

Photo by Catherine Finley

Vicente Fox was this year's featured speaker in the Robert D. Swanson Responsible Leaders series.

## Alma College Democrats bring star power to registration rally

BY SIMONE MISHLER  
NEWS EDITOR

No entourages were present when Adam Brody and Rachel Leigh Cook came to campus on Saturday to register students to vote. The two celebrities talked amongst students about the importance of voter registration and their support of Barack Obama.

"I really believe the country needs to swing this way right now to stay successful and peaceful," said Brody. "And it will benefit us all blue or red."

Touring college campuses, Brody and Cook have been registering students to vote as well as listening to the student's concerns related to the election. While many students they meet are already registered, they still feel the need to get their message out.

"I think a lot of people don't want to vote because they don't feel informed about the issues," said Cook. "The truth is that you

have to figure out what matters to you."

Instead of speaking to students in a formal way at the beginning of the event, Cook and Brody chose to walk through the crowd of students having conversations about political issues.

"Things like abortion, things like gay marriage—they are things that are near and dear to my heart," said Brody regarding his favorite issues to discuss with the students he meets. "I might be naïve...but I like to think that things like that are really last generation's squabbles."

The event was organized by the Alma College Democrats with help from the Gratiot County campaign to elect Barack Obama. Students have been very active in this election year in getting new voters registered.

"It's really inspiring to see, and I feel so old saying this, but to see young people care!" said Cook about the students she has met touring campuses.

Pictures and autographs were a main concern of students. Some students had brought copies of Brody's television show, *The OC*, to be signed. And even some were brought to tears by the chance to touch him. But the focus of the event was maintained and new voters were registered. The condition was given that unless the student was a registered voter they could not get their picture taken.

More than 100 students passed through McIntyre Mall to attend the meet and greet despite the football game also in progress. The conversations held largely echoed Obama's campaign message about change.

"I know it sounds naive, and I am a cynic, but I actually think we're living in a cool moment in history," said Brody about his support of Obama and his hopes for November 4. "We're going to elect this guy and it's going to change the world. It's going to change America."

## Student forum focuses on Mexican domestic policy

BY ANNA ZICHI AND  
KRISTEN HAIGHT  
STAFF WRITERS

Students were given the opportunity Wednesday to ask questions of Vicente Fox, former president of Mexico, and his wife Marta de Fox before his keynote speech that night. Together they answered several questions about Mexican domestic policy and their post-presidential efforts.

Following are the questions and answers given during the forum.

What measures for indigenous culture preservation are being done in the face of economic development?

Vicente Fox began by stating that Mexico is still strong in its native heritage. This is evident by the 12 to 15 percent of the population that are indigenous and the 60 different dialects

spoken throughout the country.

"Over 60 different dialects or languages are spoken in Mexico," said Fox. "It is part of our culture, it is part of our diversity, it is part of our strength." He pointed out that each native Mexican has a drop of indigenous blood making their heritage that much more important to the entire country.

While in office Vicente Fox created three key federal offices. The appointed members are to represent the indigenous people, the handicapped and immigrants respectively. He noted that each of these groups would have first priority in the state budget, which in turn would help Mexico preserve its indigenous culture.

During his presidency he also brought computers and the internet into all 190,000 schools along with bi-lingual software

as part of the effort to integrate indigenous students into modern times while still preserving their culture.

Marta de Fox discussed the efforts of non-government organizations in such educational initiatives. One example is *Vamos Mexico*, which often matches government funds for educational products. School construction, transportation and shelters were all given so students would be able to attend school during the week and return home for work and time with their families during the weekend.

Students were also provided with bicycles in order to get to and from school. With this the children were not only provided with transportation, but were given the opportunity to have energy so they were able to learn.

## Vicente Fox on the importance of today's leaders

BY KRISTEN HAIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Former Mexican president Vicente Fox spoke about politics, education, and leadership to a crowd of students, faculty, trustees and locals in the Cappaert gym last Wednesday.

Fox, the latest guest of the Center for Responsible Leadership's Robert D. Swanson Responsible Leadership Series, delivered his keynote address in the evening after a forum, dinner, and press conference.

He opened his speech by complimenting Alma College's purpose and its name, explaining

that "alma" is the Spanish word for "soul." Taking the theme of the evening into account, he elaborated on the connection between education and leadership, saying, "The teacher is full of dreams. The dream of seeing tomorrow that his student is becoming a leader, a leader with alma. Leadership is equivalent to soul, to alma. It's what we have within ourselves. We all are leaders [...] We're leaders all the time of our lives [...] We must exercise that leadership with a purpose, a clear purpose, and that is what we learn here at school."

He continued by elaborating on

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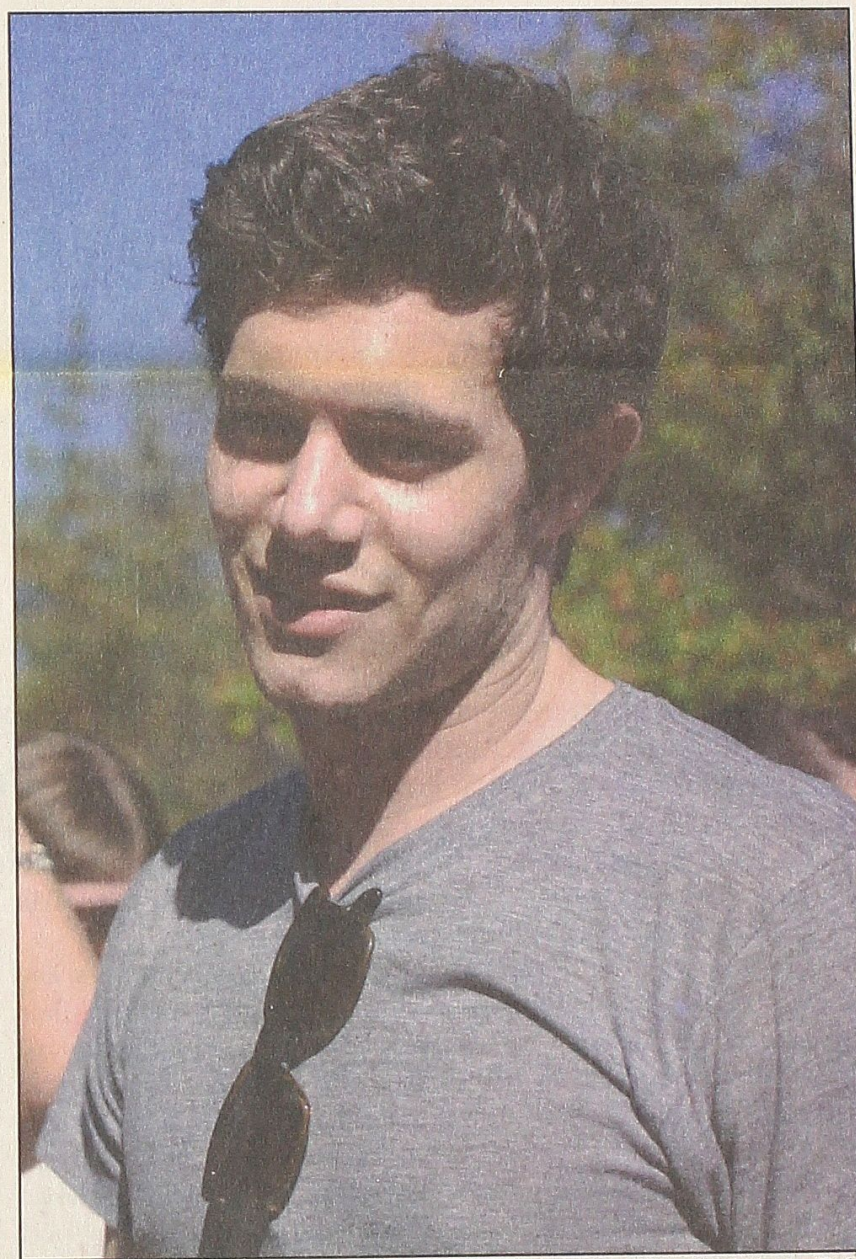


Photo by Catherine Finley

Adam Brody tours Michigan colleges to register new voters.

In conjunction with helping children Marta de Fox has focused on the health of indigenous people and has been extremely involved in initiatives. These include providing modern technology and training midwives, while still allowing them to preserve their own culture.

How would you evaluate current Mexican president, Felipe Calderon's, efforts in addressing drug violence in Mexico?

"He is doing the job. We did our part in six years, but it was not enough. We are in the middle of war, and ten to a dozen people are killed every day." Said Vicente Fox. "We have gotten this far, and we are sure we will see the final light at the end of the tunnel. Mexico will win this war, we are just in-between."

According to Vicente Fox because

of Mexico's delicate position between South American (drug producing) countries and the United States (drug consuming), Mexico has seen an increase in drug producers and consumers. Currently though Mexico is unable to obtain support from the drug producing countries to the South. He believes Mexico is doing its part, but will only win with the work and support of both the United States and South American countries.

Philip Calderon, president of Mexico, is fighting the drug war by imploring a stronger strategy, Vicente Fox said. He has deplored the army into the cities in order to combat the crime.

How would you recommend President Calderon address human trafficking especially at the border?

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*Leaders' from page 1*

his own personal philosophy of leadership, saying "Leadership is a way of life. It's my life. And I will work for change. And I'm going to work serving others, and that's the way the world is going to change. That's the way we're going to leave behind the problems that we have every day."

Fox entertained the audience with stories about his family, beginning with his grandfather, an immigrant who lived in Ohio for years before moving down to Mexico in 1895. "He had in his mind freedom, democracy. He had in his mind solidarity, and compassion. He had in his mind equal opportunities for everyone." Fox noted that when his grandfather moved to Mexico, he was chasing his own version of the "American Dream" he very much believed in. He talked about his mother as well, and earned laughter with a story about how she tricked her father into being baptized Catholic.

Fox then spoke about the current political climate in the United States. "There is, right now, pessimism in this nation, in what is happening in the country, or with mortgages. And there doesn't seem to be a clear solution. But this nation is also going to through a stream of great hope., with this renewal of a democracy two hundred years old. With this extraordinary electoral process that this nation is witnessing. And it is a clear example to the rest of the world that democracies renew, that governments renew, that hopes come back, again and again."

