pre-written letters asking their recipients to donate on Alma College's behalf to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital," said Bursach.

Students who meet the 50 address mark will be entered in a drawing to win an 8GB iPod Touch.

Other prizes will be given out at the event and there will be music, food and inspirational videos to remind students about the cause they are working for.

"My hope is that the students on campus learn that they are able to make a difference in a child's life by taking an hour or two to write a letter that may help a child get the therapy that they need to beat a catastrophic disease," Bursach said.

"I'd also like students to remember that despite the amazing cure rates there are still a

number of children that who aren't as lucky. Even though there are 94% cure-rates for certain types of cancer, there is still that 6% of the children that don't survive.

I hope that by keeping this in mind students will realize that their efforts go one step further than providing treatment to helping researchers find a way to make the last 6% live," she added.

Maintaining a wide base of donors can be crucial for institutions like St. Jude's and fundraisers like those happening on campuses across the nation help to sustain that base.

"Up 'til Dawn is a very special and important event because it is the campus' chance to give back to St. Jude's Children's Hospital," said Up 'til Dawn Morale and Advocacy Chairperson **Kia Gouza ('12)**. "For St. Jude's to keep running, it is up to us to get donations to help them succeed in saving more lives."

Gouza and Bursach's teammates on the Up 'til Dawn committee agree with the importance of the event.

"This is a wonderful thing for Alma College because the funds we raise go to help children who are fighting the battle of childhood cancer," said **Raeann Dumka ('12)**, Up 'til Dawn public relations chair.

"The hospital is run primarily on donations and it pays for all the patients' expenses including housing, transportation and meals--making life-saving treatment available to anyone."

Bursach added that it costs roughly \$1.5 million per day to run the hospital and that she hopes 25 to 30 teams will register this year to help curb that cause.

The Up 'til Dawn Executive Board has set a goal to raise \$20,000 this year from the letter-sending campaign alone. This would be a \$6,000 increase from last year, which is not an unattainable goal because in 2008 the campus raised a total of \$27,000.

"This was the largest total raised by any participating Michigan university or college," Bursach said.

"All of the money we raise goes

directly to St. Jude's and if we raise enough we could help pay for 25 patients' chemotherapy," said **Rose Holland ('12)**, an Up 'til Dawn team captain. "I believe this is one of the many reasons for our college community to support the cause."

Students are encouraged to register for the event with a team of five but individual students may also register. Those interested in helping can register individually or as a team with any Up 'til Dawn Executive Board member.

Students who are looking to get even more involved can apply for positions on the Executive Board next semester.

"The time commitment for board members is anywhere from one to four hours, depending on the week," said Bursach.

# The Tanner

Hours

Mon-Fri 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m.

Red Light Therapy

Spray Tan

Sun Capsule

Vibration Therapy

Student Discount: Ten Tans for \$25



## Chapel reaches those in need with fair trade sale through SERRV

By ELISABETH BLETSCH  
STAFF WRITER

The chapel will help students reach out to those in need by hosting a fair-trade sale in downtown Alma.

"It is important for us to take part in this kind of service because it really opens our eyes," said **Alissa Jullie ('12)**, student ministry coordinator. "I think we are all willing to recognize that we are often caught up in our own lives here on a small college campus. It's wonderful to serve within our own small community, but it's really nice to try to reach out to the world."

In a fair trade relationship, artisans receive a fair wage for their work and though this seems like simple

concept a lot of major industries do not follow this practice.

"This sale gives all of us the opportunity to learn more about the concept of fair trade and especially in this season of holiday shopping, to think about the impact of our purchases," said Alma College Chaplain Carol Gregg. "Choosing fair trade products is a step toward justice."

The sale will take place from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. this Friday at 127 E. Superior St. in the empty store across the street from Pizza One.

"I am very grateful to Mr. Greg Mapes, the owner of the building, who is donating the use of the space," said Gregg.

The chapel is hosting the sale through a non-profit organization called SERRV.

"SERRV buys items from artisans and farmers at

a fair price," said Jullie.

"They are also helping people in developing countries find jobs, learn new skills and earn fair wages for their work all over the world. At the end of the sale we send the money we make back to SERRV," she added.

