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## ACDC concert with something for everyone to ‘thoroughly enjoy’

By **ELISABETH BLETSCH**  
STAFF WRITER

The Alma College Dance Company spring concert encompasses many types of dance, including ballet, tap, Broadway-esque, jazz, and modern. According to co-director of the Alma College Dance

Company, Carol Fike, everyone in the audience should be able to thoroughly enjoy some aspect of the concert.

“I hope they take away an appreciation of the dance. They don’t have to love everything, but we try to incorporate many genres. I’m hoping there’s a moment

where the dance elicits some positive reaction for everyone in the audience.”

The opening dance, appropriately titled, “The Dance,” was coordinated by Carol Fike. The piece is a tribute to the 12 seniors in the company, 11 of whom will be graduating in April, and one

who graduated in December.

The piece is comprised of seven sections and includes live dancing plus photos and film of the girls dancing on the backdrop of the stage.

Because the piece has a lot of film work involved, Fike started coordinating the dance in September.

“Not only are we seeing dancers, but we’re seeing film using the dancers in the background.”

In addition, each dancer has a solo while film of their solo plays behind them.

“I was looking for certain moments so there was a lot of coordinating for filming and live dancing,” Fike said.

The piece includes music such as “Etoile olaire,” by Philip Glass, “Light,” by Alex Theory, and “Barbed Wire,” by George Washington.

This is the largest graduating group of seniors Fike has seen in the company during the 25 years she’s been at Alma College.

“Each one of the senior girls took it very seriously and are very strong leaders in Alma College Dance Company. They set a high standard for incoming freshmen.”

Fike wants to thank them for

being who they are and giving her the inspiration to choreograph this piece for them.

The second piece, a modern dance titled, “Those You’ve Known,” is choreographed by senior **Tara Roberts (’09)** and satisfies the thesis component of her dance degree.

It is to the music of “Those You’ve Known,” by Duncan Shiek and Steven Sater. Three dancers are showcased in the number.

The third and fourth pieces of the spring concert are both ballets choreographed by **Thomas Morris**, co-director of the Alma College Dance Company. They are titled “Trois Gnossiennes” and “Trois Gymnopedies,” respectively.

These two pieces will be performed back to back.

The fifth piece, “Goodnight Saigon,” is choreographed by **Kristin Bennett**, visiting instructor of dance. The piece, which includes six very powerful dancers, is a tribute to the Vietnam War, said Fike. This piece is to the music of Billy Joel and concludes the first act.

Act two begins with a final ballet by Morris, called “Vespri

*See ‘ACDC’ on page 2*



Photo courtesy of Carol Fike

Seniors in the dance company are **Heather Evans, Allison Barnhart, Tara Roberts, Joree Stone, Patricia Wales, Lindsay Copeland, Johanna Thompson, Ashley Hennen, Laura Engebretson, Diana Walton and Stephanie McGuire.**

## El Paso experience: teaching students about borders and boundaries

By **DEVIN BRINES**  
STAFF WRITER

By participating in the opportunities provided by Alma College, students are given exposure to new and potentially life-changing experiences all over the world.

**Megan VanderKooi (’09)** and **Will Allen (’09)** had the opportunity to study the problems that plague the border of El Paso, Texas and Juarez, Mexico.

Through Posey-Global, Allen gained “[an] enormous amount of cross-cultural experience with very little cost,” he says. VanderKooi lead an Alternative Break group to El Paso in February, where she and eight other students had the opportunity to learn about the economic and social problems of the area and to lend a hand in figuring out how to solve them.

At least every other spring, **Edward Lorenz**, professor of Political Science and chair of History, teaches a Spring Term in the area. Through connections initiated in the mid-nineties, Lorenz’s students have been able to travel to the border to learn and volunteer. Opportunities such as those provided by the El Paso Project exist all over the world for Alma College students.

Lorenz, whose first Spring Term in the area was in 1996, states that most the time, Spring Terms try to focus on an environment or health issue. In the past, he has participated in an award-winning research project of citizens affected by heavy metal pollution from a local factory, in which he and the students collected toenail samples in order to measure the amount of heavy metal in the body.



Photo courtesy of Skip Traynor

**Classes that travel to El Paso have given students the opportunity to examine border issues such as public policy problems.**

Allen’s Posey-Global allowed him to play a role in the building of a technical school for women in Juarez. He was assigned to assess the feasibility of furthering the project, which was then in its inception. He was able to travel to the area and work at no personal expense except for “the food I bought in the airport,” Allen said jokingly.

According to Allen, the El Paso/Juarez area is unique in that “it is one of the few places where you have extreme need butting up against a lot of affluence.” For students passionate about issues

like social rights, globalization, immigration, discrimination and hunger, the area is of great interest.

Students can participate in projects related to their specific skills; there are so many realms to study in Juarez and El Paso, says Allen, that people interested in music, women’s rights, and academics can all find ways to productively apply themselves.

“[As a well-off American college,] we have the danger of too many of our contacts in the world being with a small elite that aren’t representative of that

country,” said Lorenz. By traveling to the heart of a place so rooted in socioeconomic conflict, students are able to gain a fuller picture of the happenings in our country and in our world. “We have to learn from people who are different,” said Allen.

Allen attests that “Alma students come back changed” after having had the experiences that make them grow in their given fields. Students participating in Alternative Break, Spring Term, and Posey-Global programs have the chance “to learn what the rest of the world is like,” said Lorenz.

VanderKooi, who would like to work in El Paso again more extensively, said, “You’re opening up horizons by learning more about the issues and bringing them back.”

By collecting heavy metal samples, by learning and volunteering in an area, and by getting information about the city and its people from its people themselves, Lorenz, VanderKooi, and Allen, respectively, were able to both assist and learn from a culture much different than the one they left at home.



## Outside the “Alma bubble”: Alums in the educational field return with advice

By MEREDITH BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

The Alma Leadership Alliance, in conjunction with Kappa Delta Pi and the Center for Responsible Leadership, hosted a panel Q&A session this past Wednesday evening with three Alma College alums, all of whom are now teachers.

The event was put together by ALA president **Margaret Hewitt ('09)** as part of her CRL project, as well as **Christina Brown ('09)**.

“We wanted to have this opportunity for education majors to get their questions out there. As a senior who is about to enter the educational field, the more information I have, the less daunting the future seems,” Brown said.

Brown explained that the field

of education “changes every day,” so having recent graduates of the college speak on their experiences would give attendees a “heads up” on things to expect after graduation.

Alums **Dana Weston ('01)**, **Karly Grant ('07)** and **Patrick Brannan ('95)** returned to speak for the panel.

“Alma alumni really care about the school, and want to share their experiences with students here,” Hewitt said.

The alums provided general advice to those attending the panel.

“Keep up on sleep, and find a mentor to bounce ideas off of and vent to if needed,” said Grant, who teaches third grade at Hillcrest Elementary here in Alma.

“Don’t be afraid to ask questions,” encouraged Weston, who now teaches Spanish at South

Lyon High School. “Pace yourself, and try to be patient with both yourself and your students.”

“Try to keep your lesson plans fresh with every class,” remarked Brannan, who teaches fourth grade at Caseville Public School. “Talk to the teachers in the grade directly above and below yours, so you know what they’ve already learned, and what they are expected to know for the next year.”

The alums also spoke on the challenges they have faced during their time as teachers and gave students tips for interviewing.

“Discipline is hard for me,” said Grant, “But it’s made easier if you really know your students and what their backgrounds are. Treating them with love and care produces respect on their part.”

Other challenges brought up were paperwork, new requirements,



Photo by Danielle Jellison

**Alums Dana Weston ('01), Karly Grant ('07) and Patrick Brannan ('95) spoke to education students about teaching in the real world.**

and budget cuts that resulted in teachers without jobs and fewer classes offered.

The final questions asked dealt mainly with how Alma College had (or had not) prepared the alums for the “real world of teaching”.

“I felt like I was ready for the classroom setting immediately,” said Brannan.

“So did I,” added Grant, “Though I would have liked to know more about tenure, and information on

masters programs.”

Weston agreed, though she said that “secondary education majors don’t get enough practice time in the classroom”, and encouraged those planning to pursue secondary education to seek out substitute positions.

The biggest lesson learned? As Grant put it, “I’m not just there to deal with a student’s academics, but to help develop a whole child.”

## On-campus economics based Spring Term course added

By ANNA DYSINGER  
STAFF WRITER

Still looking for an on-campus spring term, look no further.

**Feler Bose**, professor of Economics, recently added Economics 180 and 326 to the list of on-campus spring term courses.