Regarding the economic crisis in the United States, Fox expressed his hope that the solution would not be a grant shouldered by tax payers. "The solution is not grants or bailouts," he said. According to Fox, public money should go to public good, like investment or the construction of infrastructure.

Instead, he recommended a solution similar to that which Mexico employed during its 1994 peso crisis. "We're talking about a loan. We're talking about an experience Mexico already went through. Because in Latin America, we have crises every other day, every other year. Mammoth devaluation, huge inflation." He discussed Mexico's last crisis, during which President Clinton loaned the country money. According to Fox, this was

a perfect solution. It allowed the Mexican government to find its way out of the crisis, and the loan was paid back within two years.

Once again, he talked about the role of leaders in these crises, past and present. "It's a problem. And that's what leaders are for, to solve problems."

Fox made clear his disapproval of current United States trade and immigration policies. "I say with full respect, I don't understand the building of walls. You would build walls among neighbors, among friends, and among allies. We should be building bridges. That's what we should be doing, Canada, Mexico, and the United States."

He continued on by expressing his support of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and relatively open border immigration policies. He stated his belief that the American economy needs Mexican workers to do necessary jobs that the US doesn't have the population or the desire to do. Also on the economic front, he discussed the need to created wealth through free markets, and remarked on Mexico's recent economic growth, calling it "a miracle."

The last issued he discussed in his speech was that of drug violence in Mexico. "The problem of violence is the worst that [current Mexican president] Calderón is facing. He is using all the power of the Mexican state in combating this hazard. And Mexico is doing its share. But we need also that the United States does its part. Mexico happens to be in between those drug producing nations of the south, Colombia, Venezuela, and Jamaica, Bolivia, and this huge, largest consumer market in the world, the United States. So it's a problem to control traffic." He expressed his belief that cooperation between the production and consumer states is essential to any successful policy, and Mexico can't fight the battle alone.

Fox spoke forcefully on key issues in current politics, but perhaps the most important theme of his discussion was that of leadership. He believes that we all are leaders, and to a good leader, no problem is insoluble. With today's chaotic political climate, such an impressive leader couldn't have delivered a more relevant message.

## School spirit struts down Superior Street

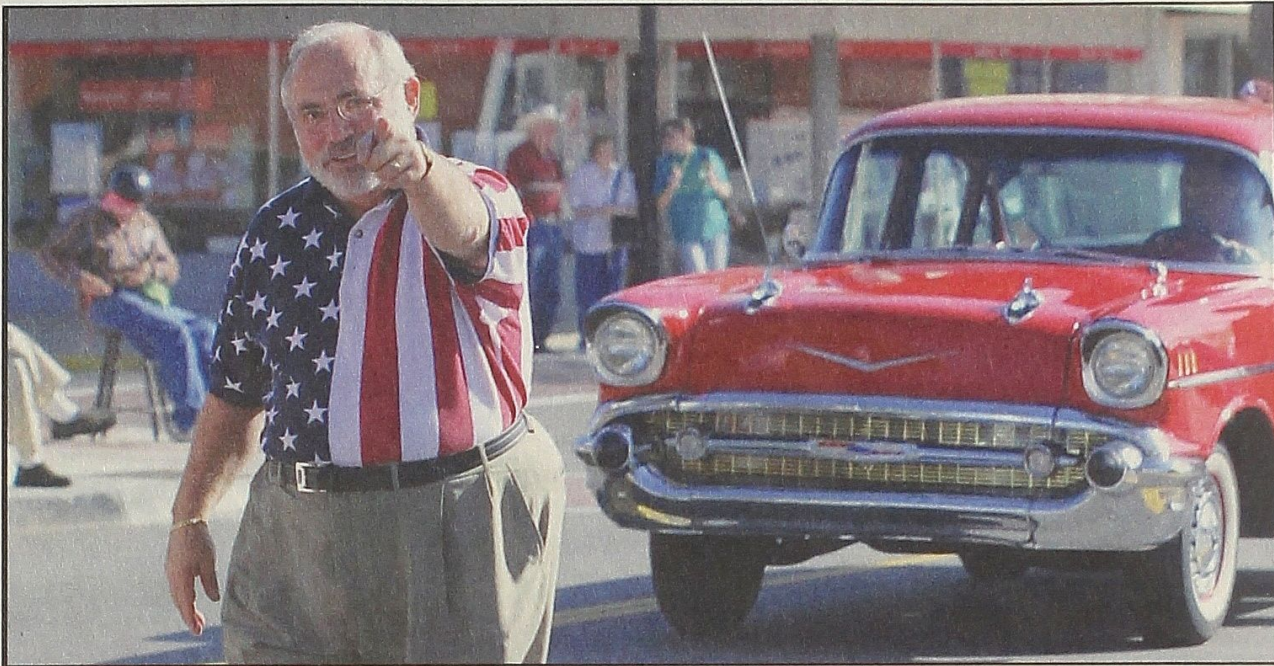


Photo by Brent Riley

Senator Roger Kahn, wearing his patriotism, was among the marchers in the homecoming parade.

*'Forum' from page 1*

Vicente Fox began by stating that most of the trafficking was an effort to get people into the United States. He explained that many of the traffickers are the criminals attempting to take advantage of the Mexican citizens who think they are coming legally.

There is an easy answer to the question of illegal immigration, according to Vicente Fox. It is dialogue between Mexico and the United States. However, he points out that since September 11, 2001 it is difficult to find a cohesive viewpoint in the United States regarding border security, which in turn makes it difficult to create positive dialogue between the two

countries.

Currently there is a bill in Congress addressing the issue that has been stalled for the last three years. "When the economy is strong nobody seems to care about migration People would come find a job and work," said Vicente Fox. "Now that the economy is running low it is very hard to find a job. As many of you have read today or yesterday the number of immigrants this year is about half. It is simple supply and demand."

After a discussion of Mexico's 1994 peso crisis the last question was: How would you characterize the progress of women's rights?

"Advancing," said Vicente Fox.

There is a new awareness for the need to promote the rights of women in both Mexico and throughout the world. In Mexico 60% of teachers and 55% of university students are women.

Marta de Fox finished by adding that it is important for women to learn to work together not only with men, but also with each other. Many times it happens that one woman will make it to the top, but she seems to always have another woman working against her to gain said position.

"Women must have dignity, opportunity and power," said Marta de Fox. "Through women gaining independence, there will be democracy in the end."

## Outside the "Bubble"

By ANNA ZICHI  
STAFF WRITER

Special Address

Senator Roger Kahn [R] attended the meeting to urge the Commission to approve the Great Lakes Energy and Research Park resolution. "I appreciate your work on this resolution for making this a reality."

Resolutions/Proclamations

Five resolutions were approved at the meeting. The first was adopting the City of Alma Snow and Ice Control Plan. This plan addresses issues that have arisen throughout the last few winters and include: additional streets, reduced staffing levels and street priorities. To view the plan in its entirety please see the city's website at [www.ci.alma.mi.us](http://www.ci.alma.mi.us).

Secondly, the Commissioners approved the Renaissance Zone for the Core Area of the Great Lakes Energy and Research Park. This resolution states that persons and property within the Zone would be exempt from taxes levied by the township, city, county and other units of government as provided under PA 376 of 1996. It was pointed out to the Commission that the state is 100% on board with the Park and that the next step is to get local colleges involved. "Energy is an issue, but the solution is not from one source," said Melvin Nyman, Mayor. "This is however, a step in the right direction."

The Alma Downtown Development Authority Façade Grant awarded Pine River Automotive \$1,500.00 for a roofing project.

The City approved the resolution of support for funding economic development in the City of Alma and all Gratiot County through Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. The Gratiot County Commissioners announced that they intended to cut their monetary support for Greater Gratiot Development. Alma hopes that with this resolution they will encourage Gratiot County to maintain or expand their collaborative funding to ensure the economic vitality of the county. "This is a very unique program in the state," said Nyman. "We have cooperation not competition throughout the county." This year they are celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary by having a celebration luncheon in Ithaca on October 10. More information on this event will be coming in other media sources.

Finally, there will be a sidewalk chalk contest on Saturday, October 4 down the CROP WALK route.

Ordinances

Two introductory resolutions were proposed at the meeting. The first is to regulate overnight parking in municipal parking lots.

This ordinance was proposed because of complaints lodged by city residents. However, the ordinance was simply introduced at the meeting and much more discussion on both of these will ensue at further meetings.

Commissioner's Comments

Larry Mott, City Commissioner began by thanking the Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. for 30 years of hard work. He also took the time to thank Kahn for addressing the commission. The other commissioners also thanked the Development for all of their time and energy put into making Alma a better place. Charles Fortino, City Commissioner said in regards to the Development, "You do not know what you have got until it is gone. It is vital to continuing economic health in Alma." Nyman concluded the meeting by commenting on the Great Lakes Energy and Research Park. He said, "This is very important for the state of Michigan. Many sophisticated jobs will be brought in for Alma."



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## Questions and answers with Vicente Fox

By KRISTEN HAIGHT  
STAFF WRITER

Vicente Fox was gracious enough to take time out of his busy day last Wednesday to answer some questions posed by reporters from Saginaw, Mount Pleasant, and Alma. The following is a brief question and answer session with the former Mexican president.

**Question:** Mr. President, what is your advice on the current economic crisis in the US, and are you planning on addressing some of this in your talk tonight?

**Answer:** Thank you for the question. I would not address the issue in the conference on the conference except to mention the impact it will have over and beyond the United States or the US economy. It's a problem, it's a big, big problem. It could be much worse. That's why, number one, I think it's absolutely legitimate, but also obliged, for the US government to get involved and bring in all the talent and all the proposals and solutions that they can think of. But that has to be done in a framework, with limits. Number one, they cannot put at risk taxpayers' money. Number two, they have to, as their main objective, protect US families, precisely protecting savings accounts, homes, and properties of peoples and families. That should be the main concern. And of course, the concern about bringing health to the US economy, which is so affected now. Also, they must think about the rest of the world and the impact this will have. So that's number one. Number two, there are solutions. Solutions are clear.

