

The Almanian

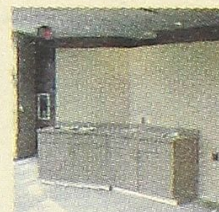
Friday, September 22, 2006

Volume C

Issue 1

Serving Alma College Since 1907

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



The library undergoes its final stages of renovations. **FEATURE** PG. 4

Alma College Greeks prepare for a new year

MEGAN CRAWFORD
STAFF WRITER

From holding weekly parties to organizing and participating in both campus-wide and individual service events, Greeks are an important part of Alma College's social system. With fall recruitment beginning within the next few weeks, Greeks are working hard to get the school year off to a good start.

"Starting this Sunday (for sororities), fall recruitment begins," Alpha Xi Delta member **Amy Topham (07)** said. "It's an all day event. From 9-12 p.m., the rushees go around to all the houses, and then they can go back to the houses they especially liked in the afternoon and get to know the girls there better."

Typically, fall recruitment is only held by the campus sororities and sometimes a small number of fraternities choose to participate.

"Academics are a huge reason why students cannot rush during their first semester at Alma."

Currently, two out of the five fraternities, Theta Chi and Zeta Sigma, are considering becoming involved in this process.

"If any of the men's groups have fall recruitments, it will be more informal and low key," Director of Student Life, Grant Woodman said. "Theta Chi and Zeta Sigma are thinking about taking pledges. However, if they have no more than five prospective members, they will have to hold off until winter term."

Though the percentage of those involved in the Greek system at Alma College has dropped in past years, Woodman assures that as of last year participation is up.

"Last year was really good for both the men's and women's groups in terms of new members," Woodman said. "The general feeling of cooperation has been

Dole and McGovern to bring message of civility

JESSICA BLOOMFIELD
STAFF WRITER

In a world filled with widely divided partisan politics it's hard for two opposing politicians to get together and share views, but in fact that is exactly what Bob Dole and George McGovern are doing by coming to visit Alma College.

With the help from a generous donation from Antje Newhagen, it has become possible for Dole and McGovern to speak here at Alma College.

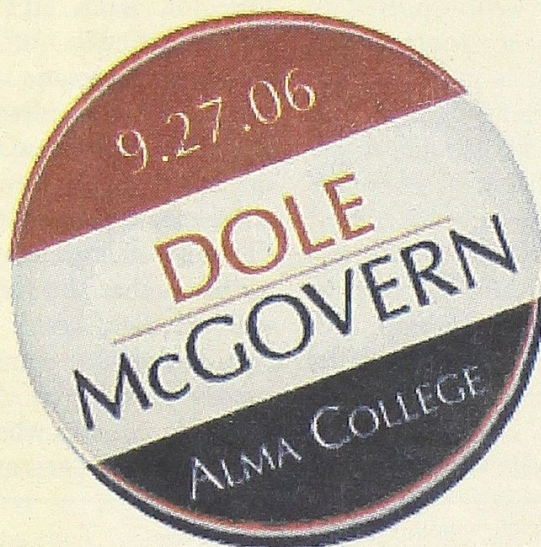
All the fliers and buttons that have been floating around the campus were actually designed here at Alma. There has been quite a bit of work going preparing for Dole and McGovern.

This is being done with good reason because Dole and McGovern have only done this speech a small number of times. Alma is one of the very few schools

that will get to see them.

Bob Dole was Senate Majority leader for the Republican Party and was the Republican Presidential nominee in 1996. George

"They are both concerned with the idea of civility. Civility isn't not saying what you want to say, it's just being polite" Ed Lorenz Chair of History and Political Science said.



McGovern has worked in the Senate for 18 years and was the Democratic nominee in 1972 election year. As different as these two both may seem they share the same ideas.

"We've gotten to the point where compromise is seen as treacherous. We weren't always that way" Lorenz said. Many are rather unaware that this idea of civility is

actually part of the rich history we have here at Alma College. The Reid-Knox building was actually given in memoriam of W. Franklin "Frank" Knox. Knox was a exemplary example of civility. Knox was a staunch Republican that worked with President in a non-partisan manner in 1936 to help face the threat of Hitler's rise to power. He was then appointed to the position of Secretary of the Navy.

"He was busy with not who was at fault" Lorenz said. "Both Dole and McGovern probably at least knew of him" Lorenz added.

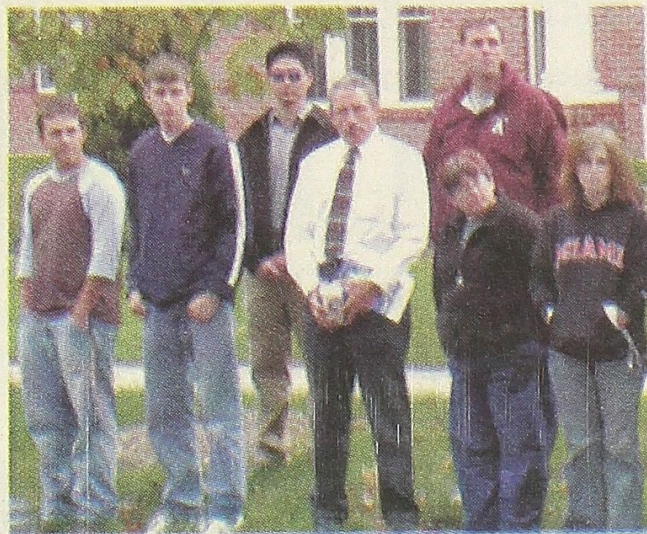
Bob Dole and George McGovern will be visiting the Alma campus on September 27 at 8 p.m. in the Cappaert Gymnasium in the Hogan Physical Education Center. Admission is free and is open to the public.

Communtiy remembers past president and friend



Photo courtesy of www.alma.edu

Robert Swanson died last week at the age of 91. He was remembered by all for his many significant contributions to Alma College. While president, Swanson saw an increase in both the number and quality of students attending Alma College. In addition to other achievements, he also served during the creation of many of Alma College's buildings including Mitchell Hall, Hamilton Commons, and SAC (named in his honor).



Above and Left: Alma College students, faculty, and friends gathered outside to watch the procession following the funeral service of past college President Robert Swanson. Participants lined Superior Street in a traditional "gauntlet" line made popular by Swanson when he was President of Alma College.

Above photos by Nick Green

Congratulations to the *Almanian* on 100 years of service to the Alma College communtiy!

SEE GREEKS PG. 2

Changes coming to downtown Alma

ANNA ZICHI
STAFF WRITER

The City of Alma is planning several major developments over the next year. Not only will this have much to offer current and prospective residents, but it will also give the students at the college more opportunities.

