

The Almanian

Volume C

Issue 4

Friday, October 13 2006

"Serving Alma College Since 1907"

UNDER THE COVER

Lack of PIGbooks could be caused from new technologies such as facebook. Are we better off without them?

SEE NEWS PG. 2



Photo courtesy of www.alma.edu

This week's "Food Fancy" takes readers on a step-by-step tour of creating their own sushi.

SEE FEATURE PG. 3

Students are free not only to exercise their right to vote, but also to obtain from doing so all together.

SEE OPINION PG. 5

Bravehearts become Alma College's new student group, cheering on the Scot's at home athletic events.

SEE SPORTS PG. 7

BY THE NUMBERS

3

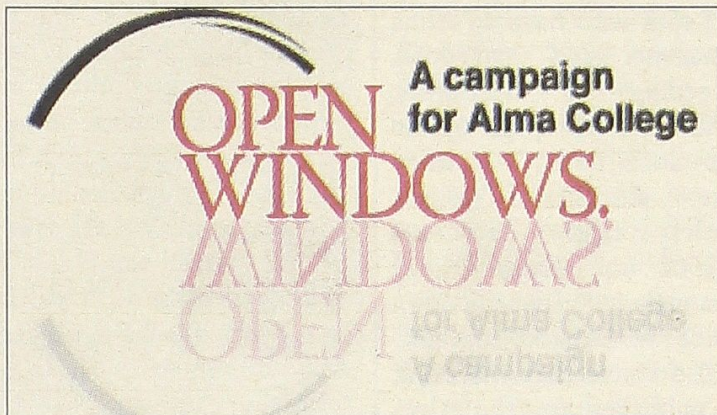
The number of yearbooks now available to students of Alma College.

348

The number of newly-enrolled students at Alma College--a figure significantly lower than in past years.

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College sees decline in enrollment

ANNA ZICHI
STAFF WRITER

Enrollment is down at Alma College, which means change is in the air. Grant Woodman, director of campus life, said, "Private college numbers are down across the state. Most everyone is going to public universities." The average new enrollment at Alma over the last 3 years

"We need to make Alma relevant, visible, and of the highest quality"

President Tracy



Graphics courtesy of www.alma.edu

Alma College announced the public phase of their Open Windows campaign this past Friday at the homecoming picnic. This announcement coming shortly after the campaign reached the sixty percent mark. Board of Trustees Chair, David Provost was in attendance, as was President Sandra Tracy and other members of the Advancement Department and Alma College Board of Trustees.



Photos courtesy of Skip Traynor

Open Windows campaign goes public

Campaign contributions continue to climb past 60% mark...

MEGAN CRAWFORD
STAFF WRITER

Last week, Alma College kicked off the public stage of their newest fundraising effort, appropriately titled the 'Open Windows' campaign. The campaign was announced via an all campus picnic and a dinner for the Board of Trustees and major campaign donors on Friday evening. It eventually hopes to raise \$35.25 million that will help support a variety of areas, such as scholarships,

academic opportunities, and campus facilities.

"The purpose of this campaign is to create resources for student opportunities so that we can 'open windows' for students," Alma College President Sandra Tracy said. "Much of the fundraising is targeted for student opportunities such as the Center for Responsible Leadership, fellowship groups, seminars, and a variety of other opportunities that are available to everyone."

The campaign targets five key areas of campus life: the Center of Responsible Leadership, endowed programs such as scholarships and Spring Term travel experiences, facilities such as Wright Hall and the Hogan Physical Education center, essential resources like the Alma Fund, which supports the college's annual operation costs, and academic opportunities like The Premiere Fund for the Arts.

SEE CAMPAIGN PG. 2

was 365 students. But as of the beginning of this year the count was at 348, which is 50 students fewer than anticipated. "Our goal, though, was higher than the averages of the last few years," said Karen Klumpp, vice president for enrollment. "In the late 1990s and early 2000, we had 5 fall terms with enrollments above 400. We believed that it would be good to return to that level, and made several changes that would

SEE ENROLLMENT PG. 2

Alma College sees another successful homecoming

ANNA ZICHI
STAFF WRITER

Another Homecoming has come and gone here at Alma College, and it is time to assess the weekend's festivities.

There are half a dozen events that stick out as being exceptional in the mind of Brent Neubecker, director of alumni relations. The first on the list is the Pizza Sam's night out on the Tyler/VanDusen rotunda, followed by the bonfire behind the Medical Center. "The bonfire Friday

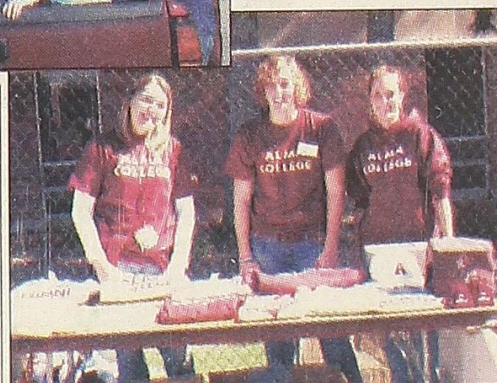
night had a huge attendance among the students", said Neubecker. "There were contests and music that the students were able to enjoy."

Saturday morning was also fun filled with high attendance levels from both students and Alumni. Neubecker said, "The Golden Thistle, 25 year, and all alumni breakfast kicked off the day." The parade followed the breakfasts and was a huge success. There were over 50 entries into the parade and the route was packed with spectators.



Left: The ladies of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority get ready for the homecoming parade. This year showed record numbers for entrants.

Right: Members of the Alma Leadership Alliance sell homecoming apparel during the football game. The ALA partook in many campus activities during the weekend.



Photos courtesy of Nick Green

Congratulations to the Almanian on 100 years of service to the Alma College communitiy.

PIGbooks move online in effort to save money

LAUREN RUSSELL
STAFF WRITER

Students of Alma College checking their mail boxes for this year's PIGbook will be surprised to find their mailboxes empty.

Due to the popularity of recent budget costs and online websites that give out more student information, the hard copy PIGbooks will not be issued this year.

"The PIGbook is very costly and [yearbook] was not given the budget money to print [copies of the book]," said **Cairn McNicholas (07)**, Editor in Chief of the yearbook staff.

The PIGbook is brought to students by the Alma College yearbook staff, but the decision to have only the online version was made by many people.

It was a mutual decision between the yearbook staff, student congress, and yearbook advisor **Tracy Howd** to end the hard copy books.

Because of the online PIGbook, and Facebook, it was decided that funds for the hard copies were no longer needed, according to Howd and McNicholas.

Personal Identification Guides, or PIGbooks, are much like an address/yearbook. For those who haven't visited the PIGbook site on the Alma Portal,

the PIGbook contains the student's picture, name, advisor, email address, extension number, campus and home address.

Students who have never been on campus when actual copies of PIGbooks were issued may not know the advantages to having one. It is mobile—much easier to carry around campus than a computer. One is still able to use it, even when the internet is down. And, once people graduate, one

"Whether you have one in your hand or at the click of a mouse, the PIGbooks are still widely used on campus"

is able to keep in touch with them even after the alum's information is erased from the updated online version.

However, with advantages, come disadvantages.

"[PIGbooks] are usually issued in mid-to-late October. By then, half the campus has moved already," said McNicholas.

