

# The Almanian

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## Life Beyond Alma Series

### IN JANUARY...

Tues. 20

4 p.m. Internship How-to's: Learn how to find and fund an exciting internship in your field. Call 7225

Wed. 21

8 p.m. John Hancock Financial Services Information Session: Learn the nature of work in the financial services industry and the characteristics being sought in candidates, Dow LI. Co-sponsored by ALA, Business Club, Lamda Pi Eta and SIFE Call 7225

Thu. 22

5:30 - 7 p.m. Dress and Dine for Success: Learn the do's and dont's of dining and interviewing, Jones Auditorium. Rsvp required. Co-sponsored by ALA, Business Club, Lambda Pi Eta and SIFE Call 7225

Tues. 27

4 p.m. How to Write a Resume & Cover Letter: Learn how to present yourself well in print. The Center for Student Development Call 7225

### IN FEBRUARY...

Mon. 2

Vocation Internship: Deadline for application

Tues. 10 1 - 8 p.m.

Living and Working in Metro Detroit: Meet alumni and discover professional opportunities in metro Detroit. Call 7225

Thu. 12

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Job Pursuit: Meet numerous prospective employers; must register at The Center. Sheraton Lansing Hotel, 925 S. Creyts Rd.

www.jobpursuit.org

## Alma commemorates Martin Luther King with a week-long celebration

RACHEL KINGSTROM  
Staff Writer

King's major speeches every day at 9pm. The Black Student Union is sponsoring

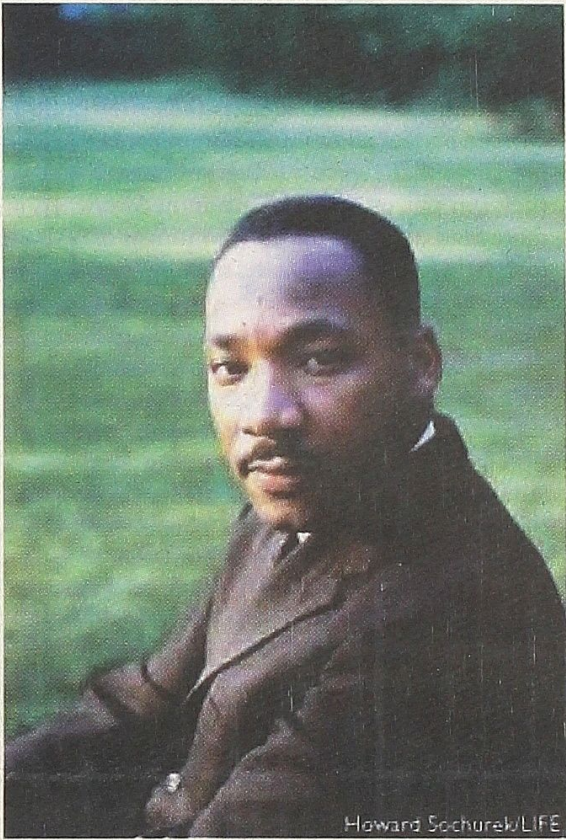
This week will serve as a tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. President Sandra Tracy put together a Martin Luther King, Jr. task force consisting of professors who came up with several of the activities for the week. Other groups who contributed to the week's events include Alma Pride and the Black Student Union. Few events have already taken place, but there are amany more to come.

"There is something of interest to everyone," President Sandra Tracy said. "We planned the week so that that there would be at least one event that would work with everyone's schedule."

Several of the organizers of the week thought it was very important for Dr. King to be recognized on more than just one day.

"Often many campuses put month long celebrations together, and we wanted to be in line with them," President Tracy said. "We felt that one day wasn't enough to engage the entire campus. It didn't have to be a week; the [MLK task force] came up with ideas and activities on their own."

Several events will occur during the week. WQAC will air recordings of



Howard Sochurek/LIFE

The Prejudice Game. Civil rights movies will be shown Monday through Wednesday at 3pm in the library and at 3:30pm on Thursday.

The tribute week was started off with a convocation service Sunday evening, at the Chapel. On Monday, there was a blood

drive held from Jones Auditorium and a civil rights video shown in the library at 3pm. "The Meeting" was held on Monday at the Heritage Center. On Tuesday there was an African-American Voices Read-a-Thon held in Hamilton Commons. Students from Dr. Bender and Dr. von Wallmenich's English classes read African-American poetry and prose.

On Wednesday, Silent Legacy will be held at 10:30am, 12:30pm, and 2:30pm in Jones Auditorium. On Thursday, there will be a poverty simulation held in Van Dusen Hall.

This will be followed by a campus-wide soup and bread lunch. At 7pm in the lower level of the Chapel, there will be a forum entitled Poverty in our Community: Reflection. The week of tribute to MLK will conclude with "An Evening of Jazz" at 8pm in the Chapel.

So, why is this week so important? "Dr. King's legacy applies to issues of diversity and tolerance as well as issues of nonviolent social change and political activism," Dr. Laura von Wallmenich, assistant professor of English said. "It's especially important now. Issues of national security and concerns about terrorism make it easy to forget about the importance of tolerance and nonviolence. Those are ideals central to the democratic vision, and, I would hope, to students and faculty at Alma College."

The goal of the week is to provide everyone with a full understanding of diversity in the world in which we work and live, and to preserve Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy.

## Mixed reactions follow director termination

SCOTTWEIR  
Staff Writer

Entering Eddy Music Center room 107, one couldn't begin to fathom that there were even problems taking place within the music department.

Mr. Glen Tuomaala, Director of Instrumental Music, comes to Alma with experience in all levels of teaching music and he was really excited about coming to Alma at the start of this year after former professor Douglas Scripps retired two years ago. Since Tuomaala arrived at Alma he has noticed a lot of dedication in Alma students and is impressed with the amount of work they put into their music. He said, "I am extremely proud of what the students have accomplished. The student musicians are the ones that make great music - My job is to inspire, motivate, and challenge them to do it every minute of class."

So when did the instrumental music

department hit a flat note? Both Tuomaala and Alma College President, Dr. Sandra Tracy, refused to comment on any of the controversy surrounding this issue. When asked about the situation, Dr. Tracy would only comment, "All personnel issues are confidential from a legal and ethical standpoint in fairness to Mr. Tuomaala." Dr. Tracy also said of the process to fire a teacher, "It starts with the academic department who then reports to the Provost."

Apparently student complaints have lead to further investigation into this matter. Cassie Metzler (06) said, "I was quite pleased to hear that although I had not expressed my unease, that other students had and something had been done about it. I think a major factor in how many students decided to make "saving Tuomaala" their cause in fighting administration is not so much because they believe strongly in the merit and effectiveness of his teaching, but rather because of an emotional response to how

Mr. Tuomaala handled the situation. Instead of accepting the fact that he did not fit in well with the Alma College environment with dignity and integrity, he blurted about his discontent. Even if the reasons for his premature departure from Alma were somehow unfair, which I do not believe they were, the students in his classes do not need to be dragged into the politics of it all by only hearing one side of the story."