The small projects in the works now include plans to add new residential neighborhoods, something which hasn't happened in several years. Walgreens is expanding, and Wal-Mart is moving out of the city into Pine River Township (by the Family Farm and Home on Cheesman Rd.) in order to expand and become a Super Wal-Mart in the next year.

There are also major projects developing that the city is particularly interested in; a large hospital

expansion, and a huge riverfront redevelopment. Both are seen as an excellent opportunity for the city and the college by city officials.

According to Phillip J. Moore, Alma's City Manager, the \$65 million hospital expansion currently taking place will represent a major upgrade to the City's medical services. The hospital plans on converting all of its semi-private rooms into private ones, and adding more rooms as well. Updates to the emergency room will be made so it is more modern and user friendly. Moore said that when all is done "it will be a facility that everyone will be proud to have."

Not only will the hospital renovation affect the city's health care structure, but it will also open up several options for students. It will allow for more internships and volunteer work, and will

allow those students planning on going into the health field a more comprehensive look into their career options.

The second major redevelopment is happening on the riverfront. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) will be clearing out the area along the riverfront and replacing it with commercial and residential developments. Aeris Ripley, the Assistant City Manager and DDA Director, said "It's huge. There are lots of things that are to come to the riverfront." The demolition work will start late October of this year; however this alone may take at least a year.

"The first change people will notice is that the riverfront will be flat," said Ripley.

The main commercial property will be located on State Street, where the scrap yard currently is.

"We will demolish what is there and clean up all of the environmental issues," said Moore. This cleanup will be especially difficult since the DDA plans on having both commercial and residential property. The commercial property will include new businesses, artisan shops, and high-end restaurants. Ripley hopes these enterprises will attract more people to Alma to shop, and more importantly, entice them to see Alma as a place to call "home".

The complete report for this project, and several others that are being planned, are at the city's website: www.ci.alma.mi.us, in the "Reports" section.

When everything is completed Alma will have a lot more to offer the students. Ripley said, "The students are an important part of the downtown economy."

Facebook is watching you

LAUREN RUSSELL
STAFF WRITER

In 1948, George Orwell wrote "1984," a book describing a society in which the people are under complete surveillance and constantly reminded of the fact by the phrase, "Big Brother is watching you."

Fifty-eight years after Orwell's work, the premiss has come true.

Is Big Brother really watching? And does it have a new name: Facebook? Students who have Facebook accounts may have realized the new look to Facebook, its News-Feeds feature.

Facebook News-Feeds are described on Facebook's Customer Support page

as "highlights [of] what's going on in and around your Facebook network by listing the latest stories about your friends on your Facebook home page. You will only be notified of actions that you would have been able to see by clicking around the site . . . It's like we started delivering the mail to you instead of forcing you to pick it up on your own."

"By this, they mean that instead of you doing all the work of 'Facebook Stalking,' they do it for you," said Ashley Gombar (08).

With this new feature, every time someone on a student's friend's list logs on Facebook, they are given a list of every move that student has made on the site. Whether it is

writing on someone's wall, changing relationship status or writing a personal note or "blog," that person can read it when they log on instead of having to look for it.

Facebook has become notorious for getting students into different kinds of trouble like being turned down by employers for jobs



and internships, getting suspended by administrators and national organizations and being stalked by strangers and acquaintances.

Though students have been warned of the negative effects of Facebook, some

students support the website and its News-Feeds.

"If there are things I don't want seen [on Facebook], I wouldn't put them on Facebook or [if I did], there are [privacy] settings for that stuff," said Jamie Diener (08).

"[The feeds] didn't make anything less private. It was weird more than anything," said Paula Colburn (09). "I

feel pretty safe using Facebook especially since only people from your

school could see it unless they became your friend."

Facebook does offer limited profiles, which allows the student to limit what others see in their profile. It also gives students the chance to set their own privacy settings. The Center for Student Development also offers some tips on staying safe while using the site in its handout, "What you need to know about Facebook."

What many may forget is that it is the student's decision on what to put on his or her profile. Posting any information on the internet about one's self is a risky move and is the person's own responsibility.

As the debate over the News-Feeds feature continues, the fact remains that advancements in technology have allowed for people to view others' activity online.

The next time you post anything online remember, Big Brother may be watching you.

Greeks from pg. 1

good; we have two really good presidents on the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic council, and both men's and women's chapters are working really hard to increase their numbers this year."

Whether or not those numbers will continue to rise depends on how many upperclassmen choose to go Greek this fall. As per campus regulations, both freshmen and transfer students are not allowed to participate in sorority or fraternity recruitment until the winter term.

"Academics are a huge reason why students cannot rush during their first semester at Alma," Woodman said. "One of the things we want for first years and transfer students is to get set academically and establish their GPA. We want them to make a good decision about which group they want to join. They have a semester to get good market research on the groups and keep themselves from feeling rushed to choose."

With a smaller class size, however, once they

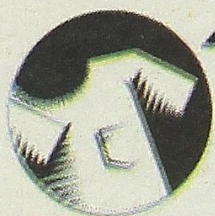
"Though the percentage of those involved in the Greek system at Alma College has dropped in past years, Woodman assures that as of last year participation is up."

are allowed to rush, the freshmen class may still pose problems for the continued rise of Greek participation. The fraternities on campus will be the most affected, as the ratio of men to women on campus is in favor of the females. With around 150 first year males, rush lists will most likely decrease.

With many options to choose from within the Greek system, Topham offered advice to those considering rushing this term or simply wanting to get more involved with Greek life "Give it a shot even if you're iffy about going Greek," Topham said. "You've got nothing to lose by coming and checking [each house] out. It's not for everyone, but we encourage you to try the Greek life, and we hope that you like it."

Fliers and emails are sent out frequently whenever the houses are holding open campus events, so if interested in getting more involved in Greek life, keep an eye out for such information.

We make your ideas work for you!



ALLEY T

SCREENPRINTING & EMBROIDERY

ITHACA, 989-875-4793

DESIGNS@ALLEYT.COM

**BRING IN THIS AD FOR
YOUR FIRST SCREEN FREE
(Minimum 10 Shirt Order)**

WQAC makes splash with big plans

The Duck looks to overcome obstacles, invigorate campus

FAINA POLT
STAFF WRITER

If there is anyone who gets his voice heard loud and clear on the Alma College campus, it's the Duck. Every school year starts off with a bang during the preterm concert. This year WQAC brought to Alma Alucard, featuring The Confidence. It was a great event attracting many students and helping the bands sell their merchandise and spread their music.

