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Shoe controversy scuffs Rec Center's attendance

Ryan Cannon
Staff Writer

Students emptied the Alan J. Stone Recreation Center last Tuesday when a sudden rule change outlawed black-soled shoes on the athletic courts. Students wearing athletic shoes with black soles were asked to leave.

The rule change, a response to the growing number of black scuffs marking up the months-old surface, was distributed through a campus-wide email last Tuesday morning and enforced all day and into Wednesday.

According to James Kridler, dean of students, scuff marks do not represent functional problems with the floors or safety hazards, but "the new surface looks bad."

The policy quickly met resistance from students who could no longer use the courts and athletes whose practices were disrupted.

"They told me I could not take water to the tennis team while they were practicing," said Hailey Alden (04), a student athletic trainer. "I was just trying to do my job."

The response to the black-sole ban has already prompted administration for another rule change. According to Kridler, the policy "has already evolved." Despite the overwhelming negative campus reaction, Kridler does not consider the initial policy change hasty. "We had a growing problem and we had to put a stop to it," he said.

The Student Affairs Office is currently contacting shoe manufacturers and the company that designed the athletic courts' surfaces in order to discover a cleaning solution that will remove the marks. The dimpled floor makes it difficult for all marks to be eliminated, and they are still looking for an alternative answer.

Staff at the Center will still check shoes, but currently any shoes designed for indoor athletic use will be allowed on the athletic courts. Acceptable shoes include most tennis shoes, court shoes, and cross trainers, although legality is determined by the staff on duty. Shoes that may not be worn on the courts include street shoes, boots, cleats of any kind including modified cleats for runners, and any shoes with deep treads or composite soles. Rollerblades will still be allowed on the MAC court, even though some black wheels will scuff the floor. Additionally, certain activities deemed high scuffing risks will no longer be allowed at the Center, while pitching soft- and hardballs must be done standing on protective mats. This policy will stay in effect until a better system of cleaning the scuffs is found, although Kridler worries the current practice "may be too lenient."

Scuff marks represent one of the unforeseen problems the Student Affairs Office has encountered this year in running the new recreational facility. Amy Blackburn, the Center's building coordinator, hopes students and the community will take these problems in stride. "We put a bad taste in peoples' mouths," she said. "Be patient with us."

Students, professor attend conference in Mexico

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

April LaCroix (05) and Heather Svejvara (02), with the help of Edward Lorenz, professor of history and political science, presented "Creating Sustainability in a Liberal Arts Setting: A Comparison of Two Small Liberal Arts Colleges in the Midwest" at the International Conference on Cleaner Production and Pollution Prevention in Mexico three weeks ago. LaCroix and Svejvara worked in conjunction with three undergraduate students from St. Mary's College.

The function of the presentation was to address concerns regarding people using too many resources. Universities and colleges are viewed as the medium for leading the way to more productive and less wasteful systems.

"The conference," Svejvara said, "was an unique and inspiring chance to examine campus environment issues; we were able to network and share ideas with other institutions around the world."

Some of the concerns at Alma involve people consistently not making use of recycling bins; few people turning off lights and appliances when they are not in use, compulsive driving of cars, and the cost of heating large facilities. Furthermore, the move to computers several years ago was intended to produce not only efficiency, but also paperless offices. The reality is that people are using and wasting more paper today.

Lorenz said, "In the time I've been here, we have doubled parking. Why do we have so many cars? It is because we can't live without them the way our culture is."

The conference aimed at creating ways to move into a more sustainable economy. For example, St. Mary's College recently bought a hybrid vehicle that will have better gas efficiency and be less damaging to the environment.

Undergraduate students at the conference also presented on universities that

have helped community industries receive training on how to reduce waste and pollution. This is of particular concern at this institution because the Alma city economy is an example of an unsustainable

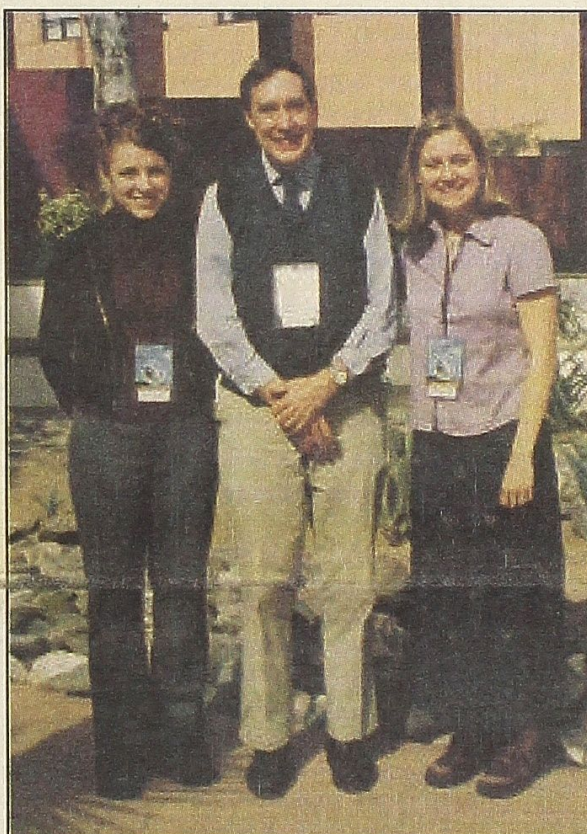


Photo Courtesy of Edward Lorenz

April LaCroix (05), Dr. Edward Lorenz and Heather Svejvara (02) pose at the International Conference on Cleaner Production and Pollution Prevention in Mexico where they gave a presentation regarding sustainability in a liberal arts setting.

economy. The Total Oil Refinery, which recently closed, used all of the oil in the area and then left the refinery for future generations to deal with. Currently, the refinery is undergoing corrections to make the land less damaged and hopefully useful again in the future.

One of the most promising presentations at the conference discussed the use of Environmental Management Systems. These systems measure all of the material used in a certain area and then creates ways to

reduce waste of materials. Alma officials do not know how much is being wasted. Such a system would reduce costs to the college over time and would be beneficial to the environment. Unfortunately, such systems typically cost quite a bit to install, which turns away many institutions.

Colleges and universities are typically not very environmentally conscious. Cornell University has had to construct two superfund sites because of their improper disposal of laboratory wastes. Some institutions have installed motion sensors that only turn on if people are using that room. Such a system is expensive to install, yet pays for itself in a relatively quick amount of time.

The disposal of computers is also a factor for institutions of higher education. Germany has implemented mandatory recycling of computers to reduce the effects of radioactive waste. Transparencies are also damaging to the environment and have provoked several institutions to move to docking stations, which use computers, rather than wasting the transparencies.

Lorenz feels that a lot of environmental worries would be avoided if we returned to a society that cares about the welfare of future generations. "We know we are going to be part of the past. We know better and we still leave problems for the next generation."

"Campuses all around the world are beginning to pursue sustainable initiatives," LaCroix said. "Alma College has a tremendous opportunity to be at the forefront of this movement and be a leader of this movement. If we don't change now we'll have to change later."

Honors Day prize offered for waterfront design

Brendan Guilford
Staff Writer

As Honors Day 2002 draws near and students prepare their scholarly works for consideration for presentation, the Honors Day committee has been planning a new competition that will try to incorporate larger groups of students than most Honors Day presentation.

The first annual Ronald O. Kapp Day prize will be awarded to the team of three or more students that comes up with the most innovative idea for renovation of the current Alma Metals site. The city of Alma

has purchased the land and the company will be moving to a new location soon.

"We wanted to pose a problem to students that they could use their various disciplines to solve, in the hope that a variety of students would work together to come up with a solution," said John Davis, chair of the exercise and health science department and chair of the Ronald O. Kapp Honors Day Prize committee.

Davis made special mention of the fact that the teams with the highest probability of success will be those that are made up of diverse people with a variety of interests and majors. Proposals that cover the most viewpoints including artistic

representations, economic synapses, and political and environmental considerations stand the best chance for consideration by the City. Additionally, all solutions must include plans for a waterfront park, housing units, and quality dining establishments.

Davis's advice to interested students is to go out and look at the community.

"Ask community members what they think this place needs. The area needs to be accessible to everyone. What kind of restaurants do we need? What sort of housing? Ask questions first," Davis said.

The winners of the competition will receive a \$1,000 cash prize and the city

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NEWS

U.S. criticized for treatment of al-Qaeda prisoners

Chris Machnacki
Staff Writer

Criticism of the United States around the world has mounted following the publication of demeaning photos of al-Qaeda prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the refusal of the U.S. government to label them prisoners of war (POWs).

One-hundred and fifty-eight al-Qaeda members are being held at the U.S. military base in Guantanamo Bay.

International human rights groups such as Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, and the International Committee of the Red Cross criticized the publication of photos showing al-Qaeda prisoners wearing hoods and handcuffs and kneeling before U.S. military personnel. They have called the photos exploitative and contrary to the rights of the al-Qaeda prisoners under the 1949 Geneva Convention and its subsequent protocols, which governs the conduct of states toward enemy prisoners during wartime.

The Geneva Convention forbids the infliction of "cruel and degrading treatment" upon enemy prisoners and mandates fair trials in the case of alleged war crimes.

The Rome Statute, the treaty establishing the International Criminal Court, also forbids treatment of this kind. The United States signed the Rome Statute in December 2000 but has not ratified it due to congressional opposition.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld admitted the photos were unfortunate but was quick to point out that they represented a single moment upon the arrival of the prisoners and did not reflect upon their daily living conditions. Rumsfeld also noted that the al-Qaeda prisoners are considered to be extremely dangerous and warrant some extraordinary precautions.

Rumsfeld and Vice President Dick Cheney have adamantly opposed applying any portion of the Geneva Convention to the al-Qaeda prisoners, while Secretary of State Colin Powell has called for a review of U.S. policy and the possible classification of the prisoners as "unlawful combatants", which would qualify them for some, but not all, of the protections afforded to POWs.

The U.S. government officially maintains that the al-Qaeda prisoners do not qualify for protection under the Geneva Convention because they belong to a terrorist group as opposed to a military controlled by a state. Other countries have called this a loophole and accuse the United States of trying to bend the letter of international law while ignoring its spirit.

Derick Hulme, associate professor of political science, agrees with this assessment.

"The imperative thing for the United States in this situation is to take care of the coalition, which is critical for fighting terrorism," Hulme said. "Not calling these people prisoners of war would be an enormous mistake and makes holding the moral high ground very problematic. The status of these people under the spirit of international law is very clear."

European countries have criticized the United States for not affording the al-Qaeda prisoners the protections they believe they are entitled to under the Geneva Convention.

European diplomats from Great Britain, Germany, and the Netherlands have all called for the United States to accord the al-Qaeda prisoners prisoner of war status.

According to the Europeans, this refusal of the United States to meet its obligations under international law is typical conduct in recent years. They cite the withdrawal of the United States from the Kyoto Protocol on climate change and the opposition to the International Criminal Court as examples.

British diplomats have also worried that U.S. conduct toward the prisoners may unintentionally fracture the global coalition put together to fight terrorism. The British argue that by appearing to be in violation of international law, the United States makes it less attractive for other states to continue cooperating.

Democrats publicize presidential election bids

Brendan Guilford
Staff Writer

With the 2004 presidential election already in the minds of the Democratic party, several high-ranking members of the party have delivered addresses that may signify the first step towards gaining the nomination for president.

House Democratic Leader Richard Gephardt of Missouri became the latest possible contender last Thursday, only days after Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota, Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut and Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts spoke separately.

Aides have called these speeches "major addresses", and more are expected from each possible candidate.

Several political pundits have already speculated on these speeches signaling the beginning of two years of Democratic campaigning and politicking. One non-partisan political analyst called this "the pre-primary primary."