It could also have been that the students never really had any complaints about Mr. Tuomaala. Roughly thirty members of the band and orchestra showed up at a recent discussion with Dr. Tracy to express their concern with the decision to terminate his contract. Sarah DeYoung (07) said, "I don't see why people complained. The music program is the best it has been in three years. He has offered many programs new to Alma and even records all the concerts to a CD." Other students

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# National/State/Local

## Student activity fee sees its first increase in two years

**SCOTTWEIR**  
Staff Writer

With a 41-1-1 vote last Monday, Student Congress approved an increase in the student activity fee, starting next year, of \$15 a semester, which brings the new total to an even \$200 a year. The student activity fee, which provides money for student services (i.e. WQAC, The *Almanian*, and The Scot), campus events like Songfest and the recent Hudson Chase concert, and budgets of most of Alma College's student organizations, is voted on every year by Student Congress, and this was its first increase since the \$5 a semester increase that took place two years ago.

Although the numbers weren't easily obtainable, this increase still puts Alma on the low end as far as the student activity fee is concerned. Other Michigan colleges like Albion and Adrian, charging \$256/year and \$100/year respectively, are comparable, but fail to offer services like a yearbook and a newspaper.

One of the reasons for this increase is a continuous shortfall in the budget, which fails to provide for the requested budgets of student organizations. The Student Congress Budget and Finance Committee made three rounds of cuts last year and most, if not all organizations received a percentage of their budget cut. Besides bringing the overall cost of the student

activity fee to an even \$200, the reason it has been increased by more money than it has been in the past, is that if there isn't a significant increase, there will be a decrease in the quality of the services provided.

Another reason was the need for an increase in the amount of money held in the contingency fund. Student Congress President **Tim Throm (04)** said, "Contingency money is for organizations that want to pursue greater and more ambitious projects for the campus than their current budget allows. It is also for organizations that run into situations where they run out of cash and are in need of more funds." In the past, the contingency fund held upwards of \$10,000. It has significantly decreased in recent years, and currently stands at \$1,800.

It's too early to tell how much additional revenue this increase will actually bring about. One of the concerns is the loss of the class of 2004, which has been known to be one of the larger classes Alma College has had in quite some time. In talking with Dennis Bergvall, Vice President of Enrollment, he commented, "The senior class currently has 306 students enrolled for winter term. He also said, "Alma College is estimating a class of 400 new students, which will bring the total to around 1200." The outlook is optimistic, but if the target number of students isn't

reached, the increase in funds will essentially disappear.

Obviously organizations were in support of this because it allows for them to request more money in future years. Student Congress Vice President **Shabnam Mirsaedi (05)** said, "Hopefully student organizations see it as a necessary increase, but not as a reason to ask for unnecessary funds." Student Congress is hoping to avoid what has been referred to as "budget padding." In response to the idea of this, Student Congress Treasurer **Svetlana Kobzar (04)** said at a recent meeting, "Even if every organization received only the amount requested last year this year, with the new organizations that have been added and the existing organizations that have once again become active, there would still be a need to increase the fee...."

**Kristen O'Neill (06)** described it as follows: "...given the necessity for the improved services, whether you use them or not, it's still there for you." Students around campus have mixed feelings about the increase, but regardless of what individual feelings, the decision has now been made. Whether you are for the increase or adamantly opposed to it, if you feel so inclined, send a letter to the *Almanian* and let us know what you think.

## FIFA causes uproar: sexier uniforms are suggested

**JULIE BOLITHO**  
Staff Writer

Recently, the president of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) the primary governing body of international soccer, Joseph Sepp Blatter, suggested that women's uniforms be made sexier to draw a variety of sponsors and a larger audience to women's soccer. He said the sponsors of men's and women's soccer should be different; for women to attract fashion and cosmetic sponsors versus traditional sponsors, Blatter recommended the female soccer players wear "more feminine uniforms." He told a Swiss newspaper, "Tighter shorts, for example. In volleyball, the women also wear other uniforms than the men. Pretty women are playing football today. Excuse me for saying that."

Blatter's statements have caused uproar in women's soccer. Professional women's soccer players around the world have made statements against Blatter's suggestions. English goalkeeper, Pauline Cope, said, "To say we should play football in hot pants is plain ridiculous. It's completely irresponsible for a man in a powerful position to make comments like this." Norwegian player, Lise Klavness, said, "Soccer is about sport, not sex. If the crowd only wants to come and watch models then they should go and buy a copy of Playboy." Swiss captain Evelyn Zimmermann, also commented, "You can't compare us with volleyball players and, apart from everything else, those shorts are uncomfortable."

In response to Pauline Cope's statement, FIFA spokesperson, Andreas Herren, said, "Blatter never mentioned the word 'hot pants.'" Herren further stated, "The remarks were by no means meant to be offensive—not at all. But it's not the ultimate recipe to salvage the women's game because he went on to say women's football has established itself and it has a future."

Though many do not take Blatter seriously, Marianne Spacey, manager of London's Fulham Ladies, worries that some people might actually listen to him. If women changed the dress of their sport to appeal to larger audiences, what message does that send about women's roles in the world? If women's sports received more attention due to a dress change, would colleges like Alma begin accomodating audiences in such ways?

## Resolution 141 infuriates as classes discussing sexual preference may be banned

**ALEXA BOYCE**  
Staff Writer

There is a class at Alma College entitled, "Philosophy of Love and Sex," which has allowed many students here to debate the morality of topics such as prostitution, open marriages, and homosexuality. Under House Resolution 141, classes such as this would likely be outlawed at state universities.

The Resolution states: "House Resolution 141... urge[s] Michigan's public universities to reexamine all class offerings and refrain from offering classes or university sanctioned activities that promote or facilitate participation in a sexual lifestyle or practice other than heterosexual monogamy." Some legislators feel that these types of classes, "go beyond appropriate subject matter," and are not representing the values of the majority of Michigan citizens. The Michigan House Civics Commission, an initiative of the Civics Institute, has posted these comments along with those of students on its website. This commission also goes on to say that select Michigan legislators feel that classes such as "How to be Gay: Male Homosexuality and Initiation" promote homosexuality and lifestyles that

are "strongly at odds with the practices and tradition of the taxpayers that make these studies possible." Of the twenty-five sponsors of this resolution, only three are Democrats.

There is a poll offered on the Commission website available at: [www.civicscommission.com](http://www.civicscommission.com), which allows students to respond to this resolution. Responding to the question, "Should Michigan's public universities have to reexamine their class offerings at the request of the state legislators?" There are four choices in the poll, but one is the most popular by far capturing 64.63% of the votes as of last Friday. It states, "No, Public Universities are institutions of higher learning and controversy can be a useful part of the educational experience."

