

The Almanian

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Enron goes belly up; investigations begin

Chris Machnacki
Staff Writer

Fallout from the sudden collapse of Enron, the nation's seventh largest company, continues to spread as the Justice Department launches its criminal investigation and President George W. Bush orders a review of employee pension law as outrage over the plight of Enron's employees spreads.

Once touted as a "revolutionary" company with infinite potential, Enron collapsed suddenly during a six-week period in the fall. Enron officials admitted to having overstated the company's profits by over \$580 million since 1997 by using a variety of accounting tricks and partnerships to hide debt. On October 16, Enron announced third quarter losses of over \$618 million. Enron's stock, which traded for over \$80 per share one year ago, now reaches 76 cents on a good day.

The Justice Department probe will focus on whether Enron committed fraud by withholding the true state of its finances from its investors and its use of accounting chicanery.

The investigation will move forward without the two top Justice Department officials: Attorney General John Ashcroft and his top deputy have both recused themselves from the investigation, citing their own links to the company. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, Ashcroft has received over \$57,000 in campaign contributions from Enron.

Hampering the investigation, Enron's accounting firm, Arthur Anderson, has disclosed its destruction of "a significant but undetermined number" of Enron documents. Arthur Anderson employees destroyed thousands of print and electronic documents from September to November. The destruction began as the Securities and Exchange Commission announced a formal investigation of Enron's finances. According to Steven Cutler, director of enforcement for the SEC, "Destruction of documents is obviously a very serious matter. The destruction of documents by Arthur Anderson will not deter us from pursuit of our investigation and will be included within the scope of our investigation."

President George W. Bush this week announced a review of the federal Employee Retirement Income and Security Act, which protects the pensions of employees when companies file for bankruptcy. The law does not apply to 401(k) retirement accounts, meaning that Enron's employees have essentially lost their retirement savings. The review will also examine corporate pension arrangements to ensure they do not harm their employees during bankruptcies.

Enron executives, however, cashed in handsomely on their stock before the storm broke. Top Enron executives sold over \$1 billion in company stock before the news of Enron's impending collapse became public. Enron's 20,000 other employees, however, had their accounts frozen, leaving them no choice but to hold on to their stock shares as their value plummeted to nearly nothing. According to Representative Henry A.

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First-year male athletes given green light to pledge

Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

The campus student life committee has decided to re-open the opportunity of pledging fraternities for all male first-year athletes. This comes months after a memo was given to the athletes informing them they would lose athletic eligibility if they joined a fraternity.

According to James Kridler, Dean of Students, a committee will be formed to review the pledging process and make recommendations by the end of the year.

Kridler and Head Football Coach Jim Cole agree that the process needs some reviewing. According to Kridler, there has been no review of this kind in over a decade.

Cole, an Alma graduate, notes that "The school has changed" and academically it is "much more difficult." He says that it is very difficult for athletes to balance the time between academics, athletics, and Greek life. Cole said he is glad to see that some awareness has been brought to a significant problem on campus.

Kridler notes that "some quasi-legal issues were involved" dealing with the treatment of athletes

compared to other students. Women athletes were not involved in the first decision because they did not have the same problems as male students.

Neither Kridler nor Cole claim to be against fraternities, although they would like to see the pledge process updated. Cole noted, "I'm a TKE. I believe in the system."

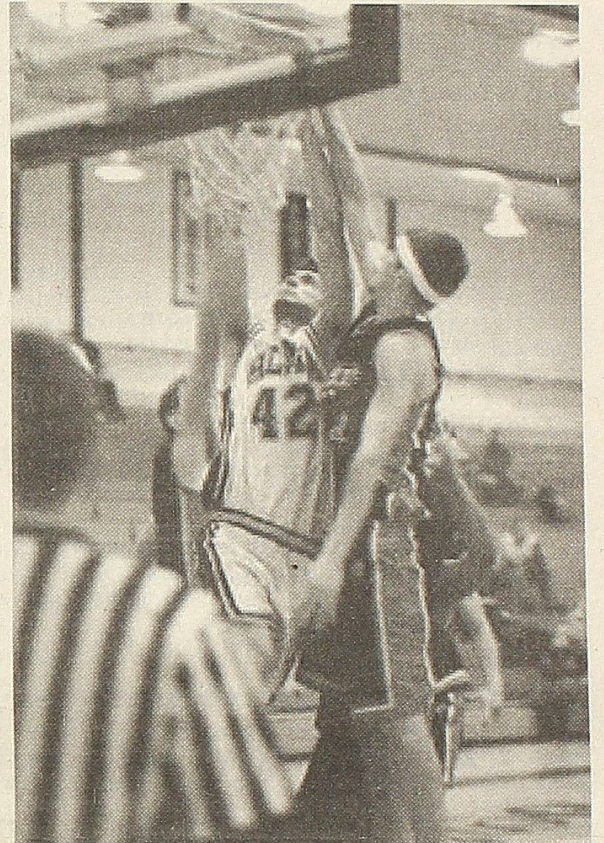
Kridler is concerned about the impact of pledging on all students. He said that the six-week pledge period takes a lot of time and energy from students deciding to join a fraternity.

Cole said that students need to "earn the privilege" of joining a Greek organization and the school possibly has to "raise the bar a little bit."

While awaiting the committee's recommendations both men have some ideas for what could be done to ease the problem. They agree that one simple change could involve raising the minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 for those allowed to pledge. Other suggestions included moving the pledge period or shortening it.

Kridler noted that many schools have a deferred rush until sophomore year.

Both men seemed confident



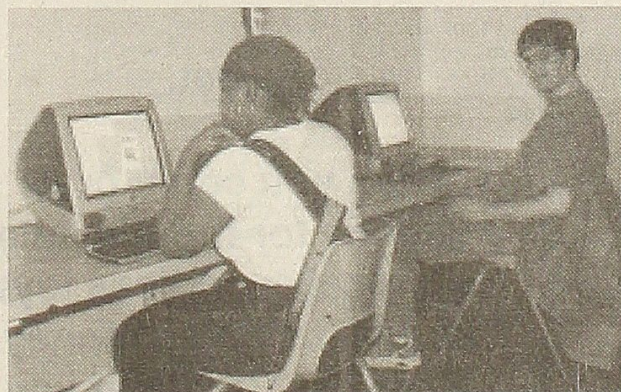
that a solution to the problem could be found in the near future. According to Cole, "we hope we do what's best for the kids in the long run."

New technology stifles computer troubles; more good things on the way

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

Over the holiday break, the Information Technologies (IT) Center underwent major changes starting in the computer laboratories, which will hopefully begin to end many of the computer problems on campus. Installed were a new lab manager, servers, software, and a new file server.

Previously, two main problems bugged the campus' computer network. Firstly, the way in which students and faculty experienced the equipment in the labs was faulty, as the machines were slow to establish network connections, it was difficult to change software, and there were frequent problems with passwords. The machines were extremely difficult to support; thus, the college worked with Apple Computer to come



Kolorean Kershaw (05) and Thomas Walsh (02) work on computers in a campus lab.

up with a different approach to manage the machines.

David Reed, director of information technologies, said, "There were all sorts of experiences associated with sitting down and using the machines and most of those were negative experiences."

The second, and most severe problem, was losing files. To combat this problem, the IT Center got three new, state of the art, file servers and disc arrays (all of which are named after Shakespearean characters). This new equipment provides high capacity, high speeds, and highly reliable file services. They will allow students to trust that they can work on equipment without losing their work.

Within a few weeks, the IT Center expects to be able to allow students to access the same files from any machine on campus. Students will even be able to use their own computers in the dorms to gain access to their folders, regardless of whether or not they operate on the Windows system. Currently the IT Center is establishing a file share for every student on campus. Off-campus students may also benefit from these changes.

"Freshmen coming in," Reed said, "will never understand this frustration. Frustrations that students have felt here for so many years."

All students are now set up with their own web space, which they can use to put up a web page.

As of yet there have been no reported problems with the new system. "If anything, it is exceeding our expectations," said Reed.