Democratic National Committee Chairman Terry McAuliffe said, "Call it what you want, I'm excited about everybody out there getting out their ideas. I hope they all run."

Gephardt gave a speech to several hundred people in Washington, D.C., on Thursday, including most of the high-ranking Democratic hierarchy. In his speech, he called on President George W. Bush to host a bi-partisan economic summit next month to discuss and promote long-term economic growth.

The White House quickly turned down Gephardt in an official statement. A senior Republican official who refused to be identified also took the opportunity to suggest that the Democratic Party claiming that Gephardt and the other Democrats

giving speeches were more interested in scoring political points than improving the United States' economic health.

Daschle was disappointed with the White House's decision. "I think that a summit would allow the leaders to begin working through the many obstacles we face as we try to turn this economy around," he said.

The Republican official continued further by explaining the current situation on Capitol Hill: "We knew the Democrats wanted to move their primary up early. They just didn't tell anybody that they meant to move it up to this week," said the official. "You can't walk the halls of Congress these days without bumping into another Democrat who wants to run for president."

While each of the four possible candidates vary in their openness about seeking the bid, all four have already visited New Hampshire and Iowa, or officially plan on doing so soon.

Former Vice-President Al Gore, who lost the highly contested election in 2000, has been silent on whether or not he will seek the nomination again. He has also visited New Hampshire and Iowa in the last year. Those two states traditionally vote first in primary elections for presidential nominations and can be used as an indicator of how the rest of the primary will continue for candidates.

Word on who will actually participate in the Democratic Party's nomination election will be clearer after the November congressional races, in which all the possible candidates plan on campaigning for various Democratic candidates.

Daschle has promised he will formally announce his plans after the November elections, and the other candidates have hinted similarly.

Students to participate in study of college experiences

Alma will be participating in the 2002 National Study on Student Engagement (NSSE). This national survey focuses on the things that are considered important to a high quality undergraduate education: what students do and what they say about their college experience. Over the next 4-6 weeks, randomly selected first-year and senior students from Alma and about 365 other colleges and universities across the nation will share their views by completing a short survey called **The College Student Report 2002**. The Report is administered by the NSSE staff and takes students less than 15 minutes to complete. Questions focus on how and where students spend their time, the nature and quality of their interactions with faculty members and peers, and what they have gained from their classes and other aspects of their college experience.

Of the two years that this study has been conducted, major findings have been that small colleges seem to have a more positive impact on student learning and satisfaction. According to George D. Kuh, director of the National Study on Student Engagement and professor of higher education at the University of Indiana at Bloomington, "There's an educational advantage to small size."

The survey measures five benchmarks of effective educational practices: level of academic challenge; amount of active and collaborative learning; interaction with faculty members; access to enriching educational practices; and level of campus support. Last year, liberal arts colleges outpaced other institutions in every benchmark except supportive campus environment.

The National Study on Student Engagement is supported by a grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts and is co-sponsored by the Pew Forum on Undergraduate Learning and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. For more information about this study and Alma's participation, contact Bob Perkins, Dean of Student Development.

- The Center For Student Development



Baby abandonment law encounters legal trouble

LANSING, Mich. --

After the first year of enforcement, a law allowing mothers to abandon unwanted newborns at hospitals has encountered legal issues regarding paternity rights. Hoping to avert abandonment of babies in trash bins or church steps, the law was enacted on Jan. 1, 2001. The law shields details of abandonments and hides identities from public scrutiny. Twelve babies have been left at Michigan hospitals since the enactment: five in Oakland County, four in Wayne County, and one each in Crawford, Kalamazoo and Muskegon counties. Only half of the babies have since been placed in adoptive homes, mostly due to complaints raised by fathers who were unaware of the mother's intent to abandon their child. Since 1999, 30 states have enacted laws similar to Michigan's, and the father's role in these laws is also under review.

Jury deadlocked over whether cop was beaten because he is black

HOWELL, Mich. --

A second trial to determine whether off-duty state trooper Arthur Williams III, 33, was beaten because he was black will begin today at the Livingston County Circuit Court. Following 24 hours of deliberation over four days, the first jury informed Circuit Court Judge Stanley Latreille that it could neither convict nor acquit Jasen Barker, 23, of Howell Township and Travis Sales, 22, of Webberville. Latreille will preside over this trial as well. Barker is being charged with one count of assault with intent to commit great bodily harm less than murder and one count of assault and battery. Sales is charged with two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon. Additionally, both men are being charged with one count of ethnic intimidation, which carries a maximum sentence of two years in prison and a \$2,000 fine. Livingston County Prosecutor David Morse contends that the men attacked Williams because he was dancing with a white woman.

Homosexual adoption endorsed by pediatric group

CHICAGO, Ill. --

The American Academy of Pediatrics has publicly given its support for homosexual adoption. The group stated that gay couples can provide the loving, stable and emotionally healthy family life that children need. Specifically focused on gaining legally protected parental rights for gay "co-parents" whose partners have children, the endorsement could also apply to gay couples hoping to adopt a child. The Academy cited estimates suggesting that as many as 9 million U.S. children have at least one gay parent.

Escapee search reaches Oklahoma

TERRAL, Okla. --

Authorities now believe that four prisoners who escaped from a Texas jail last week may be hiding in southern Oklahoma after finding evidence that the four broke into a vacant home there. Curtis Gambill and Joshua Bagwell were serving life sentences for the 1996 murder of a 16-year-old cheerleader, while Chrystal Gale Soto and Charles Jordan were awaiting trial in the November deaths of an elderly Texas couple.

NEWS

Peck recognized for community service

Scott Timmreck
Editor in chief

Mail room and copy center manager Rose Peck recently won Alma's 34th Order of the Tartan Award from the Gratiot Area of Chamber of Commerce, recognizing her outstanding service to the community.

"It was a very special surprise and it's a very special award," Peck said. "Winning is a special honor."

Peck grew up in Alma and has volunteered in the local community since her days at Alma High School, where she continues to single handedly arrange five-year reunions. Her list of activities includes service to the Community Café, Habitat for Humanity, the Salvation Army, and the Alma Women's Club. She has been on the Boards of the Strand Theater, the Gratiot County Players, and Child Advocacy. Additionally, she makes regular visits to senior citizens in nursing homes.

Peck is a lifetime member of Gratiot Community Hospital Auxiliary and has been a Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader, as well as an Alma Band and Sports Booster. She also helped found the Alma College Clerical Association. Additionally, she takes personal vacation time from Alma to volunteer at Michigan's Special Olympics; she is visiting Traverse City this week for the winter games, and will give her time to the summer games in Mt. Pleasant later in the year.

Peck joins a noteworthy group that includes former College professor Joseph Walser and former College president Robert Swanson. She can add her newest award to a collection that already includes honors from The United Way, Alma's Community Fund Drive, numerous awards from the College, and the Dove Award, the highest honor from the local Methodist church.

The Order of the Tartan award, Peck says, "puts the frosting on the cake. The award puts a whole new meaning on my volunteering."

When asked about Peck's accomplishments, Francisco Garcia (02) said, "That's impressive. She's a very cool lady."

In addition to contributing to the community,

The Order of the Tartan award, Peck says, "puts the frosting on the cake. The award puts a whole new meaning on my volunteering." Peck joins a noteworthy group that includes former College professor Joseph Walser and former College president Robert Swanson.



Photo by Dan Joyce

Rose Peck, mail room and copy center manager, displays the Order of the Tartan award she received. The recognition goes with her many honors, including one from United Way and some from the College. Peck will celebrate her 40th year here.

Peck has given almost 40 years of her life to the College's mail room. She has picked up some classes here, and has spent some time advising and helping the local Kappa Iota sorority. She also aided the local Alpha Theta sorority before it became the local chapter of Gamma Phi Beta, to which she was initiated in 1986. In addition to the mail room, Peck also spends Monday and Tuesday nights working at Scotty's.

"I love working and doing things for the community," she said. "And I love working with students and faculty. I've always loved working here. But there's always more to strive for."

History class to focus on Muslim-Western conflict

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

In an effort to educate students of Western origin with the Middle East and the Muslim community, Terry Fleming, adjunct instructor of history, will be teaching a second-seven weeks class which seeks to explain why "they hate us so much".

Michael Yavenditti, professor of history and chair of the department, said, "This multi-disciplinary class will be taught by someone who knows what he's talking about, not by a journalistic pundit or talking head. Mr. Fleming has extensive knowledge of the Middle East, terrorism, and Islam. Students should really get their money's worth. He's been a very popular, dynamic, articulate instructor when he's taught for the history department."

In response to the Sept. 11 attacks, Fleming feels it is more urgent than ever to understand the history of the conflict/war between the West and the Islamic World.

"It will stop things getting worse if we understand," Fleming said, "because as Cicero said, 'those who do not learn from the past are condemned to repeat it.'"

There has been a long history of conflict and abuse between the West and the Muslim World. For example, Fleming will ask the question, "Does the Muslim world hate us because we cheat them out of their oil wealth?" Many Muslims believe that the Western oil companies and the United States government conspire to keep undemocratic governments in power in order to keep oil costs down. Fifty years ago, Britain and the Central Intelligence Agency overthrew the Iranian leader Mossadegh and installed the shah's regime (which was later overthrown by Senior Muslim Clerics, Ayatollah in 1978).

Fleming points out that the West also threatened the Muslim world in 1990-1 in Kuwait during the Gulf War. The U.S. army expelled Iraqi invaders from Kuwait and reinstated the Emir of Kuwait, another unpopular, undemocratic government.

Examples of such animosity are not solely in Arabian oil producing nations. Fleming contends that the U.S. keeps in power one of the most unpopular and brutal regimes in the Middle East with its support of the Egyptian president Hosni Mubarrak. The U.S. gives to Egypt the same amount of foreign aid as is given to Israel. This money is then used to create a police state.

The class will focus on such examples, but will also seek to explain the governments of Middle Eastern nations. Currently, people in the Middle East are only able to protest either about Israel's treatment of Palestinians or to blame the U.S. for everything wrong in their lives. Citizens cannot lawfully hold political protests against their own governments. However, in Iran, where the government refers to the U.S. as the "Great Satan," everything American is very popular among the citizens.

Fleming said, "It seems to be 'an iron law' in the Middle East that where the government is friendly to the United States the people are anti-American, but if the government is anti-American, people tend to be pro-U.S.."

The class will also look at the history of other terrorist acts such as Irish, the Ku Klux Klan, Timothy McVeigh, Ted Kazinski, and Islamic Fundamentalist terrorism in Egypt. Furthermore, U.S. policy will be a focus, particularly policy since the 1920s.

The class will be primarily discussion based. Students will use the books *What Went Wrong?* by Bernard Lewis and *The Clash of Civilizations* by Samuel P. Huntington. Fleming will also make use of articles (some of which give different views of Muslim reactions and opinions after the September 11 attacks) and the Internet to guide the class into discussion.

David Hensley (03), who will be taking the class, said, "I have met Mr. Fleming before and he seems to know a lot about a lot. I am looking forward to some impassioned discussions in this class; I am also looking forward to expanding my knowledge of this region and the scholarship associated with it."

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of Alma will take their winning plan under consideration. While all plans will be examined and considered, Davis cautioned that the clean up of the property and rehabilitation would take years.

"It will probably be a few years before its finished, and we don't know exactly what will happen there. We think students are a great means of generating ideas for this place," Davis said.

Carrie Parks-Kirby, chair of the art & design department and member of the committee, thinks the Kapp Prize contest will be an excellent way to improve overall student involvement in Honors Day.

"During previous Honors Days, a relatively small number of students present their exceptional works to the rest of the student body and faculty, but most students don't get that kind of opportunity," she said. "We hope that the way this competition is set up that we will attract a wide variety of people."