The majority of the students' comments condemn this resolution. "Derek," a student at Ferris State University comments on the website, "If students weren't interested, they wouldn't sign up for the controversial class and the university would drop the offering." "Matthew," a student at Adrian College, brings up the point that certain religions may disapprove of homosexuality but challenges the government's under-

standing of "the separation of church and state." Most students share the view that the Legislature does not belong in the classroom, particularly when they are trying to limit the span of the students' education. Only one student's comments did not challenge the resolution, saying that the class was unnecessary because "sexual preference should not matter at all in any class."

Many students at Alma are outraged as well. **Brenda Wickline (04)** states, "I find that there have been many outlandish resolutions in the Michigan House that I don't believe should or will pass and I encourage Alma students to voice their opinions on the matter." The Michigan House resolution will not apply to Alma College, or other private colleges, but outrage and support concerning the issue has come from both public and private institutions of higher learning. This resolution has been compared to a past resolution that declared anti-Semitism illegal in public universities. While a noble goal, this resolution went so far as to outlaw the ridiculing of any person in the state of Israel, including the Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon. This resolution obviously did not pass, as many hope will be the case of Resolution 141.

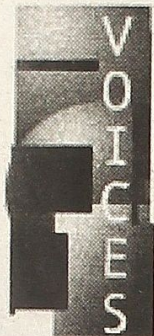
### MUSIC from page 1 —

echoed her comments. **Kyle Wellfare (05)** said of Tuomaala, "The long term vision he has for instrumental music is something the department needed."

Regardless of student comments, it seems as though the process continues to move forward. Dr. Tracy commented at the discussion that students could express their concerns in writing to either herself or Dr. Selmon, Interim Provost.



# OPINION



We asked, "What is your favorite thing to do in the snow?"

You said. . .

I like to pee my full name in the snow.

Travis Kohl (04)



Kohl

My favorite thing to do is NOT sit in the snow...had a slight case of hypothermia one time.

Christina Messing (04)



Messing

My favorite thing to do in the snow involves clothes being on me...naked runs are not that fun when it's below freezing.

Jeff Horn (06)



Horn

Melt it.

Amy West (06)



West

I like to roll around in the snow, then hopping in the Jacuzzi with my big teddy bear.

Susan Hamilton (04)



Hamilton

## Online vigilantes take justice into their own hands

ADAM ROSE  
Staff Writer

A friend of mine recently pointed out an interesting website to me, and I would like to draw attention to it. The site is called *Perverved-Justice* ([www.perverved-justice.com](http://www.perverved-justice.com)) and states that the mission of the group is, "To root out and bring to light those who would use the internet as a way to sexually abuse children, to brighten the darkened corner of the internet from which they wish to prey upon small children." In other words, the purpose of this website is to expose wannabe-pedophiles.

From the website's mission statement and frequently asked questions pages I gathered that the group uses a nationwide network of individuals known as "contributors" who pose as underage teens or pre-teens in chat rooms. Wannabe-pedophiles – this is what the site calls these people, to prevent liability– who think they are talking to an underage child are then caught in the act of attempting to take advantage of these children. The wannabe's screen name and phone number are then exposed to the chat room community he is a part of by *Perverved-Justice*. According to the website, chat room communities are usually very cliquish and the member is often ostracized from the community. Also, publishing a wannabe-pedophile's phone number online can have obvious adverse effects for the subject.

Before going into any further detail on how the group verifies the information

it posts and if the person is truly a wannabe-pedophile, one important warning must be made: *Perverved-Justice* posts conversations its contributors have with these men. These conversations can be **very** graphic. In addition, the postings contain pictures of the scantily-clad wannabes. Even the language of the mission statement and frequently asked questions pages can be harsh at times.

The group states on their website that no information about anyone is posted until an "underage-sounding" individual speaks with that person over the phone. In this way, the wannabe's phone number is also confirmed. Once this information is obtained, and assuming the other steps of the group's unpublished protocol have been followed by the contributors and phone chatters, the offender's information is made public. The website claims that their actions are entirely legal, and that if they were not, the group's members would have already been arrested as they have had past contact with law enforcement agencies. *Perverved-Justice* also has a number of forums where people can talk about their reactions to site and individual postings. There is also a "Right of Reply" section where individuals who have been exposed can write a response to the group.

This is certainly an interesting website with an intriguing mission. Although, I have some reservations about the posting of phone numbers on the website, I do

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## The Almanian

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

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# FEATURE

## *Big Fish* entrances audiences with Burton's tall tales

**AMY WILLEY**  
Staff Writer

*Big Fish* is an imaginative movie to which I was drawn, at first, by the strange and beautiful images in the commercials. The color and imagery used in the movie are creative, as is to be expected in a movie directed by Tim Burton (who also directed *Pee-Wee's Big Adventure*, *Edward Scissorhands*, *Ed Wood*, and *Batman*). However, they only serve to complement an equally unusual story.

Through the film we are introduced to Edward Bloom, and his son, Will. Edward is a man with a wild imagination who is prone to telling tall tales. His stories are winding and entertaining to all but his son, Will, who had loved his father's stories as a boy, begins to consider his father's stories lies and becomes obsessed with facts. The father son relationship becomes so strained that they do not speak for years, and it is not until his father becomes ill that Will decides to visit him.

During the visit Edward tells his stories to a new audience, his son's wife. The movie progresses while jumping from Edward's recollections of the past to the situation in the present. Edward's recollections are actually elaborate stories which include witches, giants, employment in the circus, a werewolf (played by Danny DeVito),

as well as a pair of conjoined Korean Siamese twins, and love at first sight that literally stops time. Although the movie is fragmented thus, a flow remains because each time Edward tells one of his tall tales the audience becomes completely

comes upon facts that indicate that his father was not actually lying, and that his stories were actually just embellishments of reality.

The common theme throughout the film is a celebration of imagination and a tribute to the young at heart. Some may criticize the film as a champion of denial, but those are people who missed the point. The movie reminds its audience that, although facts have their uses, it is often more fun to put things in a more interesting light. Beyond this however, the real merit of the movie was its pure entertainment value. Like its main character, the movie was over the top with creativity and imagination, which, though at times not entirely believable, in the end were both endearing and entertaining.