"SERRV has a long history of working with artisans from around the world and helping to see that they can earn a living," said Gregg.

The sale is taking place in conjunction with the city of Alma's "Come Home to Alma for the Holiday's" event, which is also taking place downtown.

Gregg and Jullie hope this event will attract community members to the sale.

"We are hoping that downtown will be busier than normal that night," said Jullie. "I hope that as people take part in the



Photo by Simone Boos

**The chapel is in cooperation with SERRV, a non-profit outreach group that is supplying the products for the sale.**



Photo by Simone Boos

**These ornaments from Bangladesh are just a few of the items that will be featured at the fair trade sale this Friday. The sale will take place downtown to encourage community participation.**

festivities they will stop in and see the fair-trade products. They will find that there are a lot of really neat items that would make great holiday gifts."

In a similar manner the campus-hosted event may draw students downtown to support local businesses.

"Having the event there encourages students to go downtown for the sale and the festivities where many stores will have refreshments, drawings, sales

and entertainment throughout the evening," Gregg added.

"This is a first-time event and an idea that I shared with the Chapel leadership team," said Gregg. "They were excited about the idea."

Both Gregg and Jullie hope people are attracted to the sale as a way to complete their holiday shopping.

Gregg added that the products for sale will range in price from \$5 to \$25 and include Indian puzzles, ornaments from Bangladesh, and Rwandan baskets.

## College choirs celebrate holidays with Festival of Carols concert

By MOLLY HENNING  
STAFF WRITER

Last weekend, the Alma College Choir hosted the annual Festival of Carols Christmas concert in the Remick Heritage Center.

The choir performed a total of three times and the seats were nearly full at each event.

Festival of Carols is one of the three concerts put on by the Alma College Choir. The choir actually consists of three separate groups—Glee Club (for freshmen women), College Chorale (for everyone but freshman women) and the Alma Choir (primarily juniors and seniors). There are 166 singers total in the three choirs.

This particular concert featured traditional Christmas Carols such as "O Come All Ye Faithful" and "God Rest Thee Merry Gentlemen." In addition, the concert featured more modern

Christmas Carols arranged by William Nichols, chair and secrest professor of music and director of choirs, and Anthony Patterson, visiting instructor of music. One such tune was titled "Shepherds! Shake Off Your Drowsy Sleep."

"The songs are all really interesting; they're attention-grabbing and captivating," said **Alexandria Cnудde ('11)**, a member of the Alma Choir.

**Alison Hemenway ('12)**, another member of the Alma Choir, explained that between pieces Patterson also plays the piano.

"All of what he plays is improvised," said Hemenway. "It's wonderful that included in all the written music, you also get to enjoy his improvisational skills between songs."

In terms of preparing the music for this show, Nichols said he spends time over the summer listening to recordings and looking at music, trying to decide which carols will fit best

with the show and each choir.

"I look to have many familiar things on there without repeating myself too much," said Nichols. "I'm always looking for new things,

***"All of those typical Christmas feelings of the joy of the season are there in the concert. It's wonderful to come together and sing these beautiful pieces about the season and share that with our friends, family, and all of the student body who comes out to hear us."***

**-Alison Hemenway ('12)**

so it's new to the audience, new to the students and new to me."

In addition to the choir singing, there were around 20 people playing instruments.

"A lot of percussionists, because they're so fantastic, are playing on a number of carols," said Nichols.

In addition to percussionists, there was a new hand bell choir playing in the concert, as well as a flute, clarinet, trumpet and trombone.

"Most of those instrumental parts are written by Patterson for them to play," said Nichols.

Nichols explained that students had been rehearsing for this concert since just after the homecoming concert in October. This week though, in preparation for the concert, there were three evening rehearsals from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., when the singers from all three of the choirs combined and practiced together.

"This week has been really crazy," said Cnудde. "It's a really stressful time to prepare and we have so many rehearsals."

Hemenway added that although everyone works really hard and a lot of time goes into all of the pieces, it is very rewarding

to finally get on stage and perform and share the songs.

"I really like to work on this music with these great students and I like to watch them have fun with it," said Nichols. "For all of the students, choir is an ad vocational goal and it's something they just love and that's why they devote so much time and energy to it."