Problems with the computers have remained unsolved for many years. For a long time the IT Center was working to provide the best services that it could without the kind of support it needed at the highest levels of the college. Over the last couple of years, with the support of faculty, the Financial Af-

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NEWS

India-Pakistan tensions continue to rise

Brendan Guilford
Staff Writer

Secretary of State Colin Powell is scheduled to visit with both India and Pakistan this month in an attempt to curb rising tensions between India and Pakistan, Asia's two nuclear powers. The U.S. has been trying to calm the two nations in order to keep focus in the region on the hunt for alleged terrorist Osama bin-Laden.

India and Pakistan have fought three major wars and countless border skirmishes, which have resulted in thousands of deaths from both sides since their simultaneous independence from Great Britain in 1947.

The latest build-up of arms by India and repeated threats of attack stem from Indian demands that Pakistan stop terrorist groups within the Indian territory of Kashmir, a major focal point of Indian-Pakistani disagreement.

On October 1st a suicide bombing at the Indian Kashmir legislative building claimed 40 lives, only to be followed on December 13th by a suicide raid by 5

assailants that ended after nine Indians were killed. The Indian government maintains the attackers were Pakistani nationals, a claim which Pakistan denies.

The leader of Pakistan, President Pervez Musharraf, has attempted to pacify the angry Indian government by cracking down on terrorist organizations such as al-Badr Mujahedeen and Harkat-ul Mujahedeen - groups that operate within Kashmir and frequently attack Indian holdings.

Musharraf has pledged to the United States and India to prevent Pakistan from becoming "a base for terrorism", and has banned five Islamic extremist groups from Pakistan in the last week.

While the Indian government welcomes the Pakistani president's actions, a spokesperson for the Indian government stated that the buildup of troops would continue and the level of combat readiness would remain high.

"The mobilization remains as it is. We will keep the situation under observation. Whether it will ease or not is something to be seen over the next few days. Whatever (Musharraf) has said, he has to act on," said S.K. Bandopadhyay, the Indian

Minister of Defense, when asked about reversing the mobilization.

President Bush spoke on Saturday with the leaders of both nations, and received pledges from both to relieve tensions and practice restraint. Bush has been very pleased with Pakistani President Musharraf's promise to eliminate terrorism from Pakistan.

"President Musharraf (made) a good speech yesterday and the (U.S.) president welcomed his firm decision to stand against terrorism in all of its forms and he applauded his vision for Pakistan (as) a progressive and modern state," said U.S. National Security Council spokesman Sean McCormack.

Several U.S. senators have made their opinions public on the latest India - Pakistan dispute. Democratic Sen. Joseph Lieberman urged the Bush administration "to seize this moment of opportunity. You've got a million troops facing each other on that India-Pakistan border. That is literally explosive. And I hope in response to Musharraf's speech, both sides will pull back." Republican Senator John McCain, from Arizona and U.S. war vet, also called for patience by India.



Anthrax vaccine laboratory wins federal approval

LANSING, Mich. —

BioPort Corporation of Lansing—the sole United States producer of the anthrax vaccine—received federal approval in a Dec. 27 to begin shipping the vaccine. However, shipping cannot commence until federal clearance is given to the Washington state laboratory that puts the vaccine into vials. Additionally, the vaccine that BioPort has already produced must be inspected by the FDA before each lot can be shipped. Licensed by the FDA since the 1970s, the anthrax vaccine has not been sold by BioPort because the corporation failed two FDA inspections after buying its labs from the state of Michigan in 1998.

Prince Harry faces possible police action over cannabis smoking and underage drinking

ETON, England —

Seventeen-year-old Prince Harry has allegedly smoked cannabis and consumed alcohol while underage. According to CNN, Prince Charles, Harry's father and heir to the English throne, sent Harry to a drug rehabilitation clinic in order to warn him of the dangers of drugs and alcohol after learning of Harry's illegal acts. The British police have not yet determined whether action will be taken against the prince, and Superintendent Mandy Evelyn of Wiltshire police force, western England, said that Prince Harry will be treated "exactly the same way" as any other young person found guilty of the acts. Evelyn further stated that an examination of available evidence is necessary before deciding upon possible disciplinary action.

Bush chokes on pretzel

WASHINGTON, D.C. —

President Bush fainted Monday while watching a professional football game and eating pretzels. Injuries including a scrape and a large bruise on his left cheekbone, as well as a bruise on his lower lip, were sustained during the incident. Bush claims that he was only unconscious for a few seconds of the Baltimore-Miami NFL playoff game because his dogs had not moved from the positions in which he remembered them. However, Bush did say that the dogs were looking at him "a little funny."

Man suspected of killing his family to be extradited

HOUSTON, Tex. —

Christian Michael Longo, a man accused of killing his wife and three children, is expected to be extradited from Texas to Oregon today in order to face murder charges. Longo, 27, was detained approximately 60 miles south of Cancun, Mexico, Sunday evening. He was placed on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted list on Friday following the discovery of the bodies of his children, ages 4, 3, and 2, and his wife in the Alsea and Yaquina Bay's in Oregon.

The real story of honor points

The number of honor points each student has is generally determined by his or her grade point average (GPA). By calculating a student's overall credits during a term with the value of the class grade, an honor point is then configured. Four points are given for each "A," three for a "B," and so on. However, when any sophomore, junior, or senior takes a class pass/fail, there are no honor points given for that class. An individual's GPA cannot suffer from the honor point system. However, lack of attendance at Convocation, the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Assembly and the Honors Day Ceremony, result in the loss of .25 of an honor point. Honor points are used to determine class rank when students achieve identical grade point averages.

Information compiled Kari Joy Johnson

ENRON from page 1

Waxman (D-Calif), "It's the biggest bankruptcy in American corporate history, a bankruptcy where a small number of executives enriched themselves to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars while thousands of employees were left with worthless stock...When you piece it all together, there are many questions that need answering."

Do you know what a pencil is? Do you know how to use a pencil?

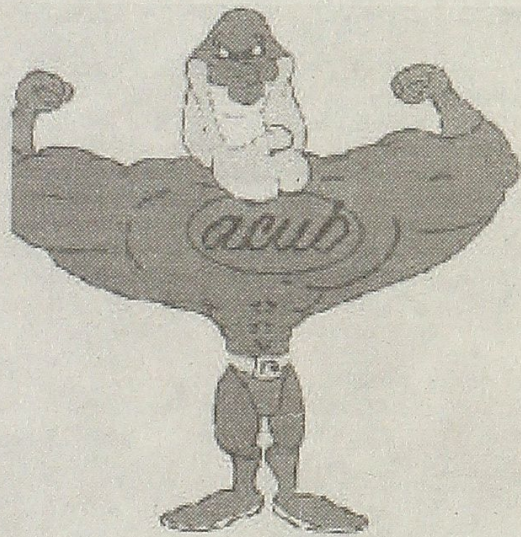
Sweet.

Then you could draw cartoons for the Almanian and receive endless joys, as well as some money. Give x8397a ring if you think it'd be cool.



Please call us as soon as possible so poor Dr. Lawrence doesn't have to draw any more stick figures.

ACUB would like to give special recognition to ANDREW McCRACKEN for all his hard work!!



We would like to thank our Reps for all their help last term. If you are interested in becoming a Rep please contact Susan at x8615

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fairs Office, and Sandra Tracy, president, the IT Center has been given the latitude to begin to address some of these ongoing problems.

All of these changes have fit into this year's fiscal budget. It is expected that the IT Center will be able to live within the budget limitations of the next fiscal year and still solve significant problems and deliver services.

OPINION

Staff Editorial

Letting them play and letting them pledge

Praise must go to the administration for retracting the ban that prevented freshman male athletes who participate in football, basketball, track, soccer, and baseball from pledging fraternities during this semester. The choice was the correct one.

The ban, first off, was blatantly illegal under United States law. A 1998 amendment to the Higher Education Act of 1965 declares that no student who attends a college or university can be excluded from participating in an activity that exists by means of the institution, such as an athletic team or a fraternity. Exclusion, according to the amendment, violates our basic right to association. The law applies to any institution that directly or indirectly receives federal financial assistance, which Alma does through various grants and financial aid that it offers students.

