# The Almanian

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# Ford plans financial overhaul

KRISTEN BROWN Staff Writer

The Ford Motor Company is planning to cut its bill for automotive parts by \$5.5 billion over the next two years. The automaker's new head of global purchasing said this achievement is feasible due to a new cost reduction strategy.

They are planning on trimming 15 percent from Ford's \$37.5 billion global tap. The Ford company is going to work more closely with suppliers to eliminate waste, share more parts and remove or change some features in cars and trucks

parts and remove or change some features in cars and trucks.

Ford lost \$5.45 billion last year and is cutting about 21,000 jobs, closing plants and introducing new models in a bid to generate annual pretax profits of \$7 billion by 2005. Ford is also on track to cut another \$1 billion in overhead expenses next year to better prepare for a possible downturn in the US market.

The company will invest some of the cost savings to improve existing cars and trucks, including engineering upgrades to meet more stringent safety and environmental regulations. Ford has been working with suppliers to launch the new purchasing plan in the final quarter of 2002. It is likely that Ford will face skep-

It is likely that Ford will face skepticism from auto parts suppliers, who already face pressure from major automakers to cut prices and take more engineering and product development duties. Ford's relation with suppliers previously has been strained

A study released in July showed suppliers regard Ford at or near the bottom among major automakers when it comes to emphasizing costs and prices over quality, imposing late engineering changes on suppliers and giving parts makers conflicting objectives.

An internal study revealed that the roof rails were designed to carry 100 kilograms, while most similar cars had rails that could support 50 kilograms. By lowering the specification to 75 pounds, Ford was able to replace aluminum with a cheaper metal part, resulting in savings.

Head of Original Equipment Suppliers Association, Neil De Koker, said Ford has indicated that it wants to be the customer of choice for parts makers and that Ford executives are working to change the culture within the company to foster better supplier relations. De Koker said that both Toyota and Honda have outlined cost reduction goals that will slash their budgets by 30 percent.

De Koker told the Detroit Free Press the overall objective of this plan is to "look at the total system and work at cutting costs by working together."

## Communication dept. receives grant for new technology lab

OLGA WROBEL Feature Editor

The SAC third floor computer lab has been reequipped and redecorated with the money received from the Charles J. Strosacker Foundation. The purpose of the Strosacker Center for Technology Enhanced Teaching and Learning, as it is now called, is for faculty and faculty-student collaborative work.

Last year David Lawrence, associate professor of communication, and John Ottenhoff, professor of English, applied for this grant, and it was approved at the beginning of September. State of the art technology has replaced the older technology. The current lab has three PC platform computers, six Macintoshes, digital video editing, desktop publishing, web development, film and slide scanning, a new large format color printer, and CD and DVD burning programs, among other devices.

"The lab is designed for collaborative work," Lawrence said. There are 3 pairs of computers that are identically equipped, which is the best method for teaching technology. The set up of new task chairs and tables has been designed to enhance the collaborative nature. Users can work on the computers, and use the area in the center to map out projects.

The lab differs from 110 because it is not public, but rather for faculty and student directed projects. Lawrence has been training student assistants so they can help with new devices, such as the slide scanners.

"There are many purposes served," Lawrence told The Almanian. "It serves as a place to teach faculty how to use certain technology and software. It also provides tools for class projects. The dual platforms are very helpful for this."



Photo by David Lawrence

Dannielle Poulson (03) demonstrates the new communications department printer.

The software that has been installed includes Macromedia Dream Weaver, Flash, Freehand, Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, PageMaker, In design, Photoshop, Premier, Aftereffects, Adobe Acrobat, and Quark Xpress among others.

There are flat top monitors for every computer, and 22 inch flat for Macs that can be used for desktop publishing and video editing. The large format printer can be used printing posters and honors day presentations, among other things.

presentations, among other things.

"We've taken the high end equipment and centralized it, so that everything can be done at this location," Lawrence said.

Ottenhoff has been on sabbatical this semester, so Lawrence almost single-handedly spent seven weeks dumping the

old equipment, reconfiguring the lab, ordering the new technology and setting

The lab has also been redecorated with attractive furniture, including task chairs, tables, lounge chairs, a book case and a magazine rack.

The Strosacker foundation was launched in 1955. Charles Strosacker was a pioneer of Dow Chemical. The grants benefit educational institutions throughout Michigan, and Alma College has received funding from them in the past

The grand opening of the lab took place on October 21<sup>st</sup>, and faculty and administration had a chance to view the impressive new laboratory.



Matt Piccirilli (03) kicks for the PAT while Alan Montgomery (05) holds during Saturday's victory at home against Kalamazoo College. The Scots won 34-20 and remain undefeated in MIAA play.

For more sports coverage see page 7

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### NEWS

#### Nine states and Microsoft settle federal antitrust case

Joel Render Staff Writer

The four-year-old antitrust legal case between Microsoft, the Justice Department, and nine states has been resolved for the moment as a U.S. District Court Judge accepted a majority of the terms of a secret

being labeled an incredible victory for Microsoft. She denied the tougher sanctions that the nine states have been clamoring for since the very beginning of this case. She claimed that tougher sanctions would rather than the consumers.

Kollar-Kotelly did warn some of the highest executives of Microsoft including Bill Gates that it is their personal responsibility to comply with the terms of the agreement. This includes the reporting of any illegal corporate actions. This called the settlement, "A major victory for entire warning was backed by a threat by Kollar-consumers and businesses." He went on to \$287,60 Kotelly that guaranteed, "the court will say that the settlement would give gross domestic product of 150 nations.

that the letter and spirit of the remedial decree is carried out.'

At the moment, Gates is chief software architect since he stepped down from the position of chief executive officer in 2000. He does still remain the chairmen of Microsoft, however. Gates believes that the agreement that had been made between Microsoft and the Justice Department.

Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly's ruling is Microsoft is unlikely to challenge the ruling. The new Microsoft Chief Executive Officer, Steve Ballmer, agreed with Gates about the ruling and added that Microsoft has learned a lot as a result of the case.

The nine states that wanted to impose mostly benefit Microsoft's competitors harsher sanctions are considering possible appeals to the ruling, so this case may not be over yet. The Attorney General of Iowa, Tom Miller, refused to give up and stated that the ruling is currently being analyzed for places where the states could appeal.