Though updating the online PIGbook is not the responsibility of the yearbook staff, the version should be updated continually throughout the year. The Alma Portal is the most up to date, according to McNicholas.

"It doesn't really matter. It

will probably save the school money and it's online anyway," said **Kevin McCarthy (07)**.

It is safer not to have the hard copies because the online guide can only be accessed from students and staff who have an Alma username and password, according to McCarthy.

On the first page of the 2005-2006 book, it is asked that students "respect [their] fellow students and do not release [their] Personal Identification Guide to outside sources." It also states that the book "is published for the Alma College campus community."

PIGbooks receive criticism last year for being too informational. Before last year, the guides gave out students' home address. The 2005-2006 edition only gave out the students' hometown. With the privacy of the online edition, students' full addresses can be given.

Whether you have one in your hand or at the click of a mouse, the PIGbooks are still widely used on campus. Students can still look through the PIGbook even if they aren't flipping through pages of students.

To access the online PIGbook, go to myalma.edu and login using the appropriate username and password. It is on the upper right corner of the Homepage.

Campaign from pg. 1...

The multi-million dollar goal will be meticulously divided within these five key areas, focusing on strengthening student opportunities within Alma College. Many of the effects of this campaign, such as the recent renovation and upgrading of the McIntyre Mall, are already present on campus.

"The speaker series, for example, was made possible via a gift to this campaign," Tracy said. "Other parts of the campaign are bricks and mortar, such as the addition of Wright Hall. Overall, the campaign will open up possibilities and create opportunities that not every institution offers."

Although the public phase of the campaign began only last week, the college has already made great strides in completing their goal. Though the amount of money given in each donation varies, alumni have been the biggest share of donors thus far.

"We started the Open Windows Campaign in 2003 by talking to those who we thought had the capabilities and the desire to make significant gifts," Campaign Coordinator Sally Bowen said. "It is typical to have a 'quiet phase' within a campaign. We have raised 22,826, 775 million dollars to date, which is 64.8% of the total campaign."

According to Bowen, it is no coincidence that such an influential campaign was entitled 'Open Windows.'

"We wanted the title to be short and concise and to make a statement," Bowen said. "To us, Open Windows signifies opportunity. Just think about the things you have been able to do, the things you have been exposed to at Alma College and what this campus has made possible. This campaign would increase the number of opportunities and allow more students to be a part of them."

More information on the 'Open Windows' campaign, the largest fundraising effort in Alma College's history, can be found online at the campus website.

Enrollment from pg. 1...

help recruit 400 new students."

So what happened? According to Sandra Tracy, president of Alma College enrollment not only here but at colleges across the state has been seriously affected by Michigan's Economy. What affected Alma the most was the turn over in Admissions recruiters and coaches half way through last year. Tracy said, "We know that the relationships the prospective students and the recruiters form is essential."

Interestingly, college applications across the nation were up significantly; however, the percentage of high school graduates attending college is actually down this year. This is attributed to the fact that it is so easy to simply apply over the internet. Older individuals are applying, and some high schoolers are applying and not showing up.

"This issue is a great concern since we thought it was going to be a record year," said Tracy. So now it is time for the college to act. "The Admissions office is fully staffed, and each individual has indicated that they are committed to working, remaining [at Alma], and is enthusiastically looking forward to the upcoming year," said Klumpp. The College is also working on upgrading the residence halls, and adding programs to increase popularity. Two such programs are, the new honors program and the Center for Responsible Leadership. Both of these programs have been established, and the administration is hoping they will help attract new students as they become better publicized.

No matter what happens though we must take our time, and remember to look at the long-term effects. "There is an urgency to resolve this, but we need to take time for clarity," said Nicholas Piccolo, vice president for student life. "We can't just take the 'ready-aim-fire' approach."

How are the current students going to be affected? "I think this is going to affect current students positively," said Klumpp. As mentioned they will continue to improve the residence halls, and academic and social opportunities. One other change that will be quite evident is the conversations between the admissions office and the student body. But most importantly tuition is not expected to rise due to lack of students. Woodman said, "The College sets up a contingency fund, in case this happens."

"We need to make Alma relevant, visible, and of the highest quality," stressed Tracy. The administration acknowledges that changes are necessary, and currently are in the planning stage. Piccolo said, "It is an interesting and challenging time in the college's history. But I have no doubt we will pull through."

Homecoming from pg. 1...

During the football game Alma College showed its spirit by filling the stands and cheering on the football team. At half time the Alma College Kiltie Marching band performed their half time show, the homecoming court was introduced, and the king and queen were announced. In between the third and fourth quarters the Highland Dancers also performed for the crowd.

After the game many departments and the Alumni House had receptions welcoming back the Alumni to campus. And following the Alumni dinner the annual choir concert was performed at the Heritage Center. "Presbyterian Hall was filled to capacity, and it was a wonderful concert," said Neubecker.

However, the main event for the weekend was having the Board of Trustee's on campus. They attended many of the events, and were even the Grand Marshall's for the parade. **Mollie Smith (07)** said, "Since they were [the Grand Marshall's] this year, they wish to be a part of it every year from now on." It just happened to be that they were here during homecoming, and were in fact on campus for business.

While they were here, they discussed the SYND Covenant Agreement, improvements for our athletics, and how the college is doing in general. They discussed our Presbyterian roots and how it affects the college. Also there are talks about starting Junior Varsity teams, and improving our athletic facilities.

One thing Smith liked about having the Board here was the fact that she now knows the people that run the college. "It was nice because we got to put faces with the names, and see who the decision makers are," Smith said. "They seemed to really enjoy themselves during the weekend," added Neubecker.

Talks on improving homecoming for next year have already begun. One idea that is being batted around is having activities the week prior to the weekend, to encourage more student involvement. Neubecker said, "We will be working with Alma Leadership Alliance on this, and hopefully we can come up with some ideas that will get more interaction between the students and the alumni." One thing for sure though is that the Board of Trustee's will be included in years to come.

Homecoming could not happen without the support of many people around campus. First to thank is everyone that helped in planning and organizing the events. This specifically applies to the Alma Leadership Alliance, which is lead by **Hilary Miller (07)**. "They were fantastic and the weekend would not have been successful without their hard work and effort," said Neubecker.

Alma College could not have asked for a better homecoming. Neubecker said, "The weather was great, the attendance was excellent and overall it was a very successful weekend."

Yearbooks delivered campus-wide

The Scot now available free of charge for students

KRISTA PENNINGTON
STAFF WRITER

The Scot yearbook is finally available for the first time in years, and this time there is not just one book, there are three. Back issues from 2004 and 2005, which began distribution on Homecoming, as well as last year's 2006 book can also be retrieved.

The books will include sports teams, Greek Life, clubs and happenings at Alma, such as theatre and homecoming. Not every class is pictured individually with PIG book pictures, just the current senior class, as well as the faculty.

"For the past few years, the Scot has had to overcome several problems including technology, retention, and interest. The problem with a yearbook not coming out on time started in 2002 and has been a downward spiral ever since," said Editor **Cairn McNicholas (07)**.

The Scot staff has worked on one or more books a year, and now there are finally caught up. "Many staff members took on extra responsibility and worked through breaks and summer vacations to complete the past due books," McNicholas said.

Former Advisor, **Dr. Nick Piccolo** said that, new Scot advisor, **Tracy Howd's** "hard work and the dedication of the yearbook staff have moved us along in a positive direction."