### *Big Fish*

Rating: A

Running Time: 110 minutes

Rated PG-13

Director: Tim Burton

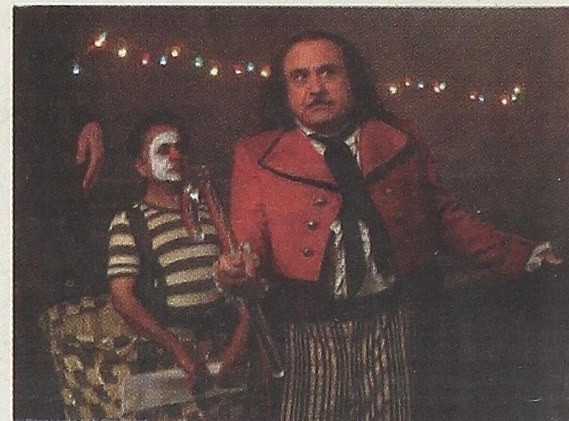
Screenwriter: John August

Based on a novel by: Daniel Wallace

Starring: Ewen McGregor, Albert Finney, Billy Crudup, Jessica Lang, Alison Lohman, Helena Bonham Carter, Danny DeVito, Steve Buscemi, Marion Cotillard, and Robert Guillaume

engrossed. As Edward spins his stories, the lines between reality and imagination become blurred. Using his trademark style, Burton captures the imagination of his viewer with visuals that perfectly accent the tall tales.

After everything, the movie comes back to being, at its core a father/son story. As Edward shares his stories with his daughter-in-law, Will slowly begins to look at his father in a new light. Also, he



*Big Fish* is the new film from director Tim Burton, who is well known for such imaginative films as *Beetlejuice*, *Batman*, *Edward Scissorhands*, and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

photos courtesy of imdb.com



## Students, Greek organizations participate in formal recruitment

**LAURA SACHJEN**  
Staff Writer

Every winter at Alma College, fraternities and sororities begin a complicated process known as formal recruitment. While the process may seem strange and confusing to new recruits, the fraternities and sororities have a number of events planned this week to help introduce students to Greek Life and also to ease their tensions.

List signing took place the week before and sorority events kicked off on Saturday with a series of "teas" held at the sorority houses. Recruits went from house-to-house during the day to get an understanding of what the sororities were like so they could begin to narrow down their choices of which sororities, if any, they wanted to be in.

The sorority sisters were also narrowing down their choices. After meeting potential new members and looking over applications, the sororities made a list based on whom they wanted to see come back to "Spreads." On Sunday at Post Office, the recruits found out which sororities had them on their lists for "Spreads" which were held over the next few days. Potential new members are allowed to attend three spreads.

Another Post Office is being held today. After recruits find out who has them on

their lists, they go to Desserts the following two days. By this time, they should have their choices narrowed down to two. Potential new members preference their choices on Friday, and also get back bids from sororities who have chosen to give them for a bid for membership. If the two correspond, the potential new member can sign the bid. At walk-outs on Friday night the potential new members officially announce their choices and a pinning ceremony takes place on Saturday.

The Panhellenic Council oversees sorority recruitment. The council is a neutral body made up of women elected by the sororities. They remain neutral from their sororities during rush periods. The Rho Gammas are recruitment guides who help the women through the process and answer their questions. Some rules that are followed during the week are no alcohol, no talks, no bid promising, and the women are not allowed to leave the houses with anything or visit the houses during the week.

**Meghan Rector (06)** is the Recruitment Co-Chair for the Panhellenic Council. Rector was once a potential new member and when asked how it feels to be in the position she has now, she said that "it's a lot more easy-going on this side of it, even though it's hectic."

Kate McNamee Brock, assistant director of Student Life and Newberry Hall Director, is the Panhellenic Council's advisor.

She was amazed by the details. "The recruitment chairs have done a phenomenal job of staying organized," Brock said.

The fraternities have a different way of recruiting their members. After obtaining the lists, the fraternities sent out invites to a series of Smokers that started on Sunday and continue throughout the week. Each fraternity has their own Smoker night and recruits can go to the Smokers of their choice. The Smokers are a way for the fraternities to find out about more about the recruits and also for the recruits to begin narrowing down their choices.

At Run-Outs, recruits find out what their bids are and then they pick a t-shirt from the bag of the fraternity they want to be in. They then run out to join their new brothers.

The Intrafraternity Council is the body that governs fraternity recruitment. The IFC also follows a policy of no alcohol. No-talks don't officially begin until Thursday, but the policy is followed throughout the week anyways. Unlike the sororities, the IFC members don't remain neutral for the rush period.

**Jeff Snow (05)**, President of the IFC and a brother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, said that being in a fraternity "you get to be a part of something that is important and really matters on this campus." Of his responsibilities with the IFC Snow said, "It's pretty hectic, but fun."

## WQAC TOP 30

1. The Shins
2. Dresden Dolls
3. Gaelic Storm
4. Mates of State
5. Jim's Big Ego
6. Gorky's Zygotic Mynci
7. Apollo Sunshine
8. Belle and Sebastian
9. Elbow
10. Outkast
11. Early November
12. Nik Freitas
13. The Stills
14. Primus
15. The Autumn Rhythm
16. Catch 22
17. The Format
18. Teenage Fanclub
19. David Bowie
20. Jamisonparker
21. Rancid
22. Joe Strummer
23. The Thirty Four 10's
24. Saves the Day
25. Dressy Bessy
26. Dashboard Confessional
27. MXPX
28. REM
29. Buffseeds
30. Mojave 3



# FEATURE

## ACDC presents student show; variety of pieces entertains audience

**RACHEL KINGSTROM**  
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Alma College Dance Company performed in the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Student Choreographers' Concert. The concert, held on Friday and Saturday night at 8pm and Sunday at 3pm, featured a range of dance styles and it gave various member of ACDC the chance to showcase their choreography ability.

There was a total of ten pieces performed in the show, all choreographed by various members of ACDC. The first piece, "Sometime," featured the number "I Can Only Imagine" by Mercy Me, a religious song about what it will be like to meet God. Choreography for "Sometime" was done by **Jennifer McNally (04)**.

The second piece, "My Quest," was a solo performance by **Paulena Thompson (04)**. Not only did Thompson perform the piece, but she also choreographed it. The performance featured the Christian song "Give Me Jesus" by Fernando Ortega.

The third piece, "Into the Fire," provided stark contrast to the first two dramatic, slow pieces. "Into the Fire" was very upbeat, and it featured the song "Out of the Frying Pan (and into the fire)" by Meatloaf. Choreography was done by **Sarah Radtke (04)**. The piece featured modern jazz steps and was very energized and spirited.

"Showpiece" was also choreographed by Paulena Thompson. It featured the song "Showpiece" by Out of Eden. It was another upbeat jazz piece, very full of attitude, about the importance of individuality, independence, nonconformity, and female empowerment.

The fifth piece featured three songs

from the motion picture *Chicago*, including "All That Jazz," "When You're Good to Mama," and "Cell Block Tango." It was a very sensual, lively piece. Choreography for *Chicago* was done by **Bree Brownlee (04)** and **Lauren Giordano (04)**, and it featured many of the ACDC dancers.