Nichols said that of the three choir shows, Festival of Carols consistently has the biggest audience.

Both Cnудde and Hemenway agreed that Festival of Carols is their favorite concert of the year because it is very festive.

"All of those typical Christmas feelings of the joy of the season are there in the concert," said Hemenway. "It's wonderful to come together and sing these beautiful pieces about the season and share that with our friends, family, and all of the student body who comes out to hear us. I really enjoy being able to do that."



Alternatives to Christmas giving

By ELIZABETH CORBIN  
STAFF WRITER

It is easily possible to make Christmas less chaotic and expensive in order for it to be more enjoyable. To do this, we can give less gifts and instead spend more time with those we care about. After all, shouldn't Christmas be more about peace on Earth and goodwill toward men than getting presents? Various organizations such as Advent Conspiracy believe this to be true, and advocate that others adopt this mindset of spending less, giving more, and to give relationally. The average American family will spend \$743 on presents while the nation as a whole

is expected to spend over \$130 billion on Christmas. We all know that America is full of needless consumerism but will we do anything to counteract it? Rather than exchanging Christmas presents, this year my entire family is donating at least \$20 per family member toward clean water funds for villages in Africa. Although \$20 is often less than the price of a gift, the amount of money raised will be able to sustain many projects. Can you imagine how much more usefulness clean water will do for people than a typical present? You may feel more comfortable doing something like this if you organize the idea with a group or even just one other person. This way you won't be guilty

***“The average American family will spend \$743 on presents while the nation as a whole is expected to spend over \$130 billion on Christmas.”***  
***-Elizabeth Corbin ('12)***

into somehow feeling as though the gift giving wasn't reciprocal. Though it may seem surprising, I won't even be missing the presents. In fact, most of the presents I receive for Christmas are things I don't want anyway. The result is me being stuck with a bunch of things that clutter my room which

being almost instantaneous Goodwill donations. I would seriously rather get nothing than have a gift that is useless and meaningless to me, and I'm sure that I'm not the only one who feels this way. If you want to still give some form of a gift, there are many options. In order to give a gift that you know someone will like, you could use your creative skills to make the present and customize it to the person's preferences. Everyone loves a heartfelt gift. Instead of giving someone something physical, you even can do something such as daily taking time to make someone a cup of hot cocoa or coffee. It takes more effort and care to make a daily commitment to someone than pick a

quick gift out of a store. My fiance and I decided to start an account in which to start saving up money for our honeymoon instead of giving a physical present to each other at the moment. Rather than mindlessly making insignificant purchases, as too often is the case, we will combine our extra cash so that we can invest in a romantic endeavor. The point is that the emphasis of Christmas should be on giving. While we may feel that we absolutely need a new phone or wardrobe of clothing, the truth is that we simply don't. Others struggle to have their basic needs met while some simply don't have these needs fulfilled. Knowing this to be the truth, we should feel compelled to make Christmas more joyful for others.

WikiLeaks: Is it actually a big deal?

By MASON WARLING  
STAFF WRITER

WikiLeaks made major news headlines around the world last week as it released a new trove of over 250,000 diplomatic cables leaked by a source close to the United States diplomatic corps. Julian Assange, founder of WikiLeaks, is facing considerable heat from world leaders, officials, and pundits, particularly in the United States. Assange, an Australian-born whistleblower, released the cables to various newspapers around the world on November 28, after the U.S. Department of State spent a significant amount of effort warning many world leaders ahead of time what was to come, in order to soften the potentially shocking blow of the frank and brutally-honest statements in the cables. The cables included diplomatic perspectives on several world leaders, including remarks that Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin is an "alpha dog" and the "Batman" to Dmitri Medvedev's "Robin," and that French President Nicolas Sarkozy is

an "emperor with no clothes." Aside from somewhat humorous descriptions of world leaders, the cables also reveal that, for example, King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia and other Arab leaders are increasingly uncomfortable with Iran and its pursuit of nuclear technology, and the plans of the U.S. in the event that North Korea collapses. Such things are damaging to the stability of peach in the Middle East and Korean peninsula. Former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee said last Monday that Assange should be tried for treason. Huckabee followed up the call by saying Assange should be executed if found guilty. "Whoever in our government leaked that information is guilty of treason, and I think anything less than execution is too kind a penalty," the former presidential candidate said in an interview. Never mind that Assange is not and has not been a U.S. citizen, and therefore can't be tried for treason in the U.S. Pentagon Papers whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg said that Assange "is serving our democracy and serving our rule of law precisely by challenging the secrecy