U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft has

exercise its full panoply of powers to ensure consumers more of a choice because they will be able to disable such default Windows programs as Windows Media Player and replace them with other programs.

The agreement, which will last for approximately five years, had four major provisions that the judge did not alter. The first is that Microsoft cannot participate in any exclusive deals with computer manufacturers that damage competition. Second, Microsoft has to have uniform contract terms with all of the computer manufacturers that it deals with.

The third provision will allow computer operators including manufacturers to disable and remove the icons for some Microsoft programs. Finally, Microsoft is required to release some technical data regarding Windows that will allow software creators to design programs that will run as good in Windows as any Microsoft program does.

Just to give an idea of how powerful and wealthy Microsoft is, the market value of the entire company is valued at \$287,600,000,000, which is more than the

File sharing service order to list files, track songs

Albany, New York- The file sharing service "Club Madster" has been ordered by U.S. District Judge Marvin Aspen to alter its internet services to block downloads of copyrighted music and list "any and all sound recordings and musical compositions" being made available to the public through the service. In addition, Madster owner and founder Johnny Deep must submit regular reports outlining the website's compliance with the court ruling. Deep said he has no knowledge of a way to comply with the court order, as the technology to list encrypted files is unavailable. Deep and two companies involved with Madster, originally launched as the free service Aimster, have filed for bankruptcy. The owners of Club Madster have been under litigation from recording companies claiming losses from the website's services.

#### MSU researchers discover microbe that neutralizes industrial pollutant

Washington- Michigan State University researchers reported in the journal Science on November 1 the identification of a previously unknown microbe that breaks down trichloroethane (TCA), a common industrial pollutant that toxicologists have a unusually difficult time removing from the enviroment. The microbe can survive without oxygen, meaning it could be used to remove TCA from underground water aquifers where the pollutant is commonly found. TCA is present in 696 of 1,430 Environmental Protection Agency "cleanup priority sites." The pollutant is commonly used as an industrial solvent.

#### Forty nine year old "preventative" breest cancer removal

Port Orange, Florida-Denise Barickman has pioneered a new form of cancer fighting: the removal of both breasts and ovaries as prevention against cancer in both areas. After having two benign lumps Barickman said she had the procedures done "just to play it safe." Barickman has had a mother and two sisters diagnosed with the disease, and asked doctors to perform the operations to ensure her health. Dr. Neil Finkler, Barickman's physician, said "People who have family histories like Denise live in fear on a daily basis that their day is one day from being just like their family members." One in eight women in the United States will develop breast cancer. "Of those who might even know that they have a risk, it's often less than half that do anything proactive about it," said Dr. Rebecca Moroose of the Florida Hospital Cancer Institute.

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#### Earthquake rocks Italy, killing twenty-nine

KRISHA LARSON Staff Writer

At 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, October 31, an earthquake of magnitude 5.4 hit the southern Italian village of San Giuliano di Puglia. Shortly after the quake hit, a school with sixty-two people inside collapsed, falling onto the children's Halloween party, taking many young

On Friday, November 1, the death toll stood at twenty-nine people, two elderly women who were killed in their homes, a teacher who was crushed in the collapse, and the remainder was the children inside the school ranging in age from three to ten years old. Rescue workers said the entire first grade class was tragically taken. Only one

body has not been recovered. Emergency crews worked hard as they desperately tried to rescue anyone who may still be alive. They climbed over the pile of rubble listening closely for any cries or any signs of anyone who may still have been alive. In fear of the possibility of heavy machinery causing any further problems and putting any victims in more danger, rescue workers used their bare hands to dig through the rubble.

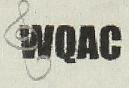
As rescuers were sifting through the rubble to find survivors, several aftershocks shook the ground, including one at magnitude 5.3 causing a few injuries to rescuers as they slid down the pile of rubble. Throughout the village, people ran to the streets after feeling the aftershocks in a panic and fear causing many to be treated for

On Friday, the small village fell silent from the losses suffered. A village of less than 1,200 people, members of the community are closely knit and everyone knew victims of the quake. Community members waited throughout the rescue efforts at a gymnasium near the town center that had been turned into a morgue.

As they pulled the last survivor, a nine-year old boy, from the rubble on Friday morning at 3:54 a.m., more than fifteen hours after the quake, people began to question the construction of the building and wonder why this village had never been considered at risk for earthquakes.

The yellow school complex was fifty years old and housed a nursery, elementary, and middle school. Buildings surrounding the school remained intact and standing. This arose questions and an inspection focused on the building's structure. Authorities admitted the school did not meet safety standards for earthquakes.

However, when the authorities updated earthquake plans for the region, the village of San Giuliando di Puglia was not considered at risk for strong earthquakes. This region lies only 140 miles southwest of Rome, which is an area considered high risk for earthquakes Now people in the region are demanding this area be considered at risk. If this happens, it will enforce stricter building regulations aimed to survive earthquakes.



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November 5

### **PINION**

#### U.S. is our name, international ignorance is our game



TIM SLADE Opinion Editor

The United States has decided to be silly again. This time, rather than campaigning for support for a war on Iraq, we are alienating members of the worldwide community by withdrawing our support for a UN resolution that we helped

write eight years ago.
In 1994, the UN wrote a landmark family planning agreement intended to fix the world's population at no more than 9.4 billion by the year 2050. When we helped write it eight years ago, we apparently didn't object to using the terminology "reproductive health services" and "reproductive rights", although the Bush administration is now retracting our backing unless those words are changed or removed.

When it was written, it was cutting-edge in embracing a new mindset that would improve the legal rights and economic status of women; now, these same words that supposedly served to help illustrate this new attitude are unacceptable to

Lo and behold, surprise of surprises, the rest of the world is not thrilled. Since 1994, 179 nations have backed the agreement, and the fact that one of the world's most visible powers is suddenly reneging for no new reason isn't kosher for most of them. The disappointment and criticism directed towards the U.S. is coming not only from Eastern Asian countries but also from European countries. Thankfully, there are some members of the U.S. government that realize the damaging potential of these words. "The impact of these public statements is devastating and could undermine ten years of work," according to Representative Carolyn Maloney (D.) of New York. Our example would allow some repressive countries to follow suit, and that would undo a lot of the progress that has been made in the last decade.