The sixth piece, "There You Are," featured the song "There You Are" by Martina McBride. It was performed and choreographed by McNally and **Rachel Miller (05)**. It was a very emotional and celebratory piece.

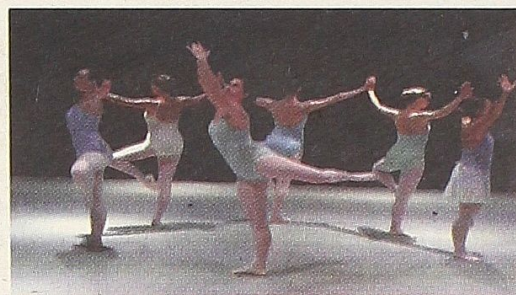
The seventh piece, "Until We Meet Again," featured the folk song "Until We Meet Again" by Dougie MacLean. The piece was performed and choreographed by **Bree Brownlee (04)** and featured a lyrical style of dance.

"Tonight's Melancholy" was the eighth piece of the evening, which featured the songs "Tonight, Tonight" and "Melancholy and the Infinite Sadness" by Smashing Pumpkins. Miller choreographed the piece. It was a very fluid, moderate lyrical dance.

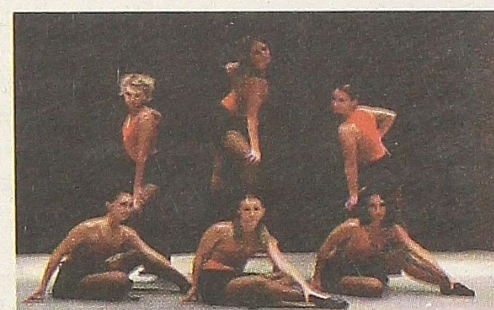
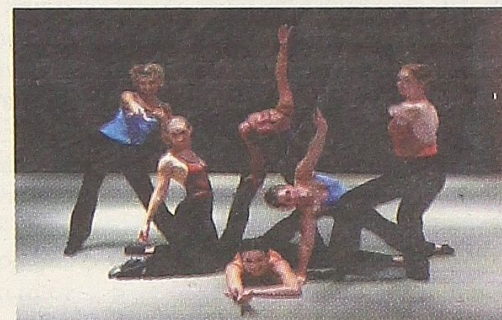
The ninth piece in the show was "Wax On," featuring the song "Wax On" by KODO. The piece was an intense tap routine choreographed and performed by **Ed Klonowski (05)**.

The final piece of the night was "Daylight," which featured the song "Daylight in Your Eyes" by No Angel. "Daylight" was very upbeat and cheerful. It was performed by the senior members of ACDC and choreographed by **Jennifer Conkey (06)** and **Micaela Church (06)**.

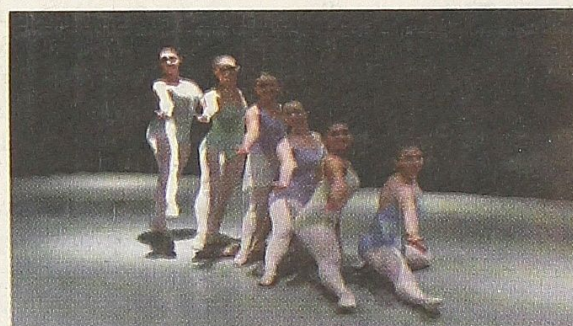
The concert was an eclectic mix of slow, moving ballet pieces, sultry jazz numbers, and lively performances. It showed both the talent of the student choreographers and the versatility of the dancers.



Every year the Dance Company performs at the "Student Choreographers' Concert," displaying the talents of the company and their eclectic and unique styles of dance. This past weekend a variety of numbers were performed with inspirations from Spiritual Music, famous musicals, and even rock music.



photos courtesy of **Bree Brownlee (04)**



## Bursting the Bubble: a new feature compares Alma with sister school in South Korea

**AMY WILLEY**  
Staff Writer

From this week on, *The Almanian* Feature Section will contain an article intended to "Burst Through the Alma Bubble." The name is of course referring to the often-spoken-about cultural bubble in which Alma College and its student find themselves. In order to do this, the *Almanian* will conduct an article exchange with Sogang University. Sogang is Alma College's sister school in Korea. It is a medium-sized school, with about 7,000 undergraduate students, and is located on the western side of Korea's capital city, Seoul. One of the school's publications is the *Sogang Herald*, a student-run magazine written entirely in English, and its reporters will send articles to the *Almanian*.

This idea came about when my friend **Ok-Jin Ahn (04)**, a current Alma College student and former editor-in-

chief of the *Sogang Herald* approached me about the *Almanian*. We talked about articles and the paper, and she mentioned her magazine. When Ahn showed me the magazine, I was very impressed by the writing and ideas in the publication. She also said that she enjoys the *Almanian*, but was surprised that she didn't find much outside of the almasphere, to coin a phrase. "Most college newspapers in Korea are focused on school, social, and political issues... but in *The Almanian* I couldn't find anything about society or culture," says Ahn. Finally, we discussed the idea of an article exchange. Ahn has had hopes of connecting the *Herald* to an American newspaper since her sophomore year. She and other reporters in Sogang, including the *Herald's* current editor-in-chief **Yoo-Seung Lee (05)**, are interested in exchanging articles with sister schools, and Ahn's time as an exchanged student allows for the perfect opportunity to begin.

The article exchange is intended to give its readers, both in Alma and Korea, a more international perspective and exposure to the real culture of other colleges. Ahn recalls the stereotypes about Asians held by many Americans, as highlighted in her sociology class about racial minorities. She relates these false ideas to the stereotypes Koreans hold about Americans, "I thought they were very individualistic and didn't care about exchanged students," says Ahn. She says that in Korea, students watch Hollywood movies and documentaries on college life in America and come to believe that it is all about parties, drugs and sex. "I want to let Korean students know about the real culture in American colleges," she says.

Ahn also hopes that the article exchange will encourage student exchanges as well. "I am an exchange student," she says, "but actually I am not *exchanged* because nobody came to my school." Ahn admits that at first she was disappointed by this

fact, but now believes that it is because students are not aware of the opportunity to travel to Korea. She hopes that calling attention to the sister school will encourage students to learn about Asian culture and perhaps decide to become an exchanged student. She says that an article she wrote for her school newspaper about Alma College has had a similar effect in Korea. "After I wrote an article for my school about Alma, many students want to come," she says.

Beginning next week *The Almanian* will print articles intended to accomplish all of the above; with some written by students in Sogang, and others by Ahn and myself. This will allow for cultural comparison and enrichment for its readers. As Ahn says, "It is fun getting to know other cultures, [so] I look forward to exchanging often."