regulations, which are not laws in most cases, in this country." Interpol has issued a red notice for Assange, and placed him on their wanted persons list. When asked what crime Assange had been accused of committing, Interpol stated that it was a sex crime. Further pressing discovered that he was accused of rape by a woman after his condom broke during intercourse. Dastardly behavior, truly. Assange, from one point of view, hasn't done anything wrong. He didn't actually steal the documents from the U.S. government: he was given them. He simply published them and dispersed them, arguably an expression of freedom of speech. That American politicians want to harm him for

***“Former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee said last Monday that Assange should be tried for treason.”***  
***-Mason Warling ('14)***

PUZZLE CORNER

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Puzzle courtesy of dailysudoku.com

Have you been a part of something fun this week? Take a picture and share it with the rest of campus! Send wild art pictures and a brief description of the picture and event to ramlabb@alma.edu

that is frankly ridiculous. its pretenses and secrets. Though senior White House That the diplomatic corps has officials, the likes of Hillary practiced poor data security is Clinton and Barack Obama, not his fault, and he shouldn't admonished Assange for be disdained for promoting alleged harm to U.S. diplomatic freedom of information. interests, they haven't If the government wants condemned him like Huckabee something to be kept secret, has or accused him of crimes. it should be kept secret, not left lying where people Assange is simply a whistleblower who's called the U.S. out on can get their hands on it.

the Almanian.

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

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## North Korea opens fire and unveils nuclear power plant

By MASON WARLING  
STAFF WRITER

In case you've been living under a rock for the last couple of weeks, North Korean artillery emplacements opened fire on a South Korean village island recently.

This attack came just days after North Korea unveiled a nuclear power plant and uranium enrichment facility.

The cross-border land attack was the first of its kind since 1953, at the end of the Korean War.

What does this mean? Some analysts say that it means that the North Korean government possesses a capacity for nuclear war that

they intend to use to defend themselves against retaliation.

The attack was clearly an egregious, direct attack on the South Korean people, perhaps meant to provoke retaliation that the North Koreans would capitalize on.

With a death toll of four, the attacks were somewhat quickly brushed off by the majority of South Koreans.

Within days, after the urging of the government not to panic or worry, Seoul's streets were as lively as ever, as South Koreans continued on with their lives, feeling secure, helped in part by the feeling that the US was there for them.

And there for them we are as,

shortly after the attack, U.S. Navy ship were ready to perform military exercises with the South Korean Navy in the Sea of Japan.

Some foreign governments, including China, urged the U.S. to desist with these exercises, but as they had been scheduled to occur long before the North Korean attack, they were carried out anyway.

The South Korean Navy is uplifted by these exercises, seeing them as a show of force much-needed after a South Korean ship-sinking left 46 sailors dead, though Pyongyang denies responsibility for the torpedo that sunk the ship.

Who is worried about North Korea right now

is the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The agency, the arm of the United Nations that came out of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, is charged with the oversight and inspection of nuclear facilities in all countries that are signatory to the Treaty.

North Korea, who had originally agreed to the treaty but later left it, ejected IAEA inspectors last year and barred them from their nuclear facilities.

The U.S. Security Council responded to the ejection with economic sanctions on North Korea.

U.S. nuclear scientists have been invited to tour North Korean nuclear facilities, however.

An American nuclear scientist named Siegfried Hecker, visited the enrichment plant at Yongbyon in mid-November and reportedly said he was "stunned" by the sophistication of the equipment he was shown.

The facility was reported to have over 1,000 centrifuges, ostensibly enough to produce a large amount of enriched uranium, perhaps enough for a significant amount of weaponry.

However, North Korea is likely just looking for attention.

Earlier this year North Korea solicited negotiations with the US, in which they offered to allow the IAEA inspectors to return in exchange for "better relations with the United States."