The one-page application for entry into the competition may be picked up at the Provost's office and must be returned there by Feb. 8. Final written proposals must be turned in by 5 p.m. on Apr. 1. All other Honors Day submissions must also be submitted no later than Feb. 8.

'X-Files' advisor speaks to campus

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

Anne Simon, primary scientific advisor to the popular science fiction show, "The X-Files," spoke to a small crowd in the Heritage Center on Feb. 29. Simon, currently a biology professor at the University of Maryland, spent just over an hour explaining scientific concepts and telling X-Files jokes to the audience.

An ex-Disneyland tour guide, Simon's ability to put science concepts in laymen's terms has been complimented in the past, and members of the audience seemed to agree. "I still understood it as an art student," said Beth Horgan (04).

After being introduced, Simon took the stage and told the audience that she began assisting in scientific work for "X-Files" because her mother's best friend dated Chris Carter, the television show's creator. She also took a moment to explain the concept of the show (two FBI agents investigate paranormal events) to members of the audience unfamiliar with "X-Files."

Simon then described the first scientific questions she was asked by Carter in relation to the show. Carter, she said, wanted her advice on how to convince the audience that aliens were real. Simon's tale of her advice consisted of studying a strange micro-organism, a description of an Erlen-

meyer Flask, how to go about breeding more of the micro-organism, and why electron microscopes must be used to view them.

Clips from the show were used with Simon's comments to illustrate examples throughout the presentation.

Simon also showed projections of several pages of script from various episodes. These dealt with Simon's most frequent work on the show, which involves examining scripts and altering scientific inaccuracies. In one example, the original script cited one of the FBI agents as saying there is only one human genome—an inaccuracy which Simon remedied.

After several stories and scientific explanations, Simon concluded her speech and answered questions from the audience which dealt with her relationships with the show's stars, where she receives her inspiration, and what she did for the X-Files movie, among other things.

The majority of the audience responded to Simon's humorous comments with enthusiasm for the show, as well as respect for Simon's candid speaking abilities on a subject considered by many to be painfully dry.

"I loved it, she was so cute! It's just a lot of fun knowing little things behind the show now," said Horgan.

Kacie Schaeffer (05) agreed. "It was both highly informative and very entertain-

ing. It really spoke to the culture of the college," she said.



Photo by Dan Joyce

Anne Simon, primary scientific advisor to the "X-Files" television series, relates anecdotes from her dealings with the show.

OPINION

Keep the good things in mind

The absurd no-shoes-with-black-soles policy that the Stone Center for Recreation implemented and enforced for approximately 24 hours blew up in administrators' faces thanks in part to student, coach and community member reactions. Unfortunately, the issue brought a storm of complaints to the general social air of the College in the following days, as students began to find fault with numerous aspects of the College, especially, when Thursday morning came: snow removal.

While the lack of preferred parking spots and the endlessly dull conversation about Sodexo offering "nothing good to eat" continued to swarm Hamilton Commons last week, so did displeasure about the festive atmosphere of the entire Run Outs celebration and the parties afterward. Other students continue to take shots at the library, stating that a great number of its books are out of date.

Perhaps the winter doldrums are here and have created firestorms of negativity, but there seems to be little reason to lodge so many complaints with an institution that offers so many good things, beginning with the people at the Physical Plant.

Physical Plant personnel should be congratulated for their plowing job Thursday. Workers were up well before most students in order to make sure their plows could make their way through the massive amount of snow that fell on Alma. Granted, they may not have plowed every single path by the time students had to go to classes, but they did a fine job clearing the major thoroughfares that most people use on their daily walks. Regarding Run Outs, to those who shout that the evening is a festival of craziness and unmoral atrocities that leads to little but trouble, remember that it is for some the greatest evening of their college lives and some people like to celebrate in ways others may disapprove of. That doesn't make the fun a bad thing or the people that partake in it condemnable.

Concerning other "bad things"

like the parking spots and the food, we should be happy that we have plenty of spaces to park, just as we should be happy that we have a gigantic variety of food to eat. Like at Michigan State (admittedly a much larger school), first-years could be forced to go vehicle-less, and we could have food like Albion's (not a good thing). Administration could very easily take away freshmen or seniors' parking privileges, just as they could find a cheaper cafeteria service that offers less food that doesn't taste as good.

As for the library having books without current information, one must consider that the standards of the term "current" have changed. Before the onslaught of the Internet, professors did not expect the facts and statistics in papers and assignments to be as up-to-date as they do today, simply because the information wasn't available. Now, since the methods of gathering information have changed but the nature of books has not changed, we can often see books as out-of-date.

All of these little things—snow removal, parking, food, Run Outs, the library—are all worthy of students' concern. Students should be sure that administration understands their wants. But to make light of these problems without taking into context all the wonderful things that Alma provides is a bit like hating an airplane ride just because you got pretzels instead of peanuts.

Alma College is now ranked as one of the 114 best liberal arts schools in America. The faculty are excellent, the buildings are still standing, the people are friendly, the study abroad and scholarship opportunities abound, and the list of good things goes on, greatly overshadowing the unfortunate things.

Noting the problems of Alma is good, and we should applaud the people who make known the issues that shape our lives, but we should also encourage them to make known all the positive aspects of the College and the rather comfy lives we are provided with.

Letters to the Editor

To the editor,

I would like to commend Tim Slade for another excellent article. His warnings on the dangers of a complacent attitude toward excessive drinking contrasted nicely with Mr. Cannon's flippant and irresponsible comments. Alma College and many of its students need a wake-up call concerning the dangers of alcohol abuse. Every year, at least a few individuals require a trip to the hospital due to excessive drinking. Will it take an actual death before the college acts?

Also, contrary to your flawed analogy (in the staff editorial), those who host parties which are "magnets" for drinking or disorderly behavior must assume some responsibility. Suggesting the organizers of such events bear no blame is equivalent to suggesting gun shows aren't responsible for selling to criminals.

John Gardai
(03)

Dear editor,

There are so many things I want to say to the entire Alma College student body, but I suppose I'll have to start with my feelings regarding student reactions to the *Bursting the Bubble* activities.

Ninety-five percent of Alma's students are white, and next year it will likely be 97 percent. Many of those 95 percent come from towns where everyone else is white. There is a lot of diversity, however, amongst the white students who are here. There's diversity in backgrounds, opinions, sexual orientation, experiences, etc. But is that all there is to the world? Many people become offended when people like Nanette Reynolds or Lucille Clifton speak because they don't take the time to think about what was said. Instead of taking offense to someone saying that white people hold most of the power and money in America, think about why this is. Instead of taking offense to Lucille Clifton "assuming that people here don't have any friends who are not white," consider the fact that I have been the first non-white person that many people at this school have spoken to or actually seen in person. Many others here have never had a conversation of any kind with someone who isn't white.

If that makes you uncomfortable, or makes you feel guilty then maybe you should think about some things. Do some soul searching. Are you so

opposed to hearing about the prejudices that still exist in the world, even in Michigan, that you choose to tell yourself every day that they don't exist? It's easy to do that in Alma because 95 percent of your peers likely agree with you, but there are different perspectives out there. My life here has been extremely hard, but so many people want to believe that the world is perfect and equal now and they get angry at me or anyone else who challenges that. They don't want to see, or believe, what I go through or what many others go through. The worst part is that nine times out of ten, I just have to suck it up and move on because I'm outnumbered.

So how do we make progress? First of all, people have to learn how to accept certain things as fact and realize that if they don't step up to make changes, no one will. Problems don't ever disappear with time. They fester and grow until things come to a head and fall apart. You can't ignore disparities either, because they don't just go away either. There cannot be progress without consciousness. And no one can hand over ready-made solutions. We all have to work toward these things...together. Otherwise we will continue to wonder why there's not been any progress for years to come.

Delvard Newhouse (02)

Mid-Winter Blues



Ok, Alma College, it's time to buck up; I know it's the middle of the winter and everyone's bogged down with work, but come on! There must be something to do to keep our lives interesting!

**Reannon
Broekema**

So what's keeping you down, the weather? Please! Michigan is one of those lucky states that has four

distinct seasons; each one has the potential to provide a fun-filled afternoon. And since the winter weather seems to elude us just when we think it is here, take advantage of the newly fallen snow! Take a day to go skiing or ice skating. Get some friends together and have a snowball fight, or maybe a snow wrestling match to de-stress. Though this winter has been pretty atypical, it will snow, and we must deal with it. Do it in a fun way instead of crying about it.

Not much of an outdoorsperson? Join an IM sport. The suggestion is redundant, I know, but it's a great way to get in shape, spend time with friends and take a study break.

Not much for sports? No problem; try board games. It may sound childish, but once you get into that first round of "Catch Phrase" it's awfully hard to stop. Invite friends over and you might be able to make it into a class project: "The Effects of Losing at Pictionary on College Males."

Take your car (or find a friend who has one) and venture to nearby towns. Drive 15 or 20 miles on a road, any road, going out of Alma and see what you find. Maybe nothing, maybe a podunk hole-in-the-wall farm town, maybe the next metropolis of Michigan. Stop to eat at the local diner or check out anything interesting that you see. You don't have to pull a "Road Trip" escapade, but mini-adventures are always fun.

So you don't have access to a car. Ever checked out downtown Alma? I know it may sound a bit on the lame side, but there are actually a lot of cool shops just a few short blocks from your dorm. Take a walk one crisp afternoon and check them out—you may find something you like.

Go play with the animals at the local animal shelter in Ithaca. For some this may be difficult, but for others it may be an opportunity to get rowdy with a big laborador or cuddle up with a cute kitten. We can't have pets in our rooms, so why not go visit some? You may even be able to convince Mom and Dad to get that pet parrot you always wanted.

Okay, so going home for a weekend just doesn't sound appealing, but you really need to get that extra sack of stuff you forgot at home. Bring a friend! Or better yet, go home with your friend! Our own homes may often seem boring compared to the excitement of Alma College, but staying in a town you aren't familiar with and people you don't really know could have potential. Maybe you are from a small farm town; go to one of your friends' homes that is in a bigger city, or vice-versa. They know the area, so chances are they can find something fun for you to do on your mini-vacation (it's pretty hilarious when your city-raised roommate gawks and exclaims "I've never seen one in real life!" when you pass the field of cows next-door to your house).

The point I am trying to make here is BE CREATIVE! Alma isn't the most fun place to be, and sitting around just reminds you of all the homework you don't want to do. Think up something crazy, something a little off-the-wall to keep you from going crazy. Yes, we all battle the mid-winter blues, but don't let them beat you.

The Almanian

Serving Alma College since 1907

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

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.

FEATURE

Dubenion-Smith begins senior recital season

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

In just under an hour, **Kristen Dubenion-Smith (02)** demonstrated her musical abilities at the Heritage Center Sunday, bringing to a climax the past four years she has spent earning a Bachelor of Music degree. During her senior recital, she demonstrated her musical talent through the many songs she sang—the variety of which showed off her vocal range very well.

Dubenion-Smith opened her recital with a piece by J.S. Bach, entitled “Ladamus te (Mass in B minor).” The mood of the song was operatic, but with a slighter and softer quality to it.

Following the opening piece came “Hermit Songs,” written by Samuel Barber, which consisted of ten short pieces. The song was in English, though the quality of the lyrics and music made it difficult for all the words to be clearly distinguishable. The first part of “Hermit Songs” was entitled “At Saint Patrick’s Purgatory,” and had a dark and sad mood. It was followed by “Church Bell at Night,” which was slow and relied heavily on the voice, after which came “St. Ita’s Vision”—the dramatic theme and storytelling which was conveyed through Dubenion-Smith’s voice alone. “The Heavenly Banquet” was the fifth of these minute-long portions to

the music, and on its heels came “The Crucifixion,” which was higher and faster than the previous parts of the song. It also created a sense of tension. “Sea-Snatch”, a melancholy tune, was next, followed by “Promiscuity,” a piece reminiscent of a battle with its darkness, speed, and tension. “The Monk and His Cat” and “The Praises of God” provided some music that was slightly lighter in atmosphere. Finally, “Hermit Songs” concluded with the soft, lonely song of the singer opting for a life of solitude.