# OPINION

## Movie tries hard, misrepresents Greek life

RYAN CANNON  
Online Editor

Thursday night, in an effort to increase awareness of sexual assault on college campuses, Alpha Phi Omega showed *She Cried No* in Jones Auditorium. As righteous as its purpose may be, *She Cried No* is an abomination that needlessly demonizes social Greek organizations, and airing it during formal recruitment is an insult to the Greek community.

*She Cried No* stars Mark-Paul Gosselaar as Scott Baker, a serial rapist who uses his fraternity's parties to have sex with drunken girls both against their will and after they fall asleep. After falling prey to Baker, Melissa Connell (Candace Cameron) decides to press charges, appealing to both the police and university authorities with sympathy but no success.

The premise of the film is noble. It attempts to bring to light that acquaintances more often perpetrate rape than strangers and a lack of evidence often hinders prosecution of such crimes. However, from there any attempt at education or justly portraying problems with sexual assault gets swept aside in lieu of injecting unnecessary drama and perpetuating harmful stereotypes about Greek life.

Baker and his Kappa Pi cronies threaten and intimidate Melissa, making her university life a living hell. Scott defends himself to his 'brothers' by saying what happened was all part of "the game"—getting girls drunk and carrying them upstairs, using them for sex regardless of consent. Baker and Connell's fathers, alumni of the fraternity, muse about their college days, giving the impression that this situation repeats itself every year.

Melissa's brother, also a Kappa Pi, refuses to believe his sister until he finds proof—an incriminating photo—when he then confronts Scott and moves out of the house. His 'brothers' throw him a going away party in which they force him to drink until he loses consciousness, strip him naked, wrap him in a blanket (as if in

a body bag) and leave him on the ground outside his girlfriend's house.

The movie accentuates stereotypes of Greek life to absurdity: the fraternity in *She Cried No* is little more than a rape club. Scott and his friends are simple, evil characters, completely conscienceless.

A better story might depict a male who rapes a girl in whom he is interested. After a party, he thinks she wants to have sex with him but he, she or both are too drunk to communicate her unwillingness. The next morning, when he realizes what happened, the guy would be wracked with guilt and be forced to own up to his actions. College males cannot relate to an evil character like Scott Baker; they see him as an anomaly and think, "I would never do that." In reality, when alcohol and hormones collide proper action may seem much less distinct.

Sexual assault on college campuses is a problem, but it can be addressed without defining Greeks as enemies. During fraternity recruitment, an important message to prospective new members is that this sort of behavior is not acceptable.

The Greek community has been fighting against stereotypes like those found in *She Cried No* for years. The Sigma Chi fraternity sponsored Rick Barnes to speak on alcohol abuse earlier this year, and will bring Phyllis Powell later this semester to speak on sexual assault awareness. The only telling scene in *She Cried No* occurred when, at the end of the film, the fraternity's letters get taken down: any group that would ostracize and persecute one of its own for standing up for his principles is no fraternity.

The only way to change the perception of Greeks as drunken misogynistic rapists is to recruit more members who defy that stereotype. If organizations like Alpha Phi Omega continue to circulate anti-Greek propaganda during recruitment week, fraternities will not be filled with the type of men they need, but the type of men we fear.

## Chapel 'a cesspool of sin and blasphemy'

THAD HOPKINS  
Photographer

As a Christian, I am utterly disgusted with the Alma College chapel. The very corruption that threatens the entire Christian church is embodied in the pluralistic practices of the church and those affiliated with it. A woman leading the chapel? A homosexual preaching from the pulpit? Half-naked girls running around the sanctuary? All are blatantly against Biblical church conduct. The church is a place where Christians can go to escape the influence of a lost world. Or, so I thought. However, it seems that the worldly doctrines of universalism and manifest reality have made their way into the Christian church via a preacher (a woman) who shouldn't even be in office in the first place.

Christians at Alma College need to speak out against the horrific practices of our chapel. As much as this may upset the feminists, we need to get this woman out of an office she has no business holding. We need to speak out against having homosexuals—people who are not Christians, and who are clearly living sinful lifestyles according to the Bible—preach at a Christian church. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." This matters, and we're doing a horrible injustice to ourselves and to God if we don't speak out against it. The Christian church is supposed to be in the world, not of the world. It seems, however, that the chapel here on campus has decided that it is going to be against God instead of for Him.

And what about Derby Rock? Girls dressed in nothing more than garbage bags and duct tape, dancing around, flaunting their bodies like prostitutes on the street corner. The problem is, this was no street corner where perverts go to get action. This was the House of God. If Christ overturned tables of moneychangers in the House of His Father, imagine what He would do at our chapel? With a

woman pastor, a homosexual preaching, and women dancing like prostitutes, He might refer to it not as a "den of robbers," but rather as a "cesspool of sin and blasphemy."

Aside from all this, what is the church doing to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ? It's too busy accepting all religious beliefs and promoting pluralism (un-Biblical) when it should be making a strong statement that Christ is the only way and that we need to stick to the fundamentals of Christian doctrine (Biblical). Revelation 3:16 says, "So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth." Chapel tries to play it in the middle, but God makes it clear that you are either for or against Him, and that there is no middle ground. Guess which side chapel is playing on? God also makes it clear in Revelation 2:14-15 what He thinks of those churches that allow for immorality (such as homosexuality) and those who hold to false teachings (such as pluralism and woman preachers), both of which are evident in chapel. Chapel might better serve Sodom and Gomorrah and their homosexual practices than disguise itself as a Christian church. As for a woman leading the chapel, 1 Timothy 2:12 addresses this clearly when it says, "But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man...." When Paul addresses this same issue in 1 Corinthians 14:36, he says, "The things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment." In verse 38, Paul says that anyone who denies this teaching should have their own words denied. The very actions of Vogel testify to her unsuitability to hold office.

I demand that Vogel, who calls herself a "reverend," present a defense for herself and the chapel she is leading. She MUST reconcile everything with the will of God as presented in the Bible. As I suspect she cannot do this, there is no redeeming quality in our chapel. Rather, it is the tool of Satan himself—an outlet for his liberal lies.

He who has an ear, let him hear.

## What do you think. . .?

**Do you think students should have input into administrative decisions such as the hiring and firing of professors and staff?**

Yes	91%
No	4.5%
Not Sure	4.5%

**Do you think teacher evaluation forms are read and reviewed carefully by professors and/or administrators?**

Yes	9%
No	43%
Not Sure	48%

**Do you think student congress is a good representation of the whole student body and all of Alma College's student organizations?**

Yes	30%
No	40%
Not Sure	30%

**You pay \$170 a year for Student Activities/Organizations and services such as the WQAC and The Scot. Do you feel that you get all \$170 worth in a year?**

Yes	35%
Not	43%
Not Sure	22%

**Are you in support of an increase in the Student Activity Fee?**

Yes	30%
No	70%

*Each week, The Almanian publishes the results of an unscientific poll. Students are randomly questioned about topics pertaining to Alma College and to campus life. To participate in next week's poll, or to suggest a topic, e-mail the editor at AlmanianOpinion@yahoo.com*

ROSE from page 3

do not really feel bad for the offenders. It is possible that there could be some negative implications for wannabe-pedophiles who are trying to seek treatment that have their information posted on the website, although the group says that circumstances such as these are treated with a little more leniency. In fact, after reading through some of the "Right to Replies," one could argue that being exposed actually encourages individuals to seek treatment. Overall, *Perverved Justice* is fighting for a good cause, albeit through somewhat unorthodox methods. I have to wonder if this is the start of a trend of a new style of justice.