## LikeALittle is silly, sweet, inappropriate

By ELIZABETH CORBIN  
STAFF WRITER

One can see for him or herself on the new flirting Website LikeALittle.com that Alma College students are full of secret longings, which can be silly, thoughtfully sweet, and sometimes wildly inappropriate.

LikeALittle allows a person to anonymously post flirts about someone, including details of where they see the person along with gender and hair color, in hopes that he or she will notice the post and respond.

The Alma College vector of LikeALittle was started on November 19 by student administrator **Shane Douglas ('13)** and moderators **Amber Lee ('13)**, **Amber Johannes ('14)**, and **Kathleen Bomer ('14)**. Since its start, the site

has been highly trafficked.

"Alma College currently holds the record for the fastest time in spreading the news about LikeALittle," said Douglas. "Evan, the creator of LikeALittle, complimented us on our college's close relationship with each other and was very impressed with the amount of use and success the site was and is getting at Alma College. We have even made top news on the LikeALittle fan page."

This top news was a feature of an Alma student who posted a flirt about a girl he likes to which the Alma LikeALittle community suggested that he leave candy outside of her dorm room.

He did this and then the girl later posted back a flirt about how she hopes that the gesture leads into a relationship.

However, some students fear that LikeALittle could endanger already existing relationships, as many of the posts are

directed toward students who have significant others.

"I know of specific instances where feelings have gotten hurt and relationships have almost dissolved because of this Website," said **Lysa Knight ('11)**.

Descriptions on the site tend to be either too vague or too accurate.

Posts that only give the characteristics of "Female, Brunette" will leave one quarter of the campus population believing it possible that they have a secret admirer.

However, some posts repeatedly revolve around a few students who are instantly recognizable by features, such as lip piercings.

In all cases, the descriptions are focused mainly on appearance and one post from the Website states disgust at this outward focus that runs rampant on the Website:

"At all of campus: Male, Blonde. I love when you objectify me and judge me based on how I look, it

makes me feel really secure about myself. It shows me that we can last, because we know each other on the outside. I want to date you because of your hair color. I think that you taking precious time out of your day to stalk me is really hot."

Others also agree with this idea of LikeALittle being a breeding ground for objectification and feeble relationships.

"I'm extremely worried about the potential LikeALittle has to influence our campus in a negative way," said **Meredith Brown ('12)**. "I see it as a source that bolsters negative gender stereotypes, encourages stalking and other unhealthy interpersonal relationship behaviors such as advocating cheating on your partner and sexual harassment."

Amongst the posts, LikeALittle has splatterings of blatant lusting and inappropriate sexual remarks.

In one post a female student tells of her daily viewing of a

male walking to the shower in only a towel, an image to which she pleasures herself.

One sexually tinged flirt was even targeted toward a professor.

The student moderators and administer would like others to know that it is possible to delete negative or inappropriate posts by logging into an account and reporting them in order to make the LikeALittle environment more positive.

But why can't people just flirt in the old fashioned way?

They could find a way to start a casual conversation with a person and get to know them in person rather than essentially resorting to stalking and possibly never having their intentions known.

While some may find LikeALittle cute, I feel that it's only as romantic as a late night IM session with someone who is only across campus could possibly be.

And, in my opinion, that's not very romantic.

## Following the Beat with Ben King: Partaking in counter-culture through line cutting

By BEN KING  
GUEST WRITER

In their 1971 hit single "Signs" the members of Five Man Electric Band sang, "Signs, signs everywhere a sign/ blocking up the scenery, breaking my mind."

While I am inclined to agree with the men of the Five Man Electric Band and their statement on societal control via signs, I feel that the lyrics to this classic could be changed to more adequately fit a collegiate lifestyle.

Personally all I see on campus are "Lines, lines everywhere a line..."

Waiting in lines is an important part of campus life.

Lines create a sense of direction and control.

We wait in, lines to get our food

and just about everything else.

Before I go on, I would like to make a little confession: I, Ben King, have not waited in line for over six months.

Several months ago after watching movies starring counter-culturalists such as James Dean, Dennis Hopper, Peter Fonda and Faye Dunaway, and after reading books by Jack Kerouac, William S. Burroughs and Ken Kesey I decided that I would see how I fared as a counter-culturalist.

A true member of any counter-culture disregards social norms and experiments in new modes of life.