Since first getting their license from the Federal Communications Commission in 1993, WQAC has been striving to provide the campus with quality music and commentary. Located on the 90.9 FM frequency, the WQAC repertoire is mainly made up of modern rock. News and sports updates can also be heard every hour.

Once the year gets further underway, there will be several special interest shows on the air geared toward different musical tastes. When asked about the sort of music usually played on the radio, Promotions Director **Rebecca Miller (09)** said, "Anything you can think of we have

probably played at one point or another. But mostly rock." It's all basically "good stuff" she adds.

WQAC is an active force in Alma College, doing their best to showcase great new bands while bringing the student body together in a shared enjoyment of music. In the

"We want more people to listen because we want to play what you want."

- Rebecca Miller,
WQAC Promotions
Director

past bands such as Anathello, 88 MPH, Your Best Friend, and Those Transatlantics have delivered successful, crowd-gathering performances.

A hurdle that the Duck must strive to overcome is its limited audience. In order to improve and to truly be the voice of the students, there clearly has to be more feedback and communication. Miller states that increasing viewership is the number one goal for WQAC. She said, "We want

more people to listen because we want to play what you want." More distinct audience input would be a great help to the DJs as they finalize their playlists.

WQAC also provides an interesting employment opportunity for students who wish to learn the ropes of broadcasting. There is a great deal of different work to be done for the radio. Miller's job, for example, involves very much artistic creativity. In order to attract viewers or advertise special events, she designs posters and flyers with eye-catching artwork that she then places around campus. Her duties also include obtaining sponsorship from places in and around town. Other jobs can range from actually hosting a radio show to all the various technical activities involved in broadcasting. For anyone interested in any aspect of radio, the Duck is a great place to begin.

It is shaping up to be an interesting year for WQAC, with many great things in store. For those who don't know how to tune their radio dials, now is the perfect time to learn. Remember, WQAC at 90.9 FM is the station of choice.

Tannahill Weavers return to Alma

KAITLIN LOGAN
FEATURE EDITOR

The award winning Tannahill Weavers, a traditional Scottish quintet, will be taking the stage

and the weaving industry from their hometown of Paisley. The band's five members Roy Gullane, John Martin, Les Wilson, and Colin Melville sing, play the guitar, flute,

Scotstar Award for Folk Record of the Year for their album "The Tannahill Weavers." Their other album, "Capernaum" won the 1994 Indie Award in the USA for Celtic Album of the Year from the National Association of Independent Record Distributors and Manufacturers. The band was also a finalist of the Scots Traditional Music Awards in 2004.

The last time the Scottish band was here performing their traditional Scottish music "they brought down the house; it was spectacular" said **Jim Mueller**. Mueller is one of the faculty members who serves on the Alma College Co-curricular Committee, who is bringing the Tannahill Weavers to Alma College again this year. They believe that the Heritage Center will be full of students and community members; that's how impressed they were with their last performance. "Students as well as community members who haven't heard them need to know they play everything from the sweetest of ballads to some of the best 'Scottish rock-n-roll' I've ever heard"



Photo courtesy of Tannahill Weavers

The Tannahill Weavers begin their second show at Alma at 8 p.m. Monday.

at the Alma College Heritage Center Monday, September 25. Tickets are free to Alma College students, faculty, and staff, as well as others under 18 years of age; admission for the general public is \$8.

The band's name is said to have come from a local poet, Robert Tannahill (1774-1810)

whistles, bodhran, fiddle, keyboards, highland bagpipes, and Scottish small pipes. They are the first professional Scottish folk group to add a full-sized highland bagpipe to its live stage performances.

Tannahill Weavers news release the group has won several awards including the

Food Fancy

Choose food for stress relief

JENNIFER ANDERSON
STAFF WRITER



At last—a column I hope you will all look forward to reading. I know I surely will enjoy writing it. Despite whether you are a foodie or just considerate of your diet, I think you will be able to take some really great advice from my research and recipes. Personally, I lie somewhere between foodie and health conscious on the "Food Fancy Spectrum." Anyone who has seen me baking in Gelston basement (just because) or promoting Pampered Chef cookware might laugh at my assessment, thinking I'm definitely tipping the scale at—ding, ding—foodie. However, I'm a Libra—we're *always* balanced. Cough.

Though we're only in the first few weeks of school, if you are already feeling a bit stressed I have some neat news for you: there are foods that can help relieve your stress. It seems too good to be true, but people with high levels of vitamin C do not show the physical and psychological effects of stress. That information is given to us by Psychology Today, which also performed a study that concluded 1,000 mg of vitamin C to lower expected stress levels tremendously. That dosage is now conveniently the Recommended Daily Allowance as well.

Though one eight-ounce glass of orange juice contains 97 mg of vitamin C, fresh, uncooked fruits and vegetables such as red and green peppers, papayas, cantaloupes, strawberries, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, tomatoes, asparagus, and parsley also contain great levels of the vitamin.

Other mood stabilizers: Beef (high levels of zinc, iron, and B vitamins); Asparagus (high in folic acid); Milk (antioxidants, vitamins B2 and B12); Blueberries (antioxidants and vitamin C); Almonds (vitamins C and E); Tuna (vitamins B6 and B12). Make sure to read your labels for the recommended serving sizes.

I will always conclude with a recipe relating to the weekly topic. Try it out in your room, apartment, or adapt it at Saga or Dusen. Let me know what you think!

Low-Stress, Quick Recipe of the Week:

MIXED GREENS WITH FETA, ALMONDS, AND BLUEBERRIES

1 1/2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
3 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon honey
1 5-ounce bag baby salad greens
1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese (about 2 1/2 ounces)
1 1/2-pint container blueberries
1/4 cup almonds, toasted
Added asparagus if desired

Whisk vinegar, oil, and honey in small bowl. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Combine greens, feta, and blueberries in large bowl. Add dressing; toss to coat. Sprinkle with almonds and serve.

Makes 4 servings.
Modified from epicurious.com recipe

said Mueller in the Tannahill Weavers news release.

After leaving Alma Tannahill Weavers will continue on their world tour heading to Interlochen and Ann Arbor then carry on all the way to Belgium, Denmark, England, Scotland, Wales, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, and

Switzerland.

What a wonderful opportunity the Alma College Co-curricular Committee has brought to our College and town, again this year, to see a Scottish band of such talent creativity. Tickets can be reserved between 1 and 5 p.m. today by calling (989) 463-7305.

Campus library turns new leaf with renovations

FAINA POLT
STAFF WRITER

As the pace of the new school year picks up, many students will head to the Alma College library to take advantage of its various resources. Others will find themselves ambling in to rent a movie or check out some pleasure reading to unwind at the end of a long week. No matter the reason, entering students will be sure to encounter some of the new additions that the library has added or is in the process of implementing.