“Sous le dome epais” was the final song before intermission. It was a duet, in which Dubenion-Smith’s alto was accompanied by soprano **Amanda Penner (02)**, graduating with Bachelor of Music in Music Education. The song itself came from an opera set in nineteenth century India, and the two characters singing are Lakme, the beautiful daughter of an important priest, and Mallika, her servant and companion. Both Dubenion-Smith and Penner performed gracefully, sometimes singing together and at other times alternating. Though the song was not written in English, the voices of the singers were nonetheless filled with emotion.

Following intermission, Dubenion-Smith sang three pieces by Brahms: “Der Gang zum Liebchen” (a fast-paced love song), “Wie Melodien zieht es mir” (a graceful,

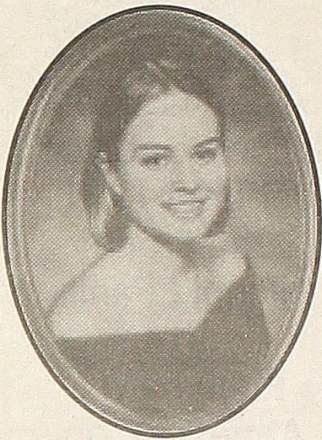
mature song of similes), and “Von ewiger Liebe”, (a segment of a love story being told passionately).

After these came a piece from an opera by Saint-Saens, titled “Mon Coeur’s ouvre a ta vois (*Sampson et Dalila*)”, in reference to the Biblical romance. Dubenion-Smith sang one of Dalila’s songs, a passionate and yet sweet and calming confession of love.

The recital concluded with another song in English. Dubenion-Smith performed a song from “Sunset Boulevard,” called “As If We Never Said Goodbye”—a low, thoughtful love song. Dubenion-Smith moved and sang as though she were genuinely feeling the emotions she was creating. Through her performance and the clear, descriptive language of the modern song, it was certainly moving.

The concert reflected Dubenion-Smith’s experience in performing opera (she has been in such shows as “Trial by Jury,” “Oliver,” “Camelot,” and “Old Main and the Thief”). She has been taking vocal lessons since the age of fifteen, before which she spent eleven years playing the violin. Her senior recital showed off her vocal range and techniques, among other musical talents, exquisitely.

Dubenion-Smith was accompanied on all her songs by Anthony Patterson, Alma’s Artist-in-Residence, on the piano.



Kristen Dubenion-Smith (02)

Upcoming Senior Recitals

Chris LaCroix
February 8, 8:00 p.m.

Allison Topham
February 10,, 3:00 p.m.

Contact Heritage Center Box Office for details x7304

Doing it Alma style: Parody-laden Apologetix rocks the Heritage Center

Tim Slade
Staff Writer

Anyone who had walked around campus the week of Jan. 21 saw the signs posted for the performers at Friday night’s concert, touted as “the one thing Howard Stern and Billy Graham can agree on.” Facing the pressure of the careful scrutiny that often accompanies a media blitz of the magnitude that preceded their arrival at Alma, Apologetix delivered a smashing performance with enough variety, energy, and talent for everyone.

The band known as the “Christian Weird Al Yankovic” entertained close to 200 fans on a night when a low turnout could hardly be avoided, occurring as it did during walk-outs and the subsequent welcoming parties and events. Over the course of the evening, Apologetix trotted out versions of songs by everyone ranging from the Monkees to Papa Roach, with a little Eminem and Shaggy in between. With an unusually large number of small children and adults in attendance, the band covered material from all over the last three decades, such as “Narrow way to Heaven” (a parody of the Led Zeppelin hit “Stairway to Heaven”), “Enter Samson” (Metallica’s “Enter Sandman”), and “Choir Boy” (Kid Rock’s “Cowboy”).

One of the most amazing things about the band was vocalist J. Jackson’s ability to imitate the timbre of the lead singers’ voices for each of the songs the band covered, despite the wildly disparate vocal styles represented in the selections. One such moment came when the band produced back-to-back imitations of “The Real Slim Shady” and “Angel”; the reviewer’s jaw was dropped as Jackson managed to replicate both the whiny, high-pitched rap of Eminem and the guttural, heavily-accented voice of Shaggy.

Perhaps most impressive, however, was the work performed by the lead guitarist, Karl Messner. During the band’s performances of “Cheap Bird” and

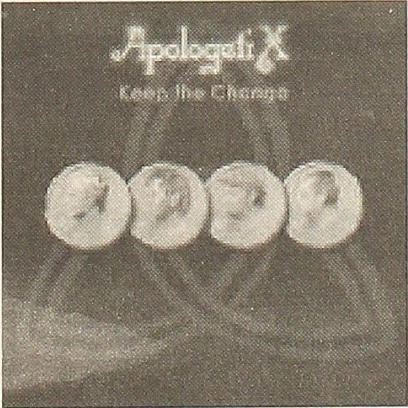
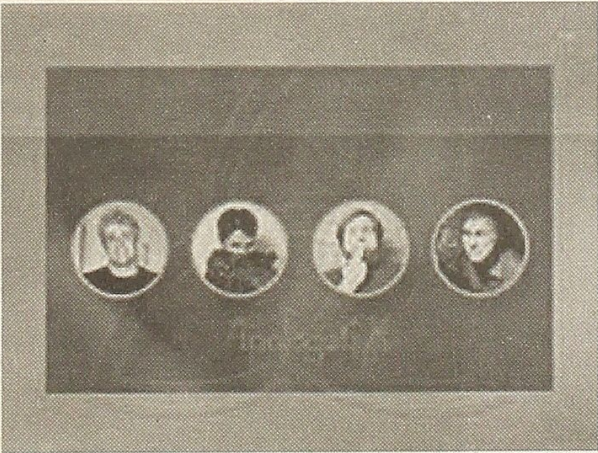
“Narrow Way to Heaven”, he mesmerized the audience with guitar solos that were not only astounding musically but also involved playing the guitar either behind his neck or with the pick held in his teeth.

While there was nothing lacking about the band’s musical performance, their audience interaction was less than stellar, despite their sagacious use of **Scott Timmreck’s (02)** stellar vocal talents

(and often too long) skit-type activity was at times very trying; likewise, while they did requests near the end of the concert, they spent so much time deliberating over which request to perform that the audience was getting visibly and audibly restless. The one bit of audience interaction that was well received was Messner’s applause-o-meter, performed whenever he was going to give away a CD (and thus buy time for Jackson to make a costume change).

Unfortunately, the inadequacy of the arena in which the band performed kept audience members from fully appreciating the amazing writing talents of the band’s members. One of the greatest talents the group possesses lies in substituting Christian lyrics and Biblical messages in place of the original lyrics to a song, while at the same time maintaining the same rhythm and feel to the piece; however, the Presbyterian Hall was not built with a loud rock band in mind, and the vocals were often either drowned out by the instruments or simply lost in the deep, dark recesses of the room.

Overall, the performance was extremely enjoyable. “Oh yeah. I’m all out of vocal cords,” was all **Sean Wilson (04)** had to say when asked what he thought of the concert. Likewise, **Steven Owens**, younger sibling of **Lee Owens (03)**, said “I thought it was good...a good reason to come see my brother.” Lee, in fact, was the driving force behind bringing the band to Alma, having read about them in CCM (Contemporary Christian Music) Magazine and thinking they would be a fun group to bring to Alma. For the reviewer, however, the best part of the performance was not the excellent music, but rather watching the two individuals in the front row headbanging viciously to every fast-paced song the group performed; they most accurately represented the spirit and passion behind the amazing collection of talent that is Apologetix.



and robot-dancing abilities. However, their penchant for introducing the name of the song they were going to play or the band they were going to imitate with a contrived

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ΑΓΔ

Katie Donigan
Sarah Halbert
Katie Karjalainen
Nicole Lowis
Jennifer Loomis
Kim Reeve
Erin Wicker

ΑΞΔ

Ashley Budde
Kristin DeGraaf
Jennifer Koch
Jen Mooney
Nichole Panik
Courtney
Rheinhardt
Anne Sexton
Sarah Stempky
Lori Tedford
Jackie Winnell
Olga Wrobel

ΓΦΒ

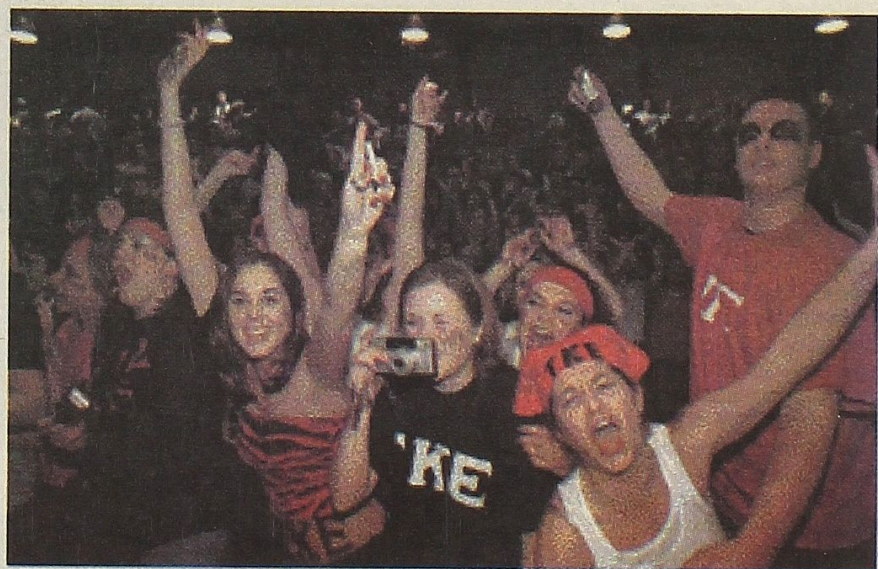
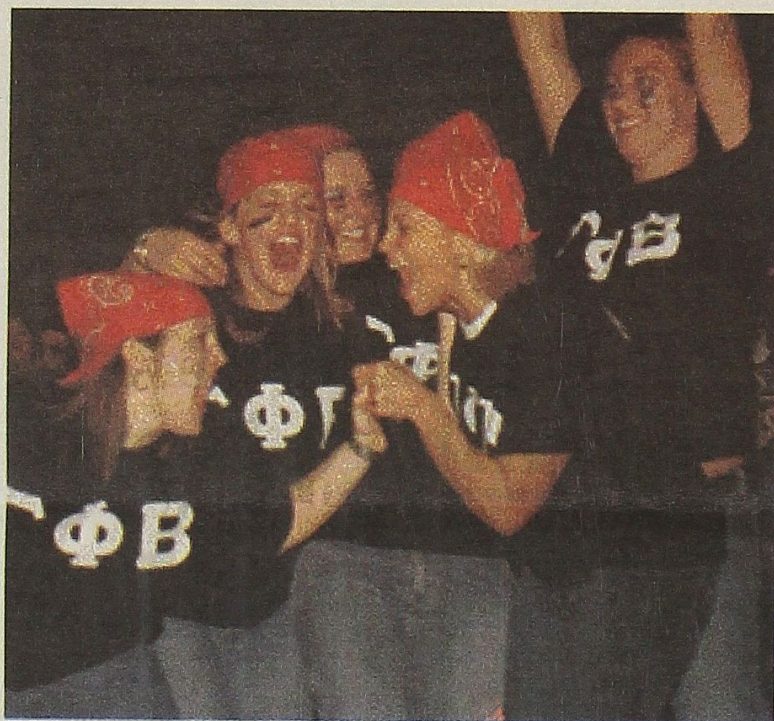
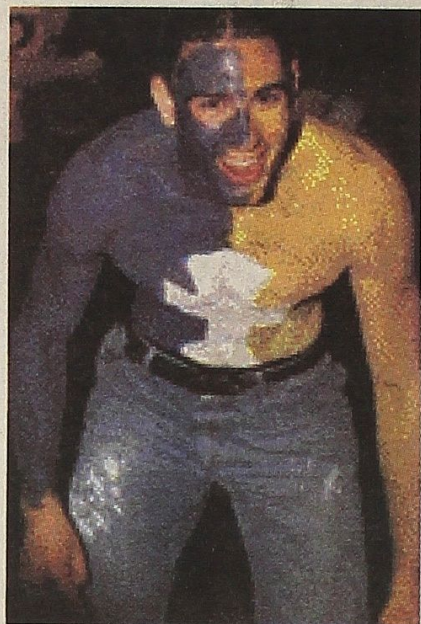
Jen Cline
Kimberly Crandell
Kari Joy Johnson
Mary Kelley
Stacey McIntosh
Julie Plasencia
Brenda Popplestone
Laura Wasek