Why on Earth, if you were the head of the U.S. government, would you pick this time to start caring about the wording of this resolution? As it stands, the agreement mentions that abortion should be made safer in places where it is already legal; obviously the agreement supports abortion to some degree. Why care about these two terms now, when we are begging the very same countries. that we are angering to help us pursue our vendetta with Iraq? It's ridiculous to think that withdrawing our support now, as opposed to next year or the year after that, will make a significant positive difference in fighting worldwide abortion. What is more, this action is counterproductive to our current purposes. Don't get me wrong - I think the war on Iraq is a stupid idea; however, I can't help but marvel at the idiocy of this decision. We have already seen that our current administration has a reputation for terminally stupid decisions in the area of foreign policy, so this isn't really a surprise; still, though, it needs to end

It's a little-known fact, however, that this isn't even the first time recently that the U.S. has decided to remove support from a UN resolution because it supports abortion. In May, the U.S. decided to remove \$34/million worth of support for the UN Population Fund, claiming that it helped pay for the Chinese government to force women to have abortions. The U.S. already dedicates a smaller percentage of its GNP than any other First-World member of the UN; if anything, removing our support is yet another step in the wrong direction. We have plenty of ways that we can lean on the UN besides becoming even more tightfisted (although I think we should stop leaning on the UN anyway); if we really want to help the world become a better place, we need to care more about people and less about our political agenda.

### The Almanian

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

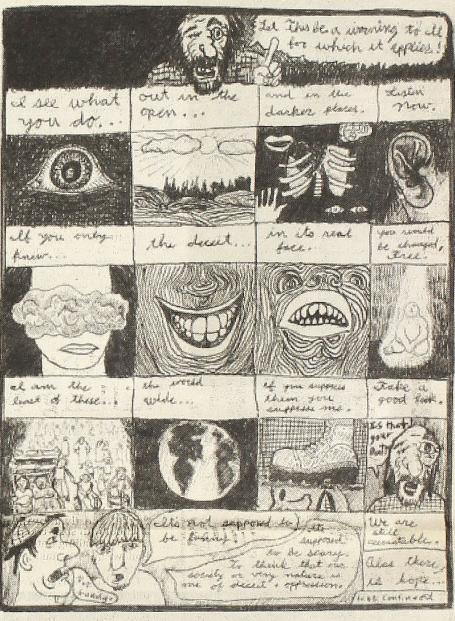
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### Comix Crusade

By Nick Martin



#### Campaign commercials: bad-mouthing and bad sportsmanship

WHITNEY HOPKINS

Last night, my enjoyable Friendswatching time was interrupted by trash talking every three and a half minutes. Of course, I'm talking about the political campaign commercials for today's

In the November 1 st edition of the Detroit Free Press, Mike Thompson artfully rendered a scene of two parents who had to leash their television set (drawn to the image of an angry and violent dog) outside. The mother's speech bubble intones, "Just until the election's overwe've got small children in the house." Meanwhile, the television growls trash-

"How can you trust this candidate? The answer is: you can't.'

'They blew a billion-dollar surplus." "What do we know about this candidate? We know he voted [insert supposedly unhelpful vote here] on [important issue

Come on, they never change. Every election year, towards the end of October, television-watchers and radio-listeners around the nation are assaulted with insults and degrading images being formed of candidates. I could predict them for you, if you wanted. It's always so-and-so voted wrong on this, and thiscandidate isn't really for the people. Don't forget the well disguised, "if you vote for this person, you're voting for the Devil, and that makes you a bad person." Sure,

those aren't the exact words used, but that's what they mean. If I were the candidate, I'd be embarrassed to have "Paid for and endorsed by the people to elect so-and-so" at the end of the commercial.

I feel like I'm back in middle school, when Student Council elections were based on who had the coolest shoes or who got bad-mouthed the worse. Grow up. What I'd really like to see is more of the campaigns emphasizing how candidates are servants of society. I don't want to hear about candidates who condemn their opponents as terrible people. I'd like to see that candidate, instead, commend his opponent for his hard work and for the positive things

Face it: one of you is going to lose. Might as well promise to be a gracious loser if it comes to that, and support the person who wins. Funny thing is, a lot of people do end up congratulating and supporting the winner, who is (here's the kicker) the person they just advertised as Satan-incarnate.

Clean it up, people. You can still say, "He may have done this and this, but I did this better. He's not a terrible candidate, but I'm the better one." It's not about someone being bad, and someone being good, because you could argue that for months. It's about someone being the better person. So be the better candidate, too, and clean it up for next time.

And leave my Friends alone.

### FEATURE

### Derby Days 2002



Photo by Jason Garvin

Gamma Phi Jenesha Penn (03) and Dan Grey (03) dress up for the Haunted House that took place on Friday evening. The competition was won by Alpha Xi Delta.

Gamma Phi Beta's Bree Brownlee (04), Ashley Seppala (05), Kristin LaPine (03), and Kim Light (05) performed a medley of songs for Derby Rock with their coaches, Dan Grey (03) and Brian Brian Brians (03) and Brian Priehs (03).

KIMBERLEY CRANDELL Staff Writer

For the second year in a row Derby Days has been won by Gamma Phi Beta. Alpha Gamma Delta, Phi Sigma Sigma, Alpha Xi Delta and Gamma Phi Beta all participated this year. The incentive to win is great as the sorority that wins the most events will get money to put towards their philanthropy. This year \$4,000 dollars total was raised. Brenda Poppleston (05) a co-chair from Gamma Phi Beta describes the overall feel for most of the sorority members, "We really wanted to get the money to put towards our philanthropy and it's a great way to raise money overall.

Five organizations will benefit

from Derby Days. Gamma Phi Beta will donate to the Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe, Adopt a Family and Women's Sexual Assault, Sigma Chi, who gave 50% of the total to Gamma Phi Beta will give 40% to the Alma Community Café and 10% to the Children's Miracle Network. Mark Zuziak (04), Derby Days co-chair along with Joe Phillips (03) said of the community support, "It was overwhelming, local businesses, community support was great and we sold \$1400 in ads." A Derby Days newspaper is put out every year describing the events and ads are in it.

Events for the week included a sorority puts on a skit to music said Zuziak. with their brother representatives.