Some of the planned renovations include the new Dr. M.J.J. Smith Room that will be equipped with a projector, retractable screen, laptop carts with twenty laptop computers, twenty-four chairs on casters, and an instructor's podium.

When not in use for instruction, it will serve as an open study area. The Library Lab, now renamed the Olofsson Room, will also be upgraded and provided with

new equipment.

The Writing Center is being moved to the main level of the library, outside of the Olofsson Room, and some additional study rooms will be created. More noticeably,

can still be found near the newspapers and are meant mainly for browsing purposes.

Construction began on June 15 and continued over the summer. In order to clear space for the new additions,

not be able to find the book you needed," she said, adding that "moving all the books over the summer was challenging because it required actual physical labor and because we needed to find space for it."

"it will be finished next week" it will be done "by October for sure."

Perhaps one of the most exciting additions in the works right now is the Highland Java Café. Once completed, the student-run café, located on the main level of the Colina Wing, will serve a variety of snacks and beverages to students in need of a homework break.

The Highland Java Café promises to be a great new place for social gatherings and solo or group study sessions. Zeile is eager to share her enthusiasm for the new addition.

"I hope students enjoy the Café," she said. "It will be a nice, open area for students and faculty to get together and talk."

With a little luck, it will not be too long until the grand opening of the much-anticipated Café and the unveiling of the library's other new additions. Until then, the campus library will continue to be open and available to students during its regular hours.



Photo by Nick Green

The Highland Java Café is currently in its final stages of preparation. Put together by Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE), it is expected to open at 4:30 p.m. on Homecoming Saturday, October 7. All students are invited to attend the grand opening for prizes and refreshments.

most of the current periodicals have been moved to the lower level of the library to make accessibility easier and to provide a large amount of open space on the main floor for studying and reading. A few of the more popular magazines, meant mainly for browsing,

library workers themselves had to pitch in to move books and other materials to their new homes. Access Services Librarian, **Angie Kelleher**, admits that at times it has been quite difficult to work around the construction.

"It was inconvenient to

While the renovations were supposed to be concluded by the start of preterm, the current completion date is harder to gauge. In terms of when construction will finally end, Library Director, **Carol Zeile** said with a mix of optimism and reality that while she hopes

Going organic: students consider necessity for natural alternatives

FAINA POLT
STAFF WRITER

It can't be denied that we live in a time and region of relative comfort. As a result, the issue of food is hardly a pressing concern. In fact, saying no to an extra serving is usually the only trouble.

That is, unless you happen to be slightly more particular about what goes into your body. In the new age of health-consciousness, many are turning to organic and natural grown foods as an alternative to the heavily processed products that are the general norm.

From its humble beginnings in the 1970s as a grassroots organization of small local farmers and food production companies, the organic food industry has grown to astonishing new heights. Proponents of naturally grown produce argue that it is a nutritiously sound alternative

to food that has been doused with chemicals and pesticides. In the case of meat and dairy product consumption, organic food companies suggest that cattle raised on a steady diet of

more likely to give consumers coronaries and heart disease.

On the other hand, many opponents of organically produced foodstuffs agree that the absence of artificial substances in food does not necessarily make it safer to eat. All the different chemicals and pesticides typically used in food production are very thoroughly tested before the Food and Drug Administration can approve them. Since organic food is grown with virtually no protection against harmful factors, there is a very high chance that naturally grown produce can become infested with bacteria by the bugs that constantly land on it and conduct their own taste-testing sessions. A recent case of E. Coli outbreak among several organic spinach farms in California served well to illustrate that fact.

The food services here at Alma College are not known for their health-conscious menus, but the question is, is it even

worth it to try offering more natural food alternatives?

Christina Jensen (07) said, "I don't really think about it" when it comes to the option of organically produced foods.

Maureen O'Connell (10) admitted that she will eat organic food, but she doesn't think there is much call for it on campus. O'Connell said, "I don't think you should limit yourself to organic." While students like Jensen and O'Connell are generally apathetic about organic food issues, there are those who are quite passionate about the issue of naturally grown food.

For **Elizabeth Larive (07)** organic food is more than just an alternative, it's an essential. "I think that when possible it is great to eat organic food," she said. "We don't know all the negative effects that the additives in our food can have on our bodies, but we know some, so why not try to promote better health?"

Because of the dismal state of organic food at SAGA, Larive and others interested in natural foods are forced to drive to a co-op in Mount Pleasant to get what they need. She said, "I would love it if SAGA would put together more natural food choices on their menu." Unfortunately, it is often a bit more expensive to provide organic meals, and as a result the possibility of any future natural food option at SAGA is not very high.

As of now, the availability of easily accessible organic foods on campus is not very likely. However, that just means that there is a great deal of room for improvement. Perhaps Alma College has even taken the first step already; Odwalla—a company with a line of organic juices that is ironically owned by the Coca-Cola Corporation—has recently been added to the stock at Scotty's. So for those dying for a fix of organic juice, you know where to go.

"I don't think you should limit yourself to organic."

- **Maureen O'Connell (10)**

"We don't know all the negative effects that the additives in our food can have on our bodies, but we know some."

- **Elizabeth Larive (07)**

antibiotics, growth-promoting drugs, and other medicines are

The Better Darn Sports Column

Welcome back Scots

DREW COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Welcome back! I hope that this little delay in publication hasn't detracted from what I am sure will develop into a GIANT fan base. After what was perhaps the longest summer of my life—travelling all across the state hanging out with friends after being fired from my job—I am back to serve you as the sports editor this year.

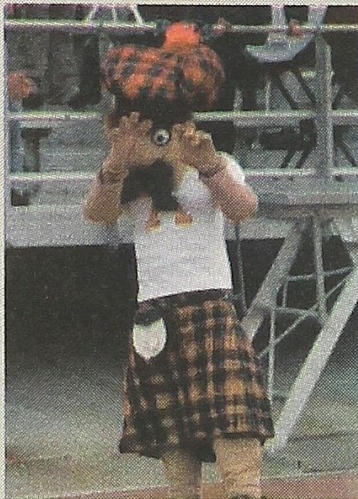
My two go-to writers this year are Rachel Gerds and Michael "Mikey" Miller. Our main goal is to bring you campus sports updates and previews. You can watch ESPN to get some professional analysis of professional sports teams, but *The Almanian* should be your home to campus sports news.