ΚΙ

Christy Brewer
Marilee Brooks
Cindy Drebus
Nicole Fisette
Leah Granke
Erika Kotecki
Claire Kramer
Darek Lane
Phiwa Langeni
Shannon McKendry
Amber Millikin
Alieshia Mottern
Autumn Pickhover
Nicole Rohrkemper
Jessica Vance
Heather White

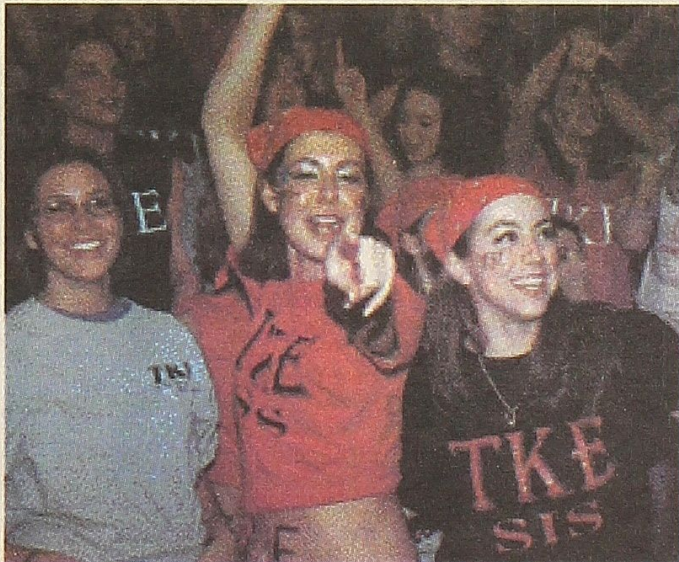
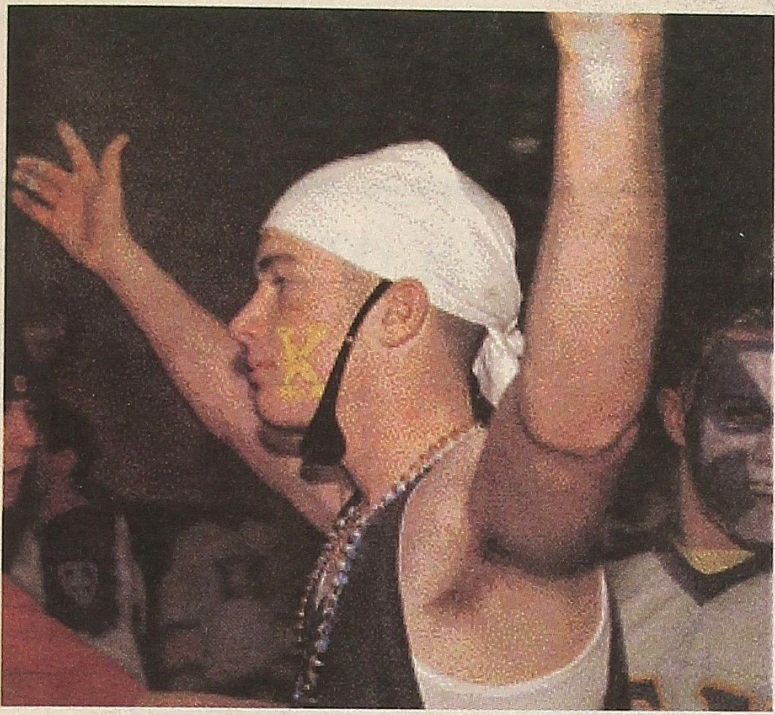
ΦΣΣ

Hailey Alden
Maura Baker
Kristi Bartholomew
Jennie Cooper
Amanda Kanaske
Katie Kellog
Darby Kennerly
Angie Keyes
Amanda Terrill
Brenda Wickline



2002 walkouts and runouts

**35% of alma's students are
now affiliated with one of the
ten social greek organizations**



44 men and 52 women go greek

ΣΑΕ

Nick Chulski
Justin Dew
Jared Evans
Keith Fisher
Zach Hamilton
Sam Oberman
Jacob Ramirez
Nick Shokoohi
Jamie Shooks
Jeffrey Snow

ΣΧ

Jeff Ballinger
Jon Behring
Nathan Belill
Jason Fox
Brendan Guilford
Tony Haze
Jeremy Johnson
Patrick Kosal
Michael Martin
Ryan McNally
Kyle Ritsema
Adam Rose
Brett Rigby
Dan Schwegler
John Swise
Tim Throm
Joe Utash
Tom VanThomme
Colin Woods
Paul Woolcock

ΘΧ

Russell Anderson
Ryan Healey
Michael Huckins
Jonathon Musser

TKE

Jason Fiser
Michael Hansen
John Rappaport
Wes Rasdorf
Bart Rizzo
Ryan Slezak

ZΣ

Sean Anderson
Josh Fields
Colin Ryan
Josh Vrooman

Clockwise from top left: Katie Meyer and ΣΑΕ fans celebrate at runouts, ΣΧ Matteo Lopiccolo decked out in his fraternity's colors, Kevin Brady celebrates ΣΧ's new pledges, TKEs joyously hoist new member Bart Rizzo into the air, ΑΞΔs get excited at the sight of a new member, TKE supporters give smiles to the camera, KI sisters celebrate their new pledge class, Jessica Karbowski and other TKE friends give shouts to the air, ZΣ brothers confidently hold their flag, ΓΦΒ sisters cheer at walkouts, and ΣΑΕs celebrate their pledges.

FEATURE

'The Mothman Prophecies' is a yawner

By Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

"The Mothman Prophecies" seems to go in so many directions. Combining science-fiction thrills, a love story and a drama, the film is based on the book of the same name by John Keel, which is loosely based on reality.

Richard Gere ('Pretty Woman'), who still can't seem to understand he's 53, plays John Klein, a reporter for the Washington Post. He is the focal point in the many subplots of the story. When his wife is killed in an accident involving the mysterious mothman, the story diverges.

The movie contains many separate stories. The main plot follows Klein's investigation of the mothman, a supernatural entity with glowing red eyes that reveals itself to several people. The mothman leads Klein to Point Pleasant, a small town on the Ohio River in West Virginia. He eventually follows the trail to Chicago seeking out an expert on the situation.

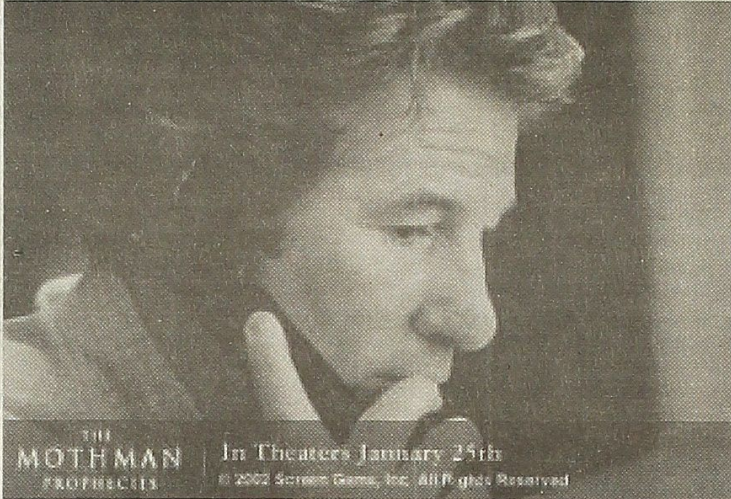
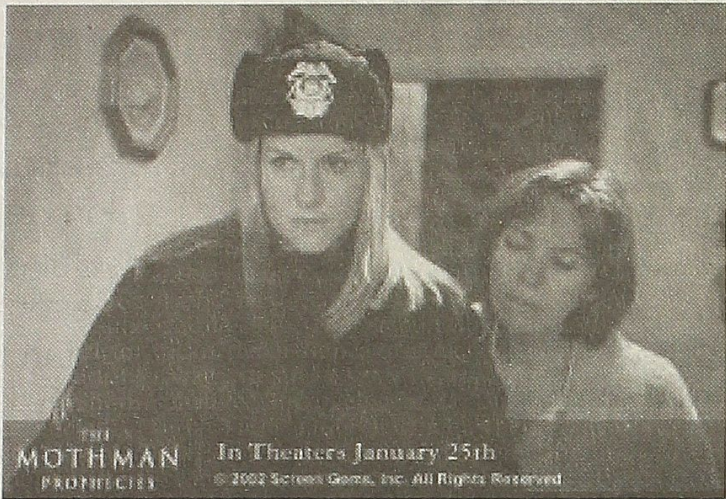
The second story emerges during Klein's stay in Point

Pleasant. He befriends Connie Parker (Laura Linney), a seargent in the local police force. Their relationship progresses through the movie as Klein attempts to get over the death of his wife Mary (Debra Messing).

While in town Klein also meets Gordon (Will Patton), a local man with a close relationship to the mothman. Af-

the film glances of the creature are given, mainly with flashes of light. If one manages to stay awake through the film's slow start and possesses a keen eye, many camera tricks can be seen. (Hint: Keep an eye on the mirror in Klein's hotel room.)

"Mothman" is a bit confusing at the end. While Klein appears to have solved his problems, the viewer is forced to wonder: "Where the heck is the mothman? What happened to him?" As critic Roger Ebert notes "And since the mothman presumably still exists, how does the happy ending after



ter finding some information on the mothman and its legend, Klein is thrown into the third part of the movie. The mothman supposedly only reveals himself before a major disaster is to occur, as it did in Chernobyl before the nuclear plant accident. Klein must try and figure out what is going to happen in this rural West Virginia town.

The movie does an excellent job with camera work, especially in its portrayal of the mothman. Throughout

the [disaster] really settle the story?" (Note: Disaster with-held to leave some suspense in the movie.)

For anyone who enjoys "The X-Files" or similar suspense in its genre, this film will satisfy. But while showing hints of former great sci-fi thrillers, "The Mothman Prophecies" disappoints in being a truly dramatic or scary movie.

Overall grade: C

Pink Floyd's 'Echoes' is a must for every collection

By Dan Joyce
Photographer

When rumors of a Pink Floyd greatest hits album started circulating, many music enthusiasts glued themselves to every Floyd site they could find on the Internet. After verifying that the work was indeed in progress, speculation as to what would be included, who would decide on the contents, title, and artwork began. There have been three basic eras of Pink Floyd (the Syd Barret era, Roger Waters/David Gilmour/Nick Mason/Richard Wright era and the post Roger Waters era).