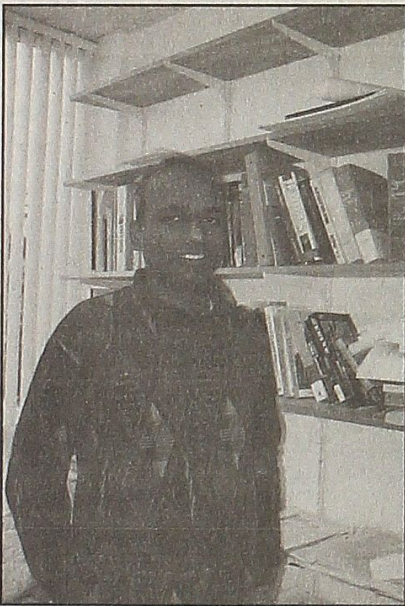


Photo by Danielle Jellison

The classes meet together and discuss similar topics, but have different assignments and exams, said Bose.

“The general idea is why are some countries rich and some are poor,” he explained.

The class will begin by covering the basic background information. It will then discuss the factors that create wealth.

“For example, people have said more education makes wealth increase,” he said. “The question is, is that true?”

The class will also compare

incorrect theories and those that offer better solutions. For example, 30 to 40 years ago, people believed that the presence of more machines increased wealth. That theory is untrue, said Bose.

He stated that the most controversial topic that will be covered is the matter of religion.

Bose will ask, “Does religion or culture or beliefs affect development?”

“Religion is a very controversial thing,” he said. “People don’t want to think one is superior to others.”

Bose explained the most important aspect of the class looks at incentives.

“Incentives really matter. Good incentives mean countries can get out of a resource curse.”

There are no prerequisites for Economics 180. However, it does not count as a distributive requirement; it only covers a spring term requirement.

When asked if he thinks students will sign up for the class, Bose said yes.

“I think some students are just looking to get the spring term requirement out of the way,” he stated.

To take Economics 326, you must have completed either Macroeconomics or Microeconomics, or you can talk to Bose.

Bose said there still remains room available in the class for a few more interested students.

## PRIDE’s Drag Ball: open to all to promote acceptance

By ANNA DYSINGER  
STAFF WRITER

Looking for something a little different? Come to the annual drag ball, hosted by PRIDE at Alma College on March 27.

Girls dress up as guys, guys dress up as girls, everyone can dress up as something in between, and the best part is that it raises money for the Perceptions Scholarship Fund.

Perceptions is an adult gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender group based out of the Saginaw and Midland area. It provides scholarships to kids who are sexual minorities.

“The drag ball is a fun event, but you also get to raise money

and promote acceptance by not judging people based on what they wear,” said **Cathy Millon ('09)**, president of PRIDE.

The drag ball at Alma College has been going on for a couple years, but there has not been a lot

***It doesn’t matter how you identify yourself, anybody can come.***

of participation around campus, said Millon. People that attended in the past were mainly members of PRIDE, Kappa Iota or Theta Chi.

“We are trying to get a lot more campus and community interest,” she stated. “It doesn’t matter how you identify yourself, anybody can come.”

Millon said it’s a tradition for PRIDE groups to do a drag ball.

“It’s more encompassing than having an HIV day,” she added. “It’s a fun party where you get to see your friend dress up funny.”

Performers will lip synch to funny songs and refreshments will be served.

The drag ball will be held Friday, March 27 at 8 p.m. in Van Dusen. The cost is \$2 per person, with all proceeds going to the Perceptions Scholarship Fund. Other donations will be accepted as well. PRIDE t-shirts will also be available for \$7.

## CRL’s Transforming Michigan Forum

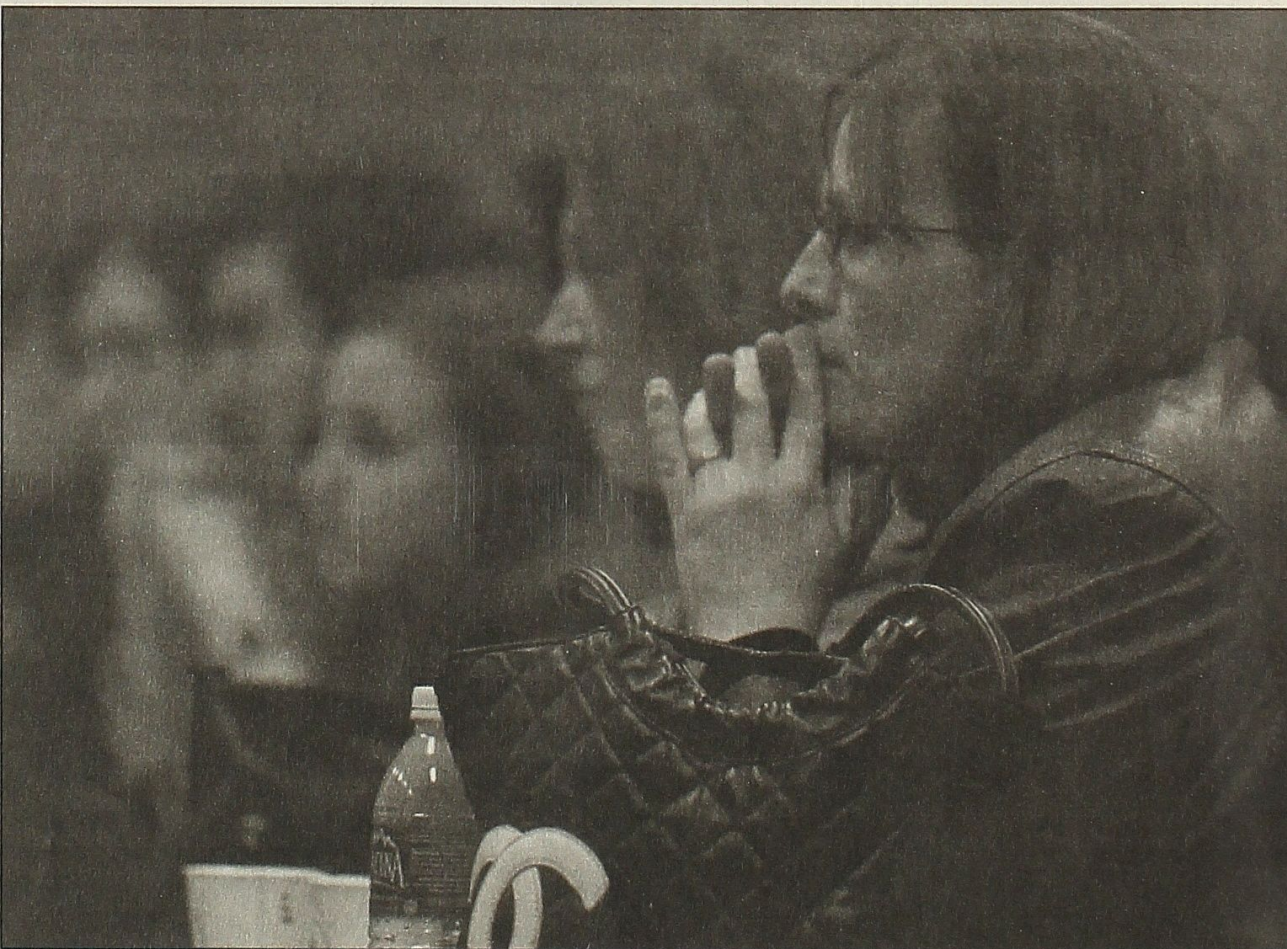


Photo by Devin Brines

**The Center for Responsible Leadership sponsored an all-day forum this past Saturday entitled, ‘Transforming Michigan.’ The day began with a session that assessed how to sustain Michigan’s education. The next session looked at the economics of stem cell research. After lunch the economics of sustainable businesses and manufacturing were on the bill. And wrapping the day up was a session on community sustainability. Each session featured speakers with varying backgrounds and expertise.**

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Siciliani.” Fike says it is a “big ballet” performed to classical music by Guiseppe Verdi.

The seventh piece, “A Journey Through the Mind,” is choreographed by senior **Lindsay Copeland ('09)**. The piece satisfies the thesis component of her degree.

It is a modern dance performed to the music of Radiohead and The Flaming Lips.

The final piece of the spring concert, “One,” is choreographed by Bennett. It is a tap number to

the music of Marvin Hamlisch. “One” includes fishline, top hats, and has a “huge cast” of 17 dancers, said Fike.

“How fun to end the show with an uplifting Broadway-like piece.”

The spring concert will be held in the Remick Heritage Center on Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21 at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, March 22 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors, and free for Alma College staff, students, and youth 18 and under.