I understand this country is not investing budget funds at all. I think that has been stated very clearly by the government. It is

not the government's objective to invest. It is a loan. A loan that will not affect the budget and the commitments of the budgets. And whatever it is, a loan that is partially provided by the government, or whether it is an investment or a loan partially provided by the private sector, whatever it is, it has to have a clear committed payback of that money. Never as a grant without collecting it back. And number three, by my political way of thinking, you don't do what the lower echelon can do. So government should not get involved unless private sector cannot solve the deal. So it's the last resort.

And finally, unfortunately, this problem comes about when an election is at risk.

What this means is that the problem will be politicized because the candidates are talking about it and the candidates are using the issue to defend their campaigns.

So it's politicized, and that's the worst thing that can happen. These issues are complex. These issues require professionalism—require talent. So, finally, let me say that I say all of this because we lived the experience in Mexico back in 1994, and we came out all right with the solution we found to our very similar problem. We were able to solve it because of the characteristics that I mentioned, or the conditions that I mentioned, but also because of the support in that case of President Clinton, who gave a loan to Mexico of 50 billion US dollars that was totally paid back right after. And that proves that what we are talking about here is not money that is going to be to the wastebasket. It is money that is invested and that has to be paid

back, like it happened in Mexico.

**Question:** Latin America is shifting into two interesting directions with countries like Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia—kind of convening together while other countries looking towards democratic capitalist economies are looking at talks of a union in North America similar to the EU in Europe. Do you feel that these two sectors or groupings coming together will increase tensions between the two? Do you think there is a problem foreign policy-wise or economically—that is being created by that?

**Answer:** The problem will be with the people of Venezuela, the people of Cuba, the people of Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua. They are going to be the problem. It's nonsense to follow these messianic leaders. They don't even have a theory or a problem. They just spend money coming from oil. And yes, there are bribes in the shadows in Latin America right now.

This is a key issue that you just mentioned. And it is a key issue for Centro Fox, in Mexico right now. We have to address the issue. And we have to address it while promoting democracy and freedom because these guys are totalitarian, they are changing the constitutions so they can be in power forever. They're limiting the freedom of the citizens and media—you can look at Nicaragua and see what they're doing: they are buying out all free media, radio, newspapers, T.V. stations and they are trashing the opposition in the next election to keep them from winning.

And this dream of Hugo Chavez to become the Fidel Castro of the 21<sup>st</sup> century—well, picture today in Latin America. Latin America fortunately learned its lessons in

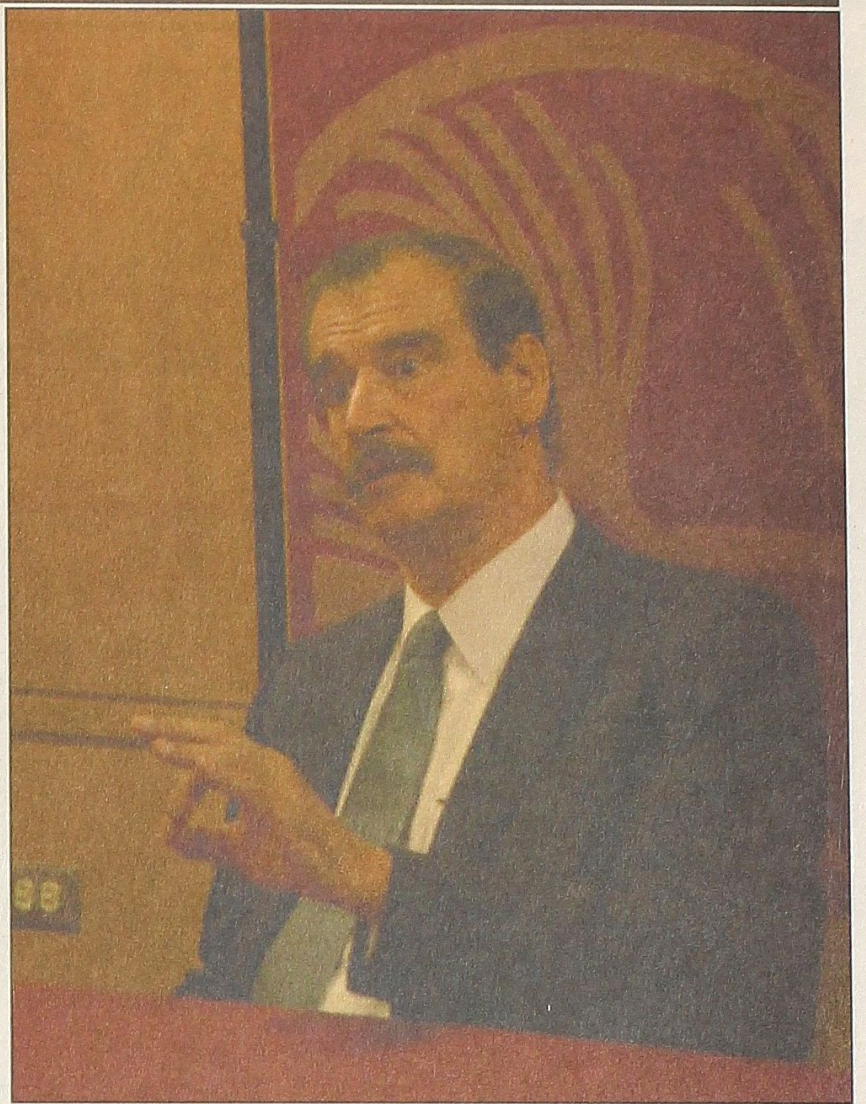


Photo by Catherine Finley

**Fox responds to questions at the Wednesday press conference.**

the twentieth century. We were in the hands of dictators all along that century. Brutal dictators in Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Salvador, Chile, and Colombia—everywhere dictators. We did not enjoy the fruits of democracy and freedom during the twentieth century. And that is why Latin America is lagging behind today. That is the answer to those who in this nation question why Mexico does not outsource or create opportunities for its own people in Mexico. The answer is that one: we were in the hands of a dictatorship for 72 years without enjoying democracy and freedom.

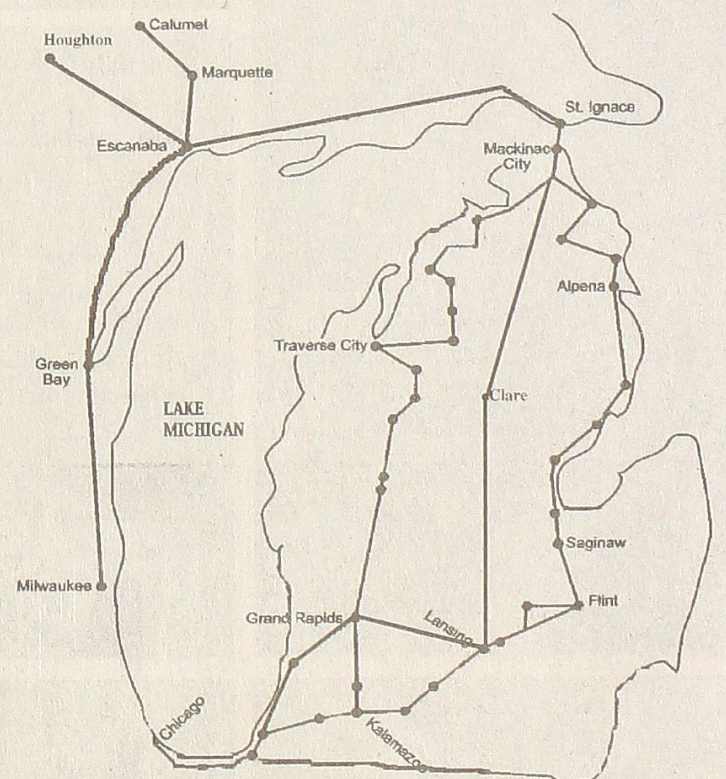
At the end of the century we changed, in every one of the Latin American nations. Today, we are democratic nations. Today

we are in the market economy. And, for the first time in decades, Latin America is growing. We are growing on average of six percent a year. That's substantial. So we have to stay on the path, on the road to democracy and freedom, to market economy, and powerful social policies. So hopefully, for the betterment of Venezuelan families, and Nicaraguan families, they get rid of these dictators, and then the human people, and I am supporting them all the way as president of the Centrist Democrat International, backing them up on this transit to democracy on the understanding that democracy and freedom and market economy is the only way you can defeat poverty in Latin America.