Through the decades Pink Floyd became a household name. People of all ages know "Another Brick in the Wall (pt. 2)." Albums such as "Dark Side of the Moon" (1973) have become givens in any rock album collection. After all, it sold over 25 million copies and climbed the Billboard Top 200, staying for 566 weeks.

The semi-biographical political experience of "The Wall" (album, soundtrack, tour, film, not to mention merchandise) became the measure of ability to push a product through multiple media.

The list of achievements, problems, setbacks and successes goes on and on - at one point reaching "Echoes."

Everything about the final work has explanation behind it. Storm Thorgerson fittingly directed the artwork. The final covers (one for each of the two discs included) use elements of previous Floyd album covers. Each element challenges the viewer to put together the pieces of Floyd history visually.

The final product contains 26 songs that span nearly four decades. The members of Pink Floyd were involved in choosing which tracks would be contained within two compact discs.

"When the Tigers Broke Free," from "The Wall Soundtrack," has not previously been released on CD.

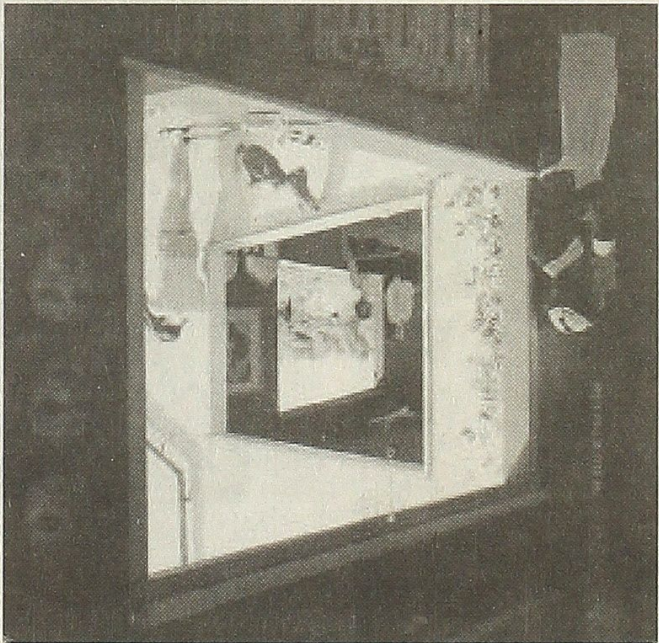
"Echoes" captures the Syd Barret era of psychedelic rock with songs like "See Emily Play," "Bike," and "High Hopes" off 1994's "Division Bell." Many listeners may not be familiar with much of the early Floyd. For these, "Astronomy Domine" and "Bike" may be a surprise.

On the other hand, everyone will sing along with "Money" and "Comfortably Numb." Also included is "Shine on You Crazy Diamond," which abandons the shortened, more common version. It includes parts 1 through 7 and runs 17 1/2 minutes. "Echoes" flows nearly as well as any Floyd album. The only tough transitions are those before and after Barret-led pieces, for these could not and should not be avoided. All parts of Pink Floyd are there and rightly so.

The double disk set is also available on four LP's for those lucky enough to own a turntable and find them. This is a best of album that no one should live without.

Visit <http://www.pinkfloyd.com> for information on the artwork, track selections, videos and more.

- Track List:
Disk 1:
1.Astronomy Domine
2.See Emily Play
3.The Happiest Days of Our Lives
4.Another Brick in the Wall (part 2)
5.Echoes
6.Hey You
7.Marooned
8.The Great Gig in the Sky
9.Set the Controls for the Heart of the Sun
10. Money
11. Keep Talking
12. Sheep
13. Sorrow



- Disk 2:
1. Shine on You Crazy Diamond (parts 1-7)
2. Time
3. The Fletcher Memorial Home
4. Comfortably Numb
5. When the Tigers Broke Free
6. One of These Days
7. Us and Them
8. Learning to Fly
9. Arnold Layne
10. Wish You Were Here
11. Jugband Blues
12. High Hopes
13. Bike

The Top 30

WQAC's Weekly Top 30, as heard on 90.9 FM

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|--|
| # | ARTIST..... | Recording |
| 1 | GREEN DAY..... | International Superhits |
| 2 | SOUTH..... | From Here On In |
| 3 | INCUBUS..... | Morning View |
| 4 | KATNAPPING..... | Broadcast Day |
| 5 | BELLE AND SEBASTIAN..... | I'm Waking Up To Us |
| 6 | SMASHING PUMPKINS..... | Rotten Apples - Greatest Hits |
| 7 | SEVENDUST..... | Animosity |
| 8 | MOON THEORY..... | Moon Theory |
| 9 | PARK..... | No Signal |
| 10 | NATHANIEL MERRIWEATHER..... | Lovage: Music to Make Love to Your Old Lady By |
| 11 | SOMETHING CORPORATE..... | Audioboxer |
| 12 | ZERO 7..... | Simple Things |
| 13 | KEEPERS OF THE CARPET..... | Entitled |
| 14 | BEN FOLDS..... | Rockin' The Suburbs |
| 15 | AEREOGRAMME..... | A Story in White |
| 16 | NITIN SAWHNEY..... | Prophesy |
| 17 | SIMPLE PLAN..... | No Helmet No Pads... Just Balls |
| 18 | BISCAYNE..... | You'd Build A Robot |
| 19 | B.R.M.C..... | Screaming Gun |
| 20 | SNEAKER PIMPS..... | Blood Sport |
| 21 | GARRISON..... | Be A Criminal |
| 22 | JOHN SCOFIELD..... | Uberjam |
| 23 | OUTKAST..... | Big Boi & Dre Present Outkast |
| 24 | WOVEN..... | EPrime |
| 25 | OCEAN COLOUR SCENE..... | Songs For the Front Row - The Best of |
| 26 | BENT..... | Programmed To Love |
| 27 | VARIOUS ARTISTS..... | Give the People What We Want: Songs of the Kinks |
| 28 | KIDNEY THIEVES..... | Phi in the Sky |
| 29 | LINGO..... | Lingo |
| 30 | MERSEY SIDE..... | Step To Where It Shines |

OPINION

HIV/AIDS and America: let's fix the problem



Chris Machnacki

Recent estimates by the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the Family Health International Institute, a non-governmental organization based in Virginia, put the total number of HIV positive people around the world at over 40 million. If something is not done quickly, AIDS will soon surpass the Black Death of the 1300's as the worst epidemic ever.

Over 775,000 Americans currently test positive for HIV/AIDS. However, as victims go, Americans are lucky. While not all Americans can afford the expensive drug cocktails needed to keep the virus in check, many can. These people, if able to stay on the often-punishing regimen required, can still lead a fairly normal life.

The true disaster lies in the global reach of AIDS. Of the 40 million HIV/AIDS victims in the world, the vast majority live in developing countries. Even worse, sub-Saharan African countries bear the worst of this burden. Over 28 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are thought to be HIV-positive, although the number cannot be precisely determined because of a lack of testing.

This grim statistic means that most of the people in the world suffering from HIV/AIDS live in the countries least able to help them. Health care

Left is
Right

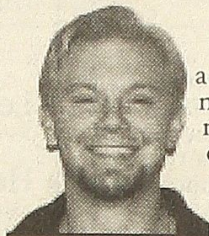
systems in many sub-Saharan countries are primitive at best, and some of them are breaking down under the strain of caring for their infected populations. In several countries, including Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, adult infection rates average over 25 percent. These countries face a mind-boggling array of issues, ranging from potential economic collapse to armies of AIDS orphans with no caregivers.

The U.S. can certainly afford to do more. Significantly less than one percent of our federal budget is spent on foreign assistance despite common exaggerations that put the number at 10 to 15 percent. The U.S. government should be working aggressively to help African and other developing countries shore up their public health systems in order to cope with the avalanche of cases they face. Additional spending should be closely monitored to ensure that notoriously corrupt and inefficient African governments use the money as it was intended.

Throwing money at the problem will not be a cure-all in this case, though. Much of the blame lies in the governments whose citizens are most at risk. For example, President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa has attempted to fight AIDS with denial and junk science even as South Africa's HIV-positive population has grown into the largest on Earth, with well over 4 million cases. In many other countries, infected people are stigmatized at worst and ignored at best. The burden of this stigmatization falls overwhelmingly on women, as many male-dominated African societies have refused to acknowledge the role of unsafe sexual practices in male populations in spreading the disease.

Our government must act in conjunction with the rest of the international donor community to force African governments, like that of South Africa, to face the full extent of the problem at hand and also to communicate to their society that the victims of AIDS are not an inferior or immoral breed that can be swept under the carpet. Failure to act now will result in many painful questions later as our own children ask us why we stood by.

The (AL)MAn Show



Tim Slade

With no homework this past weekend and social activities consisting of nothing but fraternity- and sorority-related stuff, I found a great opportunity in which to reflect on how I spend the precious little free time I have. This train of thought

naturally led to a comparison of this year's social activities with those of last year, when I apparently had very little to do other than increase my .mp3 collection and hang out with the other unfortunate souls who had been exiled to the armpit of Alma, Third North Bruske.

As if the three flights of stairs leading up the fourth floor where we lived were not a sufficient deterrent, the bizarre architecture of the dorm helped keep air from circulating properly (even if all windows and doors were left open) and thus kept a certain disgusting smell of maleness around all

the time that was especially bad if Hamilton was serving tacos that evening at dinner. Regardless, visitors were few and far between (except for the steady train of females into 356), and most of us were relegated to the use of that last bastion of male defense against boredom: video games.

Throughout most of last year, my friends and I were "Diablo" fanatics, and would spend hours playing on two- or three- way IP games; this meant that we were the only ones not cutting loose with strings of profanity every 30 seconds about how unbelievable it was that the \$^@!% computer was biased towards Trevor and how the game was rigged. Around the midway point of the second semester, however, I discovered "Snood" (much to the detriment of my relationship with my girlfriend), and I have rarely played "Diablo" since.

The aforementioned girlfriend told me this year that she had learned in a psychology class that video games have been proven to literally rot your brain, and that if I couldn't kick the habit (along with my passion for cheese and whole milk) I was condemned to die an early death. My response was incredulity, as my current video game

of choice is an old-school puzzle game for the SNES entitled "Tetris Attack"; I stated in no uncertain terms that playing this video game was in fact not only NOT rotting my brain, but was actively causing me to become better at spatial reasoning and critical thinking, as well as helping me improve my reaction times and reflexes. What is more, this video game plays a crucial role in my social life, as most males can tell you.

Where females appear to bond by the sharing of stories about their relationships, both romantic and otherwise, or participating in other feminine activities, males find video games to be the safe environment in which to vent competitive urges, the excuse for getting together into small, close-knit social groups that would otherwise be shunned by the code of guy-ness, and the best non-academic way to sharpen their intellectual abilities.

I find that playing video games with my roommate provides a good avenue for releasing built-up stress from bad days, as well as being bonding time during which we can discuss our various girlfriend issues and class assignments. Every night that we can, we play about half an hour of "Tetris

Attack," then turn on the computer and go after an online *New York Times* crossword puzzle. This ritual helps us wind down at the end of the day and gives us something to do that is relatively trivial in importance, yet challenging intellectually.

Bearing in mind the central role that video games possess in the lives of most college students, why are they not studied more? Most colleges offer some courses in Women's Studies, and I think it is time that Alma offer a class entitled "Men's Studies." This class could be used to explore the psychological and sociological reasons that video games are so crucial to a college guy's life, as well as other fascinating aspects of male interaction such as our penchant for communicating entirely in monosyllables, the quintessential guy's insatiable need to scratch himself, belch, and be audibly flatulent. If we are going to get a true liberal arts education here at Alma, it is absolutely essential that everyone graduate with a clear understanding of the fundamental bases of interaction in our male-dominated society, and I can think of no better way to achieve that goal than making such a class a distributive requirement for all students.