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## Poet Lucille Clifton celebrates life during women's month

By ELISABETH BLETSCH  
STAFF WRITER

Poet Lucille Clifton reverently celebrates life despite the tremendous obstacles she has been faced with in her own life, including abuse, illness, death, and racism. A great deal of her poetry reflects her belief in celebrating life and focuses on helping readers improve themselves.

"Her poetry helps individuals try to be better people. It helps celebrate life instead of focusing on the despair of life. She writes often about despair, but chooses still to celebrate life. That's a lesson for all of us," said William Palmer, Dana Professor of English.

Clifton will be at Alma College on Monday, March 16; she will host a question and answer session in the Clack Auditorium at 4:00 p.m., with a poetry reading in the chapel at 8:00 p.m. Refreshments and a book signing will follow.

The poet has a long history with Alma College.

In the early 1990s, Carol Bender, Professor of English, wrote a grant to the Lila Wallace Reader's Digest Foundation in order to host a visiting writer.

In writing the grant, the English Department hoped to find a writer of color to spend time in Central Michigan.

The grant was accepted and the English Department was given a list of writers to choose from—Clifton was the selected writer.

"This is one of the best decisions we've ever made," said Bender.

The grant brought Clifton to Alma for three separate weeks

throughout two years in the early 1990s.

The first time Clifton came to Alma College, she was a writer in residence.

Bender said that she "immediately made a wonderful impression on students, faculty, and campus at large."

Her presence on campus "cultivated the air with poetry," added Palmer.

While Bender wrote the grant, it was Palmer's duty to host Clifton while she was here. He brought



Photo courtesy of lectures.org

her to elementary schools in Alma, Mount Pleasant, and Saginaw. As well as poetry, Clifton has also published many children's books.

Along with organizing visits at elementary schools, Palmer also arranged for Clifton to go to several high schools and a senior center in St. Louis, MI.

At the senior center, Clifton read her children's book "Everett Anderson's Goodbye" to around 25 senior citizens. "Everett Anderson's Goodbye" is a children's book about dealing with death. Many of the senior citizens cried

and Palmer said it was "a beautiful moment."

Clifton is returning to Alma College this month for the first time since 2001.

"We felt it was time to ask her back and we wanted her to come during Women's Month to help celebrate," said Bender.

Much of Clifton's poetry holds a positive message for women and celebrates the female essence.

Her visit is jointly funded by the Women's Issues Advisory Board, the Women's Studies program, and the English Department.

Bender believes Clifton's visit is significant for all facets of campus.

"Her voice, both as a woman and a poet, uncovers and shares important truths about life and our very human condition. She has very important messages for everyone. She writes with a tremendous honesty and a fearlessness, but also with gentleness and a compassion. It's a beautiful juxtaposition," said Bender.

"The purpose of her poetry is to humanize people," said Palmer.

Her poetry is a statement on how to care for and love other people, to show compassion toward the environment, the struggles of being black in this country, and in general, the quintessential struggle of being human, says Palmer.

Clifton travels to Alma from Columbia, Maryland, where she is Distinguished Professor of Humanities at St. Mary's College.

She has published 12 collections of poetry, a memoir titled A Good Woman, and 18 children's books.

"She's a great friend of Alma College," said Bender.

## 'Religion and Economics' covers eye-opening material

By MEREDITH BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Religion and Economics is a course being offered this semester by Kathryn Blanchard, assistant professor of religious studies, and Feler Bose, professor of economics. The class works to provide students with the opportunity to look at religion through a new lens.

"It's fascinating to look at religion and religious behavior as something that can be studied scientifically, as if it could all be explained and predicted," said Blanchard.

James Allen ('09) is a member of the conversation-based class. He said, "I thoroughly enjoy our thought-provoking class discussion and the different perspectives that every student brings into the classroom."

When asked what Bose hoped students would get out of the class, he responded, "We want our students to be able to take economic models and use them to analyze things that are not strictly economics – to see that humans make rational decisions in all arenas of life."

The topics covered in the class have varied from the question of whether or not religion is still relevant today, to different forms of financing in religion, the relationship between religion and economics within government, and the way religions deal with "free riders".

"The free rider question has to do with people who might attend church on Christmas and

Easter and contribute \$5 to this establishment. But the church has to run all year long! How do these establishments keep out the people who are clearly not serious contributors?" said Bose.

He gave examples of Mormons tithing 10% of their money and the Amish creating strict dress codes as ways that religious groups have dealt with free riders.

The class has also covered rational choice theory, which explains an individual's behavior as a rational decision made on the ratio of benefits to cost.

"I have found utilizing the rational-choice model to explain religion most interesting, particularly in relating to my experience with the declining membership of the Presbyterian Church. I am constantly asking myself if whether I think the Church should use this theory in order to determine how they can strengthen and regain membership," said Allen.

Blanchard said that she did not really relate to the narrative scientists have created about religion being an "exercise in risk management, with those people invested in one specific religion seen as the risk takers and the free-flow religious people diversified." However, she said it was still very interesting to study and that the bulk of the students in the class seemed to be identify with this view.

"One thing about the economist view is that it treats all human beings as equally rational creatures; the 9/11 hijackers are just as rational as Rick Warren, for example. The circumstances in which these

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## Karneval: an international masquerade extravaganza

By MEREDITH BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

The international community of Alma College came together to "raise cultural awareness on campus" this past Friday evening at a

formal masquerade event called Karneval.

The cultural event was put together by faculty and students of the Modern Language Department, and included booths with food and cultural information

from all four foreign languages taught at Alma.

The Spanish table had a plethora of food and drink available, such as ponche de limón, a lime punch made with egg whites, and a cold coffee drink called granzado de

café.

Visiting Spanish professor, Jane Vallejo, said that she was involved in the planning and execution of the event because "we believe that these activities generate a language through which all can communicate, and a closeness [can develop] between different countries."

Several students involved in the Spanish program also performed a dance called la cumbia, a traditional Colombian dance in which, as participant Emma Kornelis ('10) said, "we get to shake our hips!"

The German students were equally enthusiastic about the event.

"I lived in Germany and loved it, so that was my inspiration for getting involved in the culture," said Amanda Gulick ('11).

Nicole King ('11) was also a part of the German booth, and said that she was involved because "it's important to understand other cultures."

"The United States can be wrapped up in itself sometimes," King continued, "And I think it's important to be able to relate to others."

The German table had "German jeopardy" at their booth for attendees to play, with categories in food and culture, geography, his-

tory, famous people, and German expressions. The top prize for the game was a DVD player.

The Chinese booth had candied fritters, vegetarian yam cookies and egg rolls, among other kinds of food.

Eric Glynn ('12) demonstrated tai chi for attendees, a form of Chinese martial arts typically used for health and meditative reasons.

"We're hoping to recruit more students to take Chinese, and make everyone aware of the existence of the new Chinese program offered at Alma by participating in this," commented Alicia Monday ('12).

The French table offered crepes and several varieties of quiche, as well as a "mini tour" of Paris through photographs provided by French assistant, Clement Guillaume.

"It's nice to be able to share my own culture with others, as well as learn about other's traditions and customs," Guillaume said.

The final event of Karneval was a masquerade costume contest. Prizes for those best dressed were a Zune, an electric translator, and an eight-gigabyte USB drive.

"I'm excited by how many people turned up," said German club member Julia Ruff ('11). "It was a good cultural experience."



Photo by Danielle Jellison

Members and friends of international clubs on campus celebrate cultural awareness at the masquerade event, Karneval. From left to right: Audrey Gebbie ('12), Nicole King ('11), Nina Beckmann ('10), Anthony Sickelka ('11), and Melody Germain ('10).



## 'Religion and Economics' from page 3

people are placed results in their behavior. This kind of thinking can actually breed tolerance," said Blanchard.

Blanchard mentioned that, time allowing, the ethical questions of procreation and terrorism as economic and religious questions would be covered.

The class will potentially be offered again in 2 years, if the demand from students exists.

"I would certainly encourage others to take this class in the fu-

ture, particularly if they [are] interested in either Religious Studies or Economics, because it will give those students an opportunity to see how their discipline can be utilized in an unconventional setting. It will challenge some of your fundamental assumptions about both religion and economics, and at the end of the day, once you've hashed through it all, you will realize that you have become a more developed individual," said Allen.