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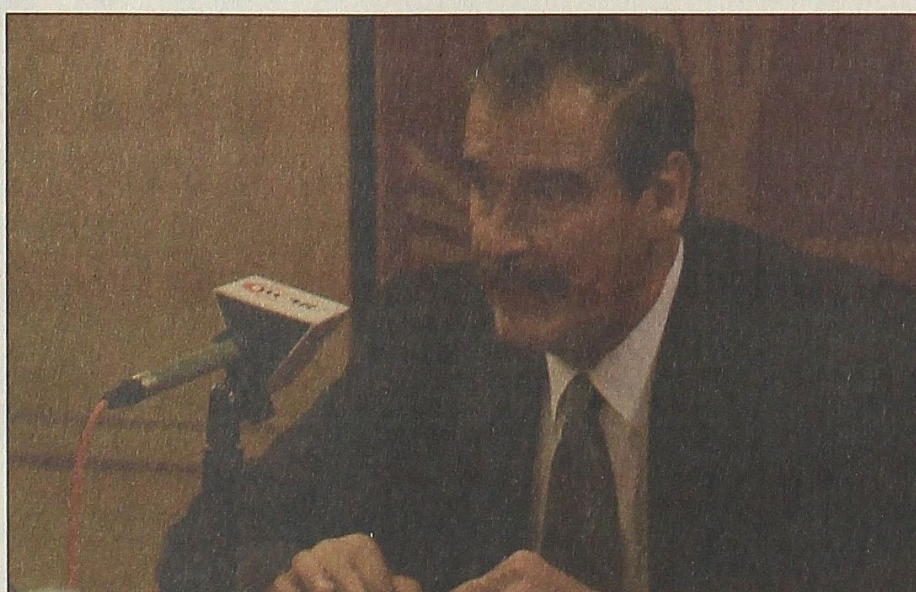
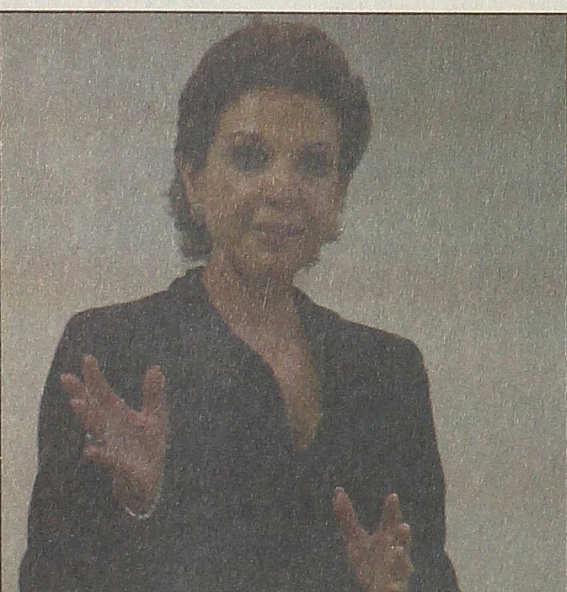
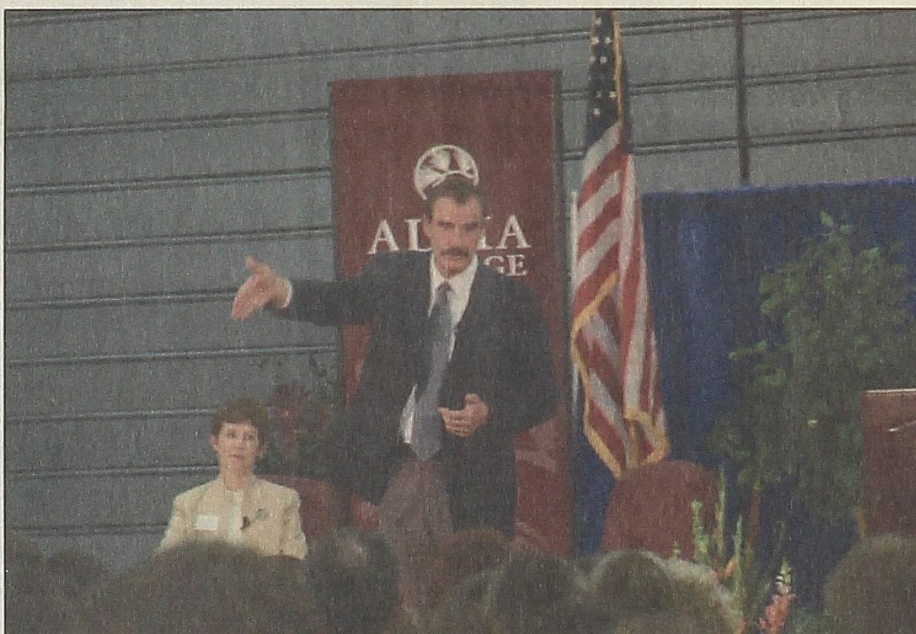
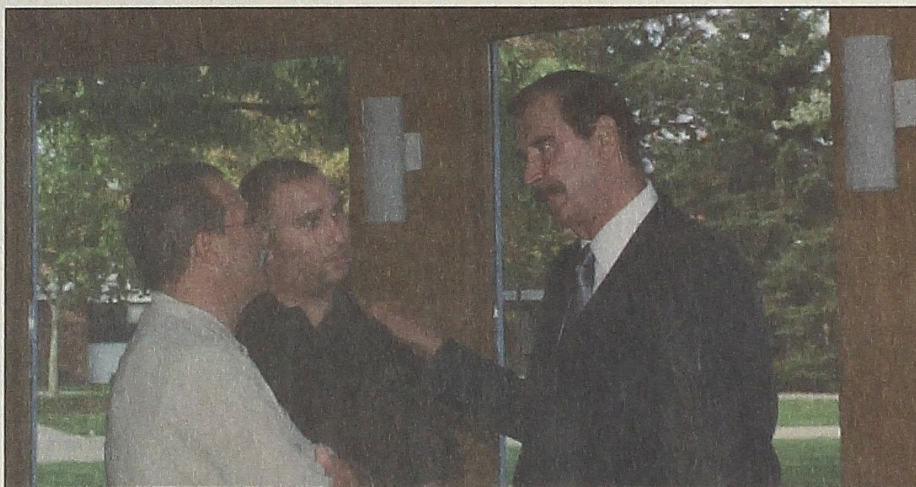
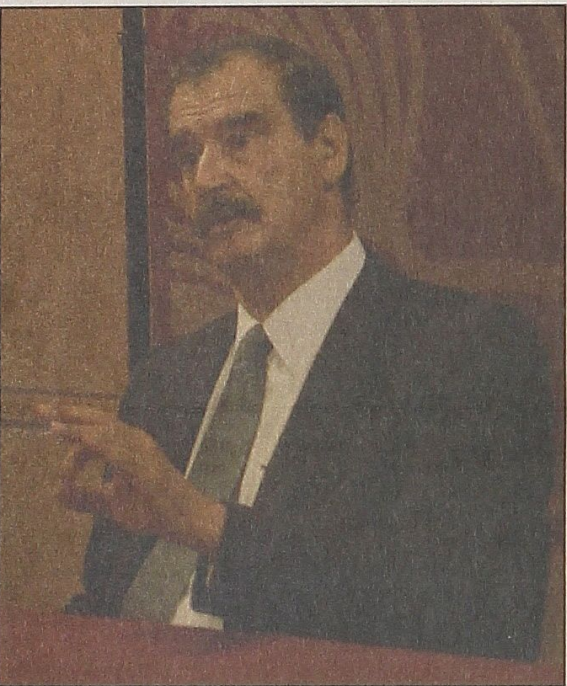


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## Vicente Fox comes to Alma College

Former president of Mexico answers student's questions in a small afternoon session, holds a press conference, and addresses entire community. His wife, Marta, speaks about education and gender equality in Mexico.





## Gamble to speak for impoverished children

By MEREDITH BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe (FCEE) will be hosting a speaker, Robert Gamble, on September 30 at 7:30 in DOW L-1.

FCEE is a campus organization that does fundraising and awareness for Eastern European countries like the Ukraine that have serious AIDS epidemics, and over 140,000 homeless and/or orphaned children. Many of these children are forced to turn to prostitution or begging to make it from day to day, and turn to drugs for solace.

FCEE was previously sponsoring an orphanage called Veselka (a Russian word for rainbow) located northwest of Kiev. FCEE has recently determined that Veselka is no longer in need of their financial support, as the standard of living for the children living there is now equal to a typical rural Ukrainian, largely because of the financial contributions from the club. Obviously, FCEE is making a direct, positive impact in the world.

"FCEE does not only make financial contributions. We keep the organizations we donate to accountable by sending students there to check up on the programs and assess its needs and experience life there," said **Brittany Law ('09)**.

So where does Robert Gamble come in? Gamble is a Presbyterian minister, and founder of This Child Here, an organization in the port city of Odessa whose function is, as the official website puts it, "[To] help children move from street life to life in shelters, homes or orphanages, and to help, to encourage, and to inspire chil-

dren in those facilities."

Gamble works closely in cooperation with The Way Home, also based in Odessa. The Way Home is an organization the focus of FCEE has gradually been turning to. The home provides basic materials such as food, housing, medical care and education for the homeless children who live in the dormitory and the areas surrounding it. Robert Gamble provides supplementary material such as art and horse therapy, daily street patrol and street soccer games, as well as a spiritual emphasis.

"The programs Robert has set up with The Way Home are more to do with holistic healing for the kids," said Law. "Animals demand respect and attention, and horse therapy is a great way for them to learn how to exhibit that."

Gamble is also an extremely talented photographer, and uses this ability to raise awareness of these vulnerable children. Students planning to come to hear him speak can expect to see disturbing and unbelievably powerful photographs of daily life for these children and teenagers from Ukraine.

The hardships that the hundreds of thousands of these young people face are far beyond most American's ability to conceive. Diseases like AIDS, tuberculosis and hepatitis run rampant in the country. "They don't go to school; they have no time, no friends and no documentation," said Gamble.

If one believes in shared humanity, they know this work is absolutely crucial. The opportunity to listen to someone so involved in solving global poverty and spreading hope is one Alma College students should really take advantage of.



Photo courtesy of Robert Gamble

Gamble brings attention to the living conditions of orphans in Eastern Europe.

## Wellebration celebrates the six dimensions of health this Tuesday

By ELISABETH BLETSCH  
STAFF WRITER

With sickness spreading full force around campus the last couple of weeks, it seems as though the event, Wellebration, could not come at a better time.

Celebrate wellness by attending Wellebration on Tuesday, September 30, in front of the recreation center.

Kicking off this day of wellness is a walk Monday night, September 29, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The walk will take place on the Rails to Trails and will go for about two miles.

Participants are not limited to strictly walking. Running, rollerblading, and biking will also be

permitted.

According to Jennifer Cary, counselor from the Counseling and Wellness Center, the second annual Wellebration "kicks off wellness for the year."

Cary, along with counseling interns **Allison Gibson ('09)** and **Amber Greco ('09)**, coordinated the event this year.

Cary said Wellebration is an informational fair that "displays the six dimensions of wellness."

The six dimensions of wellness are occupational, intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, and social.

During the event, individuals from campus and the community come and provide information to students on how they can achieve

overall wellness in their lives.

This year Wellebration is being put on in conjunction with the American Red Cross Blood Drive, sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega.

The blood drive will also be taking place in front of the recreation center on Tuesday, September 30, from 10:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Other guests taking part in Wellebration this year include Masonic Home residents and employees, LEAN representatives, a Rails to Trails representative, and representatives from Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

Booths will be set up by all participants with information on their services and opportunities available for interested students.

Take-away's such as brochures, hand sanitizer from the Wilcox Medical Center, and fruit provided by Sodexo will also be available for students.

In terms of entertainment for students at Wellebration, there will be a Nintendo Wii available to play, beer goggles to try on, and a masseuse will be giving free five-minute massages.

Gibson thinks "it's important for the students on campus to learn about wellness. If they learn about virus spreading, better nutrition, exercise, and stress management we could hopefully prevent more illness from taking over the campus."

Cary hopes that "wellness will be carried throughout the year."