More importantly, the purpose of the ban's existence was completely unwarranted. Coaches were concerned that athletes' grade-point-averages (GPA) dropped upon pledging and eventually joining a fraternity. Yet the Greek male GPA of 2.97 sharply contrasts the 2.88 GPA that is the all-male average. In terms of athlete retention, coaches should not fear that their players will desert the sports they have spent so much time and energy becoming successful at. Indeed, athletes may decide, upon becoming involved with their fraternities, to spend less time with their sports. But that is an athlete's decision to make for himself, not the decision of a coach to make for one of his or her players. Coaches can understandably be afraid of losing potential star athletes to fraternity life, but that does not mean that coaches have the right to take away potential star brothers from fraternities. They do not have the right to take away athletes' chances to become members of the yearbook staff or resident assistants. Accordingly, they do not have the right to take away athletes' chances to become members of a Greek organization.

Concerns about hazing have also arisen during the debate over the ban. Coaches don't want to see their athletes physically harmed by any part of the pledge process. Fair enough. But if coaches are so concerned about hazing, why do they not put their effort toward stopping the hazing that goes on inside the locker rooms and within the athletic teams themselves? The last hazing incident made public at this school that resulted in repercussions was found to be a product of the men's soccer team, not a Greek organization. And although one can understandably be skeptical of fraternity hazing practices, that is an issue best left to student affairs personnel and the interfraternity council, not athletic coaches.

Some have argued that the ruckus of this debate will inhibit athletes from pledging anyway due to a fear of coaches who may bench players who opt to go Greek. Yet by refusing to allow certain athletes to play just because they refused to bow to coaches' wishes, coaches can indeed harm their teams, not only damaging their success, but also hurting individuals' successes.

Athletics can indeed be beneficial and bring plenty of success, as they can aid one's personal growth and teach the concepts of teamwork, friendship, and dedication just as well if not better than membership in a fraternity can. But that does not mean that holding membership in Greek organizations is any more harmful or any less beneficial to an individual than membership on an athletic team.

For their part, athletes who choose to pledge can find a multitude of ways to grow as people and give positively back to Alma's community through the fraternities they decide to join. Last semester, as minute examples of what fraternal organizations are capable of, Sigma Chi's Derby Days raised approximately \$3500 for the Community Café, Tau Kappa Epsilon sponsored a campus-wide career seminar, Theta Chi decorated Christmas trees at the Masonic Home, and Zeta Sigma and Sigma Alpha Epsilon collaborated to bring \$2000 worth of food to United Way to aide Sept. 11 victims. Additionally, the ideals of friendship and brotherhood that flower within people in fraternities may be cliché, but according to much of the male Greek population, they are mostly true.

Fraternities are inherently positive things and are no more harmful than athletics. Male freshman athletes should not have to forgo participation in the former just to take part in the latter. As this debate will no doubt continue in future years, administration would do well to remember that.

Our not-so-liberal arts education



There is no doubt in my mind that Alma College is an excellent academic institution. *U.S. News and World Report* placed Alma in tier two of their national liberal arts college rating, making us one of the top 114 liberal arts colleges in the country. Employers place a high value upon job applicants with Alma

Reannon Broekema

College degrees. My personal experience speaks for the College's academic quality as well; fabulous faculty, invaluable instruction and awesome advisors all have guided me through my four-year stay.

Why, then, do I get such a bitter aftertaste when I reminisce about my Alma education?

I've obviously received a high-quality education, as all of us do, but there's something missing—I was so wrapped up with filling all of my distributive, major, minor, Quill course, upper level and spring term requirements that I didn't get to take any of the classes that I really wanted to take.

Let's look at an average student's credit map. Alma requires its graduates to have completed at least 136 credit hours. Subtract 64 credits for language composition, foreign language and distributive requirements (math and/or computer science counts in the distributive requirements area). Each person must have an area of emphasis, or major, so subtract another 36 credits (at least). And most people have at least one minor—tack on another 24 credits.

And the Grand Total of credits that an average Alma College student gets for electives? (Drumroll, please)...12 whopping credits, or 3 whole classes!

Granted, there are loopholes. Many classes count for both distributive and major or minor requirements, and many students test out of the composition or foreign language requirements. Most Quill course and upper-level requirements are achieved by completing a major. But the fact is that many Alma students are so caught up in taking classes that they are required to have that they don't get much of a chance to take classes that sound interesting to them.

Don't get me wrong, we do have some freedom with what classes we choose in the respect that we just need certain kinds of requirements (we have to take a literature class of some sort, not specifically American Literature), and many majors have general upper-level curriculum requirements, which are our choice. But because there are relatively few classes to pick from in the first place, students aren't left with much of a choice on what they can take, which makes getting an education much less appealing.

As our education at Alma rolls onward we must each semester plan the following term's schedule. It's an inconvenient ordeal trying to figure out what we need; must have this, need that for graduation. Why can't we have more choices in what classes we take? Why must everything be so set in stone that chemistry majors can't have an opportunity to take that interesting art class? Why so many requirements?

Alma is a liberal arts college, which means that students are supposed to gain a wide-variety of knowledge during their college experience. And of course there are requirements that need to be fulfilled in order to achieve that liberal arts status. But what kind of a liberal arts education leaves its students with basically 12 credits of free electives to choose things that sound fun and interesting?

Requirements got the best of my education, and although the quality of my education at Alma College has been outstanding, the method of attaining that education left me disappointed that I couldn't enjoy it more.

The Almanian

Serving Alma College since 1907

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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.

Letter Policy

All letters to the editors must meet the following standards of publication: signed, include the author's phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published as layout space allows with priority given to letters under 250 words. Submission of a letter does not guarantee publication. We reserve the right to condense letters for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. E-mail letters to the editors at ALMANIAN@alma.edu or address letters to Newberry Hall, Alma College.

Staff Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed weekly in the "Staff Editorial" reflect the views of The Almanian staff. These views in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.

Dear Scottie . . .

Dear Scottie,

I'm melting! The heater in my room just keeps cranking it out, no matter how much I adjust the thermostat. It's too cold to keep the windows open, but there's no other way to get rid of the skin-boiling temperatures in my room. My roommate and I are forced to walk around in our underwear or else risk heat exhaustion, and in order to sleep at night forget blankets and pajamas. Is there anything I can do?

Heat Stroked

Dear Stroked,

Aside from leaving your refrigerator door open and stocking up with cups of ice from Saga, there's not really much you can do. The thermostats in most rooms don't work, and from what I understand haven't for years. If the heat threatens your health you can always call the Physical Plant and ask them to turn off your heat, but without it I doubt you'll make it through the night without catching hypothermia. My best advice is to buck up and shut your curtains in order to spare the rest of campus from having to view your late-night ensemble.

OPINION

Yet another call for campaign finance reform



Chris Machnacki

The rotten smell left by the collapse of energy giant Enron has spread from its home city of Houston to the highest levels of the American government and calls the current mania for deregulated markets into serious question. No less than five Congressional committees have called for hearings on the Enron bankruptcy, a company almost joined at the hip to many senior government officials.

For years, Enron has served as a poster child for free market enthusiasts. Lauding its innovative style and tremendous profits, critics of government regulation have pointed to Enron as an example of what could be possible without burdensome oversight. Unfortunately, the only thing that proved to be possible without burdensome oversight was the largest bankruptcy in American history.

Enron executives behaved with particularly outrageous conduct. Top Enron corporate officers sold their stock when it still had value, and then watched as their employee's pension fund, held in company stock, evaporated. Nor was it a matter of the employees merely reacting too late. When the signs of the company's collapse became obvious, access to employee 401(k) accounts was frozen, leaving anguished employees with no alternative but to sit and watch their retirement savings disintegrate.