Waiting in line is a part of modern society and has been so for centuries.

During the Great Depression families waited in line for soup from the soup kitchen, and today

people wait in lines at stores, movie theaters, cafeterias, air ports...

I thought to myself one sunny day, "To hell with lines!"

I tossed aside this societal norm and in the spirit of the new Bohemian hedonist I discovered new and "groovy" ways to get around the system.

The best way to work the system is to cut into lines.

I have been cutting in lines forever because I can't stand waiting around for something that is only a few steps away.

While some may be inclined to argue that this is an anarchist line of thought, I would disagree.

Cutting in line is an art; this talent requires both poise and, dare I say it, elegance.

One cannot simply push his way into place in a line; this creates conflict and disruption.

A successful line cutter must remain stealthy and secretive.

There are special steps and procedures that a skilled line cutter follows when performing his or her art.

The first step is to look for a mark or an easy access point.

An ideal mark is someone who seems to be enjoying standing in line.

A good mark will stand in

***"I have been cutting in lines forever because I can't stand waiting around for something that is only a few steps away."***

***-Ben King ('14)***

line smiling and talking away as if there were no tomorrow.

They will be distracted and they will not notice the line cutter elegantly slipping into line.

A good access point, or GAP, is what every line cutter prays for.

A GAP is a space in line that is just wide enough for one person to naturally slide into position, as this will minimize any pushing that may occur when cutting a mark.

So, next time you're standing in line, consider what you have read and keep an eye out for a line cutter.

A little revolution and counter-culture is good for the soul; it gives one a small sense of empowerment and a little self satisfaction.

If you feel the need to crash through societal lines, just cut thorough a line.

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

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



# Men's basketball suffers two losses

By ADAM MUNCY  
STAFF WRITER

The men's basketball team lost a road game on Monday evening at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie with a final score of 92-44. The Lakers are a Division II team out of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Later that week, the men's basketball team also lost to Western Michigan University with a score of 109-50.

The Scots now hold a record of 2-3 in the young season.

The Scots' two victories started with a home-opening win against Indiana University Northwest, 77-72, at the newly finished Art Smith Arena. The next win was against Madonna University in the MIAA/WHAC Challenge hosted by

Olivet College. The Scots defeated the Crusaders with a score of 88-69 making 16 three-pointers.

***"Although we have a great offensive threat, I believe defense will be the key to success this year."***

***-Greg Silverthorn ('13)***

"It was very nice to get a win in the first game here at the Art Smith Arena and we took a team photo on the court afterward to remember the moment," said Charlie Goffnett, head coach.

"I thought we played pretty well and overcame losing a 17-point second half lead. In the past we may have lost that game, but our guys did a nice job of settling

down and getting the win."

The Scots will begin MIAA play January 5<sup>th</sup> as they host the visiting Trine University Thunder. The men strategically started the season facing larger division II teams in an effort to prepare for league play.

"The out of league games against larger programs are definitely helping our team as we prepare for league play," said **Greg Silverthorn ('13)**.

"Although we have a great offensive threat, I believe defense will be the key to success this year and we can work on that right now with the teams we are playing," Silverthorn said.

"These teams that we are playing are bigger, stronger and faster than most teams we play and they will only make us better in the long run. We get a chance to work on our game without

anything to lose, which will help us become a better team overall."

***"In the past we may have lost that game, but our guys did a nice job of settling down and getting the win."***

***-Charlie Goffnett***

The Scots started the game positively taking four-point leads on four separate occasions in the first five minutes of the of the opening half. The Scots were tied with the Lakers 19-19 at the 6:54 mark of the half but the Lakers ended the first 20 minutes of play on a 23-3 run for a 42-22 halftime lead.

The Lake Superior State Lakers

took control of the second half outscoring the Scots 50-22. The Lakers finished the game with 50.8 shooting percentage and out rebounded the Scots 43-28 as well as accumulating ten steals on the evening. The Alma College Scots finished the game shooting 33.3 percent while the men had four of 19 from beyond the three-point line.

The Scots were led by shooting guard **Kevin Ginther ('11)** with nine points, while guard Silverthorn finished with six points. Forward **Brett Lackie ('14)** added six points and forward **Arik Hesselink ('14)** had the most rebounds and assists (five and three respectively).