Yearbooks are free for

"For the past few years, the Scot has had to overcome several problems including technology, retention, and interest."

Carin McNicholas
(07), **Scot Editor**

students, though it isn't exactly common knowledge. "Most just do not know this because there hasn't been a book out on time in the last however many years," said **Kelly Schwartzkopf (08)**, "I think there would be interest if students were aware."

"The 2007 edition of The Scot has been started," said McNicholas. "With many returning staff members and new technology, there should not be any problems with the book being late this year. She

also adds that it's important for students to keep in mind that yearbooks come out in the fall so that everything from the entire previous year can be included in the book.

Laura Parkes-Schaw (07), is beginning there forth year on staff, said that she has had a "pretty good experience" on staff. "I enjoy working on layouts and taking photos. It gets stressful at times but in the end it was fun and worth it," said Parkes-Schaw.

"I was on yearbook staff is high school but we did it all by hand so it was very time consuming and the layouts were dull," said Schwartzkopf, third year staff member, who is on layout staff and junior editor, will take over as chief editor next term. "At college we do it all on computer and the layouts are more animated. It has been challenging at times because of the lack of interest from other workers and also you have to self-motivate yourself to do the work before the last second. But it has been a great experience and a fun way to earn money on campus," said Schwartzkopf.

For more information, contact **Cairn McNicholas**. Books will be available in Hamilton Commons.

Theatre eager to premier first play

FIANA POLT
STAFF WRITER

The new theatre season is in full swing and the first play of the year is all set to premier this weekend.

Alma College Theatre will be presenting Lanford Wilson's *The Hot I Baltimore* in the theatre of the Remick

"We live in a disposable culture and this play speaks to the notion of people who don't follow through on their convictions."

Joe Jezewski,
Theatre Director

York Drama Critics Award for Best American Play.

The Hot I Baltimore takes place in a once magnificent hotel lobby that has recently fallen on some difficult times. The story centers on the residents and staff of the hotel as they face their upcoming evictions as a result of the hotel's all too quickly approaching demolition. The name of the play comes as a result of the "e" on the Hotel Baltimore sign being burnt out, with no one bothering to replace it.

Alma College Professor of Theatre and director, **Joe Jezewski** refers to *The Hot I Baltimore* as an important American play. "It speaks notably about the time period but is also valuable to today," he said. It is about people who stop trying to pursue social changes, who—for whatever reason—become bogged down by their lives and lose the ability to make a difference. "We live in a disposable culture," Jezewski said, "And this play speaks to the notion of people who don't follow through on their convictions."

Does anyone really act on his or her opinion of the world? *The Hot I Baltimore* is a many-layered play that can invite several readings depending on perspective. The beauty of it is that while it can be enjoyed for its entertainment value, there is also a much deeper meaning.

The play is structured in a very unique manner. There are several characters enacting several scenes at the same time. "It is," said Jezewski, "a mosaic, a sort of tapestry." There are several things going on at once and this has provided the actors with quite a challenge in their rehearsals.

As the Alma premier of *The Hot I Baltimore* approaches the campus is getting more excited. "It sounds really interesting," said **Katie Ballard (09)**. "It's the first play of the season, so I'm really excited to go."

The Hot I Baltimore will be playing at 8 p.m. October 12 through 14, and at 3 p.m. on October 15. Tickets are \$8 for adults and free for all Alma College students, staff, and youth under 18.

Food Fancy

How to make your own sushi

JENNIFER ANDERSON
COPY EDITOR



Making sushi is something I never thought I'd experience in a million years; and eating it would be in another lifetime.

It's a good thing I have an amazing group of friends who embrace culture and are willing—and delighted—to try something new.

Each Sunday, we gather at a different house and prepare something together, enjoy one another's fellowship, and then delight in the meal. This weekend we made sushi. And I must admit, I was a bit skeptical until I got some hands-on experience.

Making sushi is easy—and it's a myth that sushi must contain raw fish. In fact, the only things raw in mine were the vegetables.

Sushi simply means anything made with vinegared rice, rice flavored with vinegar, salt and sugar. Though seafood is an excellent source of protein, vitamins, and beneficial Omega-3 fatty acids, the fish is not the healthiest part of the cuisine. Seaweed alone has tremendous health benefits. Nori, the seaweed used in sushi, contains high levels of Vitamins A, B-complex, and C, and is a good digestive aid with its natural fiber. These vitamins and acids are great for your heart and help prevent depression.

Making sushi is easy—and it's a myth that sushi must contain raw fish. In fact, the only things raw in mine were the vegetables. Now it's time for you to try your hand at it.

The main things we used to make our night into a delight were: cooked sushi rice, warm water, seaweed, bamboo mats, cling wrap, assorted vegetables (carrots, cucumber, and avocado), and meats (shrimp, salmon, tuna, and imitation crab).

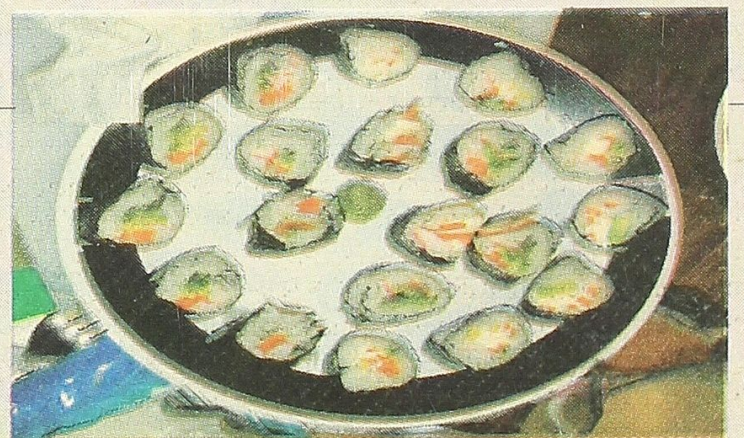
Place a piece of cling wrap on a bamboo sheet. Cut the sheet of seaweed in half, and press the cooked rice onto one entire side. Use the warm water on your hands to keep the rice from sticking to you. Flip your seaweed over on the cling wrap, and garnish the inside of your sushi. Then, use the bamboo mat to roll your sushi tight. The rice will be on the outside. Cut your sushi into inch-wide pieces, and enjoy! Pretty simple, huh?

Popular Sushi Ideas

Norimake. A roll with nori seaweed on the outside.

California roll. Crab meat, smelt or flying fish roe, and avocado.

Philadelphia roll. Salmon, cream cheese and vegetable.



In search of 'S' course, great opportunity to travel

KRISTA PENNINGTON
STAFF WRITER

Each Student at Alma is required to take two spring terms, one being an "S" Course, an off-campus excursion. Most require permission or prerequisites, and many will have their rosters full by the end of this month.

Special financial aid is available for spring term, and for information regarding this, contact **Chris Brown** in the Financial Aid Office at X7993. Business Administration majors and minors have extra opportunities with aid, and those students should contact **Greg Baleja** in the Business department at 7274.

ART 250, a course in Contemporary Art, will be traveling to New York City, and will cost students \$1,200. Seven days are spent in the city, and classes meet on campus for the remainder of the term. **Jamie Roggenbuck (08)** who traveled to New York last year with the Litergal Art spring term, said that "New York was the perfect place to experience all kinds of different cultures and lifestyles. I loved the city and thought that the trip was a lot of fun, because of the freedom that we had to explore and learn...I think that this was probably one of the best experiences that I have had while attending Alma."