Enron, while times were flush, did not shy away from using its massive earnings to grease the wheels of government. Although Republicans have benefited considerably more than Democrats from Enron's influence seeking, its campaign

Left is Right

contributions have been bipartisan. Large corporations, after all, need to seek influence with whatever party happens to be in the White House. Enron contributed \$2.4 million to federal candidates in 2000, and former CEO Kenneth Lay has donated over \$700,000 of his own money to the Republican Party since 1992. Everyone from Gore to Tom Delay and James Baker has ridden the Enron gravy train.

President George W. Bush has been a particular beneficiary of Enron's largesse. Enron's support for Bush began in his ill-fated congressional race in 1978, and continued throughout his career in Texas politics. Enron was one of Bush's largest benefactor's during the 2000 campaign, and even threw in \$100,000 for the Inauguration.

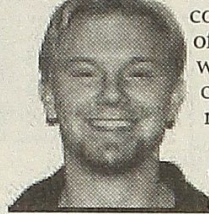
That money apparently paid off for Enron, since Lay was granted a personal meeting to discuss energy policy with Vice President Dick Cheney as he chaired his super-secret energy task force during the summer. No other energy executive got such coveted treatment.

All this Enron spending resulted in federal regulation after federal regulation being waived for Enron, shredding the requirements for financial transparency that might have prevented the recent debacle.

The lessons from this are twofold. First, market solutions can be optimal, but pure capitalism, as Enron sought to practice it, can lead to pure disaster. While many federal regulations are onerous, some are obviously necessary: unbridled capitalism led to crushed dreams for 20,000 hapless employees. Second, the American people must demand, immediately, that lawmakers in Washington stop pretending that our campaign finance system, with its indiscriminate influence purchasing, works. Campaign finance gets closer to passage every year, but special interests invariably win. George W. Bush, who has been no friend to reform before, needs to make a principled commitment to ending this stain on our democracy.

Sweet treats: Sodexho offers variety with smiles

There are few things that can unequivocally tell me that I am back at Alma, far from the sunny golf courses of Pennsylvania, but the sight of snow 'falling' sideways past my dorm windows is one of them. While I certainly have enjoyed the last week of relative warmth and the fact that this



Tim Slade

wear shorts, sandals, and a t-shirt into the first week of December, it is good to finally see a phenomenon I learned to consider normal - there is something vaguely comforting about it even though it represents the bitter cold and vicious wind I so detest, because it also represents my adopted home state.

It is very nice to be back to being productive, to operating on less sleep than I would like, to climbing an hour or two a day, and to filling my mind with interesting and useful stuff that I would miss out on otherwise. Things simply are not the same when I am home during a vacation...least of all insofar as my belly is concerned. Why did I just mention my belly? Because I find that the battle of the bulge that college students supposedly face (freshmen fifteen, anyone?) only bothers me when I go home and my body ceases to be as happy with the level of exercise I maintain and the type of food I ingest.

Yes, the fact that I can neither rock climb an hour a day while at home nor play tennis for two hours a day (whenever I do not have class during practice) probably has something to do with the fact that I typically gain between five and ten pounds over every Christmas break. Regardless, I think that the weight gain has more to do with the change in my diet than the change in my activity level.

Doubtless there are few people who share my opinion, but I credit Sodexho for keeping me in shape and keeping my stomach happy, two things that cannot be separated from each other in the case of someone who lives to eat, as I do. This is not to say that food back home is poor; my parents are both good cooks and I typically enjoy the dinners that are the only meals my family's schedule allows us all to share. However, when I am home I always find myself longing to get back to Alma and the food at Hamilton.

While at Alma, I deliberately maintain as little in the way of snack food in my room as possible, knowing that A) having it around will only cause me to eat even when I am not hungry, B) most of the stuff that is ready-made and appeals to my tastes are supremely unhealthy for me, and C) Sodexho has just about anything I could want to consume waiting for me somewhere in the next five hours. The one exception to this rule is cheese - as an

avowed 'cheese-aholic', I find it necessary to attempt to maintain at least a pound of sharp cheddar or Colby Jack in my room at all times, both for my own nourishment and the entertainment of guests. Be that as it may, having rigidly structured times at which I am allowed access to the bounteous feast that resides in Hamilton help keep me from grazing all the time, an activity to which I am prone when I am home. Mostly, though, I really must credit Sodexho's cooks and the folk who choose the menu for doing a great job.

With the exception of extremely infrequent occasions when I am feeling highly ornery and nothing will do but a prime rib or filet mignon, there is always something for me at Sodexho. Most of the time, I can find something I like at the main buffet; if that fails, the options of cereal, bagels, salad, the deli, the grill, and stir-fry (we love you, Marcia) always exist. For example, when I arrived back on campus Sunday night, I went straight to the cereal bar; it's unbelievable how my parents can have 8 varieties of cereal in our cupboard and not one of them interests me as much as the good ol' Cheerios and Life back here at Alma; after three weeks of hating the breakfast options at home, that was the best bowl of cereal in my life (even if it was for dinner). Lunch on Monday and Tuesday saw me making a beeline for the stir-fry bar, my option of choice when pineapples are available; the thought of having what amounts to my very own Mongolian Barbecue at my disposal is incredible. I am convinced that those of us that are regulars at that venue do not fully appreciate how good we have it. Best of all are the weekends, when the oh-so-slightly-runny, just-the-way-I-like-'em scrambled eggs make an appearance along with the pastries and whatnot. Truly, Saturday brunches make me feel like I have died and gone to the big cafeteria in the sky. It is not an easy job keeping a finicky eater like myself happy all the time, but Sodexho almost always succeeds.

Most of all, though, I treasure Hamilton and Sodexho for the fellowship they give me. When one has a group of friends as diverse as my own, with schedules as quirky and bizarre as they themselves are, it is nearly impossible to spend time with them during the school day. When I go to Hamilton and get greeted with a friendly 'Thanks, hon' from Mary, (or Florence and Becky's smiles) and read the pithy little sayings on the whiteboard, I always get a boost. Then, getting my hug from Marcia at the stir-fry bar or chatting with Tony about my missing French Vanilla creamers just make things even better. Sometimes, their passing conversations are all I have if I happen to have missed all of my friends at a meal (an occurrence which anyone can tell you is very depressing), and they are enough. If, however, I DO get to hang with my friends for an hour or two (the latter, if we're trying to win the Saga game), the little interaction with the employees is the icing on the cake of my day.

"SAGA" burgers and school; welcome back to Alma

Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

Heading home for the holidays. Almost a full month with no classes. A little piece of heaven between semesters. Those were the thoughts racing through all students' minds throughout the beginning of December. Then we headed home.

Dreams of sipping cocoa by the fire with our loved ones were dashed the minute we walked in the door. Work was already on the phone demanding that you be there in less than an hour. Going to set your things down in your room you find out that it's no longer yours. The family has made it a den, or sewing room, or even your dog's extra large playpen.

Oh, the joys of break. It only gets better as it rolls along. The lucky people on the west side of the state received a daily cardiovascular workout from shoveling eight straight days of snow (lazy east-siders). Then there are the even luckier bunch who return to their jobs in the mall, descending into the deep bowels of the underworld daily to help pushy moms, whiny brats and clueless men find the non-existent "perfect gift." By the second week of break, all illusions of fun and relaxation are gone.

Then the week of the holidays rolls around. Remembering you have to buy 63 presents for family and friends you haven't seen in almost a year, you open your wallet.

That is when reality strikes--you are a college student. You couldn't afford to treat yourself to McDonald's. Somehow you manage to scrounge up a bit of cash (from the obvious source: parents) and head to the mall.

Parking in row 67D, you jog to the entrance in under 20 minutes. (Thank God for the Stone Center getting you in shape.) You grab the first thing you see for everyone on your list and shove your way out of this horrible place. On your rush out of the den of insanity you try to bypass the Salvation Army bellringer. But, alas, it's impossible. All your change drops in the bucket due to social pressure; what a weak human you are.

Feeling proud of your gift-buying prowess, you head to the first of your numerous holiday get-togethers. The first "Oh, yeah. I really wanted one of these, uh, things" brings you back into reality. How stupid you were to think you could actually pick out gifts people like. Your dad was right, gift certificates are the way to go.