"I feel that so far this year we have shown a lot of good things," Silverthorn said. "But we will have to continue improving to be one of the top teams in our league."

## Spotlight: Haines surrounds herself with sports

By TARYN HANDYSIDE  
STAFF WRITER

**Lauren Haines ('12)** came to Alma from Midland to play soccer and become an athletic trainer.

While at Midland she participated in varsity soccer for four years and varsity basketball for two years. Haines was a captain on her high school soccer team her senior year and was also named a member of the All-Area Dream Team and District Team her senior year.

Haines has been playing soccer since she was just four years old and basketball since she was ten. She played on the Midland Soccer Complex club team since the age of ten as well.

***"Participating in soccer and athletic training at Alma has taught me dedication and motivation for my future."***

***-Lauren Haines ('12)***

As a natural born athlete, Haines played almost every sport when she was younger but decided to stick with soccer and basketball in high school because she enjoyed them the most.

"Soccer has always been apart of my life and it keeps me on track," she said. "The field is one place that I can clear my mind and just enjoy myself."

At Alma, Haines is member of the women's soccer team which just finished their season in November. Haines was a part of a history-making season when the team won the first MIAA Conference championship this year in their 21 year existence.

Though she has found pride and success on the team, soccer is not the only reason that Haines came to Alma.

"Alma offers the athletic training program and unlike many other schools I am able to play soccer and participate in the program," Haines said.

Haines has known that she

wanted to become an athletic trainer since she was a junior in high school. She says that her favorite classes here are all of her athletic training classes.

Between the soccer and athletic training Haine's maintains a very busy schedule.

"There are times where it is very overwhelming and I put in many hours a day, but the athletic training staff works very well with in-season athletes," Haines said.

For her education Haines puts in around 10 hours a week preparing athletes as well as the facilities for practices and games. She tapes ankles and sets out water and necessary equipment for the athletes.

Haines also works at Mid-Michigan Bone and Joint in Alma.

"I follow around three local doctors three days a week and this job shows me a lot of new things that I haven't seen within the Alma college athletic training room," she said.

On top of everything else, Haines is also a part of various on-campus organizations. She is a leader in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes club where they have small group bible studies. She is also a member of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee where she helps on the marketing team.

"Athletic training is a way for me to stay around sports when I can no longer participate," Haines said. "I would like to work as an athletic trainer in a high school setting in the future. For now, soccer keeps me on track with the choices that I make both in and out of school. It has helped me become the leader that I want to be in life because I know that I have 28 other people depending on me."

"Participating in soccer and athletic training at Alma has taught me dedication and motivation for my future."



Photo by Catherine Finley



Photo courtesy of Lauren Haines

**Top: A member of Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Lauren Haines ('12) works concessions during a women's basketball game. Bottom: Haines serves the ball against MIAA opponent Adrian Col-**

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# Women's basketball loses first home game

By TARYN HANDYSIDE  
STAFF WRITER

The Alma women's basketball team hosted its first game against the #2 nationally ranked Hope College at the Art Smith Arena on Saturday. The Flying Dutch came away with a win against the Scots with a score of 70-44. This put Alma's record at 1-5, while Hope's became 6-0. The Scots were excited to play their first-ever game in the new facilities.

**"We prepared just like we would for any other game. We looked at what Hope's strengths were and worked on what we had to do to go against those strengths."**

-Anna Mattson ('14)

"It felt really good playing our first home game in the Art-Smith Arena. We have been practicing in it for awhile and it was good to finally get a chance to play at home and in the new gym," Jess DeBruin ('12) said.

The game started with Hope College getting an early lead against the Scots. The Flying Dutch were up by 11 points at the 16:17 mark, until Bailey Gooding ('14) hit the first shot for the Scots, with an

assist by Danielle Hicks ('13).

Hope College continued to gain a lead throughout the half. At the 9:42 mark, Hicks put the score at 15-8 when she hit two free throws. The Flying Dutch came back to score the next eight points in the game and took the lead by 37-22 at the end of the half.

The Flying Dutch started the second half with a 9-3 run, which put the score at 46 to 25, and then eventually ended the game with a score of 70-44.