Many people liked Derby Rock including Erin Wicker (05) an Alpha Gamma Delta, "I enjoyed Derby Rock, and the talents and effort everyone put into it really showed. Alpha Gamma Delta worked really hard and it paid off." Alpha Gamma Delta won Derby Rock with an entertaining skit using the song "Thriller" by Michael Jackson. Sigma Chi also sold tshirts to raise money. Every day there was at least one event.

Derby Days is a national event for Sigma Chi although each chapter does it differently. For Alma College this is the 16th annual Derby Days and they always try to incorporate Halloween. It is their major fundraiser for the year and the largest Greek fundraiser on campus. "It is amazing to me that in just five days we can raise this much money. We are college students and it's great we can come together for such a good cause," said Zuziak.

Many feel Derby Days is an opportunity for the Greek community to get to know each other better and bond. Gamma Phi Beta Kari Johnson (05) said, "This was my first year doing Derby Days but it was definitely a great way for a lot of the Greek community to come together for a good cause." Derby Days has raised over two-million dollars nationwide for charity and shows a different aspect of Greek The sororites and their Sigma Chi "coaches"



Photo by Jason Garvin

Matteo LoPiccolo (04) falls victim to the cold waters of the dunk tank on Tuesday evening. Students paid money to try to dunk the Sigs.

brother auction, bar-b-q, dunk a sig, banner painting and new this year was Derby Rock where each vice side of Greek organizations," competed in Derby Rock, which was similar to Mock Rock. Alpha Camma Delta won the contest faculty to get a glimpse of the ser- on Thrursday hight, with Gamma Phi Beta vice side of Greek organizations," coming in second, Alpha Xi Delta in third, and Phi Sigma Sigma in fourth.





Photo by Jason Garvin

#### Fuzzy Football: fun philanthropy

JENÉ SHAW Staff Writer

Alpha Xi Delta is teaming up with the Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe Organization (FCEE) to take their philanthropy to the next level. Together, the groups are holding a first annual Fuzzie Football game to raise

money for a Ukrainian orphanage.
The Fuzzie Football game will be held
Saturday, November 16 from 1-5 p.m. behind the Alan J. Stone Recreation Center. Teams of seven can sign up starting Wednesday, November 6, through Wednesday, November 13, at lunch and dinner. Any students are welcome to sign up, and the charge will be \$15 per team. Teams of any combination of boys and girls are

permitted, and the game will be set up in tournament form. Admission to the game

Svetlana Kobzar (04) founded the Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe in June of this year in response to a volunteering experience. "I was volunteering for an adoption agency and I learned about Eastern European problems and decided to form an organization," she said. "The community is also involved, but most people involved are on campus. It is a great way to increase awareness on campus and to involve other organizations with children's issues in Eastern Europe.

Heidi Ventline (04), Alpha Xi Delta's philanthropy chair, said, "One of our goals this year is to do something internationally instead of just locally. We

wanted to get out of the community further and this gave us a good opportunity while also incorporating our philanthropy. In Ukraine, it is even colder than it is here, and the orphanage has no means of a heating system. We hope to assist the orphanage with all of our proceeds."

There will be Fuzzie Football t-shirts sold during lunch and dinner, as well as child advocacy pins for \$1. All of the proceeds will be contributed to the orphanage's heating system.

If you are not interested in participating in the game but would like to help out, drop off donations at the Alpha Xi Delta house. Contact Heidi Ventline for any further questions at

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### FEATURE

#### Gay Straight Alliance strives to increase awareness and support

OLGA WROBEL Feature Editor

At the begging of this semester a record was broken in numbers of attendees to an Alma College organizations first official meeting. This organization was the Gay Straight Alliance, and it has been gaining more attention, and members

President Nicole Rohrkemper (04) was the main driving force behind the group. Pride had been around for about twenty years as a more quiet and discreet support group, but recently it had lost its size, and last year it completely died out. "The GSA has the same goals as Pride did, but with a wider focus. It is student based, and we will concentrate on getting the campus involved," Rohrkemper said. Once the GSA is established and well off, she hopes to get Pride started up again.

Rohrkemper wanted to start an organization that was not as exclusive as Pride. "I think people were scared off by the name," she told The Almanian. "The Gay Straight Alliance is a place for gay, straight, and confused people, so there is less labeling associated with it.'

Meetings take place every week, and attendance for the first was over thirty. There are also over one hundred people on the email contact list, some who signed up and others who were referred.

The first major campus event that the GSA will be behind is Pride Week, which will take place the week of November 11. Events are still tentative, but there will be both daily and nightly activities. Day events being planned include "Live Homosexual Acts," gay for a day, where people will be able to see the reactions of campus when they are paired up with a same sex partner, and a day to wear purple in support. There will also be posters hung up which will reveal statistics about gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning people that the public may not be aware of. This will get campus talking and thinking, which is

There will also be events taking place at night. On November 12 there will be a date auction in the chapel. On Wednesday and Thursday of next week there will be movie nights in the Rotunda, playing such selections as But I'm a Cheerleader, Trick and Chasing Amy, among others. On Friday there may be an activity in the Hole. The week will end with the first ever drag ball at Alma College, which will take place in Van Dusen on Saturday night. The entire week will be a positive way to get the campus involved and hopefully extinguish stereotypes people may have. The group will also be selling t-shirts at Saga.

The GSA has a number of important goals. These include increasing awareness and acceptance of gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual persons (GLBT) providing an open forum for civil discourse on campus, doing charity work with traditionally GLBT and non-GLBT affiliated networks, increasing political activism and voter awareness, and providing a safe and supportive environment for gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual and questioning students and

GSA, secretary Danielle Calhoun (04) said, "The best thing is spreading the awareness that homosexuals are the same as everyone else, and they are just trying

For more information, meetings take place on Wednesdays at 9 p.m. in the faculty dining room.