Traveling to Argentina will be ART 380 and CHM 180 with **Sandy Lopez-Isnardi** and **Dr. Melissa Stralt**. The art students will be focusing mainly on photography and graphic design, where the chemistry students will be

visiting museums and traveling to the Andes Mountains. Students will be staying in furnished apartments and the approximate cost for this trip is \$3,700 and does not include meals.

BIO 380C, Field Biology and Techniques in Herpetology and

\$3,100, covers airfare, lodging, one performance at the Globe, train and tube passes, as well as entrance to museums and exhibits.

Tales of the City: Chicago (ENG 182A/382A and AMS 301), lead by **Dr. Laura von Wallmenich**, includes a weeks

of the Key West lead by **Dr. Carol Bender**, will be reading Hemingway, Tennessee Williams, Annie Dillard and Elizabeth Bishop, all who have lived or currently live in the Key West area. There is a limit of 20 students, and will cost about \$2,300.

trip overseas, and aside from coursework, will include many excursions to places such as Inverness, the Orkney Islands, and Edinburgh. There is a limit to 15 students, and will cost an estimated \$3,200.

PSY 280D, Orgins of Psychology, lead by **Dr. Marc Setterlund** will be traveling to Vienna, Munich, Leipzig, and Berlin, to study history of psychology through Europe. The class will cost an estimated \$2,800, and is limited to 15 students.

Dr. Myles McNally and **Dr. Mark Seals** will be taking students to Ecuador to study ecosystems. Three weeks will be spent there, studying the Spanish language and the culture and having an opportunity to teach, and set up a computer that for students there that Alma donated. Please visit the course website at mcs.alma.edu/Ecuador for more information.

Holocaust: Causes and Legacies, lead by **Dr. John Arnold** and accompanied by **Dr. Holly Liu** will be traveling to Poland, as well as Prague and Berlin, to study the greatest genocide in the 20th Century. The trip will cost approximately \$2,800, and students should expect to bring \$500 or more for expenses.

The Theatre and Dance department will be traveling to New York City with **Carol Flke** and **Joe Jezewski**, seeing many performances during their two week stay. This trip will cost between \$3,300 and \$3,500. Twenty-five students will be able to go on this trip.

For a complete spring term list for, visit the Registrars office.



Photo Courtesy of Krista Pennington

All students are required to take one off-campus spring term, which are now actively recruiting.

Ornithology, takes students to South Florida, at the Archbold Biological Station. Students work a week in Alma, and then the remainder of the time in Florida, culminating in an excursion to the Florida Keys. Prerequisites for this class are BIO 121 and 122, or equivalent.

Dr. Ute Stargardt will be taking students in the ENG 183 and 383 Medieval London class England to study selected literary works by visiting locations connected to these works. The cost, an estimated

stay in the city itself, and students will attend blues clubs, theatres, galleries, and learn some Chicago street smarts. The trip's fee, an approximate \$650, includes some meals, a service project, transportation, event tickets, and housing. "At the heart of this class is really a conversation about the role of the city in American culture," said Von Wallmenich. For more information, the 2005 classes website is <http://faculty-staffpages.alma.edu/~vonwallmenich/tales.html>.

ENG 182B/382B, Writers

Dr. Liping Bu will be taking students to China in the HST 180A/380C class. The first week of the class will be spent in Alma, and the following three weeks will be spent in China, which includes trip to the Forbidden City, and visiting the 2000 year old Terra Cotta soldiers. For more information visit the 2005 classes website at newmedia.alma.edu/china/china2005.

Traveling to Scotland will be **Dr. Britt Cartrite** with the POL 115/315 class. Students will spend the entire

Big Brothers Big Sisters: chance to make difference in children's lives

FAINA POLT
STAFF WRITER

The Big Brothers Big Sisters of America organization is one of the most satisfying and successful volunteer programs in existence. It provides individuals with the chance to get involved and to make a real difference in the life of a child. The BBBS organization is a leader in one-on-one youth services and provides mentors for children ages six through eighteen in countless communities across the country.

Big Brothers Big Sisters got its start over a century ago in 1904 in New York City. A court clerk noticed an increasing number of boys and young men going through his courtroom and decided to implement the Big Brother

program. It was an immediate success, spreading into 96 cities across the country by 1916. In 1977, the Big Brother organization combined with a separate group, Big Sisters International, to form Big Brothers Big Sisters, as it exists today. The success of this group is unprecedented; chapters of BBBS currently operate in every American state and in 35 other countries around the world.

On a more local level, Big Brothers Big Sisters is an important part of the Alma community. From its launch in 1968 in Gratiot County, Alma's BBBS program has grown to phenomenal proportions.

Anne Lambrecht, the director of Alma Big Brothers Big Sisters said, "Since its inception, Alma College students have accounted for

at least 25 percent of the total number of Big Brothers and Big Sisters." The triumph of the program is a huge achievement. At this time, the agency serves both Gratiot and Montcalm Counties, with offices located in Greenville and Alma.

The involvement of Alma College students in the program is one of the reasons behind its success. "We love the partnership we have with Alma College and the students," said Lambrecht, "They have made such a difference in the lives of children in this county."

Mentoring is a very rewarding activity for both "Bigs" and "Littles." Big siblings get to help their Littles with their lives all the while having a good time themselves. **Toshia Williams (07)** finds that being involved in Big Brothers Big

Sisters really helps her with dealing with stress. "I am busy just like any student at Alma," Williams said, "But I find that meeting with my little sister forces me to take time out and have fun."

Activities can be as simple as bringing your Little to the Rec center for a swim in the pool or taking a trip to the movies. The key is just to spend some quality time together.

There are some interesting things in store for BBBS this year. Halloween is coming up and on October 23rd, RHA and Alpha Xi Delta will be hosting the annual Trick or Treating activity. Be sure to have some candy ready to hand out to the kids coming through the dorms. Then from 7-8:30 P.M on Thursday, October 26th in SAC 103, a training session will be held for all Big Brother

Big Sister volunteers in the community and on campus. On November 15th there will also be the annual College Night Bowl for Kids' Sake fundraiser.

One problem within Big Brothers Big Sisters is the shortage of volunteers, especially men.

"I see many boys come in who really need good male role models in their lives, but we have only Big Sister volunteers to give them," Williams said. Oftentimes there are not enough volunteers to go around and the kids have to wait.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a great opportunity for everyone involved. For more details and volunteering information contact Anne Lambrecht at (989) 463-3434 or kids@bbbsgm.org.

Vote Professor Murray Borrello as Michigan's governor

Students can abstain from voting traditionally, from voting at all

KEVIN BILBREY
STAFF WRITER

Elections are just around the corner and there has been a massive push on campus to try and ensure that every person capable of doing so has registered to vote.

Now, I know that it's annoying having every group from Alma College Democrats to Alma College Republicans to Students United for Nature to Alma College Otaku and Gamers (ok, maybe not ACOG) hassling you to register, but don't go off on them just yet—hear them out.