AlmanianOpinion@yahoo.com



# SPORTS

## Scots drop two MIAA contests to remain in conference cellar

**JOEL RENDER**  
Staff Writer

The Alma College men's basketball team had another tough week last week after losing two games on Thursday and Saturday. The Scots traveled to battle the Olivet Comets last Thursday in a game that was supposed to be played on Wednesday evening. The bad weather, however, forced a quick rescheduling.

The game started out very well for the Scots as they took a double digit lead midway through the first half. The Comets did not give up as they began to make a run that would cut the lead to just two points by halftime. Unfortunately, the second half belonged to Olivet as they outscored the Scots 46-28. In the end, the Scots fell to the Comets with a final score of 81-65.

The Scots were led by **Anthony Jones (07)** and **Brian Hall (07)** who had 15 and 10 points respectively. Jones was 6 for 13 from the floor including an impressive 3 of 6 from beyond the arc. He also had four rebounds and four assists to go with

his 15 points. Hall's 10 points came from 4 of 7 shooting from the field. He also had four rebounds, an assist, and a block. **Joe Baysdell (05)** also had a good game with nine points and six boards.

Overall, the Scots' field goal percentage was just a shade higher than the Comets. The Scots also out-rebounded Olivet 37-29. Both of these advantages were not enough to overcome the turnover margin. The Scots committed 24 turnovers compared to 11 for the Comets. Nevertheless, the Scots should be hopeful that they had several chances to defeat one of the teams tied for the best record in the MIAA.

In the other game last week, the Scots were defeated by the visiting Adrian Bulldogs, 79-65. The first half was all Bulldogs as they took a 40-29 lead at the half. The second half was a little more evenly matched as the Scots scored 36 and the Bulldogs scored 39. Yet again the Scots had a higher field goal percentage, but the turnover margin of 28-15 was too much for the Scots to overcome. The rebounding situation was about equal

with the Scots grabbing 30 and the Bulldogs snatching 32.

**Ricky Clarkson (07)** led the Scots off the bench with 16 points. Clarkson scored 16 points, added four rebounds, and had a pair of assists as well. He made six of ten field goals, and four of his six field goals were from downtown. **Jones** also shot 6 of 10 from the field for a total of 13 points. Jones filled up the rest of the scoring sheet also with five rebounds, five assists, a block, and three steals. **Baysdell** and **Hall** also chipped in nine and eight points respectively.

These two losses dropped the Scots to 0-3 in the conference and last place behind Albion and Kalamazoo. There are still plenty of games left in the season for the Scots to turn around their fortunes. Coming up the Scots will travel to Grand Rapids tomorrow evening to take on league leading Calvin. This Saturday Alma College will host the Albion Britons. Both of these games are legitimate chances for the Scots to creep out of the cellar. In upcoming weeks, the Scots are also scheduled to battle Hope and Kalamazoo.

## Women's basketball fall to Flying Dutch, squeak by St. Mary's

**JOEL RENDER**  
Staff Writer

The Alma College Women's Basketball team had a relatively successful week splitting a pair of hard fought games with Hope and St. Mary's. Much like the Men's Basketball team, the Lady Scots had to play their Wednesday game last week on Thursday due to the weather situation. The women's team hosted the Hope College Flying Dutchmen in an extremely hard fought game.

The first half was an intense battle with several lead changes throughout. At the end of the first half the Lady Scots were clinging on to a one point lead over the Flying Dutchmen. In the second half the action was just as hard fought, but in the end the Lady Scots were outscored 38-33. The final score was 69-65.

Not surprisingly, the star of the entire game was **Karen Hall (04)**, as she filled up the entire statistic sheet. Hall tallied 24 points on 8 from 19 shooting from the floor. She was also a perfect 8 for 8 from the charity stripe, snatched an impressive 13 rebounds, and managed three assists, a block, and two steals.

**Katey Peacock (06)** and **Michelle Dettling (05)** also had impressive games for Alma College. Peacock scored 18 points on 6 for 16 shooting from the field. She also led the team with five assists. Dettling shot 6 for 9 from the floor including three for five from the three point line for a total of 17 points. Despite the tough loss, the Lady Scots should be proud that they came ever so close to beating the undefeated number one team in the MIAA.

Against St. Mary's last Saturday, the Lady Scots proved themselves victorious by a final score of 70-67. Alma College took a rather sizeable lead after the first half. The Lady Scots led by 13 points when the halftime buzzer rang. Despite being down by such a large margin, St. Mary's was unwilling to give up this game until the very end. They outscored the Lady Scots 35-25 in the second half, but in the end the halftime lead built up my Alma was just too much for them to overcome.

The Lady Scots success is due in large part to their rebounding advantage and the blistering shooting percentages that the team was able to put up. Alma out-rebounded St. Mary's by a

margin of 31-27. Also, the Lady Scots managed a 50% shooting percentage from the floor, an astonishing 60% from beyond the arc, and 86% from the free throw line. It is difficult to defeat any basketball team that shoots that well, let alone one as tough as the Alma College Lady Scots.

As a result of these impressive shooting percentages, four of the Lady Scots scored in double figures. Karen Hall again led all scorers with 24 points including an impressive 10 of 12 from the line. She has earned three player of the week honors and is arguably the best player in the league right now. Also, helping out were Michelle Dettling, Katey Peacock, and **Rondi Lounds (05)**. Each of them had 14, 12, and 10 points respectively.

This victory brought Alma into a tie for fifth place with a record of three wins and three losses in the MIAA. Tomorrow evening the Lady Scots will travel to Adrian to take on the Bulldogs, who are in fourth place ahead of Alma. A victory and a loss by Albion this week would put the Lady Scots into a tie for third place in the league.

## Best darn sports column ever

**MATT HELMUS**  
Sports Editor

Well, this may not be the exact way that coaches planned out the winter term. Altogether the four active teams are 3-16 in MIAA play with the women's basketball team contributing all 3 wins. Hopefully the second half of the season will see a turn for the better for all of the teams.

While the swim teams are a combined 0-10 in the conference action they are putting up a fight against other MIAA teams. On Saturday the Scots hosted Calvin and came close to putting a dent in the Knights' prestige. The men ended up losing by only 11. It should be interesting at the conference meet in Grand Rapids. If the Scots continue to swim better through the end of the season they should be able to make some noise.