## When asked about the importance of

### Sounds of music: Alma College choirs

JENÉ SHAW Staff Writer

The Alma College choirs are in the midst of performances. The college has three different choirs: Women's Glee Club, the Chorale, and the Alma Choir. All three choirs have the opportunity once a term to travel around the state to perform for congregations of different Presbyterian churches. Will Nichols, Secrest professor of music and director of choirs, said, "This is a great opportunity to sing for a new audience and to represent our college to the church." He added, "We take the role between the churches and the college very seriously." Most recently, the Chorale traveled to a church in Saginaw to

The Women's Glee Club is made up of 34 members, the Chorale has 54 members, and 46 students are a part of the Alma Choir, which contains mostly upperclassmen. "The choirs have quite a big difference in how much they can get accomplished because of the amount of rehearsal time," Nichols said. "The Choir rehearses six hours a week, and the other groups rehearse for three hours a week. We do the times differently so that students have the choice of different amounts of time they would like to commit to singing. Not everybody has the time to be a member of the choir, but hopefully there is a spot for everyone interested in singing."

"All of the choirs look promising this year," Nichols said. "The Women's Glee is

always good, and they are again this year. All of the choirs are very strong with lots of very good young talent.

The last concert given by all three choirs was during Homecoming. On December 6, 7, and 8, the annual Christmas concert, "The Festival of Choirs," will take place. All three choirs are currently preparing for the Christmas performance, which will contain Christmas songs that are "sacred, light, frothy, and festive," according to Nichols. "The students will be singing songs about the nativity, nothing like

"Frosty the Snowman," he added.

Based on recording that directors have heard of the choirs, they have been invited to sing at a January conference of directors who take part in the American Chorale Director Association. "The audience will be different from our normal audience because it will be filled with professional musicians," Nichols said. "This is a place where we would like to do our very best performances.'

Over spring break, the Alma Choir will travel on a tour to Ohio, West Virginia, North Carolina, Virginia, and Washington D.C. to perform. The Choir gets to travel overseas every other year. Last year they traveled to Scotland, and hope to go to either New Zealand or Eastern Europe next

If you are interested in joining the choir, there is still time to join before the end of the year. In January, Dr. Nichols will be looking for new Chorale and Glee Club members to join.

### Gamma Phi Beta



Congratulations to the newly initiated members of Gamma Phi Beta! We are so excited and proud to call you our sisters.

Tifarah Brumback **Kristy Butts Courtney Hilton** Megan Hlavety Alicia Kopen Kim Light Erin McFarland Kristin Oleszkowicz Lauren Phillips **Becca Ross Adrian Rowe Ashley Seppala** Kaleena Sharp Kristina Swartz Lindsey Thelen

Love in Ilke, Your Sisters in Gamma Phi Beta

#### Alpha Gam Open Formal "Welcome to the Jungle" November 16th 2002 in Tones auditorium tickets will be on sale Nov 11-15 in saga

### Big Fat Greek Recital

SEAN WILSON Staff Writer

Dionysus himself would have been gladdened by attending last Tuesday's "Big Fat Greek Recital." Tony Patterson, Alma College artist-in-residence, and Jason Economides, the Alma Symphony Orchestra's new Concertmaster, conspired (respectively) on piano and violin to produce an evening steeped in huge, portly, and (at times) even Greek music.

They opened with Korngold's Suite from *Much Ado about Nothing*, Opus 11. The music itself, in four movements, conveys scenes from the Shakespeare for which it was written with uncanny accuracy. The fourth movement, particularly, a lively Hornpipe, truly does capture the flavor of the Masquerade for which it is named.

They then progressed to Mikis Theodorakis's Sonatine No.1 for Violin and Piano. Composed in 1954 by a man who had seen and survived some of the most terrible oppression in Axis Europe, this piece, dedicated to his wife, conveys great beauty nonetheless. Theodorakis (as Economides pointed out to the audience) would go on to be interred in the Oropos concentration camp in the late 60's, and was freed at the insistance of such figures as Dmitri Shostakovitch, Leonard Bernstein, and Henry Bellafonte. Economides' rendition of the second movement of the sonatine was somewhat marred by a pianissimo characterized by thin tone and occasional pitch issues, but he more than atoned for this with the third, in which he rose admirably to the incredibly complex technical challenges presented by the

After intermission, Patterson called upon his immense wealth of musical knowledge in order to inform the audience that "our next piece is by Beethoven, that famous Greek, who was freed from a concentration camp by Dimitri Shostakovitch and Henry Bellafonte. He wrote it in C minor, which of course was invented by Pythagoras." Beethoven's Sonata Opus 30 No. 1 in, of course, C minor shortly followed. Performed masterfully on both parts, the Sonata (although not exactly Greek) greatly enhanced the evening's activites.

The last piece in the program was Pablo de Sarasate's Ziguenerweisen, an astoundingly fast and remarkably complex work that served to showcase the greatest merits of both performers. They walked off to a standing ovation and returned shortly thereafter, at which point the recital became truly Hellenic. The encore was a traditional Greek dance, and random audience members, led by the ever-graceful Kaitlyn Sawa (03) and Shabnam Mirsaeedi (05) performed an actual dance. When this was complete, Patterson was seen to stand up, bow, and point toward the lobby, saying simply "Baklava." Overall, the Big Fat Greek Recital was everything its title promised and more.

### **OPINION**

# Point COUNTERPOINT

#### Tax Cuts Benefit Economy, Help All

KYLE WELLFARE Guest Columnist

When election year comes around one of the most common vote-getting ploys that politicians use deals with taxes.

When candidates say they are going to lower taxes the masses tend to be very supporting of the position, and with just cause.

Lower taxes boost the economy by putting more money in the hands of Americans. Money which will be used to buy things, take trips, or (gasp) save. Any number of things could be listed here, but the main point is that lower taxes boost the economy.

When people have more personal spending power, demand for products and services goes up creating the need for more jobs. More jobs will lower unemployment and more employment means more people have greater earning and spending power. These people in turn spend money, and the whole process grows and expands from this point.

Beginning in early 2000 our economy, which had been going through periods of unheard of growth due to the rise of Internet companies, began to slow down. The Internet start-up companies that had done so well began shutting down or scaling back their operations.

One of George W. Bush's major running points was the tax cuts he wished to enact, which he did in fact implement when he was elected to office. These tax cuts were meant to be an escape from the economic hard times most Americans were feeling at the time. In fact if we look at our economy today we are definitely coming out of the recession we faced.