First, before I get started

on what I have to say, I should get this out of the way because at least some of you are going to be wondering: I don't care who wins this coming election for governor. As far as I'm concerned, neither Granholm nor DeVos are capable of leading our state towards anything but a completely bureaucratic idiocy with an inept economic plan that sounds good but will ultimately do nothing more than continue to dwindle our public school budgets and our precious natural resources. In fact, with what choices we have before us, I can completely understand the

reluctance of people to vote at all. However, I do think that it is important that we get out there and get heard.

I mean, think about this: in the last mid-term election in the state of Michigan, roughly 25 percent of all eligible voters between the ages of 18 and 25 turned out to the polls. This is compared to the 57 percent of those in other age brackets. Now, maybe it's just me, but it seems that we as a generation are losing our ability to take charge of the way in which our world is run.

Now, I know that this doesn't apply to many of the people on this campus,

because everyone here is a very involved, very well informed, very politically active individual, right? But, for the sake of those who might not be so disposed, I just have to ask this: do you really want your parents and grandparents to decide what your world will be like, or do you want to take responsibility for your own lives, and start to act on them? If you are anything like myself, then the answer to that question is "I want a say." I want to decide what the world of my future is going to be, not have it decided for me by everyone else.

Oh, and since all of you already know that I will be voting for neither of the major party candidates in this coming election, I thought I would just go ahead and share what I do plan on doing: I am going to cast a write-in vote for Dr. Murray Borrello. I know, it is a long shot in the scheme of things, but at least I will be doing something for my own peace of mind; and at least I will have let some vote-counter in Lansing know that I don't approve of what is happening in my government. And that is what it's really all about.

Developing new leaders, changing students' lives

DAVID MILLER
STAFF WRITER

"If I had one goal for this Center, I would strike the word 'can't' from every student's vocabulary," said Professor John Leipzig when asked about the goals of the Center for Responsible Leadership.

The Center for Responsible Leadership is a relatively recent addition to the extra curricular organizations here at Alma College. It started out with roots in the Service Learning Office, branching off from vocational studies. The Center broadened the idea of providing students with leadership positions in seminary life, to leadership positions in all fields. The Center focuses on leadership in every aspect, but more importantly in focuses on the responsibilities vital to good leadership. That does not sound like a very specific thing to focus on, but that's exactly how the Center operates. All Alma College students can benefit from the plethora of opportunities hosted by the Center.

The most publicized of these opportunities has been the Center for Responsible Leadership's guest speakers, former presidential candidates George McGovern and Bob Dole. Next year, the Center will be welcoming former secretary of state, Madeline Albright. The Center is also hosting other seminars, opportunities to not simply attend speeches, but to actually converse with people of interest.

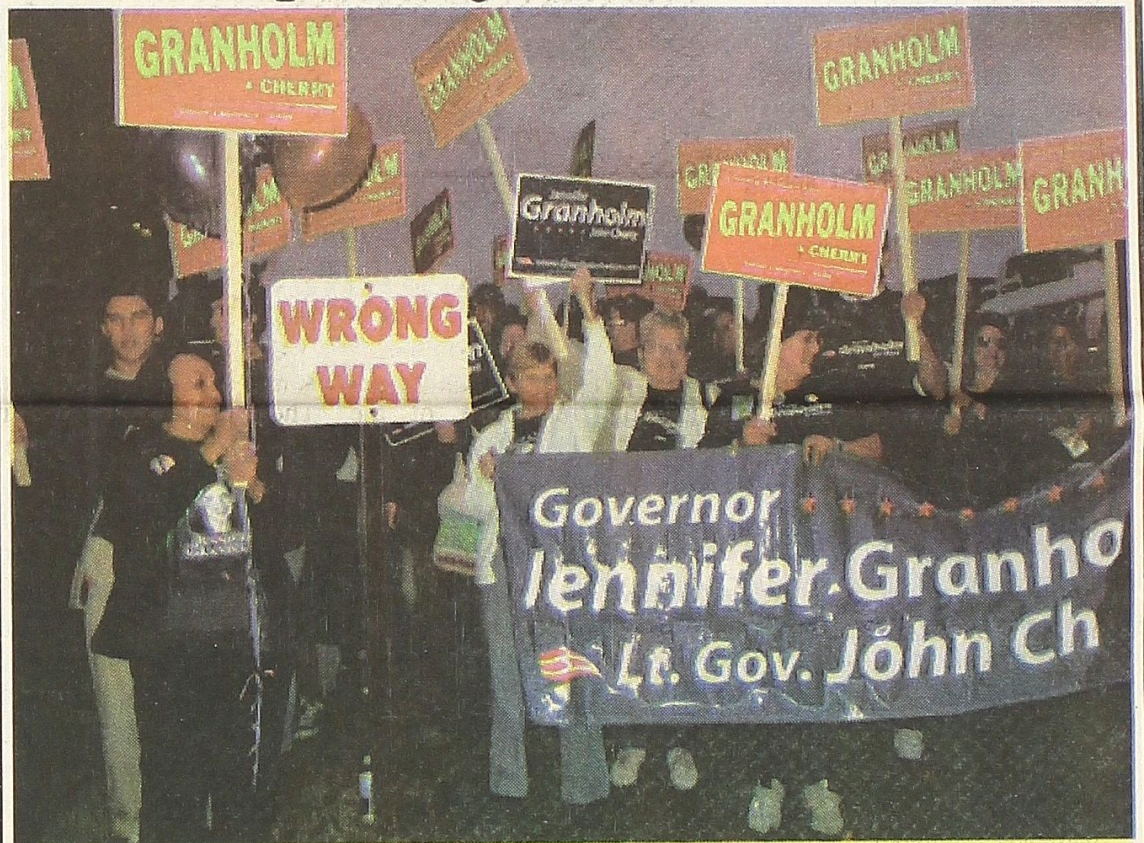
Wednesday October 11, Michael Muckleroy visited Alma College, a former president of liquid fuels for Enron, until 1993. Mr. Muckleroy discussed the importance of duty and honor in relation with modern business ethics, and what effects of their decline in the business world. Mr. Muckleroy is also heading the committee that is setting up the new energy plant to be placed in Alma.

The Center will also be hosting seminars with Nicholas Baldwin on Tuesday October 17. Baldwin is the Dean of Wroxton College, the British campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University, and Co-director of Wroxton Centre for Global Dialogue. West Cosgrove, the founder of the Maryknoll Mission Borders Team, will be visiting to converse with Alma College students on Wednesday November in order to discuss how to bridge the gap between cultures and peoples.

Beside these seminars the Center for Responsible Leadership provides programs such as Leaders in Residence, academic courses with a leadership emphasis, peer-led seminars on leadership, entrepreneurial grants for students, alternative break trips, service learning courses, and faith and leadership experiences.

Many other colleges and universities boast about student organizations which build leadership skills in students. Alma's Center for

Editorial photo of the week



As Michigan approaches election day, protests and rallies are sure to propagate the opinions and media antics supporting or calling to question the integrity of political candidates. The photo above, submitted by the Alma College Republicans and the Michigan GOP, shows the more comical side of politics and bad placement of some Jennifer Granholm supporters behind a 'Wrong Way' traffic sign.

Responsible Leadership is unique in that it really does not simply supply students with these critical leadership skills. Rather the Center puts forth the opportunity, then encourages every student to seize it. By doing so each student not only learns the leadership skills but also the responsibility expected of leaders.