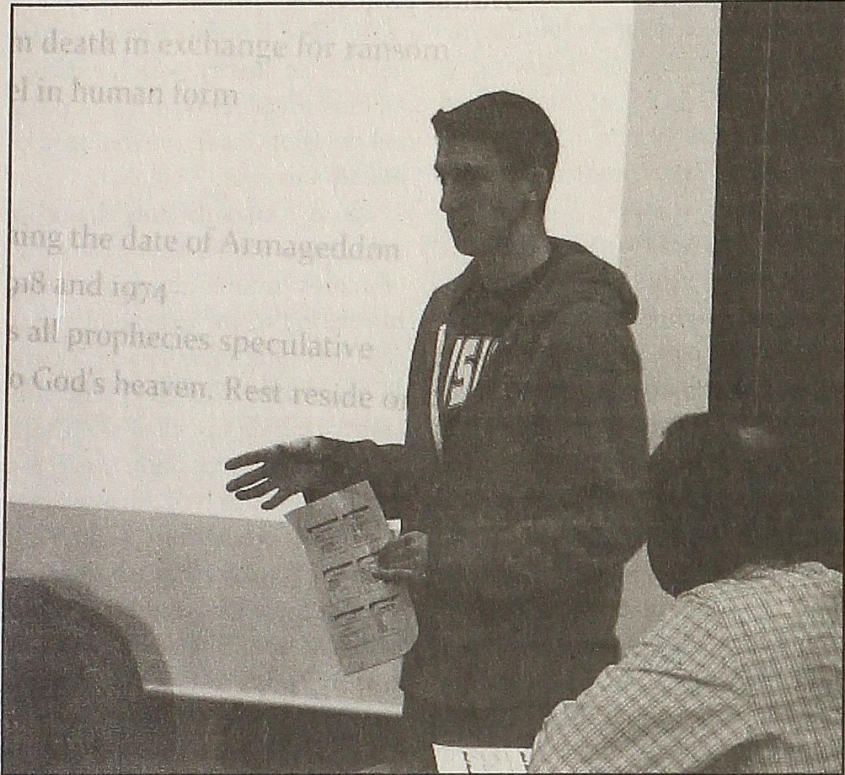


Photo by Danielle Jellison

Student Chris Chesney (10) explains Jehovah's Witnesses to his religion and economics class.

## Governors refusing bailout

By KRISTEN HAIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

While not all states in the US may be suffering equally from the economic crisis, there is no question they are all suffering in some form. So how is it possible that some states will refuse federal bailout aid?

South Carolina governor, Mark Sanford, a very visible member of the small coalition of Republican governors considering turning down portions of federal aid, has given his reason time and again: he just does not think the stimulus will work. Per his conservative ideology, Sanford believes that increased spending will not have a positive effect on the economic situation.

Sanford also disagrees with the constraints placed upon the money states will receive. He has announced his intention to refuse \$700 million of the \$2.8 billion package headed for South Carolina, on the grounds that he will only take it if permitted to use the money to decrease the state's debt.

Sanford has a reputation for fiery rhetoric in regards to financial policy, having once brought live piglets into his state legislature to protest "pork-barrel" legislation. His behavior in this situa-

tion is equally controversial. Last Thursday, he compared President Obama's economic policies to the policy of Zimbabwe leader, Robert Mugabe. "What you're doing is buying into the notion that if we just print some more money that we don't have and send it to different states, we'll create jobs," Sanford said. "If that's the case, why isn't Zimbabwe a rich place?"

With Zimbabwe's inflation rate in the billions last November, certain economists have deemed it essentially worthless. Clearly, some people found Sanford's comparison offensive. State senator Hugh Leatherman, chair of the finance committee, said, "That was one of the most asinine comments any elected official could make. I'm as conservative a person as ever walked the planet, but I also consider myself a compassionate person who tries to make sure our people are taken care of. Our people are hurting, and I'm going to fight as hard as I can to get as much of that federal money into this state as I can."

But Sanford, for now, is holding his position, beside Texas governor Rick Perry. His relative lack

of support from conservatives is indicative of the larger struggle within the Republican Party. In attempting to recover after losses in November, Republicans must decide what the new image of their party will be. Federal finances are one of the many issues that divide them. Sanford asserts that his colleagues' attempts to become "Dem-Lite" will ultimately hurt the party and fail to solve the current crises.

Unswayed by his rhetoric, representatives in his own state, like Leatherman, are working on legislation that will allow them to override the governor's rejection of funds. Of course, if the bailout fails, Republicans may well assume Sanfords' ultraconservative values and hard line positions. But until that happens, there is one question he has failed to answer. If the conservative fiscal values he espouses truly do work, why is South Carolina not "a rich place?" It currently has the second highest unemployment rate in the country, a fact which leaves many people wondering, if not the bailout, what else could he have in mind?

## Eleven art majors opened senior show on Friday

By CHELSEA CLARK  
SPORTS EDITOR

Four years in the making, the eleven senior art majors put up their senior show this past Friday.

The show will run from March 16 until April 18, and the opening reception will be held March 28 from 2 pm to 4 pm at the Clack Art Center in the Flora Kirsh Beck Gallery.

The gallery was full of laughter and stress as the seniors finished hanging their artwork; each of them carefully thinking about how best to place their work for the public to view. The actual process of hanging the art comes well after a lot of planning.

**Jo Molhagen Jaksa ('09)** said her favorite part of the process is "putting up the show because you've been working for it all year- all four years. It doesn't feel real until it's up. Presenting it to the public makes it feel real."

**Amy Rockafellow ('09)** said, "planning how the pieces were going to relate to each other between freshmen year to now. You would be surprised how well they go together after all the years" was the best part.

"Buying the frames and putting them together. That's when I got to pick out what pieces I was going to frame," agreed **Ashlee Forde ('09)**.

The Senior Show is the capstone for an art major. It's a time for them to show the public everything they have been working on for the past few years.

Rockafellow said, "Hopefully (the students) take a sense of the story each piece tells and the sto-

ry they all tell together."

"I grew up on a small sheep farm. Many of my experiences there could take metaphors on about the business world. My pieces are autobiographical- they tell my story. I hope the public sees the stories. They're supposed to be humorous," said **Earl Elowsky ('09)**.

"I want everyone to experience an all around enjoyable experience when looking at the show. They should have fun with it and see what we do here," said Molhagen Jaksa.

All of the seniors have their own section of the gallery, and as the viewers walk around they will be able to compare the different styles and foci. Forde said, "As a whole we all graduate in the same year but we all have such different work. We all have our own forte."

**Dave Haskell ('09)** with a photography focus said his favorite memories in the art building were, "really late nights with photography, hanging out in the

darkroom and falling off the art building's roof."

Putting up a show in a gallery takes a lot of preparation before it can go up. "First, you have to make sure the work is done. You have to find a way to mount or frame it; decide how you want to present it if you are not going to mat it," said Molhagen Jaksa, "I don't like traditional methods. You have to remember that you can do what you want, it's your senior show, even if the professors might not agree with some of the things. Finally, you have to decide what pieces complement each other, see how they go together."

Each of the seniors also had to write an artist statement. "Mine goes into how I'm heavily inspired by people. I was a theater minor; I only needed one more class. I love drawing the emotions on people's faces. At first, I thought that I was worried that I was going to be the face girl, but I don't think it is overbearing," said Molhagen Jaksa.



Photo courtesy of Sarah Garrity

Sarah Garrity (09) smiles politely for the camera in the midst of a work for painting class.

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Students yearn for more summer opportunities on campus

By AMANDA EWING  
STAFF WRITER

Students at Alma College are offered many unique opportunities, from traveling abroad to studying with professors over the summer to the opportunity to study with visiting professors. However, the availability of summer enrollment is one opportunity the Alma College students would benefit from – an opportunity students don’t currently have. Many students do stay the summer in Alma. Alma offers the wonderful opportunity to study and research with professors, and of course there is the opportunity to work for the various college offices in the summer. For those students, and for the students attempting multiple majors or

concentrations, such as education students, the opportunity to study at Alma in the summer would be a convenient way to complete general education distributives. During the summer, the college rents campus out to various leadership groups and high school camps. In fact, current Alma College students are hired to stay and help organize these groups and activities. Small housing is made available to these various groups; the same offer should be made to students. If the college were to offer small housing to students for the summer and charge a reasonable rate, many Greek students I know would stay. Many Greek students wish they could stay the summer in their houses. When you reach the age

of independence, the last thing most want to do is move back in with their parents; especially if you’ve been living in a house on your own for two terms. Some students get their own apartments for the summer, but the college is missing a serious opportunity in not giving students the chance to stay at Alma for the summer. I’m sure the college would earn more money not allowing students to stay the summer in small housing – the groups that rent out campus I’m sure bring more money in than poor working college students – but the opportunity would be great for students, and what is a college without it’s students? In many ways, the idea of a summer term at Alma, and the

opportunity to stay on campus during a “differently structured term” is similar to Spring Term. Spring Term is a fun study environment: the chance to stay at the college, only take one class, and continue to have the opportunity to work is an option most students love. However, a summer term where the option to take more than one class would be helpful to many students in completing their majors. Personally, I am attempting a major and two minors – a choice that, without taking summer classes, will keep me at Alma for at least an extra term – and I take an average of 20 credits a semester. Many students do take community college classes or enroll in classes at Central Michigan University

for the summer term. If Alma offered this opportunity, it would not only benefit the students by giving them the opportunity to study and work in the summer months, it would also allow them to graduate in four years. This would also advance the college’s reputation, as not many small colleges offer summer classes. The opportunity for summer classes would also effect the college’s retaining rate and the graduation rate: the college would be able to guarantee graduation in four years if a student took advantage of the summer term. Although spending your summer in school doesn’t sound like the most fun idea, studying and staying in Alma for the summer is exactly what some students are looking for.