Sometime between Christmas and New Year's Eve you begin to get weird cravings. "SAGA" burgers and clumpy cottage cheese don't make that bad of a meal. And at least your prison-style bed wasn't a couch. Yes, you miss Alma College.

Well, welcome back.

GREEK LIFE

ΣΣ ΑΓΔ ΘΧ ΑΕΔ ΣΧ ΓΦΒ ΤΚΕ ΚΙ ΣΑΕ ΦΣΣ

ΣΧ Sigma Chi ΣΧ

Olga Wrobel
Feature Editor

Founded: The Sigma Chi national chapter was founded in 1855. Alma's chapter was founded in 1982.

Active Members: There are currently 50 brothers at Alma College. Ten live in the house.

President: Ken Donoghue (02)

Famous Sigma Chi Brothers: Famous brothers of the past include John Wayne, Brad Pitt, Woody Harrelson, Mike Ditka, David Letterman, Tiger Woods and Bill Marriot.

Interesting Fact: The Sigma Chi brothers have scored the highest grade point average (3.22) out of the five campus fraternities 19 out of the last 20 semesters.

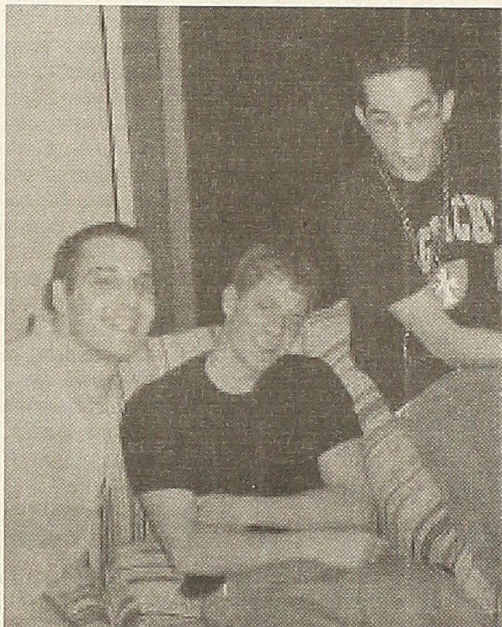
Activities: Sigma Chi is a very active chapter here on campus, and the brothers are known for their philanthropy work for Community Café. Every year Sigma Chi holds the national "Derby Days" with the sororities; the brothers raised \$4,000 in October. The brothers held a blood drive and worked with Habitat for Humanity. The brothers have taken a trip to a Lions game, and they play hockey and dodgeball Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sigma Chi hosts many social events, including the Graffiti party, Mardi Gras party and Ghetto party. The three main recruitment events held this year were the pool tournament, paintball and Subs and Suds.

How the brothers view themselves and how others view them: The Sigma Chi chapter is involved in many campus organizations. A large number of student congress representatives, RAs, and OCs are brothers. Ryan Gall (01) and Chris Harrington (01) accepted jobs as educational leader consultants for Sigma Chi. They travel all around the country to "check up" on Sigma Chi chapters. Only six consultants get a position at headquarters, and according to assistant dean of students Martin Stack, "This is a very impressive position

for two brothers from one chapter to have." Alma's chapter, which is Theta Nu, received the most coveted award given, the Peterson Significant Chapter Award. They also received the Legion of Honor Award, which recognizes chapters with commendable scholarship programs.

There is a strong bond between the men of Sigma Chi. Donoghue said, "The friendships I've made and what I've learned about myself have been the cornerstone of my education here at Alma College."

Senior Andy Kibbe agrees, stressing the fraternity's philanthropic work. "All the frats on campus are wonderful and unique in their own way, but Sigma Chi stands out for its positive contributions to the community."



KI Kappa Iota KI

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

Founded: The chapter was founded in 1921.

Active Members: There are currently 24 active sisters on campus, seven of whom reside in the house.

President: Meredith Kersey (03).

Interesting facts: Kappa Iota is the sole sorority on campus that is local only; there is no national chapter. Pledges are awarded a sailor cap when they join, in a tradition begun during WWII. The sorority's mascot is Wile E. Coyote, and they are well known for their cucumber sandwiches.

Activities: The main service activity for KI sisters is their support for the Women's Aide Shelter. They annually have a Personal Needs Drive for that cause, and the proceeds from their formal this March will also be do-

nated to the Shelter. Other activities include running games for children during Alma's Highland Festival, as well as having an Easter egg hunt for faculty children, and some work at the Alma Public Library.

How the sisters view themselves: The sisters of KI are known for their laid-back attitude and open minds. "You're free to be yourself, no matter who you are, and you can see that in the diversity of our members," said Kersey. Danielle Calhoun (04) agreed. "Individuality is the spice of KI," she said.

Kersey also stated that Kappa Iota has a hand in every organization on campus, with representatives in nearly every major and activity. As one of the smaller groups on campus, the sisters are also very tight-knit.

"We sisters see ourselves as independent women, but what brings us together is our differences. We respect each other for our differences," said Adina Garcia (04).



KI

KI

Annie Robins, Megan Van Wyk, Melissa Wolf, Emily Brookhouse, Hannah Alexander, and Sara Freeland: "We respect each other for our differences."

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FEATURE

A Beautiful Mind, a beautiful movie

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

Gladiator meets calculator as Russell Crowe plays real life genius and Nobel Prize winning mathematician John Nash starring in the film "A Beautiful Mind." This true story features a dynamic performance from Academy Award winner Russell Crowe ("Gladiator"), who as John Nash experiences everything from scholarly notoriety to a severe battle with schizophrenia.

The story starts out as Nash, a mathematical prodigy from West Virginia, begins his first semester at Princeton. Continually searching for his "truly original idea," Nash breaks through with a mathematical formula that would eventually become influential in the fields of mathematics and economics. The discovery thrusts Nash into a top secret position with the United States government as a code breaker during the early stages of the Cold War, when the threat of attacks on U.S. soil were all too real.

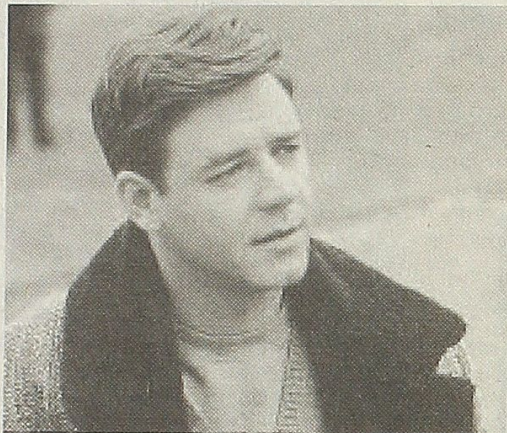
Later on in life, while teaching at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Nash falls for a first year coed named Alicia, played by Jennifer Connelly ("Requiem for a Dream"). The two experience all sorts of turmoil as Nash develops schizophrenia and battles the disorder throughout his life. Nash eventually wins the Nobel Prize in economics late in life as his equilibrium theory earns him acclaim in various fields

(he received the prize for economics because there is no award offered in mathematics).

Although a love story breaks out halfway through the movie, Crowe delivers a magnificent performance as he plays a schizophrenic individual right down to the smallest detail. The film demands that Crowe play multiple roles as the same individual as the movie spans

Nash's life from graduate school up to the present day.

As Tom Hanks before him, Russell Crowe is the next great actor to receive role offers from all of Hollywood's top directors, which eventually put him in the spotlight



when Oscar time rolls around.

"A Beautiful Mind" lets the viewer dive into the mind of a schizophrenic as not everything is always as it seems. Although the film integrates a love story into the fabric of the film, the focus is not solely intended to rely strictly on the relationship.

"A Beautiful Mind" is truly a beautiful movie as director Ron Howard tells the unique story of mathematical genius John Nash in a way that deserves the recognition of the Academy. The film also stars Ed Harris in a supporting role as a government agent that guides Nash through countless series of events. This movie is a definite must see. Grade: A

Photo courtesy of www.imdb.com

Recruitment begins

Kari Joy Johnson
Staff Writer

Fraternity and sorority winter formal recruitment begins for all potential new members with an informational meeting in the chapel at 7:00 p.m. for women and 9:00 p.m. for men Thursday, kicking off the week-long Greek recruitment process.