Professor Leipzig explained how the purpose of the Center is not to teach leadership, the center is for the students to understand what it means to be responsible. The Center also is also differentiated from other programs in the way in which it is open to Alma's campus as a whole. Other

organizations will specialize in certain fields, honing in a very specific, sometimes-elite group, Alma's Center however simply provides the opportunity leaving it for anyone on campus to seize upon.

"Every situation calls for a choice. You can say you can't do something, but that would be lying to yourself, because really you can do just about anything. The truth is you choose not to, or you won't, which is perfectly alright, it really is your own personal choice" said Professor Leipzig. The Center for Responsible Leadership supplies the opportunity, and everyone can participate, whether they choose to seize

the opportunity, that's how you recognize responsibility, which is much more important than leadership, explained Professor Leipzig.

The motto of the Center for Responsible Leadership is "Developing Leaders, Changing Lives." The important part of this is changing lives. "We left this vague on purpose," said Professor Leipzig, "we wanted to convey how not only does the center change the lives of those who take advantage of it, but also those who come in contact with our participants, and anyone who comes in contact with them." This is really how the Center affects the campus and community as a whole.

Students: come support your peers as fans in the stands

DAVID MILLER
STAFF WRITER

In case you missed it, this past weekend Alma College celebrated its 120th Homecoming. You probably noticed the increased number of alumni and the liveliness of the Greek Housing across the street. The Alma College Stadium was as full as it has been all year for the football game. The stands were packed with fans of all ages, from the community kids who came along for "Bring a Kid to the Game Day" to enthusiastic alumni who returned to cheer on their favorite home team.

I want to know, where were the current students, the 'should be backbone' of the Scots. The homecoming game introduced a new section to the stands, the Student Section. But from looking in the stands you would have never known about it. Oh sure, an occasional yelp escaped

the aluminum bleachers, cheering on the Scots and the band has always egged on the team, from the midst of a hushed crowd. In case you didn't notice we have a very enthusiastic and verbose cheer squad. The problem is that we have cheerleaders, but no one to follow the cheers. I will let all of you in on a little secret; it is okay to participate in the cheers. Get in the Game. When they say clap your hands, thunder your applause; when you stomp your feet, make the stands roar with real Scot spirit.

There are other sports besides football, too. Not only did the Scots compete in the typical homecoming football game, but also in cross country, volleyball, and both men's and women's soccer. Where were the fans? Competing in intercollegiate sports isn't all about beating out other colleges. It is an opportunity to show the identity of Alma College to more than just the surrounding community. The

Scots represent this school as a whole every time they go out and compete, so the student body as a whole should get out and support the teams.

I want to applaud the brothers of TKE who come out to every game. Despite the frigid air, they come with bare chests, smothered in maroon

and cream. I have seen no other organization embody team spirit as wholeheartedly as these fellows. Not even Scotty can keep up as the brothers run past the stands after every touch down.

I will be honest with you, at this past game, the Hope's Flying Dutchmen had nothing on our Scots, but

their stands owned us. They were louder and prouder. They cheered and booed after each play. So let's hear from you fans. Make some noise at every game; it doesn't matter if it is football, soccer, cross-country, volleyball, or the ol' ball game, you still root for the home team.
Go Scots.



At homecoming, pep seems to be at its greatest. Students and other fans can purchase items to show their support.

Photo courtesy Nick Green

Bright ideas for campus landscaping seem too blinding Administrators need more pragmatic creativity in sprucing up the scenery

KEVIN BILBREY
STAFF WRITER

I'm sure that all of you reading this have heard about the...um... fabulous renovations taking place on the Alma campus. I am of course talking about the "meditation garden" near Wright Hall. Does anybody else think that is a little weird? I mean, it's a cement circle with a tree and some plants and lights that blind you every time you walk by at night.

Now, I don't want to give the wrong idea, I am all for taking steps to beautify the campus and create a greater sense of serenity and wellbeing in the students...but that thing? Personally, I would prefer the problems with the Gelston bathrooms to be taken care of first (though I have to admit that they are being worked on...just very slowly).

Perhaps an effort should be made to tune all of the pianos in the dorms, or build a nice pavilion where students could actually accomplish

something other than staring blankly at a tree. Especially since, in all probability, it will be gone in a few years when some other bright idea comes along that excites those in power, like a four-hundred gallon bird bath or a twenty-foot statue of a pine-cone. Actually, either of those might be kind of cool, but that's beside the point.

Then there are the lights. As I said earlier, they blind you when you walk by. Now, this is not the most intelligent thing to have happen,

especially as these lights shine out onto the street that bisects north and south campus. I just wonder how long it will be before some student who has, well, let's say that they are not in the most sound of mental states, is crossing the street when a driver becomes blinded by the "meditation lights" and creates a Scotsman pancake. I mean, it doesn't seem all that far-fetched, does it?

Then again, what do I know? I just happen to live on campus and cross that

street pretty much every day. I just happen to have wandered around the night of homecoming and seen all of the students who meandered across the road as though cars were a fanciful imagining of their inebriated minds. I just happen to have enough sense to realize what a bad idea this is...but that's just my opinion. I'm sure that they know these things much better than I. After all, they are the ones in charge; they have to know what they are doing, right?

The Almanian

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

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.

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Photographer

Photographer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Staff Writer

Faculty Advisor

Faculty Advisor

The Better Darn Sports Column

Homecoming Hero

So, this weekend was pretty good. If you can look past the homecoming loss, and the fact we were up by 20 at half-time, and the fact that we could have had those darn Flying Dutchmen at home at homecoming. If you can look past all of those shortcomings, the weekend was pretty amazing--stellar even.

Heck, we even got three years worth of yearbooks.

Oh yeah, we lost in overtime to Hope, to pretty much push us out of contention talks for the MIAA championship--yes, this early in the regular season.

Let's take a look at a few numbers just to see what exactly the problem is. Oh, here it is, fourth quarter defense: in five games, we have given up 63 points in the fourth quarter alone. We have been outscored 106-69 in the second half. We have given up 34 more points in the second half than in the first half.

What do all these numbers mean? We are NOT playing four quarters of football. Mentally, physically, emotionally--something is not making it through to the second half of the game and especially to the fourth quarter.

We, on average have given up just over 21 points in the fourth quarter alone. So, does that mean we need to be up by at least three touchdowns going into the fourth quarter to feel comfortable with a lead? That's too much to expect from any quarterback, no matter what his caliber.

Josh Brehm (07) is having a record setting season, but he is getting little or no help from the defensive side of the team. The numbers don't lie.

So, like I said before, my weekend was pretty good. The homecoming game was spectacular, but not the outcome. The best part of that game was Brehm's performance. Brehm has had 233 pass attempts this season without an interception, he's broken 10,000 yards total offense in his career, and has a completion percentage of 65.2 with a pass efficiency rating of 152.43 for the year. With those numbers, Josh Brehm was my homecoming hero.