Although Hope College had a lead the entire game, the Scots did not give up.

"We played hard and had a lot of energy the entire game, but we let them go on a run and we did not shoot very well from the floor, where as they did," Anna Mattson ('14) said.

The Flying Dutch are ranked second in the nation and although they are ranked nationally, the Scots prepared for the game just like any other.

"We prepared just like we would for any other game. We looked at what Hopes strengths were and worked on what we had to do to go against those strengths. We knew they were quick and had a very good post player so we really focused on that," Mattson said.

Mattson led the Scots on offense with 14 points and also recorded five defensive rebounds.

Sydney Beckwith ('11) contributed nine points for

Alma, five defensive rebounds, three steals, and three blocks.

Sarah Stinson ('14) gave the Scots six points, three offensive rebounds and one defensive rebound.

Hicks also added one offensive rebound and four defensive rebounds for the Scots.

The Scots went five for six from the free throw line in the first half, while the Flying Dutch went two for six from the line. In the second half the Scots were eight for ten from the line, and the Flying Dutch were eleven for fourteen.

Alma recorded 23 points off of turnovers, and Hope came up with 28 total turn-over points. In the paint, the Scots came out with 18 points, while Hope had 28. As for second-chance points, Alma recorded five, while Hope had 15.

Although the Scots have lost their last three games, they are improving every day, and believe that part of that is their chemistry as a team.

"We get along on and off the court. We do a lot together and bond together really well. Out of every team I have ever played on, this team by far is the best when it comes to team bonding. We are always doing things together and have fun doing it," DeBruin said.

The Scots host Rochester College on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the Art Smith Arena, and then continue to play on Saturday at Saint Mary's for a 3 p.m. game.



Photo by Catherine Finley

**Brittney Deerfield ('14) takes on a Hope College player with a dribble. Deerfield plays guard for the Scots and tallied 19 minutes of play in the game on Saturday.**

## Renovations improving athletic facilities for all

By ADAM MUNCY  
STAFF WRITER

The Alma College athletic department has received a great deal of improvements and renovations in the last 18 months with the New Hogan Center addition.

Although the renovations have enhanced experiences for student athletes, community members and visitors, many renovations are still needed.

The \$10.2 million Hogan project included renovated locker rooms, athletic training space, natatorium, coach's offices and classrooms in the existing building along with the addition of the 29,000-square-foot Art Smith Arena.

"This is a huge step for us, not only with the new arena but the renovated locker rooms, practice areas and athletic training space," said Athletic Director John Leister. "We are now on the same playing field, not only with the schools in the MIAA, but with Division III schools across the country."

"It will definitely be a plus for new recruits looking into the program," said Willy Drouillard ('12), a member of the football team. "The new locker room and training room are great," Drouillard said. "The new whirlpool is a very beneficial part for the football program; it is nice to be able to relax after an injury or soreness."

Additionally, renovations have been made to the current weight room area. "The new weight room is an important part for the program, as well as the film room," Drouillard said. "We are no longer crammed into classrooms where

people are unable to see the screen. The school is taking all the steps in the right direction to improve athletics at Alma College."

As the indoor athletic teams were in need of a new arena the football and softball programs are in need of updated facilities. The current resources for those teams are worn and outdated.

The football surface at Bahlke Field, known as AstroPlay, was installed to replace the original turf in 2000. After 10 years of use the artificial turf is disintegrating and in need of replacement.

"When it was installed it was one of the nicest fields in the state but now it's just seen better days," said Drouillard.

Turf that had originally planned to be used for five years has now lasted ten.

"It has a lot of wrinkles and tears throughout it. It's really just falling apart. More importantly new facilities would create a better environment for recruiting; it draws attention to how the college is moving in a positive direction."

Scots Park, home of the women's softball team, lacks a permanent outfield fence, bullpens and bathroom facilities.

"The snow fence for an outfield fence is our greatest problem," said Tara Leddy ('11), a member of the softball team.

"It's tough for outfielders to practice with our soft snow fence and then go to other facilities and have a permanent fence there. Also, bathrooms and a field house would be nice. In the cold weather I think it would be beneficial for us to get out of the cold between games and right now we can't do that because Hogan is too far away."

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