What would happen however, if Congress repealed the 2001 Bush tax cuts, which over the next ten years are designed to be implemented in progrowth segments? The first thing we would notice would be an increase in unemployment. Can you guess what would happen next? That's right - people would begin spending less. Production would go down. The stock market would tumble because people would not have enough money to invest. However, the government would then be able to fund all of those wonderful social programs that will supposedly "help" those who are out of work. But with whose money? You can of course see my point.

Another liberal lie about taxes is that the tax cuts affect only the rich. This is simply not true. In fact, based on the year 2000 data the IRS has just released, the top 50% of wage earners pay 96.09% of income taxes. You might think that this top 50% are all millionaires, however this is also untrue. They are actually individuals or couples filing jointly that earned \$26,000 and up. Also the top 1% of earners are those who make over \$293,000, which if I do the math right is considerably less that \$1 million.

These normal people did not get where they are today by accepting, government hand outs. They worked hard for their money and have a right to spend it as they please. What the government should not do is take the money in terms of a tax hike that will hurt all Americans.

### The tax hike that isn't: repealing future tax cuts

SEAN WILSON Staff Writer

Throughout his vigorous campaign, President Bush promised tax cuts to the American people, and he found a way to pass them through Congress in the early months of 2001. The economic climate of this country has changed significantly since that legislation passed, however, and the time has come to reconsider the ramifications of the sharp declines in government revenue that will necessarily accompany the continued implementation of the Bush tax cuts.

Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass) has called in recent months for the repeat of certain portions of the Bush cuts, targeting reductions in the highest three tax brackets that are scheduled to go into effect during 2004-2006. The total amount of revenue the Government would retain via this plan is approximately \$280 billion. 95.6% of this money would come from the highest 1% income bracket of \$373,000 and up, Further, since this bracket and the two beneath it are such a small percentage of the American population, 97.5% of the people Bush's cuts affect will be completely unaffected by the change proposed by Kennedy.

Bush has attacked this proposal as a tax hike, which, technically, it is not. It is a cancellation of tax cuts not yet in effects and will not have the adverse economic effects (egreduced individual spending, etc) that are usually associated with tax increases. All Kennedy suggests is that slated changes be repealed, as the government surplus which Bush relied upon to pay for the cuts has begun rapidly vanishing in the last year.

According to a June 12 report by the advocacy group Citizens for Tax Justice, "... freezing the Bush tax cuts at their 2002 levels would have little or no effect on 99 percent of the taxpayers, whose tax levels are already mostly or completely frozen." The same report goes on to assert that "in 2010 before the Bush tax cuts, the top one percent was expected to pay just over a quarter of all federal taxes... So a tax cut that gives the richest Americans more than half of its benefits is obviously anything but even-handed."

The resolution to all this is fairly clear and has been voiced in Congress itself by Kennedy and others. We are faced with an unevenly allocated system of tax cuts and dwindling surpluses in the Federal budget. To help solve both problems at once, all that need be done is to cancel unimplemented parts of the Bush tax plan.

This simple and obvious solution cannot even win support among Democratic leaders, however, because of Bush's portrayal of it as a tax hike. Say the words "tax hike" to an American and the discussion is over, regardless of the surrounding circumstances. House Minority leader Richard Gephard knew this when he accused Kennedy of "rhetorical bomb-throwing," and went on to deny any merit in re-visiting the tax cuts. Not even Senate Majority leader Tom Daschle, despite his severe criticism of the Bush cuts, has been willing to support Kenneda's morthwhile plansing the light of the upcoming elections. This is an example of the usual tiresome rhetorical shelter seeking that seems to be a bipartisan national policy in recent elections. It is disappointing and irksome to see it made manifest in the highest Democratic leaders on such an important issue.

It's almost here...

### SONGFEST



This Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> 8:00 p.m. at the Chapel

Don't Miss out on the biggest event of the year!!!

#### "How do you feel about Alma's school spirit?"

"Our school spirit is definitely lacking at times." Amie Williams (02)







IANDA BAUSH off Writer.

"I think certain people have good school spirit. The people who want to have it have it."

"I don't think that there are enough students at the games or enough student involvement in general. There's not really anything that gives us a reason to go to the games, like fun crowd participation or anything."

Jade Woodcock (05)





"We don't have nearly as much spirit as the bigger schools do, but I guess that's expected since we're such a small school."

Sarah Towne (03)

### SPORTS

### Scots slam Kalamazoo, now 5-0 in MIAA

KRISTEN BROWN Staff Writer

The excitement could be felt in the crowd last Saturday, as fans anxiously awaited the start of the Alma/Kalamazoo game. Going into the game with a 7-1 overall average and 4-0 in the MIAA, hopes for victory were high. The Scots won, 34-20, over Kalamazoo College at Bahlke Field.

Alma clinched at least a tie for the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association with the win. The Scots, now 8-0 overall and 5-0 in the MIAA, also tied a school record with their 8th win of the season. Alma had won eight games in a season eight times, lastly in 1999.

Senior Steve Slowke led the Scots with 459 yards in total offense. Slowke completed 32 of 45 passes for 386 yards and 3 touchdowns. Slowke was also Alma's leading ball carrier, gaining 73 yards on 16 carries. Senior Mark Boehms, set a single game record with 16 receptions,

good for 195 yards. His receiving yardage total is the third highest in Alma's history.

Alma took a 7-0 lead on James Edington's 1-yard carry with 3:21 left in the first quarter. **Matt Piccirilli (03)** kicked field goals of 40 and 21 yards to give the Scots a 13-0 advantage with 7:07 left in the half.

Slowke tossed an 18 yard scoring pass to Ryan Mikulich, then passed 11 yards to Boehms for a touchdown with 39 seconds left, giving the Scots a 27-0 halftime lead. Slowke and Boehms completed an 8-yard touchdown completion with 13:07 left in the game.

On defense, the Scots were led by Kevin Vermeersch's 10 tackles. Josh Funsch had 8 tackles, and Justin McHugh, John Loveland, David Simpson and Mike Abbey all had 7 tackles. Simpson intercepted his 10th pass of the season to tie a school record.

The Scots travel to Adrian next Saturday for a 1:00 MIAA game. Adrian can tie the Scots for the conference title by winning the game.



Photo by Jason Garvin Ryan Mikuluch (03) grabs a pass over a Hornet defender. The Scots' win clinches at least a share of the MIAA title.