Already our Scots have given us a great show out on the football turf. Two weekends ago we suffered a tough loss to Cornell College (Iowa) with only seconds left in the game, but our Scots were able to rebound to take an overtime win at home against UW-Eau Claire with a QB keeper by Josh Brehm '07, who was also voted offensive player of the week for the MIAA.

I did have a chance to sit down and talk with Coach Cole before the season began and he seems very optimistic of this team's ability this fall. After losing 3 of their last 4 games and finishing tied for 4th in the MIAA last fall, he believes that this team is "better than that" and that he expects to finish better than expected. The preseason poles place Alma in a lowly 4th place finish again this year. Once they get some of their offensive and defensive kinks out, the team is sure to give a great show at homecoming—the next home game which takes place October 7th.

This Saturday, the Scots take their first road trip of the season down to Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio to test their Scot-Gun offense on enemy turf. We can expect more of the same that we've seen already this season—Brehm throwing the ball outside to receiver Joe Kline '08 for some great gains down the line.

Some key players for the Scots this fall come on the



defensive side of the ball. The defensive efforts to shut down the running game will start with two key players, captain Adam Korson ('07) and Zac Zanotti ('08), on the line; as well as a strong secondary hoping for some key picks from James Lang ('08) and Nick Merlo ('08) coming back from injuries that held them on the sidelines last fall. Kyle Percival ('09) who saw playing time as a freshman last year is expected to make a big impact in the secondary as well.

Some other happenings this weekend include the first home scrimmage of the season for the Lacrosse team. Come look for me manning the net against SVSU at 3pm on the football field (yes, shameless plug—maybe they shouldn't give people like me columns). You can read more about the team on page 8.

Until next week: Go Scots!

Scots Watch

9/9 **Cornell**
9/16 **UW-Eau Claire** L, 32-31
9/23 **Wittenberg** W, 33-30
9/30 **Tri-State**
10/7 **Hope***
10/14 **Wisconsin Luth**
10/21 **Albion**
10/28 **Olivet**
11/4 **Kalamazoo**
11/11 **Adrian**

*Homecoming
Bold indicates home games

Want to
write for *The*
Almanian?

pick up an appli-
cation on the of-
fice door located
in the basement
of Newberry!

New coaches give soccer teams new look this fall

RACHEL GERDS
SPORTS WRITER

Should you choose to take a stroll past the soccer fields this fall, expect to see a few fresh faces standing behind the recently installed fence. New coaches in the men's and women's soccer programs have the teams eagerly anticipating a promising season—as well as looking forward to leaving their losing records behind.

Holding the clipboard for the men this year is Coach Nathan Kronewetter. Hailing from an Alma College rival, Hope College, Kronewetter graduated in 1996 and was a four-year starter for the Flying Dutchmen. His coaching repertoire includes a stretch at Ohio Wesleyan University, where he served as the women's head coach for the 2002-04 seasons. Kronewetter also served as an assistant coach for two seasons at Alma. During his tenure as assistant coach, the Scots finished respectably in the MIAA—second in 2000 and fourth in 2001.

Senior Dominic Baker ('07)

described the team's new leader as "a motivated young coach who's trying to look long term in a program that hasn't seen much stability over the years." This lack of stability has surrounded the head coach position in the past: the team has seen four

ton of potential, but the team was lacking discipline and needed to be pushed," Kronewetter said. Shortly after he was named head coach, Kronewetter added two assistant coaches from his days at Ohio Wesleyan.

A large group of talented freshmen also adds to the fresh faces. However, many of these first-year players have been plagued with injuries—some are day-to-day, while others will be out for the season. Despite these setbacks, senior captain Daniel Weidman ('07) credits his coach for the team's positive outlook. "Solid recruiting, better facilities and a new coaching staff have been his methods for bringing Alma back to our winning ways," Weidman said. "Better facilities" include the new fence surrounding Alma's soccer field on Charles Street.

Though he emphasized the importance of discipline and intensity, Kronewetter is looking at more than just the

Story continued as
COACHES on page 8



Coach Hosler instructs Britni Patrick on the pitch

new head coaches in the last four years.

After being hired just six months ago, Kronewetter faced the challenge of turning around a team that finished last season with a 3-16-1 record. "I saw a

Intramurals to kick-off at Stone Rec Center

MICHAEL MILLER
SPORTS WRITER

It's that time of year again, where the competitive virus takes over campus. For those who do not know, it's the season for Fall Intramural sports on campus. There are different sports leagues for all types of people.

Fall Intramural sports offer four different leagues for teams to sign up for to play. The sports offered are men's and coed Flag Football, men's, women's and coed 3-on-3 Basketball, Dodgeball or 6-on-6 Volleyball.

Everyone who wishes to play in the Intramural League is encouraged to do so; it doesn't even cost a dime to sign up. The team captain can put the team rosters together. Any Alma College student, faculty or staff is eligible to participate. So don't be afraid to pick the team with your closest friend or professor. There is a limit though to how many Varsity/JV athletes are eligible per team. The limit is two athletes in the same sport and as long as the game times do not interfere with their practice schedule. But if you are having any difficulty finding a team to join, you can contact other students or the Assistant Director.

Team sign-ups is run on a first come-first serve basis. Entry forms can be found and turned in at the Stone Recreation Center. The teams must designate one team captain to fill out the application, also giving them a team name. The teams will also be able to write down preferences for scheduled game times. The game times will be scheduled accordingly to allow individuals to participate in more than one sport each intramural season.

You can also look forward to the spring and winter Intramural Seasons. In the Winter Season you can enjoy Indoor Soccer, Basketball, coed

Volleyball and Dodgeball. The Spring Season offers coed Slow Pitch Softball, 4-on-4 coed Newberry Beach Volleyball, 5-on-5 coed Ultimate Frisbee and 7-on-7 coed Outdoor Soccer.

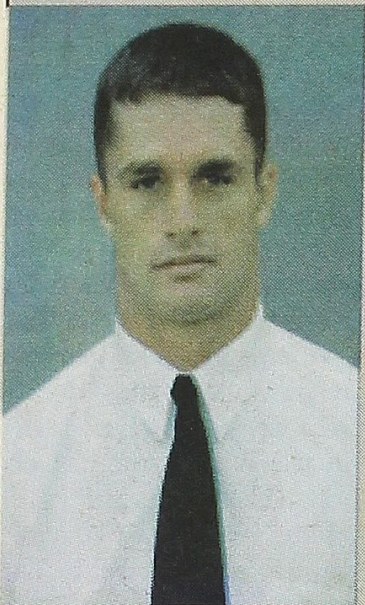
Intramural sports are a great way to get out of your dorm room to get some exercise, socialize and compete against your fellow students for the rights to be called the Intramural Champion of Alma College.