She continued that in October, the event Walktober Fest will be held in conjunction with Rails to Trails, to further advance wellness on campus.

Last fall Wellebration was created when a counseling intern wanted to get "the wellness initiative going on campus," said Cary.

With a reasonable turnout last year, Cary said that this year Wellebration is still "getting off the ground," and that "each year I would expect it to get a little bigger and a little better."

Wellebration will be held Tuesday, September 30, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., outside the recreation center. In case of rain, it will be moved inside the recreation center.

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## Together, we can save a life

By HILLARY BARD  
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday September 30 Alma College students have the opportunity to go to the Stone Recreation Center and save lives.

“Michigan has an urgent need for all blood types,” Alisa Dean, MCC AmeriCorps\*VISTA said.

Whatever the blood type, this month’s blood drive sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega, will give students the chance to help Michigan’s urgent need.

Dean has been an active volunteer with blood drives on campus since she began working for the Service Learning office two years ago. According to Dean, the Red Cross currently has less blood than what it considers safe. A three day blood supply is considered adequate but right now the Red Cross has less than a two day supply.

According to the American Red Cross’ website, “Blood is needed for emergencies and for people who have cancer, blood disorders, sickle cell, anemia and other illnesses. Some people need regular blood transfusions to live.”

Having regular blood transfu-

sions means the opportunity to give blood should be regular. With the help of various organizations on campus, Alma hosts three blood drives a year in the months of September, January and March.

“They are spaced out so that people that donated at the last blood drive can donate at the next one,” Dean said.

In addition to the span of time between donating blood, giving blood requires that donors adhere to certain guidelines many of which can be found on the American Red Cross website.

Ineligibility to give blood can vary from “getting your ears pierced to taking a spring term trip,” Dean said.

Blood donation days at Alma require a lot of volunteer work for things to run smoothly, which Dean says can be a challenge. The American Red Cross receives much help at Alma from Physical Plant supplying tables and chairs to Sodexo supplying food and drink.”

“There’s a lot of behind the scenes work to make a blood drive happen and we want to make the process as easy as possible for do-

nors,” Dean said.

A common reason why donors get frustrated, however, is beyond the control of the blood drive coordinators and volunteers. Before donors can donate, their blood must go through an iron test.

“Reminding possible donors to eat spinach and other foods to boost their iron level can also be a challenge,” Dean said.

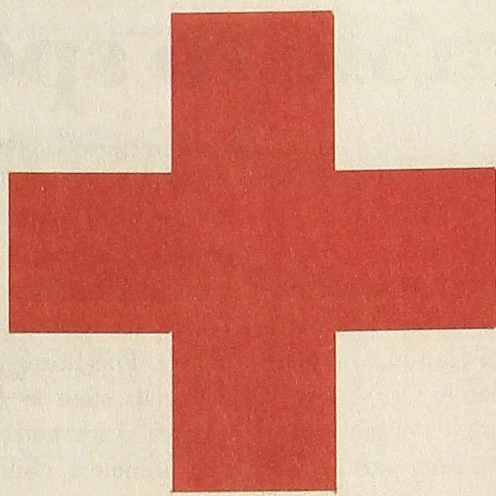
For donors that are timid of needles, there are strategies to pull you through the blood donation process.

“Sometimes focusing on breathing or thinking about how your blood can help save someone else’s life can help,” Dean said. “Others bring their iPods with [them] so that they can focus on the music. You also get a cookie and punch at the end.”

Some people, like sophomore Rachel Markillie, who is anemic and hypoglycemic have a hard time giving blood.

“I have attempted [to give blood] nine times and have been able to twice,” Markillie said.

Instead of backing away from the blood drive entirely, Markillie has been a volunteer for blood drives, which according to Dean



## American Red Cross

*Graphic courtesy of The American National Red Cross*

is a positive choice of action even if your reason to not donate is unrelated to something medical.

“My suggestion for anyone who can’t give is to volunteer at one of the blood drives,” Dean said. “Then you can still make a difference but you don’t have to deal with the needles.”

For those without needle aversions remember that the amount

of time it takes to drive up to Mount Pleasant a very special gift can be given.

“By giving fifteen minutes of your time you can save several lives,” Markillie said.

If you are interested in volunteering or having your organization host a blood drive on campus contact Alisa Dean for more information.

## Alma alumnus Chris Andrus and his band “Bless You Boys” delighted students

By LAUREN SYPNIEWSKI  
FEATURE EDITOR

Nearly a hundred students, faculty, and enthusiasts cheered on the “Bless You Boys” in their homecoming weekend concert, which was met with praise by many.

“I thought the concert was really cool,” said **Krysti Elchuk (’12)**. “I was bummed that more people didn’t go, but I am glad that I went. I would definitely buy their cd.”

Rocking out in black shirts and ties, Chris Andrus stood out in white as lead vocalist and guitarist. The first thing to notice: these four men are passionate about what they do. Stomping the stage with four sets of black converse shoes, the men swayed, head bobbed, and completely grooved to their music.

The band commenced their concert with a song largely reliant on chords. Halfway through the tune, Andrus snapped a string on his brown electric guitar. Most of the lyrics were muffled throughout the first couple songs due to the reality of live concerts, yet as the concert continued the clarity grew as well.

“I think that they got off to a rocky start, but then did really well. I liked the concert a lot,” said **Anthony Sickelka (’11)**.

While Andrus closed his eyes to stay in rhythm with his music, bass guitarist Steve Sullivan, although without a microphone, muttered the lyrics while he rocked out on a bright, cherry-red bass guitar. Drummer Brad Harris continued to watch his three other band members as he skillfully hammered out the rhythmic metronome. Brad “Vern” Lawrence added greatly to the scene with his blue instrument and thick rimmed black glasses, not to mention his reckless talent.

“Bless You Boys” was formed in 2006 by Andrus, who graduated

from Alma in 2002 with an Art and Business double major. Andrus sang in the Alma choirs all four of his years at school.

“Doc is the one that pretty much taught me how to sing,” said Andrus, reminiscing about his choir years. “I am indebted to him.”

With this knowledge, Andrus has been hailed by “The Grand Rapids Press” as “one of the most promising songwriters on the Michigan music scene today.”

Commenting on how the band got together, Andrus said, “Well, it really is a small scene when it comes down to it.” Everyone pretty much knows everyone, continued Andrus. He would hear

of this or that guy whom he liked and whose band had broken up, and would consequently ask him to join “Bless You Boys.”

Based in Grand Rapids, “Bless You Boys” has toured all over the Midwest and east coast, including Chicago, Pittsburg, and New York City. In New York, the band was in “Fearless Music TV,” a NBC show for up-and-coming bands which was taped in Times Square.

Andrus attests smiling that the most rewarding aspect is “when you play the show and they sing the words back to you. Your song.”

Although commonly misconstrued as a Christian band, “Bless

You Boys” actually got their name from sportscaster Al Ackerman who used the phrase when reporting the winning Tiger’s score. The four band members hail themselves as Tiger’s fans, and enjoy their name, though, at times, they do get tired of explaining it constantly.

Andrus calls the band’s tone “60’s pop meets Indy rock.” All four musicians are huge “Beatles” and “Beach Boys” fans, yet since they did grow up in the 90’s, they also enjoy and are influence by such bands as “Smashing Pumpkins” and “Radio Head.”

Their first cd, “Armed to the Teeth,” was released in June, 2006.

Andrus had written this before the band had formed, and the cd features only seven songs. It was released to strong reviews and was named “Album of the Year” by “The Grand Rapids Press.”

Although Andrus does write all of the music, the second cd was “a communion effort” according to Andrus. “We really vibed like a band.” This cd, released in August 2008, is titled “The Still Life” and highlights ten songs.

“The Still Life” features the song “Carry me Home,” which is receiving strong reviews and recently has been placed on the regional ClearChannel Radio. It is one of the top requested songs.



*Photo by Lauren Sypniewski*

Andrus sang to an enthusiastic crowd at his alma mater over homecoming weekend.



AWKWARD MISCONCEPTIONS BY CHRIS SCHNEIDER



Alma needs to expand housing to accommodate student bodies

By AMANDA LABBY  
STAFF WRITER

For two years in a row, Alma has seen record-breaking numbers of incoming freshmen. The first year was probably as exciting as this one but now that the pre-game excitement is over it's time to think realistically.

I'm sure everyone from staff to students are excited about the growth of little Alma, so now that we know the college is growing, there are two options: stop accepting so many students or adjust to fit everyone comfortably. I'm in favor of either option, and created a list of benefits for each idea.

Expanding Alma College would be beneficial. The campus is already about a block and a half; why not add a little more on?

The housing crisis of this year has been a big deal and there was a rumor of only ten housing spots available. Not ten rooms: just ten spots.

If buying an old cornfield isn't plausible, old dorms could be expanded. It wouldn't hurt to add

a few more floors to Bruske, or at least an east and west tower. Not only would it house more people, but it would also be the quietest and safest dorm on campus because it would be too confusing for anyone to dare to step foot in it.

During normal meal hours, SAGA has been filled to the brim with students, often to the point where there are no tables available. Granted, it is still the beginning of the year and people have forgotten how bad the food is, but what harm would a little expansion or a few more tables do? A second floor could be added to the building where students can eat meals surrounded by glass walls where we can look out at campus. We can call it the Alma Bubble.

The recent influx of students also begs the question: with more people that pay extreme amounts of money to attend Alma, shouldn't tuition be going down, not up?

Expanding campus sounds like a good idea, but not always plausible, despite the amount of farmland to buy off from farmers. That is why I'm also in favor for accepting less high school applications.

According to a very informative email sent by the IT department a few weeks ago, Facebook is slow because of an overabundance of network traffic. To me, that sounds like that was a nice way of saying the flood of new students made it so slow.

With smaller numbers, what Alma used to have before these past two years, SAGA might have enough room to hold everyone, although a second-floor dining design is still a great idea.

I'm all for Alma getting bigger, but in order to make the growth work, numbers and accommodations have to increase, not just one or other.

The way things are currently, with overcrowded SAGA, nearly bursting seams in the dorms, and Facebook as slow as ever, I'm beginning to wonder if the growing numbers of students is not just two lucky years, but a trend. Something should be done to fix this dilemma.