Most colleges offer courses in Women's Studies, and I think it is time that Alma offer a class entitled "Men's Studies."

Diversity is not a black and white issue

Ryan Cannon
Staff Writer

After the events of the past month, *Bursting the Bubble 2002* and the Martin Luther King Jr. convocation, Alma College's new year's resolution appears to be increasing diversity on campus. While the College's approach to diversity is admirable, its good intentions are misplaced.

In order to increase diversity, *Bursting the Bubble 2002* brought Dr. Nanette Reynolds and Lucille Clifton, two well-educated, liberal, black female speakers, to campus. Alma's campus is replete with well-educated persons; the majority of these, being educators and students, tend to be fairly liberal, while the student gender ratio by far leans toward the feminine side. The only factor that made these speakers different from the majority of the student body and faculty was the color of their skin. Reynolds and Clifton made this fact clear in their speeches: Reynolds required that socio-economic status be tied to "race," while Clifton did her best to point out how closed-minded she thought the campus would be. Clifton seemed shocked that the majority of Alma students has seen "Roots," and made a jab at the student body by assuming Jewish students would not feel comfortable admitting their faith in public. In a sense, the speakers tried to create an "us vs. them" feeling with the white majority on campus.

And yet the College wonders why students feel diversity is unwillingly crammed down their throats.

The word "diversify" comes from the latin word *diversificare*, which means "give variety to." Diversity on campus comes from having people of different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives. While in some ways this diversity may coincide with people of

different skin tones and ethnic heritages, it in no way depends on this. Alma College has forgotten that diversity resides deeper than dermal hue.

The whole idea of "race" in general is misleading; the idea that the human species can be subdivided into different categories is nothing more than an archaic construction of society. The American Anthropological Association says in its "Statement on Race": "With the vast expansion of scientific knowledge in this century, however, it has become clear that human populations are not unambiguous, clearly demarcated, biologically distinct groups. This means that there is greater variation within 'racial' groups than between them." This essentially says human races do not exist.

Diversity, in its true sense, has nothing to do with skin tone but with varying outlooks, positions and world-views. A white student from the Detroit suburbs can learn just as much, if not more, from a white U.P. student or a black student from Detroit. In order to add diversity to students' views, *give variety* to the viewpoints presented in speakers instead of the cliché racial differences humdrum. Have Dr. Reynolds speak one week, but then have the C.E.O. of a Fortune 500 company the next, followed soon by a Greenpeace officer, a Religious Right supporter, then a PETA official. The key word here is variety. Force students to question, to take sides. Thinking critically is the key to diversity.

As long as the College insists on seeing diversity in terms of black and white, diversity will never be actualized or accepted on campus.

SPORTS

Team Profile

Men's Swimming and Diving

Olga Wrobel
Feature Editor

The 2001-2002 men's swimming and diving team has had an excellent season, bringing in eight newfaces and meeting goals set by the team's high standards. Led by captains **Justin Fournier** (02) and **Andy Schade** (02), the team is made of four seniors, one junior, one sophomore and eight first-year students. "We've had a good core freshman class, and it has helped the team a lot," said Fournier.

Last year, the men's team was much smaller and they only won one meet. This season has shown significant improvement, with the team winning four meets so far. "The team may end up a season .500," said coach Greg Baadte. "Compared to last year, this is a great achievement."

The eight new first-year students have had a lot to do with the way the swimmers have been performing, but the four seniors are the cornerstones of the team. "The seniors have done a really nice job this season," Baadte said. "Together, they have 16 years of swimming at Alma, and they have all been letter-wearers all four years. They have the most experience, and good leadership qualities."

The leadership portrayed by the captains and the seniors also contributes to the friendships

on the team. "We get along very well," said Fournier. "The unity of the team has been great."

First-year **Keith Hansen** agrees very much. "There is always a stable group of friends to hang out with and talk to. It's like a family."

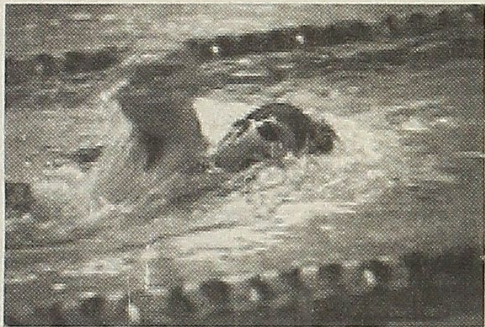
The team has made many short and long term goals for themselves, and so far they've met them. "We wanted to beat Albion very much, and we did," said Baadte.

The team has been doing better than last year, which was a key goal. The team's records have improved greatly. The biggest mission for the men's team is to improve their place from last year at the conference meet in February, for which they are currently training. "We want to get our personal bests at conference, and we all want to make it to finals. A couple people are looking at making nationals as well," said Hansen.

This has been a great season so far, and as it is the longest sports season, there is still some time left to achieve even more.

"The team has been performing extremely well all season," Baadte said.

With the conference approaching, the men hope to end the season with a big splash.



Roster

Jon Davenport
Justin Fournier
Keith Hansen
Joe Harris
William Heyd
Mark Hutchins
Santiago LeMarie
Dan Linsell
Colin McLaughlin
Chris Porter
Mike Porter
Andrew Schade
J. J. Westgate
Head Coach: Greg Baadte
Assistant Coach: Rob DuHadway

Top Times

50 yard Freestyle
Justin Fournier
22.31

200 yard Backstroke
Mike Porter
2:02.37

200 yard Butterfly
2:15.58
Andrew Schade

1,000 yard Freestyle
Dan Linsell
10:53.10

FAST Stats

MIAA Men's Basketball

League Standings				
	W	L	Avg.	Opp.
Hope	7	2	79.2	68.3
Calvin	6	2	71.0	65.5
Kalamazoo	6	3	68.9	65.6
Albion	4	4	65.0	63.5
Adrian	4	5	67.4	69.2
Olivet	3	6	67.2	73.9
Alma	0	8	65.0	78.5

MIAA Women's Basketball

League Standings				
	W	L	Avg.	Opp.
Hope	9	1	70.2	54.2
Adrian	7	3	66.6	65.9
Kalamazoo	7	3	67.2	59.1
Albion	5	5	61.4	58.3
Calvin	5	5	61.3	62.4
Alma	3	3	58.6	60.0
St. Mary's	3	7	55.5	62.7
Olivet	1	9	53.3	71.5

MIAA Men's Swimming and Diving

Dual Meet Results

Saturday, January 26
Kalamazoo 170, Alma 31
Kalamazoo 120, Calvin 84
Calvin 150, Alma 44

Saturday, February 2
Hope 140, Albion 96

MIAA Women's Swimming and Diving

Dual Meet Results

Saturday, January 26
Alma 119, Kalamazoo 118
Calvin 151, Kalamazoo 69
Calvin 164, Alma 75

Saturday, February 2
Hope 161, Albion 81
Saint Mary's 122, Albion 118
Hope 163, Saint Mary's 77

According to a report released last week, Janell Twietmeyer is the NCAA Division III national leader in three-point field goal percentage, with a 47.6% shooting percentage from the three-point line. She has made 39-of-82 three-point attempts in Alma's 19 games this season.

"Twin Talk"

High School Horoscopes

with

Michelle & Rebecca

Vanilla Ice

Blink 182

Tuesday Nights 8:00pm - 10:00pm

Weird News

Alma College Radio
90.9 FM WQAC The Duck

Dave Matthews Band

Request Line
On Campus x7301
Off Campus 463-7301

*NSYNC

Britany Spears

No Doubt

Lifhouse

Kama Sutra Sex Tip of the week

Linkin Park

Green Day

Mary J. Blige

Big Bad Voo Doo Daddy

Sublime

Fuel

Jay-Z

Pink

Crazy Headlines

Ja Rule

P. Diddy

Eve 6

J-Lo

SPORTS

Kevin Goodwin's - Sports Line -

Where do we go from here?

Who in the heck do the New England Patriots think they are? They were not supposed to be in Super Bowl XXXVI and were definitely not supposed to defeat the invincible St. Louis Rams.

Who does Tom Brady think he is? When Drew Bledsoe went down in week two, the Patriots' season was supposed to be over. The University of Michigan alumnus was not supposed to take a team of under-achievers to the Super Bowl and was definitely not supposed to win the Big Game. But he did, and the Patriots ended up being the greatest Cinderella story in Super Bowl history.

In a year that saw America witness horrific terrorist attacks, followed by displays of patriotism all across the country, it is only fitting that the New England "Patriots" are the undisputed Super Bowl champions.

But let's get to the more important question at hand: "What do I do now!?" Football season is over, all the games are done, and the nacho dip will have to wait in the fridge until next season. The void left by NFL football on Sundays will now have to be filled by watching the L.A. Lakers toy with the rest of the NBA route to another championship, or watching the Duke Blue Devils dominate the college basketball scene en route to their second straight NCAA championship.

The unpredictability is gone. No more surprising victories by the New England Patriots and no more disappointing losses by the Detroit Lions. The fact of the matter is that the rest of the sporting world is dull and predictable.

Maybe the Olympics or the enthralling X-Games will be able to fill that void left by the NFL, or maybe, just maybe, I will have to resort to doing homework on Sundays. Whatever happens Sundays will never be the same again...until next season.

Swimmers roll to victory; things looking good

Olga Wrobel
Feature Editor

The men's and women's swim team defeated Tri-State University of Indiana Saturday, with the men ahead 118-53, and the women winning 121-65.

There were many excellent performers on the men's team, including **Dan Linsell** (02) and **Mike Porter** (03), who won two events each. Linsell clocked in at 8:07.87 in the 1,650-yard freestyle, and 5:15.73 in the 500-yard freestyle. In the 50-yard freestyle event, **Justin Fournier** (02) came in first with a 22.89. First-year **Will Heyd** won the 400-yard Individual Medley, clocking in at 4:46.89. **Andy Schade** (02) and **Keith Hansen** (05) won the 200 backstroke and 200-yard breaststroke with times of 2:08.10 and 2:25.79, respectively. **Mark Hutchins** (05) placed first in the 200-yard butterfly with a 2:24.64.

The 400-yard freestyle relay and the 400-yard medley relay teams both came in first. The freestyle team consisted of Linsell, Fournier, Schade, and **Joe Harris** (02), and finished with a time of 3:25.62. The medley relay clocked in at 3:55.07, and

included Porter, Heyd, Hutchins, and Hansen.

In the diving competition, **J.J. Westgate** (05) won the one-meter and three meter events with scores of 162.85 and 161.40, respectively.

The women came out on top as well, with many noteworthy performances.

In the diving competition, **Morgan Hansen** (05) and **Lyndsy Carr** (05) broke their first-year records in the three-

meter diving; Hansen placed first with a score of 250.80, and Carr in second with a 227.25. Hansen's score also qualified her for nationals.

In the swimming competitions, **Brianne Hauser** (05) and **Meredith Henry** (03) both won two races. Hauser won the 50-yard freestyle with a 27.75 and the 200-yard butterfly with a 2:29.45. Henry placed first in the 400-yard Individual Medley with a time of 4:58.74 and she also won the 100-yard freestyle (57.45).

Stephanie Druskinis (05) won the 200-yard freestyle in 2:06.13, while **Elizabeth Smith** (04) won the 200-yard breaststroke 2:38.34.

Druskinis, Smith, Henry, and **Jenny Georges** (03) won the 400 yard medley relay with a time of 4:32.88. **Kate Kohler** (05), **Jill Johnston** (04), **Melissa Kegler** (04), and **Kate Marshall** (04) won the 400-yard freestyle relay, clocking in at 4:31.86.