Campus hours of operation need to change

By ALEXANDRA OSWALD  
STAFF WRITER

The nerd bell rings at 11:45 at night in the library; 2 in the morning rolls around, you are deprived of food and starving; you are in the library at 4 p.m. and need a quick cup of coffee. One of the most often discussed issues on campus remains the hours of operation at many places of service at Alma College, namely the library, Hamilton Commons, Joe’s Place, and Highland Java. Countless times, I have overheard or been a member of conversations revolving around this issue. These “conversations” (usually more like heated debates) usually revolve around students’ desires for the library to be open for 24 hours, Hamilton Commons to operate longer on the weekends, Joe’s to be open longer and on the weekends for meal advantage, and Highland Java to be open throughout the day. There have been numerous times (more like every day) that I wish the library was open 24 hours a day. Seeing as lot of my peers and I spend our lives in the library, there is a need for it to be open longer. When 12 a.m. rolls around, we all groan, disappointed that some of us have to go back to

our dorm rooms where either our roommate is sleeping or we do not have the resources we need to continue our studies. Though there is talk about the school not being able to spend the money on keeping it open, seeing as how the college already has costs from keeping the lights on and paying the night shift, is it really a bad idea to spend a little more on providing the students with 24-hour access? Is building another, unneeded, gymnasium a better investment? No. Joe’s Place, our little overpriced convenience store, has the worst hours on the weekends. No meal advantage on Friday or Saturday night? This is absurd. How is everyone supposed to make it to Hamilton Commons during the dinner hours? When they do not make it, they are forced to either go hungry or spend the little money they have (because we are all poor college students, aren’t we?) at 7-11 because at that time of night no other place is open. “There is no meal advantage on the weekends, and people are still here,” said Aaron Ransom (11), rather upset at the college as well. Hamilton Common, though open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., actually has deceiving hours. The meals are not continuous (and isn’t that

the point of being open—to have food other than cereal and stale bagels?) and on the weekends, you better make it at dinner time or you are screwed. Alma College, we spend over \$32,000 a year to attend this institution, and you refuse to spend our tuition on important matters such as this? Other colleges offer these services to their students, but you do not. Why? There is one establishment on campus that I cannot even believe has the audacity to have odd hours. Highland Java, the only place to get coffee and the like on campus, has the oddest hours for an on-campus coffee shop I have ever seen. What if I need to grab a quick cup of coffee at 2 p.m.? Closed. Highland Java should be open continuously. Seeing as it is run by students, there has to be a way to keep it open. I know people are busy but there has to be a couple students willing to work during the day. Alma College needs to look over these locations and their hours and readjust the schedules to make it convenient for the students. We pay to go here, so why not have it our way? We pay to go here, and we should be served our simple wishes.

PUZZLE CORNER

	6	3				1		
			6	8				4
5					2			7
		2	5		8		1	
	3			9			7	
	8		3		6	4		
1			9					5
3				4	5			
		9				7	2	

Puzzle courtesy of [www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)

Answer to last week's puzzle

5	3	2	7	9	4	1	8	6
9	6	7	2	1	8	4	3	5
8	4	1	6	3	5	7	2	9
3	2	8	1	5	7	6	9	4
4	1	9	3	8	6	2	5	7
6	7	5	4	2	9	8	1	3
1	5	6	9	7	2	3	4	8
7	8	3	5	4	1	9	6	2
2	9	4	8	6	3	5	7	1

SUDOKU

Fill the 9x9 grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 boxes contains the digits from 1 to 9. Each number must occur only once in each column, row, and box.

the Almanian.

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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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## Situation in California may lead to new state of Jefferson

By LAUREN SHAW  
STAFF WRITER

What in the world is going on in California?

I mean, I started wondering when they elected Arnold as their governor. I don't think that displays particularly good judgment, even if he is married to a Kennedy. But they re-elected him, so they must think he's doing a pretty good job.

I was also surprised by the voting on Proposition 8. I guess when I think of California I think of a bunch of hippies who are all about free love- hooray for stereotypes!- and I didn't expect them to move to restrict civil rights.

Then came the budget crisis.

Granted, Michigan has its fair share of budget problems, including the four-hour shutdown of non-essential state services when lawmakers couldn't agree on the budget. The issue with California is that they pass multiple propositions and referendums every election calling for improvements to various state services without providing means of funding those improvements, leaving lawmakers in a bind. I'm all for more people being involved in the policy creation process, but not to the extent of impeding normal governmental function.

A quick perusal of the news recently revealed even more craziness in California.

Democratic state assemblyman

Tom Ammiano introduced legislation last month that would legalize recreational marijuana in California.

Interestingly enough, the legislation is intended to help solve California's budget issues. The bill calls for a \$50 per ounce tax for the drug, which would only be sold to those 21 or older.

Marijuana is already California's biggest cash crop, and is a \$14 billion dollar black-market industry. The ability to tax and regulate it could generate some serious revenue for the state.

Now, I fall into the 58% of Americans that have never tried marijuana, so I did some research. All of the recreational users I spoke to said that they would rather

continue to buy marijuana illegally than pay the tax. One pointed out that marijuana violations are only a slap on the wrist anyway, and the money he would save by not paying the tax would more than cover a citation he could receive for buying underground.

Californian farmers had varying responses when asked if they would be willing to grow marijuana on their fields. However, if some of them get their way, they won't be part of California anymore!

A farmer named Virgil Rogers is heading up a movement to split California in two, with 13 coastal counties, including Los Angeles and San Francisco, going one way, and the 45 inland counties going the other.

While people have tossed the idea around for years, the final straw for Rogers was Proposition 2 (again with these propositions!), which banned the tight confinement of egg-laying hens, veal calves and sows last November. Personally I think that's a wonderful idea, but the farmers are annoyed about it to the point of seceding.

So, to re-cap: if you're thinking of moving to California in the near future, you'll be moving to a state with a former action star as governor, where gays can't marry- but you might be able to legally buy marijuana if you're willing to pay out the nose for it. Just be sure that you actually go to California, and not the proposed new state of Jefferson.

## Chicken Little cries "the economy is falling"

By AMANDA LABBY  
STAFF WRITER

For months, we've been hearing the same things: the economy sucks, we're spiraling into the next Great Depression, and we're all going to die. Chicken Little would be proud of the news coverage.

It's hard to see and understand these hard times in the Bubble, especially because tuition is always seeming to increase and we're still paying the same inflated bill for less-than-tasty food. And for me, personally, whenever I look up the news, all I see are the best deals of the century.

This past January, I was looking up news online when I found what was advertised as "The Best Job in the World." To boost Australian tourism, the tourism branch of the government is hiring someone to promote the island. The six month long job would pay over \$200,000.

The economy must not be that bad where they can pay someone to relax on an island and expect

tourists to flock there.

Australia isn't the only one with great deals. One village in Austria is offering 800 to 900 square meters of free land to anyone, married or single, who pledges to have at least one child in the next 10 years. This scheme is to boost the dwindling population, which currently numbers below 2,000.

The only condition is that, if the requirement of having a child is not met within the allotted years, the dweller must pay the equivalent of \$15,000.

If the economy is really that bad, it's surprising how a small community can afford to give away its land, and only to raise its population and not feel the pinch of the times.

Closer to home, some homes in Detroit are selling anything from \$1,000 to even a dollar or less. With prices like that, those houses will be flipped and sold for a lot more - a huge profit for investors, but still a good addition to the city.

Even as a broke college student, I could scour my room for laundry

quarters and maybe buy my first house.