Or, if worse comes to worse, we can always hope that the current freshmen class will drop out at the rate of last year's freshman class; Facebook would be back to normal by November.

PUZZLE CORNER

			4		3	8	6	
1	6				5		7	
8		4	1			5		
3	2		6		1	9		8
5		9	8		7		2	3
		1			6	7		4
	9		7				1	6
	8	6	2		4			

Answer to last week's puzzle

9	2	7	4	3	5	8	1	6
1	3	5	2	8	6	9	7	4
8	6	4	7	9	1	2	3	5
3	7	6	8	5	9	1	4	2
5	8	2	1	4	7	6	9	3
4	9	1	3	6	2	7	5	8
7	5	9	6	2	4	3	8	1
6	1	3	5	7	8	4	2	9
2	4	8	9	1	3	5	6	7

Puzzle courtesy of [www.sudoku-puzzles.net](http://www.sudoku-puzzles.net)

SUDOKU

Fill the 9x9 grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 boxes contains the digits from 1 to 9. Each number must occur only once in each column, row, and box.

the Almanian

"ALMA COLLEGE'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SERVING THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY SINCE 1907."

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## What will you leave behind?

By ELISABETH BLETSCH  
STAFF WRITER

Bone. Soft tissue. Heart valves. Veins. Skin. Eyes. These are the six things recovered from my brother's body after he died in a car accident in February of 2007. Representatives at Mid-America Transplant Services told my family that Joe's contribution would aid at least one dozen individuals in desperate need of transplants. This was supposed to be comforting. It wasn't.

Death drapes a dark, selfish cloak over the shoulders of those left behind. Thus, I did not care in February of 2007 that Joe was helping others. I did not care a great deal in March of 2007 or July of 2007, either. I only cared about remembering my brother as I knew him while he was still alive. Little did I know that by being an organ donor, Joe was extending his memory into the afterlife. Little did I know how much this would affect my own future actions.

Joe was a registered organ donor for as long as I can remember.

He was very passionate about this choice. One sunny July afternoon when I was young—eight, maybe nine—Joe and I were standing in line at the bank. The line was long. Hot rays poured through the large glass windows that lined one wall of the musky building. Standing next to me, Joe flipped his driver's license around in his long, wiry fingers. Playing my role as the annoying little sister, I snatched the card from his grasp. I snickered with pride. It was then that I saw the checked organ donor box on the back of his license and there on the dotted line was his illegible signature in dark blue ink. The snicker I had previously emitted was suddenly replaced with a gasp of horror. Even at this young age, I was able to comprehend what this meant—and it scared me. To death.

I handed Joe his license and began grilling him with questions in a demanding tone. "Joe, *why* would you do that? They could *take* your body away from us." Putting my petite hands on my hips and filling my voice with unwarranted attitude, I then asked Joe the ultimate question,

"Do Mom and Dad know?" When I asked him why he would ever even *think* about being an organ donor, he shrugged his shoulders and replied with a question of his own, "If I die tomorrow, what good will my body be to me?" I was quiet the whole ride home.

In retrospect, it was not the fact that Joe chose to be an organ donor that scared me so much. It was that in preparing for the aftermath of his possible death, Joe accepted that he could die at any moment. What would I do without my big brother?

When faced with the reality of actually answering this question after Joe's death, I remembered that day at the bank. I saw us standing there, side by side, both bronze from the summer sun—but Joe was darker. His hair was raven black; mine was light brown with splashes of blonde strands in some spots. This juxtaposing image reminded me that our differences were always so distinct, and now becoming more defined every day. For example: Joe was dead, I was alive. *For now*, I numbly mused to myself, *who knows what tomorrow could bring*.

## The importance of being a registered organ donor

With time, through my memories of Joe—memories like the one in the bank—I began to realize the importance of being an organ donor. When I turned eighteen in February 2008, approximately one week before the one-year anniversary of Joe's accident, I became a registered organ donor. Why? Partly because my big brother, my hero, *my* Joe was an organ donor. Another part of me chose to become a registered organ donor because, if I am to lose my own life someday, why shouldn't I give life back to others?

Many people are afraid to register as organ donors for two reasons. First, to check the box on the back of one's license means to accept that one will die someday. By not thinking about it, it seems as if humans are evading the matter altogether. But people are still dying every day. Second, in a society where we are constantly racing the clock, who has time to register as an organ donor? Who possibly has time to even think about this when dinner still needs to be cooked, Billy needs to be picked up from soccer practice, and there are still hours of work

waiting for you at the office?

All of this aside, the matter of organ donation is a simple one. Even if an individual does not personally know someone who has been an organ donor or who is in need of an organ transplant, the matter should still have significance in the individual's life. Don't believe me? Answer Joe's question: "If I die tomorrow, what good will my body be to me?"

Death is a done deal. Thus, being an organ donor doesn't hurt the donor. The only people hurt are those who go without transplants every day because there aren't enough organ donors out there. Here's the solution to Joe's question: your body will be no good to you, whatsoever. However, it could save the life of someone else. So, check the box on the back of your license, sign your name on the dotted line, and it will be a done deal—a lot like death itself.

Bone. Soft tissue. Heart valves. Veins. Skin. Eyes. These are the parts of my brother that survived his death. If you die tomorrow, what of you will be left behind?

## Viable vegetarian option not to be found

By ALEXANDRA OSWALD  
FREELANCE WRITER

In a world that views meat as the central component to any meal, it is often difficult for those who choose a vegetarian or vegan lifestyle to find meals without the slaughtered animal remains on their plate. For vegetarian and vegan college students it's squandering affair in the cafeteria—scrambling through unlimited meaty options only to find a lonely pot of lukewarm, less than appetizing soup. During my academic career at Alma I have spent many a meal chewing on the plasticity of grilled cheese, glancing around the cafeteria with a forlorn look as countless omnivores happily chomp on their fruitful options.

Today's student vegetarians convert to a meatless lifestyle for health, environmental, religious, or animal rights reasons and are optimistic in thinking that their campus will be considerate of their lifestyle choice. Many find that their college campuses are completely inept in the ability to take into consideration a meatless lifestyle when planning meals for dining halls. I have met a fair amount of vegetarians on campus, all who are also concerned with the college's lack of consideration of our alternative diet, and have expressed their discontent.

Danielle Jellison ('10) said, "I am a vegetarian because I am allergic to meat. The only healthy option that I have is the salad bar. At least last year I had more choices."

The obvious discrimination against vegetarians and vegans is unnerving. Alma College makes the lifestyle even more difficult. Amy McClellan, Production Manager for Sodexho at Alma, seems uninterested with the severe lack of alternative diet options on campus. During last Monday's Student Congress meeting McClellan answered my inquiry as to whether Sodexho planned on adding more vegetarian options in the dining halls, stating that there was "one vegetarian and one vegan option" at every meal. The answer was underlined with attitude, clearly signaling the end of the conversation. McClellan's statement was entirely political; it reiterated what is said on the Alma College website: "Vegetarian dishes are included in every meal served in Alma's dining facilities." After several attempts to reach McClellan to get a more in-depth explanation, I received no response.

The saddening fact is that Sodexho acts as though they are considerate for those with alternative diets. The reality is that the company is biased towards those who partake in an omnivorous diet. The exchange between McClellan and I shed

light on Sodexho's discontent with facing the reality that there are people in the world who refuse to eat parts cut off a slaughtered animal. The obvious biased attitude is upsetting and needs to be addressed.

At Alma College we all pay a hefty amount to consume the less-than-spectacular food supplied by Sodexho. Students spend approximately 700 dollars alone on board per term, depending on their plan. Vegetarians pay the same amount as meat eaters but in return are allowed limited choices within Alma's dining halls. Does this ring fair? No. If it were not such a hassle to rid my college expenses of a meal plan, I would, and rid myself of the disappointing lack of options as would many vegetarians like myself.

For the time being, if Sodexho ever decides to add more options for us who engage in an herbivore lifestyle, I advise you to be creative with your limited options, using various foods in order to create something substantially satisfying and tasty. Though we pay an ungodly sum to eat at Alma's dining halls and feel rather depressed at the options, the most optimistic thing we all can do for the time being is to make use of what is before us. Sodexho may soon open its eyes to the injustice, but we need to do our part and make ourselves known.

## Now is the time to break free of the Alma Bubble

By AMANDA LABBY  
STAFF WRITER

I used to think the "Alma bubble" was a neat concept. The world would change outside campus while the inside progressed at its own pace, separated as if by glass, like a snow globe, where both worlds can peer at each other, but many things never cross the boundary.

When at school, I retreat to my snow globe and rest beside my own little log cabin, smiling happily like the jovial snowman in typical globes. Everything in my snowy scene looks peaceful and calm, no matter the state of the outside world.

Sometimes I wonder if the President could die or if the Upper Peninsula could declare its independence from Michigan, and we, the students of Alma, would never know.

I used to love my independence from the world and not having to worry about outside matters. If it had happened during the school year, I wouldn't have cared half as much as I do now about the South Ossetia War, or how differently the media treated Hilary Clinton as compared to Sarah Palin in the presidential election. Now that I care, I wonder if anyone else will.

Does anyone remember the anti-government protests in Burma, led by thousands of peaceful Buddhist monks? Probably not. That happened when we were safely tucked inside the bubble.

While students are concerned with getting good grades, the test on Tuesday, trying to butter up an angry professor, or the event Friday night, shouldn't we also be concerned with world events?

In this past week, Finland has witnessed its second school shooting in less than a year. Categorized with other peaceful Scandinavian countries, Finland would be one of the last places I would expect such violence that killed 11, including the shooter.

Or who would suspect that, despite the current overflow of Munch Money students get at the beginning of the year, just days ago there was a global stock market crash. Some could be overreacting when they start to compare this to the Great Depression, but who am I, the unaware Alma student, to say if this comparison is true.

What makes the security of not knowing so enticing?

Why does Alma feel like a comfortable cave, and that I'm the bear, hibernating for winter?

According to pop culture, since I am a college student, I am an activist. I should be protesting and trying to change the world. So, how do I know what to change when I don't know what is happening in the world?