When asked about the outcome of the meet, reactions were positive. "The underclassmen showed a lot of potential for leadership in the future," said Schade.

This was the final dual meet of the season, and the Scots will swim at the MIAA championships in Holland on February 21-23.

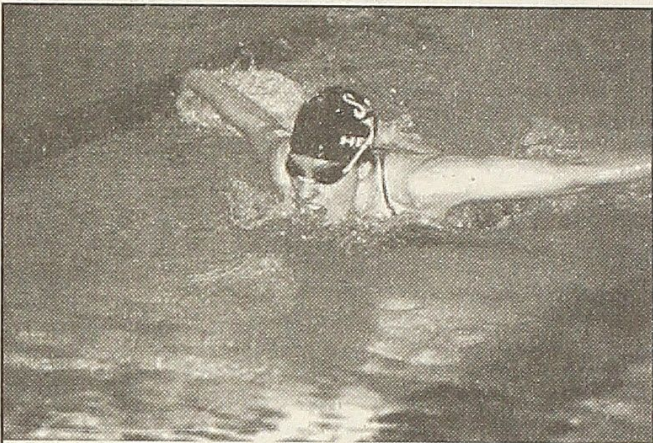


Photo by Bryan Waugh
Meredith Henry (03) swims butterfly in the 400 individual medley; she took first place in the event.

Indoor track, wrestling, and archery: the sports of old-time Alma

Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

Over the years, Alma College has fielded some very successful varsity sports teams, many of which would seem out of place in the current athletic atmosphere.

The 1940 men's indoor track team was the MIAA champion. The Scots also had periods of dominance in field hockey and wrestling. Alma has an adequate number of current sports but others have faded with history.

As recently as 1990 the MIAA sponsored women's field hockey competition, and Alma placed in the thick of championship races for many years. After winning a co-championship with Albion in 1978 the Scots ruled the mid-80s with championships in '83, '84 and '86. In 1987 Shelly Craig was named the MVP of the MIAA. Kim Niemeyer set the all-time league scoring record with 41 points in 1985.

Field hockey had been an old standby. The first known game was played in 1939 against Central Michigan. It had been sponsored by the MIAA since 1968.

Looking into the Alma Sports Hall of Fame, one finds the 1971, '72, and '73 women's archery teams among the few teams listed. Coaches Maxine Hayden and Jean Reilly guided the Scots to three consecutive titles. Individual Scots were named outstanding archer of the year by the MIAA six times in the 70s. The sport was ended in 1981, 29 years after its league inception.

Wrestling also didn't last long in the MIAA. From 1969 to 1984, the MIAA was dominated by two schools: Olivet in the early years, and Alma in the 80s. Alma was on the weak end in the conference until around 1981, when they ended Olivet's 43 meet win streak. The Scots came to life and had 17 of the 30 all-conference wrestlers from 1981-83, when

they won the league championships. During this time, Chris Miller made the all-MIAA team and won his weight class for four straight years (190 lbs - '81-'84), while Dan Coon won the 177 lb. weight class for three straight years. Coon was also named co-wrestler of the year in both 1982 and 1983, became Alma's first all-American wrestler and placed fifth in NCAA Division III in 1982. He was placed in the Hall of Fame in 1999.

The MIAA also recognized mens indoor track. From 1936 to 1948 track events were held outdoor for one season and indoor for another. Alma won the indoor title in 1940. Individual records are only available for 1936-39 but Alma had a number of them including the pole vault, shot put, 40 yard dash and 440 & 880 yard runs.

Just a Reminder!!

ACUB'S CASINO NIGHT

is
Friday Feb. 8th
In Hamilton Commons

Casino is from 7:30-9:30
Comedian JON REEP
Will be doing his routine
from 10-11pm

Casino will include
Blackjack, Slot machines,
Roulette wheels and more!

Watch for your postcards in the
mail-these will allow you to take
part in our HUGE RAFFLE!



SPORTS

Another rough loss; men are 0-8 in MIAA, 3-17 overall

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

Still looking for that first win in the MIAA, the Scots hosted the Hornets of Kalamazoo College Saturday, in hopes of breaking an eight game conference-losing streak. The Scots were never in the game, as the Hornets broke a 10-10 tie, scoring 25 of the next 28 points for a 35-13 advantage with 3:13 left in the first half. The Hornets had a 39-21 lead at halftime and led by as much as 24 points in the second half. Joe Baysdell (05) led Alma in scoring with 10 points in the 78-57 loss.

"We hit our usual scoring

slump," said guard Brian Kujawa (03), "and tried to get back in the game in the second half." The Scots are now 0-8 in the MIAA and 3-17 overall. But Alma does not intend to give up on the season. "We have a lot of things to work on," said Kujawa, "but we want to get a win or two in the MIAA before the season is over." The team enjoyed a week of practice and scrimmage in preparation for the showdown against Kalamazoo. The Scots had to cancel a game on Thursday against Indiana University-South Bend due to bad weather and road conditions. But the day off was anything

but relaxing for the Scots. "We got a chance to practice game like situations," said Kujawa. "The day off was definitely beneficial for the team." The Scots will get two chances to prove that they can be competitive in the MIAA this week as they travel to Olivet and Hope. "We have to play the entire 40 minutes for us to win," added Kujawa, "but we get into a slump where we take 5 to 10 minutes off and end up playing catch-up the rest of the game." Alma is most definitely due for a win in the league and will be looking to do so on Wednesday as their MIAA game against Olivet College begins at 7:30 p.m.

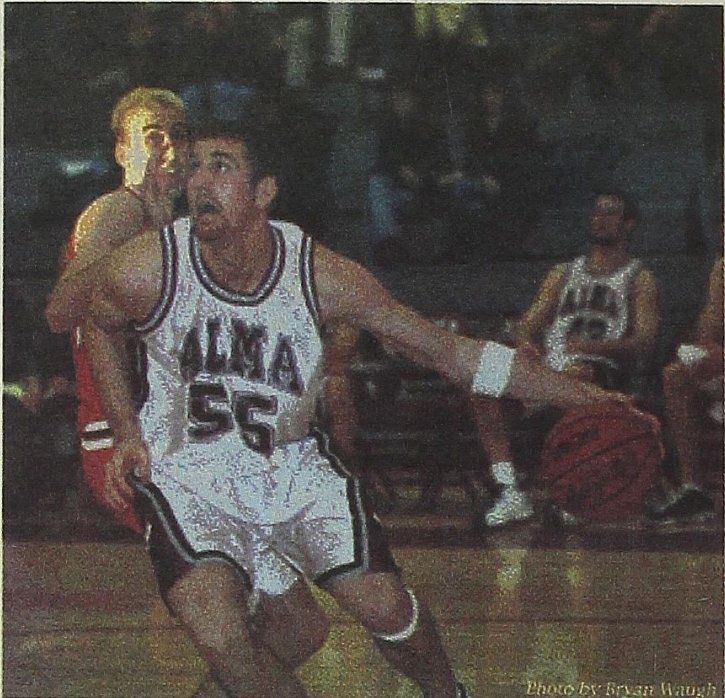


Photo by Bryan Waugh

Rob Taylor (03) scored nine points in Saturday's loss against Kalamazoo.

Individual successes abound for women despite 3-7 MIAA record

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team saw a week of ups and downs as the Scots lost two MIAA games and dropped to 10-11 overall and 3-7 in MIAA contests. The week started off well for the Scots as junior forward **Janell Twietmeyer** was named the NCAA Division III national leader in three-point field goal percentage. According to last week's national statistics report, Twietmeyer leads the nation with a 47.6% shooting percentage from the three-point line. She has made 39-of-82 three-point attempts in Alma's 19 games this season. The Scots also found out that center Shelly Ulfig was named Co-Player of the Week in the MIAA for the week of Jan. 21-27. Ulfig had back-to-back double-doubles last week. In a 71-69 overtime loss to Calvin on Wednesday, she scored 18 points and grabbed 17 rebounds, tying her career high. On Saturday, Ulfig tied a career high with 23 points and also pulled down 15 rebounds in a 71-62 win over Adrian. Ulfig leads the MIAA in rebounding with a 10.6 average and is fourth in scoring at 14.6 points per game.

But the Scots still had to play basketball on Saturday as they matched up against Kalamazoo. Ulfig, Karen Hall (04) and Twietmeyer scored 15 points each, but Kalamazoo College turned a 10-point half-time lead into a 59-50 win. Trailing 34-24 at halftime, the Scots rallied to close the margin to one point, 38-37, on Hall's jumper with 14:39 remaining in the game. Kalamazoo scored seven straight points to build the lead back to eight points, then eventually stretched the margin to 15, 55-40, with 5:49 remaining. Alma closed the gap to seven points, 55-48, on Hall's three-pointer with 3:05 remaining but could pull no closer. On Sunday, the Scots shot just 18 percent from the field in the second half and lost to Saint Mary's, 50-43. Alma led 30-25 at halftime, but made just 4 of 22 attempts from the field in the final 20 minutes. Ulfig and Twietmeyer both scored 13 points to lead the Scots while Hall grabbed a team-high 11 rebounds. The Scots need to regroup and try to break over the .500 mark for the season as Alma, now 10-11 overall and 3-7 in conference games, hosts Olivet College Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at Cappaert Gymnasium.

Student Congress Actions, 4 February 2002

- * Formed a committee to determine feasibility of bringing a popular performer or speaker to campus
- * Met with Dean Kridler to discuss possibility for new housing policy involving the formation of a tobacco and alcohol free housing
- * Discussed a later date to meet with faculty members regarding campus technology issues

Future Student Congress Agenda Items

- * The first stage of an organizational assessment will begin next week
- * Vice President Scoby will speak to Student Congress on February 18th to discuss the parking situation on campus
- * All students wishing to comment on these or other issues should feel free to attend Student Congress meetings every Monday at 6:30 in SAC 113, or to contact members of the Executive Council during their office hours or by calling x7122. The Student Congress Office is located across from the Student Affairs Office in Tyler-Van Dusen. Office hours are posted on the door.

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...

ATTENTION SENIORS:
Student Barlow Cup Award invitation letters were sent out to qualifying students on **January 31, 2002**. Faculty received nomination materials on that date also. If you did not receive a letter and believe you should have, please notify the Provost's Office at x7176. The nomination deadline is **February 6, 2002**.

The Michigan Historical Museum system has summer positions (May15-mid-August) for historical interpreters in the Upper and Lower Peninsulas. Must be 18 years or older, able to pass drug test and enjoy working with children and adults. Positions start at \$7 an hour. Application deadline is March 1 or until all positions are filled. For details call 517-241-2381 or email JoAnn.Carroll@mi.gov

"Thank You", to all who donated blood and volunteered time to make the MLK Jr. Day Blood Drive a success. We exceeded expectations, with 13% of the donors being first time donors. The Red Cross staff also commented on how courteous and helpful Alma students are. Job well done! Watch for the next drive in March!
~Anne Ritz, Service Learning
~Jodi Roed, Student Affairs

Campus

Calendar

Wednesday Women's basketball vs. Olivet 7:30 p.m. Gymnasium	Sunday Allison Topham's Senior Recital 3:00 p.m. Heritage Center
Thursday Resume and Cover Letter Workshop 2:00 p.m. The Center	Monday Concert with Van Cliburn Silver Medalist: Maxim Philippov 8:00 p.m. Heritage Center
Friday Chris Lacroix's Senior Recital 8:00 p.m. Heritage Center	Tuesday Surviving Mid-Terms Workshop 4:00 p.m. The Center
Saturday Women's basketball vs. Hope 3:00 p.m. Gymnasium	