DREW COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

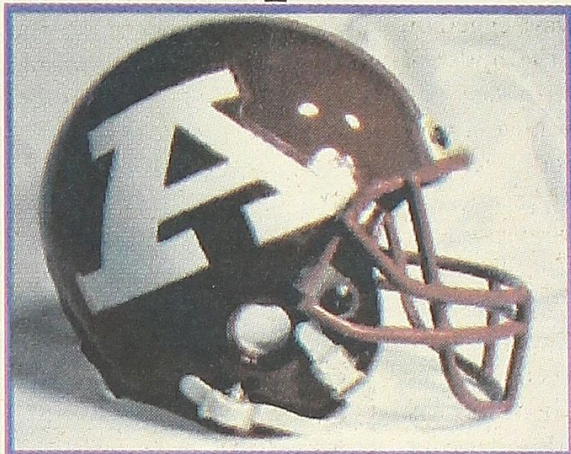


Scots Watch

9/9 Cornell	L, 31-32
9/16 UW-Eau Claire	W, 33-30
9/23 Wittenberg	L, 14-42
9/30 Tri-State	W, 58-36
10/7 Hope*	L, 43-49
10/14 Wisconsin Luth	
10/21 Albion	
10/28 Olivet	
11/4 Kalamazoo	
11/11 Adrian	

*Homecoming
Bold indicates home games

Wisconsin Lutheran Warriors should prove no match for Scots



DREW COLEMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Coming back after a heartbreaking loss to Hope College in a homecoming match not quickly to be forgotten, Alma's Scots take the field this Saturday in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to face the Wisconsin Lutheran warriors.

The Warriors are just what Alma needs after that tough battle--and loss--last weekend at home. This is only the warriors' seventh season. They are 0-2 in the MIAA and 0-5 overall.

The warriors have only had 20 offensive points in 5 games; averaging less than a

touchdown per game.

Coach Dennis Miller is in his seventh year with the W. Lutheran program. His warriors return this year with 13

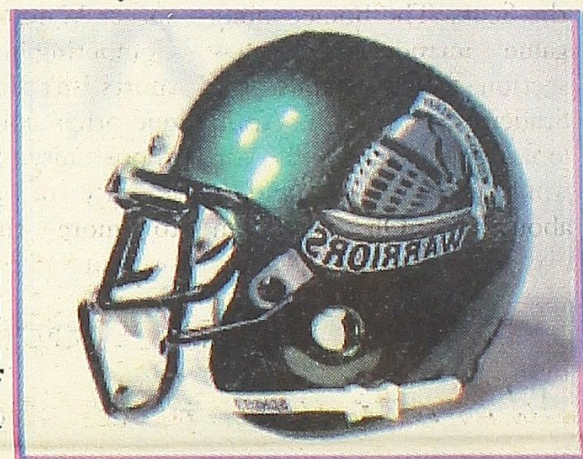
of 22 starters. The Warriors had the second best pass defense in the MIAA in 2005 by allowing only 190 yards per game, but Alma is hoping to counter that defense with the field dominance of **Josh Brehm (07)** connecting with **Joe Cline (08)**. Both Brehm and Cline are on pace

this season to break both Alma and MIAA all time passing/receiving records. Brehm, this past weekend against Hope, became one of only 15 men in

NCAA Division III history to accumulate over 10,000 total offense in a career.

Expect the Warriors to keep the ball on the ground for the most part. W. Lutheran has two key runners who are both capable of taking advantage of what has proven to be a weak Alma defense. Mo Newsome, junior running back, averaged 4.9 yards per carry this past fall. Matt Kehl, senior running back, had nearly 1,300 yards in 2005.

Even with these key players for the Warriors, the Scots should have no problem handily defeating W. Lutheran at home using our patented Scot-Gun Offense.



Students, athletic department start student section

JORDAN BROWN
SPORTS WRITER

Some student readers may already be part of a Facebook group like "Scots for Scotty," which have been popping up amidst word of dropping the Highland hero in lieu of a more publicly friendly mascot. A concerned group of students met the administration to defend 'Scotty', and found themselves at the head of a new student organization. Headed up by **Mark Kraft (09)**, the students met with Alma Sports Marketing Manager Lindsay Carpenter. One of the Students involved in the discourse was **Jamie Diener (07)**.

"I thought it was ridiculous that they were talking about making our mascot a pinecone," Diener said that Scotty was a point of pride on Campus.

In the meeting with Carpenter, the students were assured that the change from 'Scotty' was only to universalize the designs of Alma's athletic uniforms from all sports.

The conversation then moved to general student pride on campus and what

could be done to raise it. Kraft and the others offered to help the administration on this by creating an athletic fan club, with the flagship idea of a new student section.

Campus wide emails were sent out to get ideas for a name for the new organization. The group picked their favorite five and started a

ing football game against Hope College, where the 'Bravehearts' student section made it's debut.

Kraft says that the group has two main goals.

"One, is to increase campus involvement in athletics. Two, is to increase the community's involvement."

Kraft said that one of the

halftime show. The group is focusing on the upcoming winter season of basketball to test out these ideas.

"There is even a possibility of a dance team," Kraft said.

Still another short-term goal is getting sponsored travel to nearby away games.

The 'Bravehearts' have already taken over the 'Scotty' mascot suit, and will be putting it in regular use.

Kraft also wants to tap into some technical advantages at his disposal. He's working with the campus radio station WQAC, to have games streaming online.

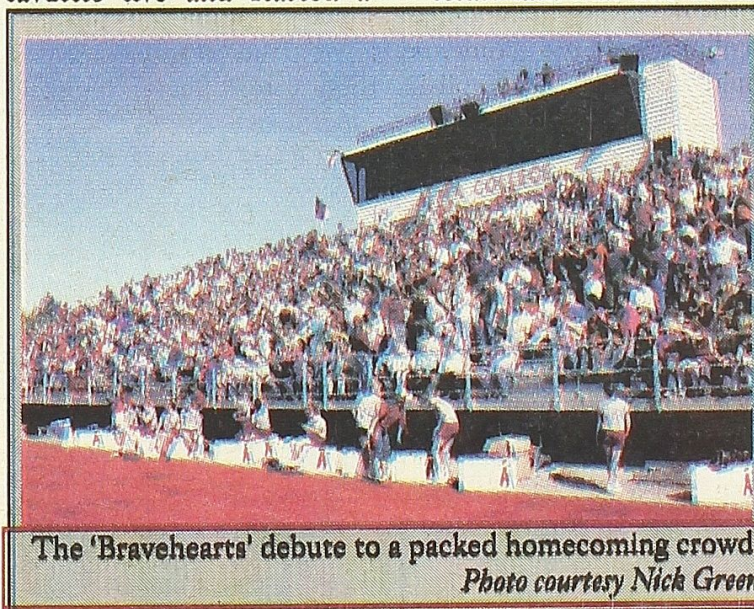
"That way if kids are doing their homework and hear that the football team is playing amazing, they can run down to the field."

Kraft also said that it would be good for parents at home who can't always make every game.

Kraft has his own long-term goal for the organization.

"I want to sell out a basketball game by my senior year."

The 'Bravehearts' have meetings in the Gelston lobby every Thursday night starting at 10:15, strategically scheduled to be after "Grey's Anatomy."



The 'Bravehearts' debut to a packed homecoming crowd.
Photo courtesy Nick Green

Facebook poll to let the student body pick their favorite.