The women's basketball team had a successful week splitting games with Hope and St. Mary's. The Scots were able to catch the Dutch late in the game but couldn't quite finish them off. Some questionable calls from the refs undoubtedly had an effect on the game, especially when Michelle Dettling fouled out (on extremely weak calls) after scoring 17 points. The team has a very potent offense, which will only help it end out the regular season and make their way through the conference tournament.

Meanwhile the men's team is reeling after opening conference play with 3 losses. The Scots have not won a conference game since the 2000-2001 season when they defeated Olivet in overtime. Since Head Coach Ed Kohtala took over the program in 2001 the team is 6-59 and currently carry a 31-game losing streak in the MIAA. They have not defeated an NCAA Division III foe since the second game of Kohtala's tenure. Another hindrance to success is the fact that only 1 player from the Scots' heralded freshman class last year is contributing to this year's varsity team. The team is in need of a game to boost their spirits and a win over Albion or Hope this week may be just the key. If a spark is not found quickly the team may see some drastic changes for next year. On a more positive note, crowds for games seem larger this season (and we haven't even hosted the hordes from Hope or Calvin yet.) Hopefully Coach K and his squad will give the fans a reason to stick around.



# SPORTS

## MIAA STANDINGS

MEN'S BASKETBALL		
	MIAA	Overall
Calvin	3-1	9-6
Olivet	3-1	9-5
Adrian	2-1	8-6
Hope	2-1	12-3
Albion	1-2	10-5
K'zoo	1-3	5-10
ALMA	0-3	2-13

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL		
	MIAA	Overall
Hope	7-0	15-1
Calvin	5-1	11-3
Albion	4-2	13-3
ALMA	3-3	9-6
K'zoo	3-3	10-6
Adrian	2-4	6-8
St. Mary's	0-5	4-11
Olivet	0-6	6-9

WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING	
Hope	5-0
Calvin	4-1
Albion	3-1
K'zoo	2-2
Olivet	3-3
ALMA	0-5
St. Mary's	0-5

MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING	
Hope	4-0
Calvin	3-1
K'zoo	2-1
Olivet	2-3
Albion	1-2
ALMA	0-5

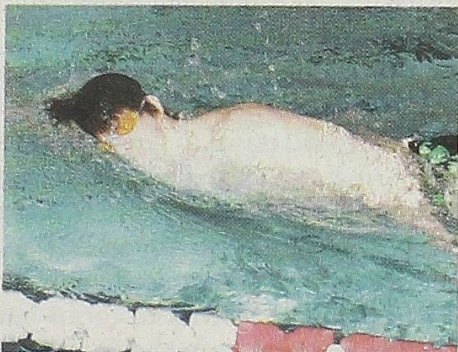
LAST WEEK'S SCORES	
Men's Basketball	
Olivet 81, ALMA 65	
Adrian 79, ALMA 65	
Women's Basketball	
Hope 69, ALMA 65	
ALMA 70, St. Mary's 67	
Women's Swimming/Diving	
Calvin 149.5, ALMA 93.5	
Men's Swimming/Diving	
Calvin 94, ALMA 83	

## Swimming and Diving squads still seeking elusive MIAA win

Over break the Alma College swimming and diving teams competed in meets at the Orange Bowl Swimming Classic in Key Largo, Florida. In the men's division, Alma College competed against Harvard University and local swim clubs Islamarado and Swim Club Aquatics. The Scots finished second out of these four teams. Victorious in the meet was **Colin McClaughlin (04)** in the men's 100 Breaststroke, **Kyle Ritsema (05)** in the 100 Backstroke, and **Brent Gostomski (07)** in the 200 IM. Also winning in Florida was the free relay team of **Will Heyd (05)**, **Brandon Gostomski (06)**,

and **Nick Dunckle (06)**. The women's team competed against Tennessee, Florida International, and Youngstown State. They finished third overall out of the four teams. On January 10<sup>th</sup>, Alma College traveled to Holland to take on MIAA foes Hope and Olivet. The men lost to Hope 81 - 30 and to Olivet 51 - 26. The women were also defeated 66 - 46 to Hope and 67 - 46 to Olivet. The Lady Scots gave a strong showing. **Julie Fantone (04)** won the 1000 Freestyle, **Jaci Wilkie (06)** took the 200 Breaststroke, and **Stephanie Druskinis (05)** was victorious in 100

Freestyle. **Will Heyd (05)** and **Brent Gostomski (07)** paved the way for the men, each having season bests in their respective races. Next up for the men and women's swim teams was a home meet against Calvin College on January 17<sup>th</sup>. The men lost 94 - 83 while the women lost as well 149.5 - 93.5. The next swim meet will be January 24<sup>th</sup> for the Lady Scots against St. Mary's College in Alma at 1:00 p.m. The men will be practicing for the MIAA Championships in Grand Rapids on February 19<sup>th</sup>.



Trying to help the Scots win their first league meet is Jeff Barron, seen here swimming the freestyle. Barron is one of many freshmen on the team. The Scots are looking forward to swimming well at the MIAA Conference Meet on February 19 in Grand Rapids.



Liz Smith (04) swims the butterfly at McClure Natatorium in the Scots' MIAA dual meet on Saturday. The Scots trained for the meet in Florida over Winter Break.



Rosemary Dutka (06) swims the freestyle in the Scots' loss to Calvin. The women's swimming and diving team is now 0-5 in MIAA dual meet competition. They will seek their first win this weekend when they host St. Mary's on Saturday.

Photos by Melanie Szewczyk

## CAMPUS CALENDAR

### Tuesday, Jan. 20

9 - 10 p.m. - Residence Hall Association (Fireside Lounge)

### Wednesday, Jan. 21

10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., & 2:30 p.m. - "Spirit Legacy" (Jones Auditorium)

7:30 p.m. - Men's Basketball @ Calvin

7:30 p.m. - Women's Basketball @ Adrian

8 p.m. - John Hancock Financial Services Information Session (Dow L4)

### Thursday, Jan. 22

10 a.m. - Noon & 2 - 4 p.m. - Poverty Simulation (VanDusen)

5:30 - 7 p.m. - Dress & Dine for Success (Jones Auditorium)

7 - 8:30 p.m. - Poverty Reflection Forum (Heather Room)

### Friday, Jan. 23

8 p.m. - Jazz Concert (Chapel)

### Saturday, Jan. 24

1 p.m. - Women's Swimming & Diving Home v. St. Mary's

3 p.m. - Men's Basketball Home v. Albion

5 p.m. - Men's Track @ SVSU Open

6 - 8:30 p.m. - Robert Burns Dinner & Scottish Celebration (Fireside / VanDusen)

### Sunday, Jan. 25

9 - 10 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service