Does the quality of SAGA matter, when compared to ignorance? Deciding if night classes are good or bad hardly matches up to a real, literally world-shaping event. At least Amnesty International is doing something, no matter how insignificant.

Just a few days ago, 12,500 Chinese children were hospitalized. That deserves a reaction: something happened to so many innocent children. You could ask the bubble if the children will be fine, but it won't tell you; it will just tell you to lie back down, curl up under the covers, and fall back asleep.

I think it's time to break the bubble.

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# Close call for men's soccer

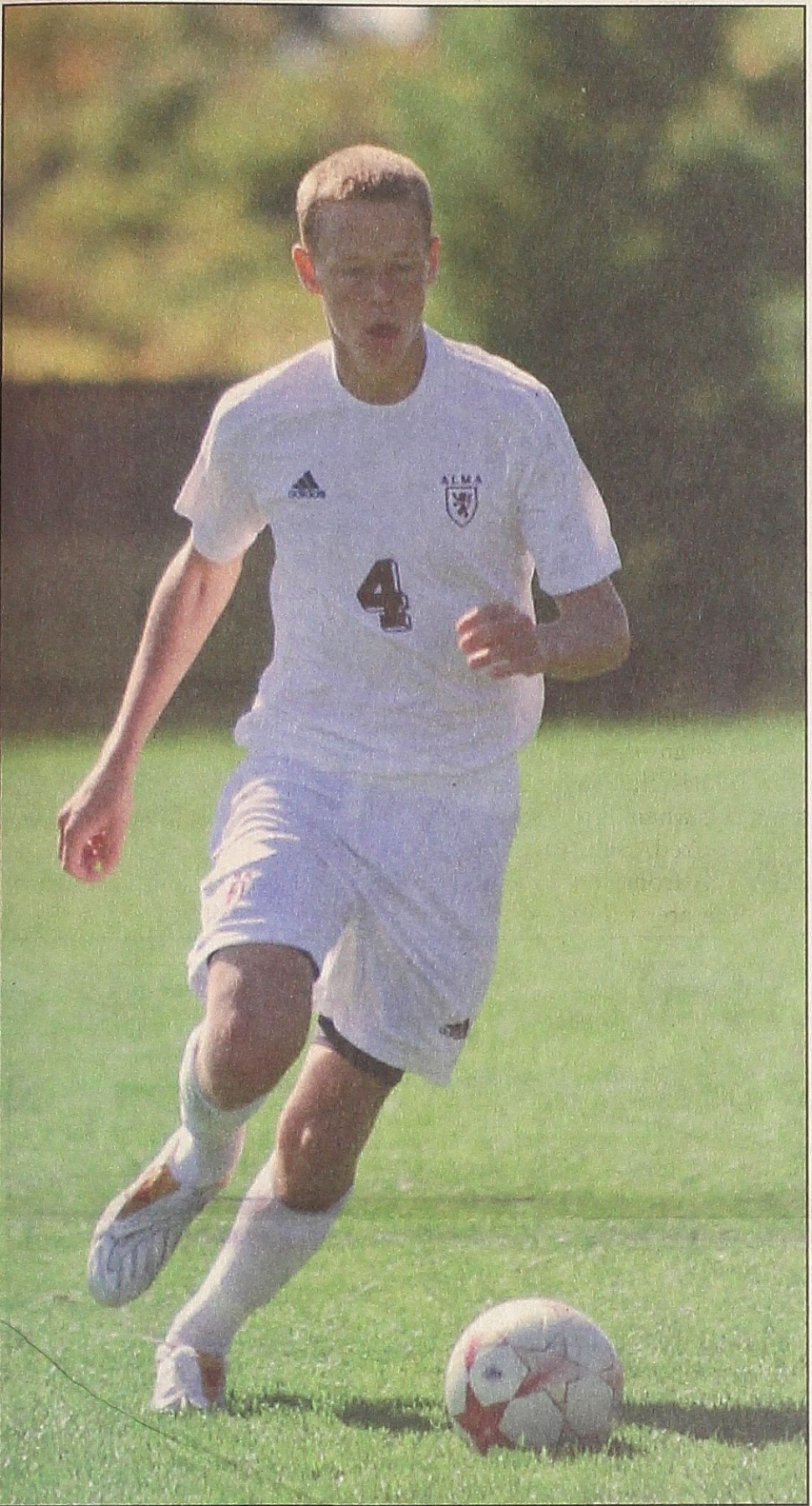


Photo by Brent Riley

Jeff Beck ('10) dribbles down the field against Calvin this Saturday.

By MARIA CASTANEDA  
STAFF WRITER

The men's soccer team struggled to finish yet again, falling 1-0 to Calvin College on Saturday.

After a Calvin goal was called off sides the half ended tied 0-0. Twenty-three minutes into the second half a Calvin freshman, Ahmed Gobana, scored leaving the score at 1-0.

The Scots knew they would be facing a tough game against Calvin in their second MIAA game of the season.

"Wednesday we lost our game against Adrian College 2-1 in our MIAA conference opener," Coach Nathan Kronewetter said. "That loss really hurts because yet again, we have out played and out shot our opponent and come away with a defeat due to our not being able to score goals."

On Wednesday Adrian College defeated the Scots 2-1 with the solitary goal by **Mark Daisy ('09)**.

Despite the frustration of close losses Kronewetter does not blame the youth of the team. "Some of our players, regardless of year in school, are not getting it done and that is what has held us back. Upperclassmen and new players are equally guilty of making mistakes when we look back and research our breakdowns," he said.

Out of the seven games the Scots have lost, six of them have been by only one goal. When asked what

their coach said after Wednesday game **Ben Champion ('11)** said, "We've lost so many games by just one goal. He was frustrated."

With a solid defense and **Anthony Bergstrom ('11)** in the goal, the men's team has kept their goals against to a respectable 12.

Bergstrom allowed only two goals on Wednesday and one on Saturday. Calvin continually challenged the defense but Bergstrom was able to keep the ball out of the net making several diving saves.

Close to the end of the game the Scots kept the ball near Calvin's goal and came close to a tie. Joseph Baxter ('12) headed a ball just over Calvin's goalkeeper barely missing the frame.

Again the Scots came close. With less than ten seconds left in the game a Calvin defender fouled Daisy 25 yards outside the goal but as the ball reached the goalie, he picked up and threw it high into the air allowing the clock to run out on the Scots.

Despite Daisy's words to the referee the Calvin goalkeeper was not cautioned and the referee called the end of the game.

The team is now 1-7 overall in the season, but keep an optimistic attitude about the upcoming games. "We'll be alright," Bergstrom said. "We just need to work on finishing."

Next the Scots play Albion College on September 30<sup>th</sup> in Albion.

# Lions finally fire Millen

## Fans vindicated after years of protesting against the general manager and president

By LAUREN SHAW  
STAFF WRITER

Detroit Lions fans regained hope on September 24 when owner William Clay Ford fired team president and general manager Matt Millen.

Millen, a second-round draft pick in 1980 and a former linebacker who won four Super Bowls while playing for the Oakland Raiders, San Francisco 49ers, and Washington Redskins, had no experience in a front office or player development position when he was hired by Ford.

Following his retirement from the Redskins in 1991, Millen entered broadcasting, becoming a color commentator for CBS and providing game analysis for radio broadcasts of Monday Night Football. However, his highly touted analytical ability clearly failed to translate to a successful franchise.

During Millen's tenure as team president, the Lions went 31-84 and have lost at least nine games each season. In his first three seasons (2001-2003), the Lions failed to win a single game on the road, finally breaking the losing streak in the 2004 season opener at the Chicago Bears.

The Lions have at least ten more losses than any other National Football League team since 2001, one of the worst stretches in league history. They gave up a league-high average of 25.3 points and ranked 30 offensively with an average of 18.3 points per game under Millen.

Millen has failed to take the

Lions to higher than third place in the National Football Conference North Division. They have not made the playoffs since 1999, before Millen was hired.

For years, Lions fans held on to the hope that things would turn around. The Lions' terrible league standings guaranteed them high picks in the draft. However, many of Millen's first-round picks went on to become franchise embarrassments, notably Joey Harrington, Charles Rogers, and Mike Williams. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, NFL executives said that Millen "has made more bad draft decisions than anyone else in two centuries."

Despite his obvious shortcomings, Millen was the second highest paid general manager in the NFL in January 2008, behind only Bill Parcells of the Miami Dolphins.

Fans have been speaking out against Millen for years. On December 4, 2005, a fan held up a "Fire Millen" sign at a home game against the Minnesota Vikings. The fan was removed by security, but the slogan stuck. "Fire Millen" became a movement in Detroit, appearing in signs, t-shirts, and chants at Lions, Pistons, Red Wings, University of Michigan, and Michigan State University games. There is even a "Fire Millen" website.

Millen began his eighth season with the Lions this fall, beginning the season at 0-3.

On September 22, Ford's son Bill told reporters that he would fire Millen if he had the authority. Initially, William Ford claimed he had no plans to fire Millen.

However, on Wednesday morning Millen packed his desk. It was not immediately clear whether he had resigned or been fired, but Ford said later that Millen had been fired, adding he was "very disappointed with where we are as a team after our start this season."

The front office will be run by executive vice president Tom Lewand and new general manager Martin Mayhew for the remainder of the season. Ford added in his statement that at the end of the season, "we will undergo a thorough and comprehensive evaluation of our entire football operation and put together a plan that we believe will transform this team into a winner."

The Lions have until the October 5 game against the Chicago Bears to prepare the team.

Unfortunately, the Lions' struggles did not begin with the hiring of Matt Millen, but rather with the purchase of the team by the Ford family. Since Ford bought the team, no Super Bowl appearances and have won only one of ten playoff games. The Lions were one of the best teams in the NFL in the 1950s, winning the league championship in 1952, 1953, and 1957. Under Ford, they have become the league joke.

Whether the Fords can make the Lions a winning franchise remains to be seen. In the meantime, football fans in Detroit can hope that the Illich family, owner of the transforming Tigers and champion Red Wings, decide that a football team would be a worthy investment.



Photo by Brent Riley

Women's soccer started their conference opener with a win against last year's rivals Albion. Carly Reising ('12) and Jessica Swan ('11) scored a goal each for the final score was 2-1. Samantha LaChance ('12) fights to get the ball away from the Albion player.