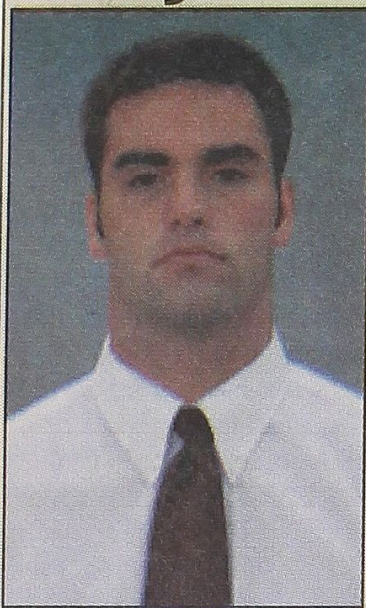
The winner, with a 51 percent win was 'Scotty's Bravehearts', which beat out the 'Scot Zone', which only had 23 percent of the vote.

The new name was announced the Saturday morning before the homecom-

group's short-term goals is to get T-shirts made and have community businesses buy sponsor spots on them.

Another goal is to begin providing entertainment before games and during halftime. Already being planned are prize contests, and an ACUB sponsored

Spotlight: Joe Cline '08



Joe is this week's MIAA Offensive Player of the Week. This is his second player of the week recognition this season.

Great Job Joe!

Last week, Cline had 17 receptions in Alma's overtime loss to Hope. This is a new school record. He is on pace to break the single season receiving record of 1,116 yards in a season set in 2002.

Standings

Football

	MIAA	Overall
Hope	2-0	2-3
Olivet	2-0	3-2
Adrian	1-1	2-3
Alma	1-1	2-3
Albion	1-1	3-2
Kalamazoo	1-1	1-3
Tri-State	0-2	0-5
W Lutheran	0-2	0-5

Golf

	Total	Avg.
Hope	2045	292.1
Olivet	2106	300.9
Tri-State	2106	300.9
Alma	2144	306.3
Calvin	2183	311.9
Albion	2226	318.0
Kalamazoo	2271	324.4
Adrian	2288	326.9

Men's Soccer

	MIAA	Overall
Albion	7-0	9-3
Hope	6-1	8-4
Kalamazoo	4-3	6-7
Calvin	3-2	5-5
Adrian	2-3	2-7
Olivet	2-5	2-10
Tri-State	1-4	2-8
Alma	0-7	1-9

Women's Soccer

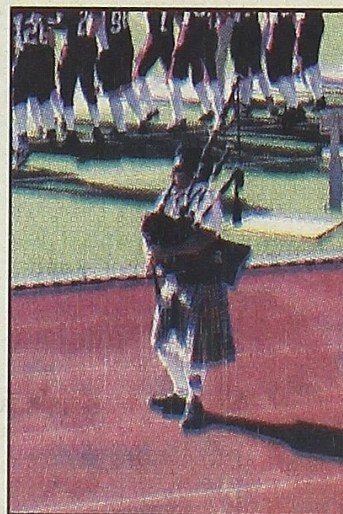
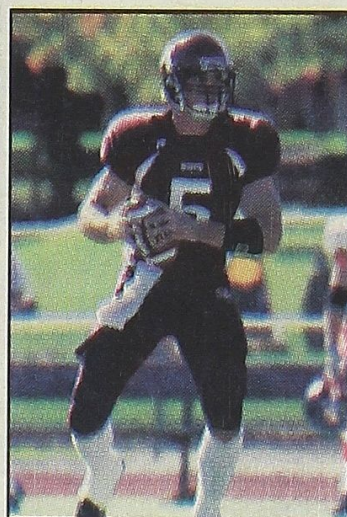
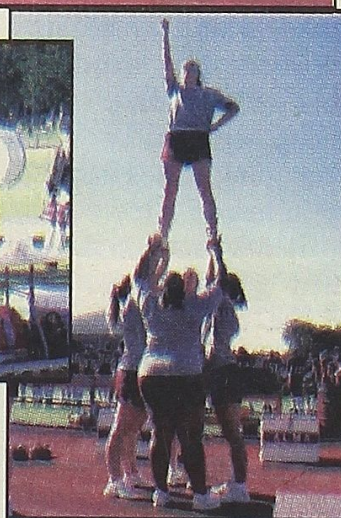
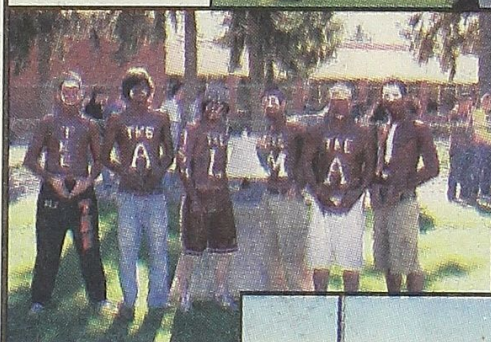
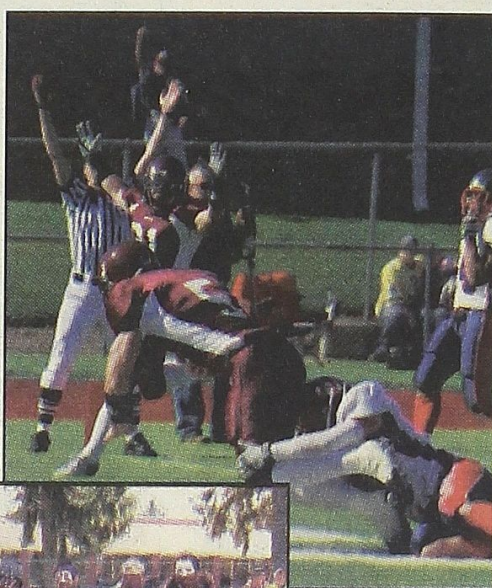
	MIAA	Overall
Calvin	5-0	13-0
Saint Mary's	3-1	4-6
Albion	2-1	9-3
Kalamazoo	2-2	6-4
Adrian	2-2	3-9
Alma	1-3	3-8
Olivet	1-1	4-6
Hope	1-2	4-6
Tri-State	0-5	0-11

Volleyball

	MIAA	Overall
Calvin	11-0	18-1
Hope	8-1	15-6
Adrian	8-3	13-7
Saint Mary's	7-4	14-6
Alma	5-5	8-10
Tri-State	4-8	7-15
Kalamazoo	3-7	7-12
Albion	1-10	6-12
Olivet	0-9	0-18

Home CoMiNg!

photos from Homecoming Weekend courtesy of Nick Green(07) and Skip Traynor



Q & A with Cross Country runner Steve Kuhlman

Earlier this week, *The Almanian* sat down with cross country runner Steve Kuhlman (09). Here's what he had to say:

**MICHAEL MILLER
SPORTS WRITER**

Q: Where are you from originally?

A: I've lived in Battle Creek most of my life, that's my hometown.

Q: When did you start running cross country?

A: I started running in the seventh grade.

Q: Why did you start running cross country??

A: I felt like getting involved in some kind of sport and I liked running, so I tried it out.

Q: What is your proudest moment as a cross country runner?

A: Nothing really. I just like being involved. You know, try my best and I try to beat my own personal best. I really don't care about winning or losing.

Q: How do you get psyched up for a match? Any rituals?

A: No. I usually just go out for a warm up run and think about doing well. Nothing fancy, I just stay calm.

Q: Who are the other runners to watch on the Alma team?

A: They're all really good. I don't normally pay attention to their scores, I do my own thing, but at the same time it is really important to be a good teammate and that's what I do.

Q: During a match, if you could listen to music while you competed, what would it be?

A: I would probably listen to some AC/DC or some Chili Peppers.