#### Best darn sports column ever



MATT HELMUS Sports Editor

This weekend could be a big one for Alma College sports. Both the volleyball and football teams could move closer to a N C A A Division III playoff bid.

The football team could clinch their first MIAA outright title since 1968 with a win over Adrian this weekend. The Scots looked great on the frozen tundra of Bahlke Field this past weekend. Senior leadership made sure the Scots wouldn't have a late season letdown, leading the Scots to a 27-0 halftime lead and holding on for a 34-20 win.

It was a special day for the seniors as it was their last home game in their careers. The day was also special with a ceremony honoring Alma's 100 seasons in the MIAA. It has been noticed that Alma won their first MIAA title in their first year in the conference, exactly a century ago.

Another hotspot of excitement on campus has been Cappaert Gymnasium. The volleyball team is charging into the MIAA tournament after sealing their regular season crown. The team hosts Olivet tonight at 7. With a win the Scots would get the right to host the remaining games in the tournament.

On a good note for the Scots, they will not have to play Calvin College until the finals of the tournament, if both teams make it. Since the MIAA started a tournament at the end of the year in 1999, Alma has lost every year to Calvin in the semifinals. This year there is no chance for the Knights to repeat this feat.

In other news apparently the Best Darn Sports Column Ever is getting national recognition. After my ranting and raving last week about Alma teams not being respected it seems that they are finally getting some. (Okay, so maybe it wasn't the Column, just the fact that the Scots keep winning.)

In the NCAA Division III volleyball poll the Scots are listed as 8th place in the Great Lakes Region. I am still not convinced that there are seven teams in our vicinity that can take down the Scots.

Also, in Don Hansen's latest Division III football poll the Scots are listed in 25th place. That is a five spot jump from last week. In the latest AFCA poll the team has 27 points (more than double last week's total) putting them in 32nd place. That's a nine spot jump. Congratulations to both teams and good luck this weekend.

## Women's soccer ends season with a loss

KARI JOY JOHNSON Staff Writer

In a Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) game against Albion last Saturday, the women's soccer team left Scotland Yard with a 5-3 loss. As the last regular season contest for the team, the Scots finished the season with a 9-9-2 overall record and 4-8-2 in the MIAA, leaving Alma tied for sixth in the conference standings.

Angel Bushor (04) from Wixom

Angel Bushor (04) from Wixom scored two goals for the Scots along with an added assist. Jayne Godlew brought Albion to a 1-0 lead at the 6:30 mark of the game, but the score was tied 45

seconds later on Bushor's first goal, with an assist from Sara Monsere (04) from Troyconon expenses and event ton live bus

Stepping out with a 2-1 lead, Albion took advantage of Lauran Gentry's unassisted goal at 21:31. On a goal by Jessica Roberts (03) from Trenton, Alma tied the score again with the assist to Bushor at 28:23, resulting in a score of 2-2 at halftime.

"The game was definitely the best game we've played all year because Albion came in and we knew we had to try and give them a rough time to stop them from thinking they could just walk all over us," said Roberts.

Albion's Gentry scored her second goal of the game at 7:30 during the second half, with an assist by Natalie Sztykiel. Bushor's second goal of the game at the 65:05 mark, bringing up the score once again with the assist by Megan Karchon (04) from Clarkston.

Bringing Albion up to the final lead at 67:30 was Laurie Vance, scoring on an assist from Godlew. With the final score for Albion at 81:25, Gentry brought in the victory on an assist by Karen Laflair.

Said Roberts, "We started the season a lot better than it ended but I think the team still has the core group of girls there to build again for next season."

## Cross Country finishes fourth, fifth at MIAA jamboree

AMANDA BAUSHKE Staff Writer

The wind was brisk and the air was cold when Alma College hosted the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association cross country championships on Saturday afternoon.

The men's team finished fourth overall with 130 points while Calvin College came in first place with 18 points. The final conference individual standings include the results of the MIAA Jamboree and the conference championships. The two races are combined in a point system. Joe Whitman (05) finished 10th and earned first-team all-conference honors. In cross country the top ten finishers are first team all-conference those who finish 10-20 are second team all-conference.

At the MIAA championshiops the men ran an eight kilometer race. Joe Whitman finished eighth place finishing the course in 26:05. Nate Belill (05) was Alma's second runner. He came in 27th in 28:06. Joe Bush (03) finished third for Alma. He was 30th in 28:23, while Andrew Messing (06) finished up 32nd in 28:42. Tom Sterling (03) placed 33rd in 28:45 and Dirk Callahan (05) ended up 34th in 28:47. Adam Sudia (03) placed 36th in 29:07.

The other Alma runners were Rory Wildner (06) who placed 61st overall in 30:01. Matt Seipke (06) who was

73rd overall in 20:47 and **Tony Cuttitta** (06) placing 76th overall in 31:28.

For many of these senior runners Saturday was their last meet. The Scots have another meet, but only the top seven runners can run in the race.

The Alma College women's cross country team placed fifth at the MIAA Championships on Saturday with 124 points. They were 10 points behind Albion. Calvin came in first place with 18 points.

Elizabeth Colechio (06) led the team with her 27th place finish in 25:09. Corey Cunningham (05) was not far behind with her 28th place finish in 25:13. Stephanie Ogle (05) ended with 29th place in 25:15 and Vallory Babyar (05) placed 30th in 25:18. Kim Sinclair (06) came in 36th in 25:28 while Erin Stone (05) was 37th in 25:31 and Alice Sova (04) placed 38th in 25:33. The top seven runners had a pack and ran close together. The eighth finisher for the Scots was Dawna Anderson (03) who came in 45th in 25:52. Elizabeth Smith (04), Amanda Dusendang (03) and Krystle Mohawk (05) were the next three Alma runneres. They ran 46th, 48th, and 52nd places respectively. Lisa Miller (03) finished 58th in 26:29 and her sister Andrea Miller (06) finished 65th in 27:00. Amanda Ufer (03) completed the race in 27:37 while Kelli Bissett (05) ran the race in 28:43. Shannon McKendry (03) was 95th in 28:49, Lark Haunert (03) was 97th in 29:06 and Michelle Bolen (05) was 99th in 29:25.

Colechio also recieved team honors. She finished 19th in the final season individual conference standings earning second team all-conference honors.