In order to go through recruitment, a student must sign up in Hamilton Commons anytime from now to Thursday. They must have at least a 2.0 grade point average, have been an Alma student for at least one semester, and must attend the informational meeting.

Fraternity smokers will begin on Sunday evening at the Theta Chi house and will continue with Tau Kappa Epsilon on Monday, Zeta Sigma on Tuesday, Sigma Alpha Epsilon on Wednesday and Sigma Chi on Thursday.

Potential new members are encouraged to go to all the smokers in order to gain a better understanding for which fraternity best fits with them. IFC President Joe Phillips (03) said, "I would encourage people to attend all the smokers they are invited [to] and keep an open mind throughout the Formal Recruitment process."

Chairman for Recruitment Andy Talik (03) said, "I'm expecting all the smokers to be good at giving the [potential new members] a better idea about the organization and and to have them meet members who they might not have known were members. It is a good chance to get to know guys who you didn't always know that well."

Despite previous reports in regards to first year male athletes being discouraged or not allowed to go through formal recruitment, winter recruitment is open to all students who meet the requirements previously mentioned.

The process of sorority recruitment be-

gins with a cycle of introductions that starts with teas on Saturday, the first chance for any potential new member to meet individuals within the Greek community. Continuing with spreads on Monday, the women asked to come back to the houses lowers to help narrow down the number for any potential new members and grows even more selective with deserts on Wednesday and Thursday, the last event before any final decisions are made.

Throughout the process of determining which sororities any possible new member may want to join, 'mutual preferencing' occurs, a term used for listing in order any non-Greek woman's choices for sororities by most preferred to least preferred.

Following the last smoker and the last dessert, Strict Silence, also called 'No Talks' begin, preventing anyone in the Greek community to communicate with non-Greek individuals until the end of the bids ceremony, unless authorized permission has been granted.

To allow as much confidentiality as possible, "potential members don't know where they are on the list and if they even are on the list, and sororities don't know whether you preference their individual sorority, empowering potential new members to decide where they really want to go," said Martin Stack, associate dean of students.

All individuals participating in formal recruitment should note that when extended a bid, they are not permitted to pledge for one full year.

Sorority walkouts will be Friday at 8:00 p.m. and are open to the entire campus, while runouts will be Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Anyone interested in attending must register and receive a ticket in order to go.

For further information regarding the Greek Community on Alma's campus, visit the Student Affairs Website and go to the link for Greek Life section.

ΣΣ ΑΓΔ ΘΧ ΑΞΔ ΣΧ
ΓΦΒ ΤΚΕ ΚΙ ΣΑΕ ΦΣΣ

Yoboso serves students solid spiffy sounds

Tim Slade
Staff Writer

Saturday evening saw Alma's bubble popped by the Latin rhythms of the Santa Fe-based jazz group Yoboso. Composed of piano player Bert Dalton, vocalist and conga man Gary Cardile, drummer Ricky Malichi, and bassist Rob "Milo" Jaramillo, the band brought their unique blend of jazz, R&B, salsa, merengue, and blues to Presbyterian Hall in a concert that opened the eyes and minds of all in the audience.

As individuals, most of the group members proved to be quite exceptional musicians, although some found Cardile's vocals less than stellar. "Thumbs down to the vocalist," said Grant Kinney (04). "[He] opened with a Ray Charles piece that he didn't have the soul for...like trying to put a square peg in a circle." Otherwise, Cardile's obvious relish in beating the congas provided nearly as much entertainment as the rhythms he produced in doing so; when mixed with Malichi's prowess on the drums, it was all this reviewer could do to keep from standing out of his seat and dancing the cha-cha (especially in the case of the seventh song in their set, entitled "Sassy Mama"). "I've been playing drums for years, and I can't even think as fast as he was playing," said Dr. Luetkemeier, when asked to comment on the Malichi's performance. While none of the interviewees had much to say directly about Dalton's work on the piano, Kinney appreciated his willingness to lay himself out there and try out various chords, playing with dissonance at times before drawing the listener back into the song. The highlight of the individual performances, however, came from Rob Jaramillo. "The bassist sounded like he was playing a sax solo on the bass," said Kyle Wellfare (05). "He was very smooth."

Overall, the point of the concert on which most folk

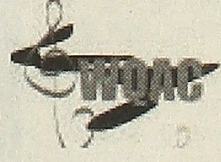
commented was the band's interaction. "Pretty good, an A plus. They play well together - it's obvious they've been together a long time," said Wellfare. This reviewer especially enjoyed watching Malichi, who threw himself into his drumming in a way reminiscent of the way Alma's very own Tony Patterson throws himself into his piano playing, an opinion shared by Kinney, who commented, "The drummer has very good stage presence."

As for the music itself, the band's best music was the latin-infused pieces that prevailed in the latter half of the first set. *Hermosa Selva*, a Brazilian-style piece in the first set, was particularly good, although it could not match the Caribbean-flavored *St. Thomas* five songs later. *St. Thomas* captured the essence of island life well enough to make the reviewer feel as though he was sitting on a beach enjoying his ill-gotten spoils in some high-class robbery movie like *Ocean's 11*. The band's experiences in Australia, unfortunately, produced one of their only poor songs (despite also inspiring their take on *Waltzing Matilda*, the excellently Latin *Baila con Matilda*). *Gettin' Over Down Under*, featured too much rawness in Cardile's vocals, and very little of the Hispanic influences that so endeared the band to the reviewer. In fact, the best piece of the evening that contained substantial vocal work was *Besame, Mamá*. Reminiscent of Carlos Santana's later work, the piece featured a dead-on impression of the traditional Mexican Mariachi harmonies.

With more than a dozen songs, the majority of which brought a little of tropical Central and South America to the frozen tundra of Alma, Yoboso managed to make jazz accessible and entertaining to even the most novice listeners in the audience. While the applause at the end of the performance felt more polite than enthusiastic, it is the reviewer's opinion that the band did a stellar job. Four stars out of five for the visitors from New Mexico.

Top 30

- 1 SOMETHING CORPORATE
- 2 NATHANIEL MERRIWEATHER
- 3 SEVENDUST
- 4 MOON THEORY
- 5 INCUBUS
- 6 BETTER THAN EZRA
- 7 SMASHING PUMPKINS
- 8 BEN FOLDS
- 9 DJ COLETTE
- 10 DREDG
- 11 TREMBLING BLUE STARS
- 12 WOVEN
- 13 GARRISON
- 14 GREEN DAY
- 15 DIVINE COMEDY
- 16 KITTIE
- 17 MY HOTEL YEAR
- 18 AVALANCHES
- 19 OUTKAST
- 20 MARILYN MANSON
- 21 AEREOGRAMME
- 22 GARBAGE
- 23 JAMIROQUAI
- 24 MERSEY SIDE
- 25 INJECTED
- 26 EMILIANA TORRINI
- 27 ROB ZOMBIE
- 28 OZMA
- 29 RYAN ADAMS
- 30 KATNAPPING



SPORTS

Men's basketball drops the ball against K-Zoo and Olivet; MIAA record now 0-3, 3-12 overall

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

The Scots could not break into the win column this week as they fumbled a pair of games against Kalamazoo and Olivet.

The Scots opened the week traveling to Kalamazoo for an MIAA match-up against the Hornets of Kalamazoo College. The Scots were looking to hand the Hornets their first home loss of the season as they went into the game with a perfect 4-0 record this season at home. Kalamazoo would eventually improve their home streak to 5-0 as they handed the Scots a 68-58 loss. With the loss the Scots dropped to 0-2 in MIAA contests and 3-11 overall.

Spencer Wideman (02) came off the bench to lead the Scots with 14 points while Rob Taylor grabbed nine boards for Alma. Dirk Rhinehart paced the Kalamazoo attack with 18 points.