To get an online form, go to: www.alma.edu/community/student_life/stone_center/

Deadlines for Intramural Applications:

Flag Football	September 18
6-on-6 Volleyball	September 18
3-on-3 Basketball	October 9
Dodgeball	October 30

Spotlight: Josh Brehm '07



Brehm is this week's MIAA Offensive Player of the Week

Congrats Josh!

Brehm threw for over 400 yards and kept the ball in his arms as he recorded an overtime win against the Blugolds of UW-Eau Claire.

Coaches, from page 7

the scoreboard. "I want our guys to represent themselves, our team and the school in the best way they can," he said.

The Alma College Women's Soccer team is directed by 2002 Alma graduate Jeff Hosler. A former soccer standout for the Scots, Hosler currently holds the record for most career assists. In 1999, he helped Alma win their first-ever NCAA regional championship, after which the team made a first-ever Final Four appearance. Hosler coaches or assists with a plethora of teams, one of which (East Lansing High School's 2005 boy's soccer team) won the state championship.

Hosler said he has "challenged the girls to push themselves to someplace they haven't been before." He will be looking for leadership from midfielders Elizabeth Daley (07),

Kristine Husband (07) and Rachel Comfort (07), as well as defender Megan Murphy (07), adding that "the team will only do as well as they do."

This fall, Hosler has led the Scots to a 2-3 record. "We've got a tough schedule. I'm looking to build this program long-term," he said. He also

"I want our guys to represent themselves, our team and the school in the best way they can"

**- Nathan Kronewetter
Men's Soccer Coach**

points out that the team has scored six goals in their first five games and is on pace to surpass last year's complete season tally of 16 goals. "The team of the past has always defended very well," Hosler said. "I bring to the table a very aggressive and attacking style of play, which should create some excitement for fans."

Hosler and the women's team host Concordia University at 4 p.m. on Thursday, September 21, while Kronewetter and the men's team welcome Calvin College at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 20.

Your Ad Can Be Placed Here

Don't miss out on
great advertising!

Contact Kate Matonich
at 463-7161 or at o8kmmato@alma.edu

Men's golf Q&A with senior Steve Sanchez

Q: How are the new recruits?

A: We have a very promising freshman group this year. One has already cracked the top 5—**Rob Ronke ('10)**.

Q: What about your returners?

A: We have 3 guys returning from last year who played consistently in the top 5. In my personal opinion, we have good depth on the team with this freshman class and it really sets

us up well for the next few years.

Q: Who's the coaching staff?

A: Mark Starkweather is back, and **Dave Burkhart ('07)** is filling in as a student-asst. coach. He helps organize practices as well as swing diagnostics.

Q: What is golf to you?

A: It's what I do. I've been playing since I was 3; it's my favorite activity. Hunting being a close second.

Q: What are some season goals?

A: Our goal is to win the MIAA, but an improvement would be to finish 2/3 in MIAA.

Q: Who are the biggest contenders?

A: Hope/Tri-state are always near the top. If we could knock one of them off, that would be huge. We would really like to beat Olivet. Historically, there has been a rivalry between Olivet/Alma in golf.

Alma volleyball sets the standard

**RACHEL GERDS
SPORTS WRITER**

After last year's third place MIAA finish and the loss of an MVP, the Alma College volleyball team plans on using airtight defense and consistent teamwork to contend for this season's crown. "I expect us to compete for the MIAA title," said Coach Steve Humm.

Humm was faced with the difficult task of replacing Alma alum Erin Fralick (06), the 2005 MIAA Most Valuable Player. The middle blocker position eventually

was filled by freshman Kelsey Thompson (10) from Morley, MI. Sophomore Kim Gillespie (09), a transfer student from Hope College, is another new face joining the team.

Of the six seniors on the team, four are returning starters. Humm expects these seniors, particularly captains Mary Murdoch (07), Kelsey Krull (07) and Kaylee Sova (07), to step up and provide leadership for the rest of the team. After spending her freshman year on varsity, sophomore Rebecca Bruning (09) also

seems "more relaxed and ready to play," said Humm.

Calvin and Hope will provide the main competition for Alma this season, according to Humm. Still, the Scots have more on their minds than merely a check in the win column. "Our goals are to always play great defense, to individually play our best, and for the team to learn to work together and mature as the season goes on."

The team's next home match is Tuesday, September 26th against conference rival Hope College.

Who's your LAX daddy?

**RACHEL GERDS
SPORTS WRITER**

Consisting of about five games, the fall lacrosse season is mainly preparation for the spring season. Known as "Fall Ball," Alma's team is using the time to practice hard and have fun before the more competitive spring games. Much of the team lacks experience playing competitive lacrosse, but that doesn't stop anyone from enjoying themselves.

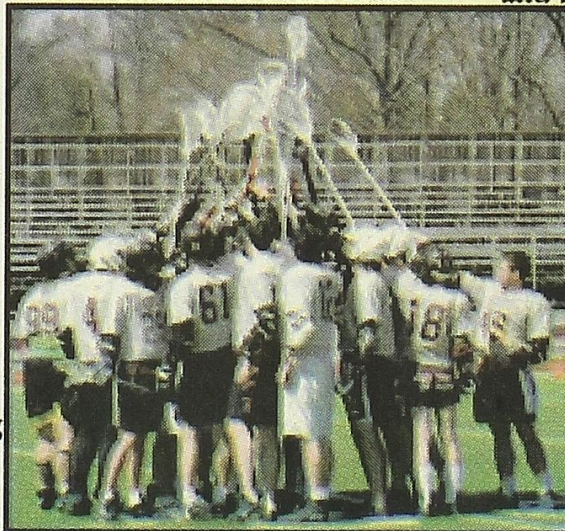
"It's all about going

some new freshmen, and although we lack experience, we have plenty of enthusiasm." The team is coach-less for the fall season, but come spring, Alma alum Brian Han-

first time I've ever played. I'm pumped because it's a lot of fun," he said. Senior defenseman **Erik Ryden (07)** agreed. "I like it because I get to run around and bash into people," he said.

Sophomore **Ian Rideout (09)**

stressed the value of campus attendance. "The fans have no idea how much cheering and hearing our names keeps us motivated during games. I love looking out and seeing a familiar face. Like,



out there and having some fun," said **Ben Workman (07)**, who shares co-captain duties with **Mikey Miller (07)** and **Aaron Weisberger (08)**. Workman added, "We've got

cock will be manning the sidelines.

Sophomore midfielder Okwara Uzoh (09) is brand new to the sport, but his excitement for the team is unbridled. "It's the

hey, isn't that the kid from my bio class? That's awesome," he said.