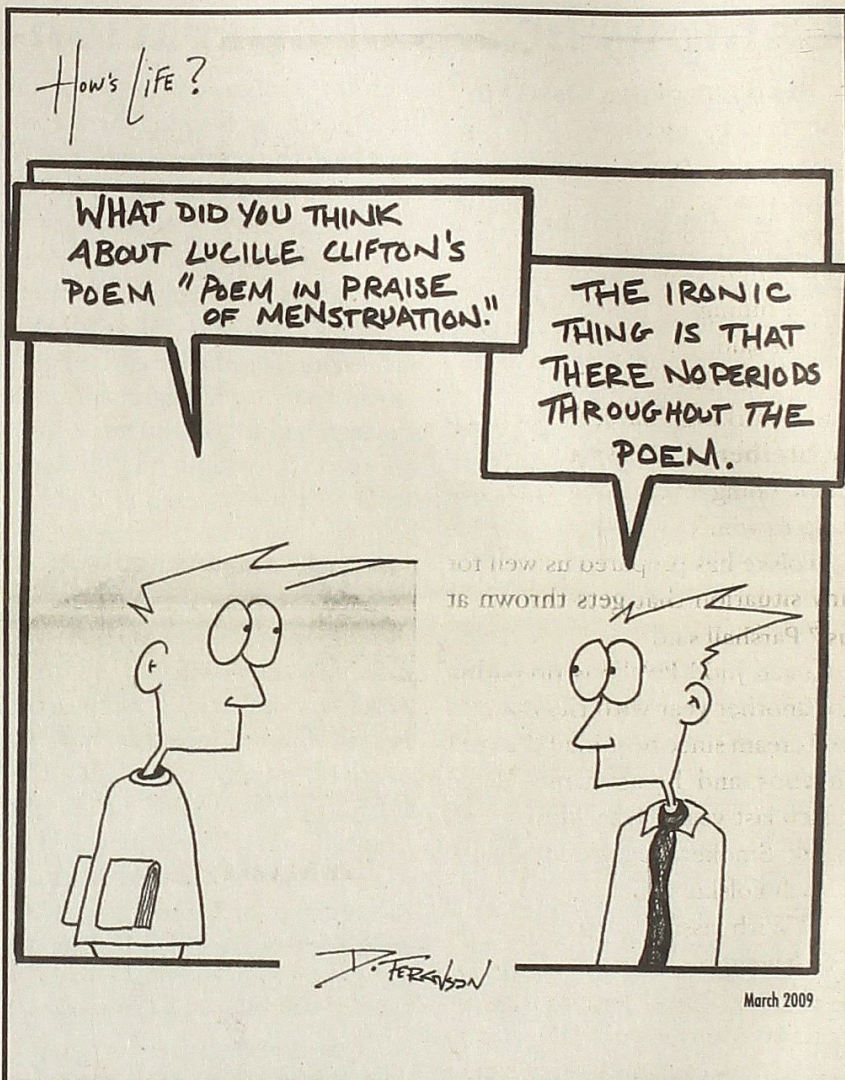
But at the same time with all of these great deals, a school in Ohio received 700 applications for a janitorial job last week.

Since the beginning, news has had the ability to make us run around like our heads were chopped off, and prepare for the worst. The worst is all we know when that's all we're shown.

The news doesn't cover the Australian adventure, or those kindly Austrian communes. Instead it focuses, on the bad things.

No wonder the stock market keeps falling further. No wonder the United States and much of the rest of the world is falling into economic problems. No wonder nothing seems to be getting better. What the world needs is more optimists.

So, forget about the stock market for a few hours and revel in the pure forms of Austrian communism. Take advantage of those great opportunities that are going on. The sky isn't falling yet.



## Obsession with celebrities needs to end

By ALEXANDRA OSWALD  
STAFF WRITER

American society has long been attached, fond of, and obsessed with the celebrity culture. We have numerous trashy, waste-of-resources magazines dedicated to these overpaid entertainment powerhouses. More people seem to watch Entertainment Tonight than the news. In Style magazine published an article entitled "Sexy Celebrity Bedrooms." Every time Britney Spears makes a move, we know about it faster than the speed of light.

Our culture suffers from "celebrity worship syndrome", according to ABC News' article, "Celebrity Worship Syndrome: Is America's Obsession with Stardom Becoming Unhealthy?" This "syndrome" is researched and named by James Houran, a psychologist with the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. It's an unhealthy interest in the lives of the rich and fabulous. According to the researchers who worked with Houran, about one third of Americans have it to some degree.

Britney Spears shaves her head. Jennifer Aniston and Angelina Jolie see each other at the Academy

Awards. Who in their right mind cares? Are we all so bored and exhausted with our lives that one little glimpse at a celebrity's mediocrity is so important?

We have been and forever will be fascinated with the lives of those on the big-screen, wishing our lives to resemble theirs, and laughing with vigor at their public faults.

"It makes me feel better about my life - that my life is not as messed up as theirs," says Sandra McCormick (10).

Our obsession is a form of escapism. As we watch these "celebrities" and pay close attention to their lives, we are retreating back to the ways of those who lived through the Great Depression, who watched movies to escape their own troubles.

But are there repercussions for our immense infatuation with celebrities' lives? As Norman Solomon best puts it, "There's nothing wrong with keeping track of events in the lives of celebrities. Occasional diversion is one thing, but perpetual distraction is another."

In his article "Hidden Costs of America's Celebrity Obsession," Solomon points out that, "in practice, worship of the rich has a way of accompanying

denigration of the poor. If having plenty of money makes one person important, then having no money makes another person unimportant."

As historian and social critic Daniel Boorstin argued in his book "The Image: A Guide to Pseudo-Events in America," our nation was threatened by a "menace of unreality" which was replacing the authentic with the contrived in American society. Today, celebrity culture undermines reality. In turn, we are making our lives less important than theirs, deluding our existence, and furthering the stretch between the rich and poor.

Celebrities are not that interesting. Why is it that we are willing to spend \$3 or more on Star or People Magazine even though society is fretting about our plunging, almost irreparable economy? Keep that money in your savings account. America's celebrity obsession is nonsensical. Your lives, believe it or not, are interesting. Stop trying to live vicariously through these privileged celebrities and value your own existence. Besides, you hear about the psychological effects of stardom all the time; do you really want to be damaged like them? I think not.

## HIGHLAND JAVA

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Drink of the week is Hazelnut Cafe au Lait, which is a Cafe au Lait with a flavor shot of hazelnut.

Drink of the week is Green Butterbeer from March 15th through March 22nd.



## J.V. Baseball unique to the MIAA league

By MARIA CASTANEDA  
STAFF WRITER

Alma is the only team with a JV baseball team in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

"It puts us a step ahead of the other teams," **Micah Parshall ('12)** said. "We have the opportunity to have more coaches, more players, and more of an opportunity to improve."

On Tuesday the JV team will play their first official game of the season against Muskegon Community College.

"With strong pitching and solid defense, the rest will fall into place," **Troy Weber ('12)** said. "We should play well and win."

In preparation for the start of the season, the team has been going over defensive and offensive plays, practicing live hitting in the cages, base running and pitching. "The pitchers have been getting a lot of innings in which will help," Weber said.

"We have been preparing and working hard," **Richard Schreiber ('12)** said. "We've been doing everything that will help us win."

"Folske has prepared us well for any situation that gets thrown at us," Parshall said.

Coach Judd Folske is preparing for another year with the maroon and cream since he joined the staff in 2005 and being named head coach last year. Dan Merian and Mark Smoker coach along with Coach Folske.

"With assistant coaches, we can have more one-on-one time," Weber said. "With so many players and two teams it would be hard to just have one coach." There are 37 names on roster for both JV and varsity combined.

Both JV and varsity traveled to Myrtle Beach over spring break for a week of games.

"We have a good, solid defense, and we have a lot of talent but our team is really young," Weber said. "To win this game we have to get on top early, and stay on top."

Even with a young team, the players are optimistic for the game.

"I think we have a really strong freshmen and sophomore class, so we should do really well," Parshall said.

"One of our strengths is that we all get along well together and help each other out," Schreiber said. "We have a young pitching staff but we'll be able to work on it for the future."

Throughout the season the team will continue to work on their team chemistry.

"Besides winning games, we want to learn to work together even more and integrate our friendships into how we play," Weber said.

Going into the first game of the season the players have many expectations.

"I'm nervous and anxious," Parshall said. "The first game is the building block for the rest of the season, so this game will determine a lot."