# Homecoming game ends in last minute frustration

By LAUREN SHAW  
STAFF WRITER

The Scots suffered a homecoming weekend loss to University of Wisconsin-River Falls Falcons on Saturday with a score of 20-25. The Scots are now 2-2 for the season.

The game went back and forth with the Scots leading the scoring three times. However, the Scots were held scoreless in the fourth quarter, allowing the Falcons to crack the Scots' defense to gain a narrow win.

The scoring began on the Scots' first possession when **Jeremy Stephens ('09)** ran the ball into the end zone after receiving a pass from **Mackenzie McGrady ('10)**. The extra point attempt by **Dan Seals ('09)** soared through the uprights to put the Scots up 7-0.

The Scots' defense then forced a fourth down punt on the Falcons' first possession.

The Falcons scored a touchdown on their next possession but missed their extra point attempt, bringing the score to 7-6.

At the end of the first quarter, the Scots turned the ball over when a fourth down attempt to move the ball one yard was stopped by the Falcons. The Falcons went on to score a field goal for a score of 7-9.

The Scots scored again when an impressive carry by **Tyler Periard ('10)** brought them within feet of the goal line. Periard took the ball

into the end zone on his next carry. In an effort to spread the scoring, the Scots went for an unsuccessful two-point conversion, leaving the score at 13-9.

The Falcons broke through the Scots' defense with only ten seconds left in the first half. Their extra point attempt was successful, and the teams went back to the locker rooms with the score at 13-16.

After the 25 minute halftime break, both teams burst out of the locker room looking to gain a win before conference play begins.

The Falcons were able to score a field goal on their first possession to strengthen their lead to 13-19.

The Scots came back when McGrady ran the ball three yards into the end zone. The extra point attempt by Seals was good, giving the Scots a narrow lead of 20-19.

At the end of the third quarter the Falcons forced a fourth down punt from the Scots, then almost ran the return for a touchdown. They scored soon after, but failed their two-point conversion, bringing the score to 20-25.

The remainder of the game was scoreless. The Scots' defense forced the Falcons to punt on the fourth down twice, but they were unable to score again.

McGrady completed 21 of 36 passing attempts for 163 yards.

Periard led the Scots in rushing yards with 115 yards on 15 carries.

Stephens led the receivers with seven catches for 66 yards.

Bahlke Stadium was filled with energy, especially during the

first half. Head Coach Jim Cole acknowledged that homecoming can be a distraction if the team allows it to be, but added that the "added adrenaline from homecoming weekend is a plus."

The "Cole Mine" had significantly more students than last week. The students wore red hard hats decorated with the same "A" sticker used for the team's helmets. The noise created by the Cole Mine and the Kiltie Marching Band drowned out the announcer several times throughout the game. Cole said, "I can't say thank you enough to them."

According to ESPN, "The best student sections share a common trait: they set the tone for a game, determining coin-toss decisions, altering scores, changing perspectives."

During the fourth quarter, an official threw a flag on a Scots' offensive play, believing that McGrady had grounded the ball. After several "Nuts and bolts, nuts and bolts, we got screwed!" chants from the Cole Mine, the penalty was retracted.

Whether or not the officials were actually influenced by the student section is unclear, but the morale they provide for the team is undeniable.

The Scots now have a week to recover, regroup, and prepare for their next game against undefeated Trine University on October 11.

The next home game is October 18 against Kalamazoo College at 1:00 p.m.

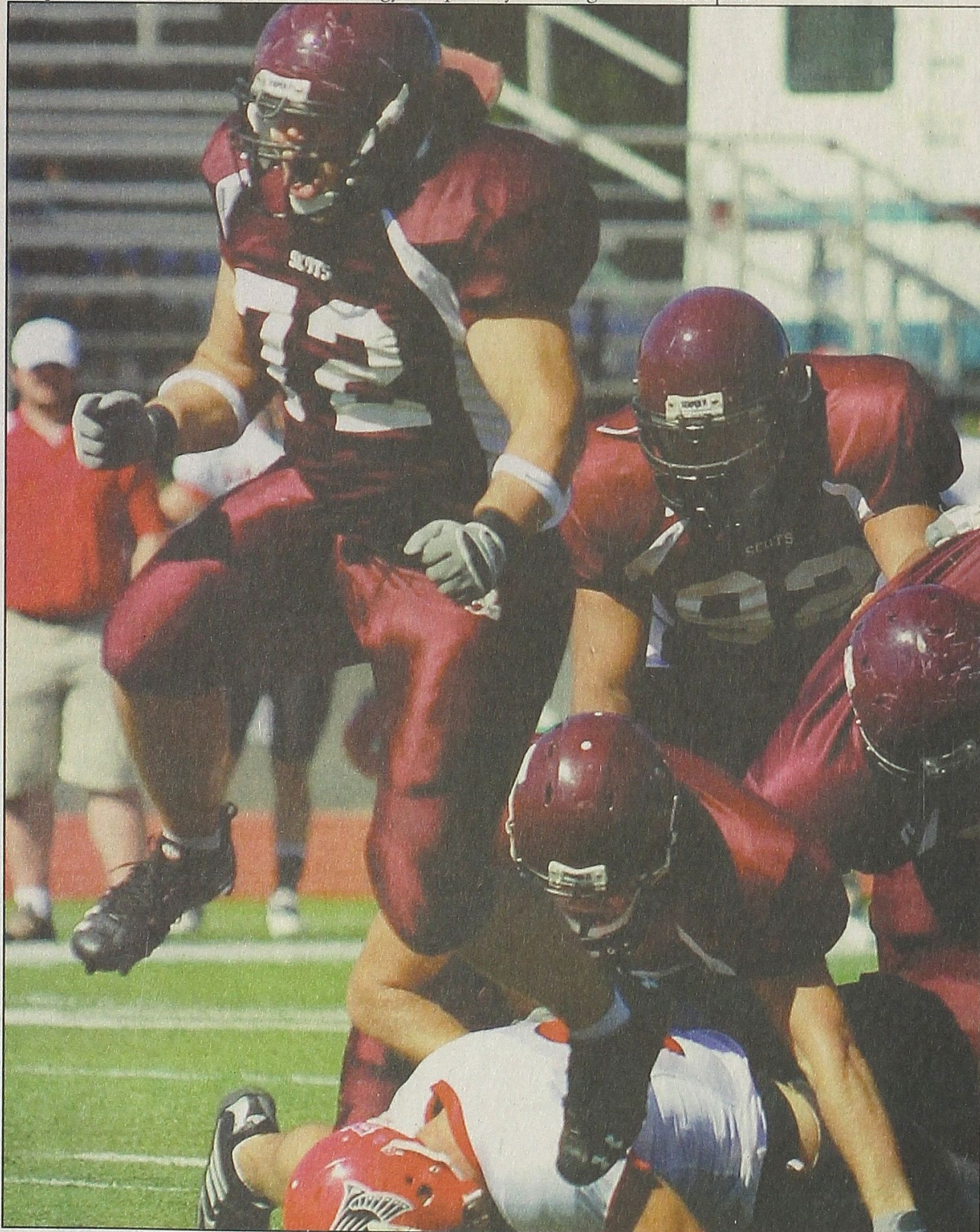


Photo by Brent Riley

Brad Collins ('09) celebrates after the Scot's defense makes a huge stop of the Rivers Fall player early in the game. The homecoming game brought a large energetic crowd to watch the team.

## THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

### Monday, September 29

JV Football vs. Albion @ Alma 4 p.m.  
Men's Golf vs. Hope

### Tuesday, September 30

Men's soccer vs. Albion  
Women's golf vs. Adrian

### Wednesday, October 1

Women's soccer vs. Kalamazoo @ Alma 4 p.m.  
Volleyball vs. Hope @ Alma 6:30 p.m.

### Friday, September 27

Volleyball vs. St. Mary's @ Alma 7 p.m.

### Saturday, September 27

Men's soccer @ Trine University  
Women's soccer @ Trine University

## Volleyball perseveres, yet another home win

By LAUREN FORREST  
STAFF WRITER

Volleyball is a game of mistakes, and the team who commits the least amount of errors is victorious at the termination of the match. Alma was that team in the end, victorious over the Adrian Bulldogs on September 23. The Scots defeated the Bulldogs in an intense 5 game thrill with scores of 27-29, 25-23, 20-25, 25-16, and 21-19.

The win over Adrian was truly a team effort, with impressive statistics in most every category. **Kim Gillhespy ('09)** led hitters with 27 kills while **Beth Caldwell ('12)** contributed 13 and **Jennifer Drumm ('12)** made 10. **Hannah Hewitt ('11)** set up 57 assists for the Scots win. **Katie Porter ('09)** had 30 digs, **Stephanie Bradshaw ('11)** had 29, and Caldwell 29.

Despite the disappointing loss to Calvin the previous week, the Scots proved to be back at full force against Adrian.

"I think the main reason we won against Adrian was our strength and conditioning and mental toughness attained in previous games," said Varsity Head Coach Cheyenne Luzynski. "I think Adrian expected to win rather than working to win. We knew it would be a battle and our defense persevered."

Each point of the game was a battle. Rallies would go on and

on, but in the end the Scots took more rallies than the Bulldogs. The fifth game was like a sample that summed up the entire match as a whole. It was relentless pursuit on both sides until the other fell. The gym's atmosphere was tense, nervous, and excited. Defense was key, and by the end, the win belonged to Alma. The Scots now sit at 5-1 in the MIAA conference competition in second place under Hope College at 7-0.

"I definitely think the Adrian game has created momentum for us, and I feel really good going into the Hope game," said Luzynski. "I've reviewed film and we can compete with them. We just may be the team to put them down. Having a few days to prepare will help us to break them down as a team."

The Scots will face the Flying Dutch on Wednesday, October 1. The rivalry will be played at Alma's own Cappaert Gymnasium with the Varsity starting at 6:30 p.m. The Scots may just be the team to shatter Hope's perfect MIAA conference record. Alma has the potential and work ethic to compete and win against teams of the MIAA.

The volleyball team will also play on Friday, October 3, where they will host St. Mary's College in a dual match at 7:00 p.m. After that match the Scots will have played every team in the MIAA, and will start round two towards the MIAA championships in November.

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