The team's first home match is Saturday, September 23rd at 1 p.m. versus Saginaw Valley.

Greeks prove themselves against stereotypes, provide excitement

MEGAN CRAWFORD
STAFF WRITER

I recently had a conversation with a friend about the tours Alma puts on for potential freshmen. She explained how whenever she showed a student around campus, she made sure they saw the fraternity and sororities houses before they left. The reasoning was that most incoming students are more interested by a college's Greek system than they are about classrooms or cafeterias. While this may or may not be true, I do believe that all students enter college with a Greek stereotype burned into their minds.

As an incoming freshmen, what did you imagine when

you thought of fraternity houses? I'm willing to bet that no matter what your opinion is on the Greek lifestyle, you imagined one thing: parties. That's what I thought of, at least. In my mind, sororities,



fraternities and the entire debacle were a loud and crazy lifestyle that I had no desire to ever be a part of. If you had asked me a year ago, I would have told you that the Greek mantra was to get drunk, to make horrible choices and to generally act like you've recently lost your mind.

I imagined overcrowded parties, potheads, beer games, one night stands, and alcohol-related amnesia — with perhaps the occasional date rape thrown in there.

I'm fairly certain that at this point anyone affiliated with the Greek system is quite upset. They have every right to be. The opinion I just described is one based on such naivety and close-mindedness that I'm ashamed to have once held it. This semester, after spending the entirety of my freshman year secluding myself from any part of the Greek life, I finally felt the push to attend my first "frat party." I dressed up and followed my friends out to the other side of campus, feeling awkward as I crossed into alien territory.

The night, however, turned out to be anything but uncomfortable. In every house I found incredibly



friendly men and women, who, despite that I was obviously a fraternity virgin, made me feel right at home. I saw no drugs or inappropriate sexual displays; in fact, it was almost exactly opposite of what I had imagined. There was something for everyone — games at one house, dancing at another, and people everywhere you looked — socializing with everyone no matter their grade or status. To my incredible surprise, I had a fantastic time that night, and I returned to my dorm with an open mind.

Everything I have learned about the Greek life since then has only further destroyed my original

and campus events such as Greek Week, Relay for Life, Big Brothers Big Sisters or last week's Walk for Orphans. They attend sporting events and do service projects. Lastly, the Greek life supports a positive family atmosphere that puts a new meaning to brother and sisterhood.

To all of you who find yourselves sympathizing with the first half of this article, I ask you to reconsider and



enter this year with a positive outlook. So often we base our impressions on movies like *Animal House* or *Old School* and fail to see what a positive impact the Greek life can make on a person, whether or not they themselves are Greek. They are a fantastic place to meet new people and make yourself known on campus, especially for freshmen. And any brother or sister on campus will tell you that the bond they have made with their organization has made their college experience one that they will never forget. You don't have to pledge Greek to be a part of the adventure. To everyone who already knew all this, drag a friend out with



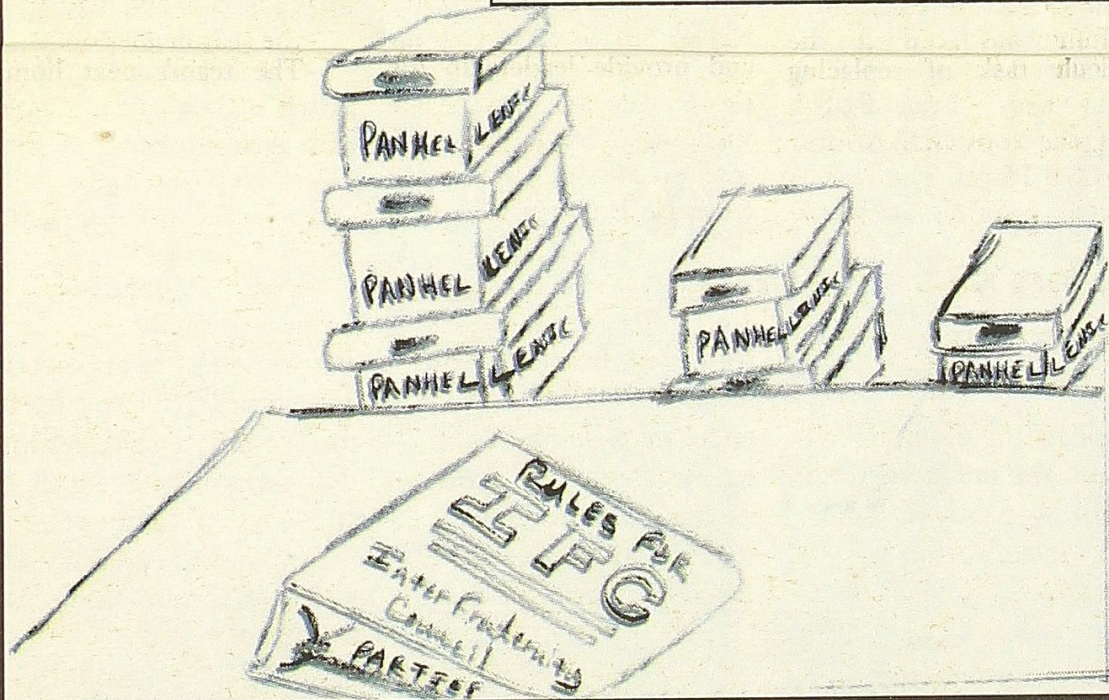
you tonight. Prove to them that the Greek stereotype is wrong. I certainly wish I'd found out a lot sooner.

Zero-sum

DEREK HARRISON
OPINION EDITOR

Inside the Center for Student Bureaucracy...

PANHELLENIC REGULATIONS



stereotype. First of all, the belief that if you don't drink, the Greek life isn't for you could not be further from the truth. I have yet to see anyone being pressured to do something that they are not comfortable with, and I was amazed at how many people I saw at the fraternity parties who do not drink. Yet these same people were still having a great time.

Secondly, the system is based on so much more than the partying that many of us first imagine. Generally, the fraternities and sororities are involved with philanthropy

The Almanian

"Alma College's student run newspaper serving the campus community since 1907."

Rachel Dotson	Editor-In-Chief
Scott Weir	News Editor
Drew Coleman	Sports Editor
Kaitlin Logan	Feature Editor
Derek Harrison	Opinion Editor
Nick Green	Photo Editor
Jennifer Anderson	Copy Editor
Katie Matonich	Advertising Editor
Mackenzie Hunter	Circulation Editor
Kristina Schwab	Photographer
Tony Rosenblum	Photographer
Megan Crawford	Staff Writer
Anna Zichi	Staff Writer
Lauren Russell	Staff Writer
Amanda Metzler	Staff Writer
Miriam Johnson	Staff Writer
Faina Polt	Staff Writer
Jessica Bloomfield	Staff Writer
Rachel Gerds	Staff Writer
Michael Miller	Staff Writer
Robert Vivian	Faculty Advisor
Ken Tabacsko	Faculty Advisor

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.