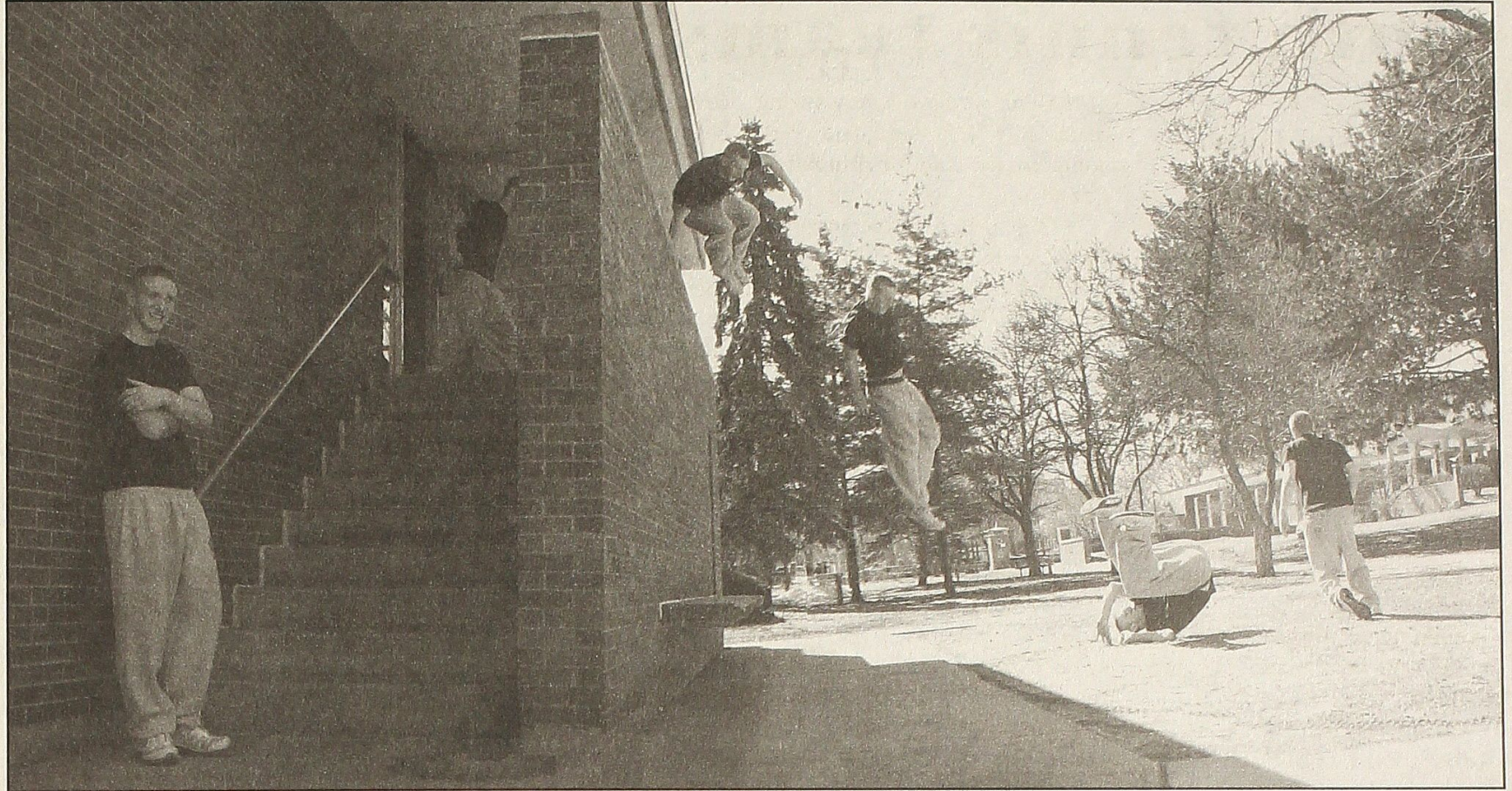


Photo by Devin Brines

To escape the rigors of an Alma College education, Aaron Heaney ('12) frees his mind by practicing Parkour.

## Spotlight: Balancing athletics and academics

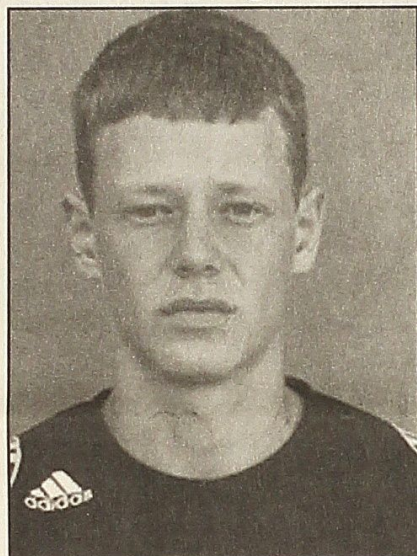


Photo courtesy of alma.edu

**Jeff Beck plays midfield for the men's soccer team.**

By MARIA CASTANEDA  
STAFF WRITER

On and off the field, **Jeff Beck ('11)** has set an example of excellence.

Beck began playing soccer from the young age of eight. With an older brother who played and a father who coached, the sport was well known in the family.

Growing up in Marquette, Beck

began playing for recreational teams, but soon moved up to a travel team called Marquette Fire.

"We weren't very good," Beck said. "It was mostly a bunch of hockey players."

Beck continued to play up through high school, Marquette Senior High School, where soccer was his only sport.

"I like the sport," he said. "It's always active and you're not just standing around."

He also continued playing because of the friendships he made through soccer.

"When you get involved with a group of kids, you just keep hanging out with them," Beck said.

Although soccer was his only competitive sport in high school, he grew up involved in athletics, running cross country in middle school and intramural basketball in high school.

His senior year in high school, Beck was named to the All-District team, lead his team in

assists, and was second in goals scored. Beck graduated in the top ten of his class of 350.

Growing up, Beck played at the center mid fielder or a stopper, but began playing outside midfield and outside defense when he came to Alma.

"I received good scholarships and saw that I could play soccer," Beck said as to why he decided to come to Alma.

Playing for the Scots, Beck played in 19 games his freshman year, scored one goal, and received the MIAA Academic Award.

On the field, one of Beck's strengths is playing hard and work ethic.

"I play defense if I lose the ball," Beck said, but admits he lacks aggressiveness sometimes.

Off the field, Beck excels in academics with a 4.0 GPA in his sophomore year.

Outside of soccer, Beck is a member of the Biology club and the Beta Beta Beta Honor Society and XEM Honorary Chemistry Club. As a biology major Beck

remains involved with the department throughout the year.

"I did research for the biology department on animals last summer," Beck said.

Among some of his most memorable moments playing for the Scots, Beck remembers scoring his first goal freshmen year during the sixth game of the season against Holy Cross. This year, Beck's best memory is tying Hope 1-1 at Scotland Yard.

"We weren't having a very good year and Hope was second," Beck said. "Because of norovirus, the game had been postponed, and we thought it was going to be canceled. So, everyone had a bad attitude going into it, but we ended up playing really well."

With a major in biology and a minor in chemistry, Beck plans to go onto medical school. As for soccer, Beck does consider playing non-competitively in the future.

"I would coach if I ever have the time," Beck said. "I can see myself playing, but I don't know if I could."



Photo by Devin Brines

**Justine Minish ('12), Kay Fitzsimmons ('12) and visiting friend Teresa Pizzimenti play around with a soccerball while enjoying the warmer weather that arrived this week.**



# Both tennis teams travel to Grand Rapids

By **SHELBY HARRIS**  
STAFF WRITER

This past week was one of preparation for the men's and women's tennis teams leading up to their match against Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC). Saturday is when both teams traveled to Grand Rapids to throw some serves at their opponents. There, the Alma men's team started their match at 11 a.m., followed by the women at 1 p.m.

Building up to that match, the Scots were busy practicing their skills.

Prior to Saturday's match **Robert VanDorin ('10)** said, "I think that it will be a real close match, because the last couple of years since I've been here we have not lost. But, it is always close."

VanDorin continued, "Earlier this season we played Spring Arbor and beat them 5-4 while Grand Rapids Community College beat Spring Arbor 6-3. They got some good recruits in this year, and they are going to try to beat us."

Women's tennis player **Amy Baranowski ('12)** said, "I don't think we have ever played Grand Rapids Community College's team before, so it's a new thing. I hope for the best."

"I think we have a very strong team this year and are very competitive," said **Emilia Allen ('12)**.

This match is getting the Scots ready for their upcoming conference season.

"I think that we will probably come in fourth or fifth place in the conference this year because we have two teams that usually get ranked in the nation every year," said **Kace Lovejoy ('11)**.

"Our hardest competition will probably have to be Kalamazoo," said Lovejoy.