The Scots would look for their first win in the MIAA as they hosted Olivet in the friendly confines of Cappaert Gymnasium.

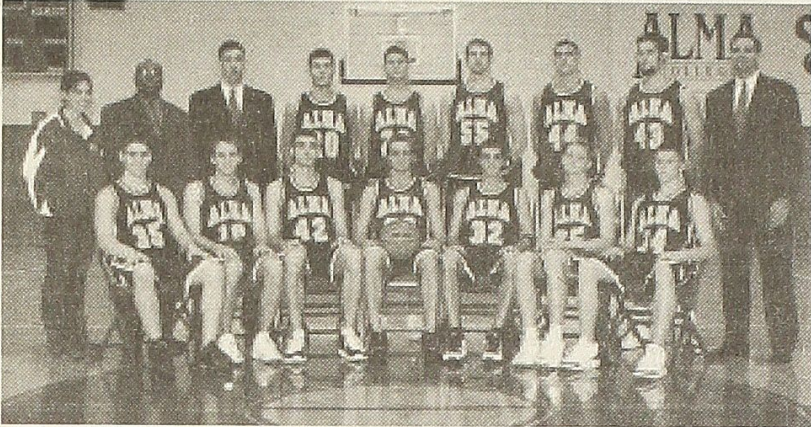


Photo by Dan Joyce

Alma held a nine-point lead with 14 minutes remaining but Olivet rallied and went on to defeat the Scots 81-71. With the win the Comets improved to 8-9 on the year and 2-2 in the MIAA, while Alma dropped to 3-12 overall and is still left looking for that first elusive win in league play as they fall to 0-3 in the MIAA.

Trailing 50-41 with 13:42 left in the game, Olivet scored seven straight points to pull within two. Alma answered with four consecutive points for a 54-48 lead. The Comets stormed right back with eight unanswered points and a 56-54 advantage and led the rest of the way.

Brian Kujawa (03) and Aaron Kanitz (02) led the Scots scoring attack as they each tallied 17, while Ryan Knudsen (02) chipped in with 10. Michael Dyson led Olivet with 2 points and 11 rebounds, while David Manchester scored 19 points and Matt Brawley added 12.

## Player	FG		TOT-FG		3-PT		REBOUNDS					
	FG	FGA	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	OF	DE	TOT	PF	TP	A TO BLK
Brian Kujawa	7	15	2	4	1	3	0	3	3	5	17	0 2 0
Rob Taylor	3	6	0	0	1	1	2	5	7	2	7	0 3 1
Joe Baysdel	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	4	0 1 0
Dan Chewning	1	4	0	1	0	2	0	5	5	4	2	1 2 0
Spencer Wideman	3	13	2	10	0	0	3	0	3	3	8	3 1 1
Drew Martin	1	2	1	2	0	0	0	3	3	2	3	2 1 0
Cory Heitsch	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	5 1 0
Ryan Knudsen	4	5	0	0	2	3	3	0	3	4	10	3 4 0
Aaron Kanitz	5	16	3	6	4	5	1	1	2	2	17	1 0 1
Matt Johnson	0	2	0	0	3	4	0	1	1	4	3	1 2 1
TM TEAM									1	2	3	
Totals	26	69	8	24	11	18	10	24	34	30	71	16 17 4

TOTAL FG%: .377
3-Pt. FG%: .333
F Throw %: .611

Women's basketball splits week; 2-2 in MIAA

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

The Alma College women's basketball team improved its record to 9-6 overall and 2-2 in the MIAA as the Scots split a pair of games last week against Kalamazoo and Olivet.

The Scots began the week learning that Janell Twietmeyer (03) and Mindy VanDamme (05) were among NCAA Division III national statistic leaders for their efforts from behind the three-point line as Twietmeyer is sixth in the nation and VanDamme is 21st.

The Scots then opened the week playing at home against Kalamazoo College. The Hornets beat Alma on a last second shot by Niki Grubb. The Scots rallied from a 12-point deficit with 5:27, tying the score on Shelly Ulfig's jumper with 55 seconds remaining in the game. Kalamazoo's Amanda Weishuhn then missed a shot with 32 seconds left and Alma grabbed the rebound with a chance to win the game.

The Scots could not capitalize on the opportunity as Kristi Gehrs (03) missed a 10-foot jumper with 10 seconds remaining. The Hornets then snagged the board and called a time-out with five seconds remaining

to set up the final shot. After the timeout Alissa Johnston drove the lane and found Niki Grubb on the left side for the game-winning basket.

Gehrs led the Scots in the loss with 17 points while Shelly Ulfig (02) added 13 and a pulled in a game-high eight rebounds.

The Scots would then take their show on the road as they traveled to Olivet looking to improve to .500 in the MIAA. Janell Twietmeyer broke an 8-8 tie with a lay-up at the 14:50 mark of the first half. The Scots then built the lead to 14 with 6:30 remaining in the half 28-14. The Scots would go in to intermission holding a 32-27 lead.

The second half would see Olivet make several unsuccessful attempts to take the lead. Olivet tied the score at 49-49 with 6:33 remaining in the game. Ulfig made two free throws as Alma regained the lead as the Scots coasted the rest of the way. With the win the Scots improved to 2-2 in the MIAA and 9-6 overall. Ulfig came up big in the game as she led the Scots with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Kristi Gehrs scored 12 points in the win, while Twietmeyer and Jillian McDonald both added 11.

	FG	FGA	FG	FGA	FT	FTA	OF	DE	TOT	PF	TP	A TO BLK
Karen Hall	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	4	6	2	4	0 0 0
Janell Twietmeyer	4	5	1	1	2	3	0	4	4	3	11	4 3 0
Shelly Ulfig	6	10	0	0	9	14	2	8	10	0	21	2 4 0
Mindy VanDamme	1	5	1	2	0	0	2	1	3	4	3	3 0 0
Kristie Gehrs	4	8	2	5	2	2	0	3	3	2	12	4 2 0
Jillian MacDonald	4	4	0	0	3	4	0	1	1	0	11	2 5 0
Eryn Mercer	1	2	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	3	0 1 0
Crystal Jacob	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	2 2 0
Collen Trybus	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0 0 0
Anne Love	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0 0 0
Michelle Dettling	0	6	0	4	0	0	1	2	3	1	0	0 1 0
TM TEAM										1	1	
Totals	22	46	5	14	16	25	8	26	34	16	65	17 18 0

TOTAL FG%: .478 DEADBALL
3-Pt. FG%: .357 REBOUNDS
F Throw %: .640 4

Volunteers prepare for Olympic Games

By Erika Johnson
Daily Utah Chronicle (U. Utah)
(U-WIRE) SALT LAKE CITY -

When Salt Lake City was awarded the Olympic bid for 2002, Chris Keeler participated in the celebration held downtown for the announcement.

"I've been looking forward to [the Olympics] ever since," the University of Utah senior studying public relations said.

Keeler, along with 3,122 U students, will volunteer during the Olympic Games. These volunteers will do everything from handing out food to assisting foreign delegations, gaining experience many of them describe as "once in a lifetime."

"I think it's a great opportunity to show the world how great a state Utah is," Keeler said. "I'm excited by the opportunity that's presented by the Olympics."

Other student volunteers mimic Keeler's sentiments.

"I'm very excited," said Craig Cooper, a junior majoring in business administration. "I've always really enjoyed the Olympics, just the chance to be a part of it is very exciting."

Cooper will act as a driver for the visiting athletes.

Many U students will work in the Olympic Village, which doubles as the campus residential halls.

"You meet so many interesting people, you get to see the Games from inside and you get to see the Village," said Ekaterina Hatch, a graduate student in microbiology. "I've already started my scrapbook."

Hatch is one of the many students that will work in the Olympic Village with a foreign delegation. These students were selected for their language skills and will act as translators and interpreters for the athletes.

"I'm going to spend a lot of time in the Olympic Village, maybe going to the venues sometimes," Hatch said.

Although many students were selected as volunteers for their language experience, Alyson Finley, a senior majoring in French and political science, applied because of her French experience, but was not chosen for the delegation she planned on working with.