Publication

The Almanian is distributed to Alma College's campus Thursday evenings and is sent to subscribers the following day. The paper is published weekly, with the exception of academic recesses.

Letter Policy

Letters are published as layout space allows. Submission of a letter does not guarantee publication. *The Almanian* reserves the right to condense letters for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Monday before requested publication. E-mail letters to the editors at o7sdweir@alma.edu or address letters to *The Almanian*, Newberry Hall, Alma College.

Advertising Policy

Advertisements can be submitted to o7sdweir@alma.edu. The Ad Manager reserves the right to restrict any advertisements for content.

Staff Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed in editorials without bylines reflect the views of *The Almanian* editorial staff. They in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.

Changing majors comes with a price, though not unusual

LAUREN RUSSELL
STAFF WRITER

We are lead to believe that college is the place to find ourselves, take risks and discover our passion. By doing this, we find what we want to do when we grow up; as if growing up is a far away thing. The problem is that eventually we have to find ourselves, suffer the consequences of the risks we take and discover our passion, after many failed attempts.

Searching for your passion and failing miserably while attempting to do so involves a risk that makes many students cringe at the thought of taking.

Three simple words that, combined, can cause college students a slight anxiety

"I am also among many people...who has to take summer classes to ensure a seat on graduation day"

distributive requirements to fulfill as well. The idea of taking other writing classes went

career. At Alma, if you do not take and pass such classes as political science, economics, biology, etc. then you cannot receive a degree; a degree that may not even be in the area of study as the classes you have to take. The worst part about this is that the classes you don't even want to take—but have to—occur during the classes that pertain to your future.

Guess which class becomes the priority.

When I decided that I wanted to be a journalist instead of a high school teacher, I was told to take other creative writing classes along with the classes that make up the 56 credits needed for a communication major. I unfortunately had

down the drain as time and credit demand would not permit it.

I think it's safe to say that I am among many students with changed majors who have faced this dilemma. I think it's safe to say that I am also among many people in this group who has to take summer classes to ensure a seat on graduation day and a degree in the major finally decided upon.

I know what some of you are thinking, *You chose to go to a liberal arts college, right?* There are others reasons for going to Alma that some may consider trumping that aspect. Yes, we picked Alma College, but we did it for one personal reason or another.

After all, college is about finding your self, taking risks and discovering your passion. Just make sure you're in a situation where you can do it all in the time you are given.

Letter to the Editor

A view on common courtesy

Whatever happened to common courtesy? Simple things like putting the cap back on the toothpaste, putting things back where it came from, smiling "hello" to folks in passing are neglected. I don't know about y'all, but I had "please" and "thank you" instilled in me as a tike. To this day I'm not afraid to whip out a "God bless you" after a sneeze or a "have a nice day" when leaving a conversation.

To set the record straight, this rant is not self-serving. If we've met, you know as well as I that my outward appearance is not an easy one to overlook. I know for a fact that folks hold doors open and volunteer to reach objects for me because it looks like I'd need the assistance. This in no way bothers me; on the contrary, I am grateful for these kind acts. It reinforces the belief that all people are innately good.

So why the beef about common courtesy at the beginning, right? Well, while I may be treated kindly on a daily basis, others are not. I frequently practice the art of "people watching." Most of the time I'm amused by the acts of others, but then there are times when my heart hurts. For example, personnel at the Student Life office being chewed out by students and/or a parent because a rooming assignment was jumbled. It's easy to get angry, but taking a mere second to think about how hard the folks in that office work would mold that anger into empathy.

I don't enjoy getting special treatment. In fact, I wish that each of you could spend a day with an obvious physical difference because in that day you would see a drastic difference in how others treat you. It's sad, really. Can you imagine a world, a campus even, where everyone is treated with equal respect? Then there would be no special treatments. Where did the golden rule go? Let's bring it back, Alma!

-Monica Rentfrow

The trouble for students at Alma College is that along with the requirements of the new major, they must fulfill the distributive requirements of a liberal arts school.

According to Alma College's Academic Catalog, a liberal arts college is one that "expects students to apply intellectual rigor to the exploration of a range of disciplines, building a broad foundation in the sciences, humanities, fine and performing arts and social sciences."

In simpler words, a liberal arts college is one that forces you to take classes that have no pertinence to your future

Accolades to Pre-term: I want a standing ovation

MIRIAM JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

A friend of mine once mentioned that she thought there should be a year between high school and college that she named "college prep or transition year." This idea was the product of a senior year filled with worries and uncertainties about growing up, and about college in general.

Though some of us definitely did not feel ready to venture into adulthood, Pre-term really made the

transition from high school to college a much easier experience than I could ever have imagined. The initial worries about homesickness, loneliness, workload, etc. seemed to be gone, and we all gave in to the over-excited attitudes of the OC's. It is something that every college needs. This action-packed week not only prepared me for college-level courses, but it also helped me begin to develop a relationship with the rest of my class.

Although, yes, the OC's did seem to be borderline crazy, at some points, I really loved

them (and I know that being hyper was their job). Who has time miss their parents when you have your very own OC to chase you around asking, "how are you?!" and telling you over and over again not to forget/miss events.

I really respect the fact that the OC's spent so much time and energy into helping freshman adjust, and I want to thank all of them. It says a lot about people when they go out of their way so much to help others.

The events that the OC's put on, were amazing, and really reflected their hard

work. I liked the fact that there were events going on non-stop, keeping me and the other freshman busy at all times.

Pre-term week was just as much about building friendships, as it was about creating work ethic. My favorite events were capture the flag, dorm building and hall meetings, and A to Z. Although I barely participated in the enthusiasm during the capture the flag game, I met some really great friends while playing, and I really enjoyed watching some of others get extremely involved. You

know it's a success when two weeks later, the game is still coming up in conversation.

Actual Preterm classes were also a great experience. I found my class to be very interesting, and I really liked getting used to the college atmosphere with classes of other freshman. Because we were all in the same position, Pre-term gave us the chance to identify with each other, learn good study habits, and get the hang of walking around the SAC building and DOW.

Without Pre-term, I would have been lost and confused.

Campus Countdowns

27 *FALL BREAK

62 *THANKSGIVING BREAK

155 *SPRING BREAK

85 *WINTER BREAK

212 *SUMMER VACATION