The women's team will also have a tough conference.

"As a freshman, I am new to the whole college tennis system, but I have faith in my team," said Baranowski.

Allen said, "Our team is relatively young, so we have some good potential. We have worked really hard in the off season."

Baranowski said, "We just got back from Florida about a week and a half ago, so now we are in the actual season playing matches. It's pretty regular now. We are praying for good weather, so we can practice outside."

The men's team is also young.

Lovejoy said, "This is a rebuilding year for us. We lost half our team from last year. Right now, our weakness would have to be experience, because we are such a

young team. Emotions do get the best of you when you don't have that experience."

"Everyone on the team is very competitive, so that would have to be our strength. Each person does not want to lose, and they don't give up when they are done," said Lovejoy. "Most people on the team are good academically, as well."

According to Lovejoy, there are some leaders on the team that keep the team under control.

He said, "Dan Fraser and Alex Montoye are the leaders, and they lead by example. They really keep their cool on the court, and they work a lot in the summer on their game."

VanDorin said, "Last year we had a good doubles team, but we lost a lot of players from last year. This year our strength is in singles as opposed to doubles. In order to be successful we have to capitalize in singles."

The Scots need to build on what they have in order to reach their goals.

VanDorin said, "We've already settled in the five-spot in the conference. It would be nice to go up against Hope or Albion and give them a run for their money. Our goal should be to build the program and keep on the path we are on now. If we continue to improve our record, we can

eventually work our way up to the top."

The next meet for the men's tennis team will be this coming

Saturday at Bluffton, Ohio. There the Scots will have a doubleheader against Bluffton University and Adrian College.

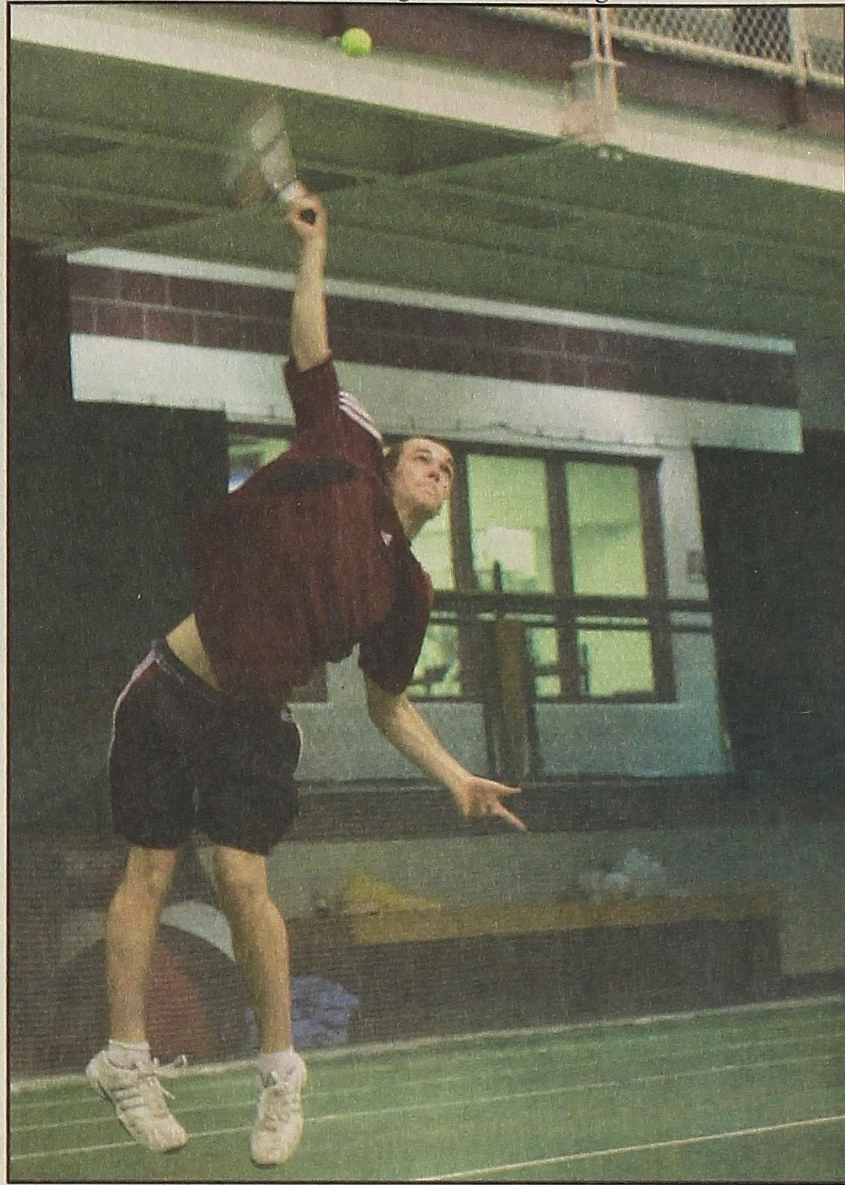


Photo by Devin Brines

**Kace Lovejoy ('11)** serves the ball across the court two Saturdays ago.

## Lacrosse faces the possibility of becoming a varsity sport

By **LAUREN SHAW**  
STAFF WRITER

Lacrosse is the fastest growing collegiate sport in Michigan, and the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association is researching the possibility of adding lacrosse as an MIAA varsity sport.

Alma's lacrosse team is an official organization through Student Congress. They are entirely student-run and do not have a coach.

Other schools in the MIAA are

preparing for the possibility of lacrosse as an MIAA sport. Albion is adding lacrosse as a varsity sport for the 2009-2010 school year. Olivet is adding women's lacrosse as a varsity sport in 2010. All of the MIAA schools have club teams.

"To my understanding, Alma College is also ready to begin developing a varsity program, just as soon as budgeting and other program prerequisites are met," said **Tony Romano ('10)**.

Adding it as a varsity sport could

greatly improve Alma's team. The increased funding would allow the team to buy more equipment, hire a coach, as well as improving recruitment.

"Part of the problem we have is our size," said **Ryan Horton ('11)**. "When we only have two lines, and other teams have four, it's hard to win."

The creation of a varsity lacrosse team would greatly increase Alma's appeal to many high school seniors.

If lacrosse did become a varsity sport at Alma, there would be both men's and women's teams. The current Alma team is co-ed.

This year's lacrosse season began at the beginning of the school year with Fall Ball. The Scots struggled, but Romano feels that they have improved since beginning practice again in January.

On Saturday, the Scots played their first game of the spring against the Calvin Knights, who have been ranked as high as

second in the country among Division III lacrosse teams.

"I chose to play a much better team early in the season to prepare us for everything the rest of the spring," said Romano. "Our chances of winning Saturday are very small, but anything we can make happen against Calvin, we can set up on any other team in our schedule."

Next weekend, they are hosting a game for alumni members to come back and have some fun.

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Taxes can be complicated and confusing. Do I qualify for the Hope Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit? What about my tuition and book fees? Am I a Dependent? Do I need to file multiple state returns? Do I even need to file a tax return? H&R Block has trained tax professionals to help students like you prepare your tax return so that you'll get the most money back at tax time. We'll make it quick and easy, and you don't pay until you're satisfied - that's The H&R Block Promise.\*\*

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2 ALMA LOCATIONS

126 West Superior  
989-463-5556

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\*Tax prep fees for college students filing a dependent return start at \$49. Dependent return includes 1040 EZ and one state return. Tax prep fees for college students filing a non-dependent federal return start at \$52 (additional fees apply for a state return). Pricing varies by state. \*\*If you discover an H&R Block error on your return which entitles you to a larger refund (or smaller tax liability) than what we calculated, we'll refund your tax prep fee for that return. Refund claims must be made during calendar year in which tax return is prepared.

## The Triangle Motel

989.463.2296

Alma, MI

US 127 North- Exit 123

US 217 South- Exit 124



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CONVENIENTLY LOCATED NEAR US 127 THE TRIANGLE MOTEL IS TRULY ALMA'S BEST KEPT SECRET. AMERICAN OWNED AND OPERATED FOR THE PAST EIGHTEEN YEARS, WE TAKE GREAT PRIDE IN OUR MOTEL. WE CAN ALWAYS BE FOUND ON SITE STRIVING TO ENSURE YOUR STAY IS QUIET, PLEASANT AND COMFORTABLE. OUR ROOMS ARE GUAARENTEED CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE WITH UPDATED AMENITIES AND DECOR.

Free wireless~ top quality beds~ remote control cable TV~In room microwave & refridgator~ oversized seated showers~ pet friendly~ free local calls~ Extended stay discounts~ picnic area with grill~ truck parking.

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