"I originally volunteered to keep up in my French," Finley said. "They assigned me to the Norwegian delegation so it should be interesting. I'm supposed to be a Norwegian speaker to help them out. I'm the only one out of 22 volunteers that doesn't speak their language."

Despite Finley's language disappointment, she looks forward to working with the delegation.

"I'm excited to work with the Norwegian team because they usually do pretty well," Finley said. "I would be more excited if I was using my French."

Finley is not nervous at all to work in the Olympic Village despite the warnings of friends.

"A lot of my friends are nervous about something happening during the Olympics," she said. "I think it will go off a lot more smoothly than a lot of people might think."

See OLYMPICS on page 8

SPORTS

Fast stats

Women's Basketball

League	Overall	W	L
Avg.	Opp.		
Hope		4	0
75.0	51.0		
Adrian		3	1
60.0	59.5		
Kalamazoo		3	1
63.2	61.0		
Alma		2	2
61.0	55.5		
Calvin		2	2
64.0	63.0		
Albion		1	3
53.8	57.2		
Saint Mary's		1	3
53.2	64.5		
Olivet	0	4	50.2
			68.8

Men's Basketball

League	W	L
Avg.	Opp.	
Kalamazoo		3
67.0	64.8	1
Albion		2
69.0	64.7	1
Calvin		2
67.7	66.3	1
Hope		2
82.7	68.0	1
Olivet		2
70.8	70.8	2
Adrian		1
67.0	76.5	3
Alma		0
63.3	74.0	3

Men's Swimming and Diving

January 12, 2002

Kalamazoo 142, Hope 100
Alma 89, Olivet 32
Calvin 133, Albion 84

Women's Swimming and Diving

January 12, 2002

Saint Mary's 95, Olivet 18.5
Alma 96, Olivet 20
Alma 145, Saint Mary's 93
Calvin 137, Albion 106
Hope 175, Kalamazoo 60

Swim teams paddle their way to victory against Olivet and St. Mary's

Olga Wrobel
Feature Editor

On Saturday the men's and women's swim teams held MIAA meets, with the women swimming against Olivet and St. Mary's College (Indiana), and the men competing against Olivet. The women came out on top, beating Olivet 92-20, and St. Mary's 145-93. The men's team had a very successful 89-32 win over Olivet as well.

On the women's team, **Stephanie Druskinis (05)** took first in the 50 and 100 yard freestyle event with times of 26.28 and 56.67. **Julie Fantone (03)** won the 1000-yard free, swimming a time of 12:06.73. **Brianne Hauser (05)** won the 200-yard individual medley event (2:22.99). **Kate Kohler (05)** recorded a time of 1:06.74 while taking first in the 100 back. Junior **Meredith Henry** successfully finished the 500 free first, with a time of 5:34.92, and **Jill Johnston (04)** won the 100 breaststroke (1:14.62).

The 200-yard freestyle relay, consist-

ing of Druskinis, Hauser, Henry and Elizabeth Smith (04) won with a time of 1:46.98.

In the diving competition, **Morgan Hansen (05)** won the one-meter and three-meter event, scoring 189.35 and 204.35, respectively.

The men's team had excellent swims as well. **Justin Fournier (02)** and **J.J. Westgate (05)** each won two events. Fournier won the 200 freestyle and 100 backstroke with times of 1:51.91 and 58.39. Westgate participated in the diving competition, and scored 131.45 in the one-meter and 129.10 in the three-meter. First-year **Keith Hansen** finished first in the 50 free with a time of 25.68, and **Mike Porter (04)** won the 100 free (50.51). **Joe Harris (03)** took first in the 200 Individual medley, swimming an impressive 2:10.54. **Will Heyd (05)** clocked in at 1:10.30 while winning the 100 butterfly event. Senior **Andy Schade** won the 500 free (5:14.89), and **Dan Linsell (03)** took

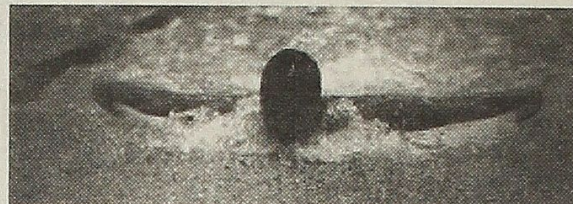


Photo by Bryan Waugh

Alma's swim teams fared well over the weekend.

first in the 100 breaststroke (1:08.87)

In relay events, the 200-yard medley relay consisting of Mike Porter, Hansen, Mark Hutchins (05), and Chris Porter (03) won with a time of 1:49.92. The 200 freestyle relay won (1:33.42), and included Fournier, Heyd, Linsell and Harris.

The meet was an achievement for the Scots; sophomore **Colin McLaughlin** said, "Both teams did fine today, especially the woman's team coming out and doing so well against St. Mary's. We expected it to be more competitive, but the women ended up winning."

The Scots will host a meet against Albion Saturday, at 1:00 p.m.

Sodexo Dining Services Announcement Attn: Students

Starting January 28, you will need to bring you I.D. Card with you for all meals. If not, you will be fined \$2.00 a meal. You are able to use cash or your munch money.

This will be effective in:
Hamilton Commons



Scotty's
Joe's Place
VanDusen



any questions call x7334

OLYMPICS from page 7

Ben Briggs, a senior majoring in exercise and sport science who plans to volunteer as a medical assistant is worried for another reason.

"I'm kind of apprehensive about it just because the amount of time they're asking us for," he said. Briggs will work in the main media center for 10 shifts of eight hours while still working his other job.

Like many other students, Briggs has a very simple reason for volunteering during the Olympics.

"Well, because they're here," Briggs said.

Other students cite wanting to be involved as their reason for signing up.

"I wanted to volunteer just because I wanted to become involved with the Olympics," said Steve Westover, a senior majoring in biochemistry.

Casey Corry also wanted to be involved with the big event.

"I think it's a once in a life-

time opportunity," the senior in behavioral science said. "I know this is not something that comes along every year."

Brannon Patrick, a junior majoring in finance has another reason for volunteering.

"Honestly, I don't have anything else to do during the Olympics," he said. "It will look good on a resume."

Patrick cited a love of sports and athletics as other reasons for volunteering during the Games.

Patrick is assigned to volunteer at food services at Deer Valley, but he is considering accepting a Games-time job with another company instead of volunteering.

Patrick is looking forward to the Games, but he is concerned about the traffic they will bring.

Despite his concerns, Patrick also described the opportunity as "once in a lifetime."

Classifieds

Make someone happy...advertise in the classifieds for only ten cents/word...wish a happy birthday, congratulate a good deed, sell something you don't need, ask for something you want done, or just share some words of wisdom...shoot an email to almanian@alma.edu with your advertisement...

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Call Debbie at 810-659-7979

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We would like to thank the students and faculty who gave so kindly to the Heritage Center Giving Tree. The children were delighted to see such wonderful gifts.
Ithaca Head Start

Campus Bursting the Bubble ...

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Tuesday
Acrylic Painting Art Show
Art Show: Black & Cline
2:30 P.M. Resume & Cover Letter Workshop;
The Center
8:00 P.M. Speaker: Nanette Reynolds;
Heritage Center

Wednesday
Acrylic Painting Art Show
Art Show: Black & Cline
4:00 P.M. Better Grades Workshop;
The Center
Thursday

Acrylic Painting Art Show
Art Show: Black & Cline
4:00 P.M. Internships & Summer Job Options;
The Center

Friday
Last Day to Add a Class
Acrylic Painting Art Show
Art Show: Black & Cline
9:00 A.M. Music Open House
4:00 P.M. Concert - Music Open House

Saturday
8:00 A.M. Athletic Open House
8:00 P.M. Choreographers Concert;
Heritage Center

Sunday
3:00 P.M. Choreographers Concert;
Heritage Center

Monday
11:30 A.M. Blood Drive;
Van Dusen
2:00 P.M. DET Panel
5:00 P.M. Multicultural Food Festival;
Hamilton Commons
8:00 P.M. Poetry Celebration