Photo by Dan Joyce Alma's Alice Sova (04) competes at the MIAA jamboree on Saturday. The women's team took fifth overall. The men's team placed 5th overall. The meet was the last of the MIAA season for the teams.

non-conference match. Alma pulled away

with a victory in just three games, 33-31,

30-26, and 31-29. They improved their

### SPORTS

#### Swimmers and divers open new season with losses

KIM CRANDELL Staff Writer

With two meets this weekend the Alma College Swimming and Diving team had a lot of work to begin with. November 1st they were up against Calvin. Calvin's men team outscored the Scot's 165-135 and the women's team 155-150. Morgan Hansen (05) from Kenai, Alaska, won both diving events. Stephanie Druskinis (05) won the 100 backstroke her time was 1:06.78, and placed second in the 50 freestyle, Stephanie is from Wyandotte.

Others who placed include Meredith Henry (03) from Owosso, Brianne Hauser (05) from Monroe, and Jaci Wilkie (06) also from Monroe. They were on the 200 medley relay team along with Druskinis that took second with a time of 2:01.97. Henry was second in the 100 freestyle coming in with a time of 58.18; Wilkie took a second in the 100 breaststroke-1:14.73 and Julie Fantone (03) from Ann Arbor, took second in the 1000 freestyle with a time of 11:46.40. From the men's team Chris Walker

(06) from Howell, took second in the 1000 freestyle with a time of 11:38.83. Will Heyd (05) from Marquette, took a second in the 100 freestyle 23.61. Chris Porter (03) from St. John's, with a time of 59.46 in the 100 backstroke also took a second. JJ Westgate (05) from Muskegon, took second in 10 meter diving.

In a meet with Grand Valley on the second the Scots fared slightly better.

second the Scots fared slightly better. The Scots lost 144-194 in the nonconference swimming and diving meet. Senior Meredith Henry describes it best by saying, "Our team is looking really strong for the beginning of the season and I am excited to see how we perform in upcoming events. Grand Valley is division II so is always tough but we put up a solid competition and it was good to prepare for upcoming matches."

Alma placed in six events and won four others. Druskinis and Emily Dolan (06) from Trenton, both won individually and as part of 400 yard freestyle relay team. Druskinis with a time of 2:04.54 in the 200 yard freestyle and Dolan with a time of 27.89 in the 50 freestyle. Wilkie and Henry were also part of the relay team with a time of 3:52.50. Another team came in second with Erin Wicker (05) from Birmingham, and Thompson (03) from St. Clair Shores, Ashley Meyers (06) from Henderson, and Becky Emerson (03) from Chesterfield, to clock a time of 4:19.61.

Second place was taken by Druskinis in the 100 freestyle with a time of 55.65 and Henry in the 1000 freestyle 11:47.91. Jill Johnston (04) from Alma, took second in the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:53.47. Hauser placed second in the 200 butterfly time 2:34.94, and the 50 freestyle 27.92.

Theresa Thompson, a senior, is optimistic about the future of the Scots swim season. "I think all the meets we've had so far are good practice for our conference and everything is going to come together in the end." The Scots have an MIAA conference meet at 1:00 this coming Saturday a Kalamazoo

### Volleyball drops final MIAA game, still wins title

Staff Writer

On Wednesday, October 30, the Alma

Scots Volleyball team received the trophy for MIAA Champions for the fifth time in school history, but only the second time for the Scots to take the title outright.

However, this trophy presentation followed the Scots first league loss of the year. Kalamazoo College defeated the Scots in five games to drop their league record to 13-1 for the season.

In the first game, the Scots came out on top 30-27 with the momentum jumping from team to team. The Hornets answered back in the second game with a score of 30-28. The second game was close throughout, however the Hornets pulled away and capitalized on every opportunity they had.
In the third game, the

Scots came out on top, 30-16. Just when the outcome of the game was

to begin pulling the Scots ahead. However, in the fourth game nothing seemed to go right for the Scots as Hornets pulled away with a score of 30-20

In the final deciding game, the Hornets defeated the Scots with a score of 16-14. Throughout the fifth game, it was close with the score going back and forth between the two until the Hornets pulled ahead by one and then ended on a kill to win by two points.

Kristin Judson led Alma with 23 kills, 19 digs, and 2 block assists. Kerri Judson (05) ended with 17 kills and 22 digs. Megan Cook (03) had 11 kills and a team high of 24 digs.

looking scary for the Scots, Kristin Judson

(05) struck with two back-to-back kills Valley State University to meet up in a

record to 22-6 overall. Kristin Judson and Cook let the Scots with 15 kills and 10 kills.

The Scots now move on to the first round of the MIAA Tournament as the number one seed. Their () first match is at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5 in Cappaert Gymnasium against St. Mary's Olivet College. If the Scots

win in Tuesday's match, they will host the semifinals



and give the Scots a point. The volleyball team won Alma's first MIAA title of the year.

championship matches on Nov.8-9. On Friday, Nov. 8 the semifinal round is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. On Saturday, Nov. 9, the final championship game is at 4:00 p.m.s Hust ch

#### CAMPUS CALENDAR

Kristen Judson (05)

goes for a spike against Kalamazoo. The Scots ended up losing the match in 5 games.

Tuesday, Nov. 5

Election Day - VOTE! 7 p.m. - Volleyball Home v. Olivet - MIAA Tournament

7-9 p.m. - Orientation for Students Studying Abroad (SAC 103)

Wedneasday, Nov. 6

4-5:30 p.m. - Orientation for Students Studying Abroad (SAC 103)

8 p.m. - Trinity Bible Fellowship (Jones Auditorium)

Friday, Nov. 8

5:30 and 7:30 p.m. - Volleyball - Home MIAA Tournament Semifinals 8 p.m. - ACUB Songfest (Chapel)

Saturday, Nov. 9

1 p.m. - Football @ Adrian

1 p.m. - Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving @ Kalamazoo

4 p.m. - Volleyball - Home MIAA Tournament Championships

> Sunday, Nov. 10 9 p.m. - Chapel Service

### Classifieds

Spring Break Vacations! Cancun, Jamaica, Acapulco, Bahamas, Mazatlan, Florida, South Padre. 110% Best Prices! Book Now & get Free Parties & Meals! Group Discounts. Hiring Campus Now Reps! 1-800-234-7007 Endless summer tours.com

