

# The Almanian

Volume C

Issue 17 12

Friday, January 26, 2007

"Serving Alma College Since 1907"

## UNDER THE COVER



*MacCurdy House, safe place to go on campus*

SEE NEWS PG. 2

*Alma College Ranked in National Survey*

SEE FEATURE PG. 3

*Martin Luther King, Jr. day's keynote speaker, Robert Bullard, draws disappointment*

SEE OPINION PG. 6

*Matuzak shines for Scots basketball.*

SEE SPORTS PG. 7

## Getting involved is money well spent

*Student Congress makes recommendation to keep activity fee the same...*

**ANNA ZICHI**  
STAFF WRITER

When attending a small campus like Alma, it is nearly impossible to graduate without being involved in some student activity around campus. Just this past week, Alma experienced Greek Life recruitment, multiple

sporting events, and a dance concert. Where does the funding for such student involvement come from? The student activity fee.

"The Student Activity fee is, just as it sounds," said **Mollie Smith (07)**. "It is a fee that can be used to pay for things including

student organizations' administrative costs to athletic events', admission to choir concerts, adventure club events, etc."

It is a fee that is built into our annual tuition bill to attend Alma College that allows all students to attend **SEE ACTIVITY FEE PG. 2**

## Kapp Prize seeks student creativity

**LAUREN RUSSELL**  
STAFF WRITER

On January 11, a campus-wide email was sent out introducing students to this year's Kapp Prize, titled, "Alma: The Video."

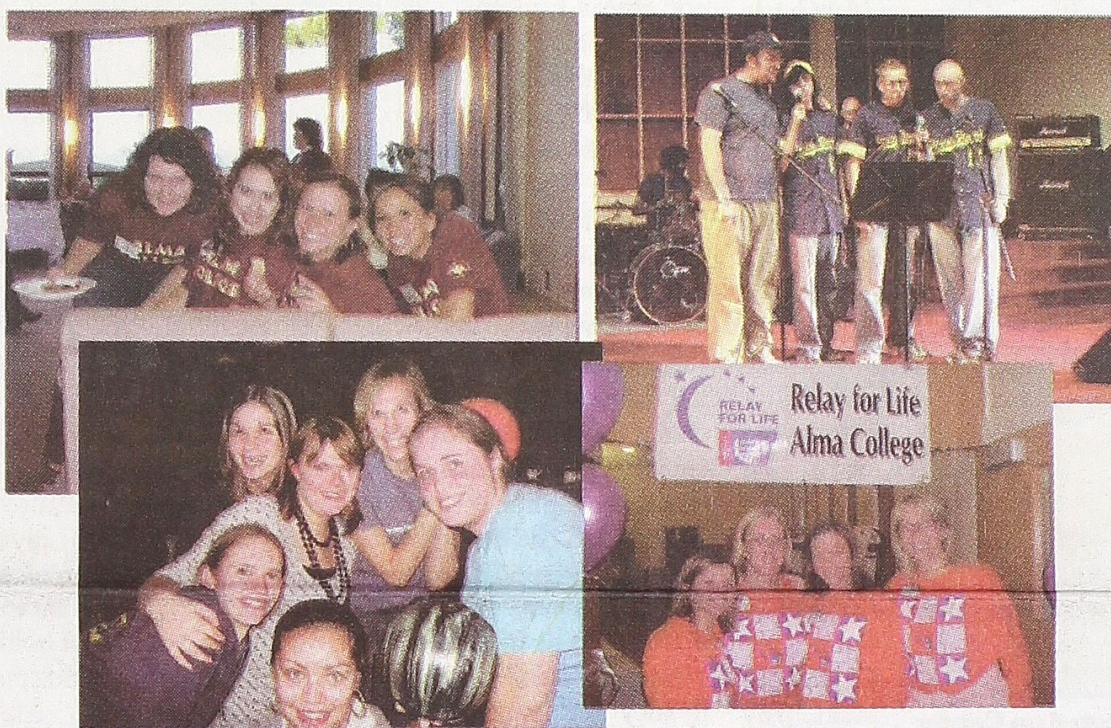
"The Kapp Prize is a way that students are able to give back to the school, by offering suggestions for some specified area of student life," said **Mollie Smith (07)**, who participated in the Kapp Prize in April 2005 as team leader for the Barrister Society and won first place.

The Kapp prize is an annual competition in which students participate for a cash prize and present their project on Honor's Day in April. The prize this year is \$600 for first place winners, \$300 for second place and \$100 for third place winners—a change from last year's \$1000 prize for first place.

The price of the award is not the only change seen to the Kapp Prize.

"In years past, if I remember correctly, it has been a standard presentation/proposal type program.

**SEE KAPP PG. 2**



Photos courtesy of www.facebook.com

**Students use their student activity fee through participation in events such as the ones pictured above (many of which are free). Clockwise from top left: Girls from the Alma Leadership Alliance help out during Pizza Sam's night, members of ACUB sing during Live Band Karaoke, members of the Relay for Life Committee at kickoff, and some friends enjoy a night out at the bowling alley.**

## Union Board receives contingency for spring concert

*Student Congress votes to give \$20,000 to pursue Ben Folds...*

**JORDAN BROWN**  
STAFF WRITER

Ben Folds just might find himself at a piano in Alma's gym a few months from now. This past Monday night, the Alma College student congress voted 24 over 20 to accept ACUB's contingency request for \$20,000.

Representatives from multiple groups said that this was one of the most heated votes they had ever been to, with the tension beginning early on. When asked about the next year's budget and whether or not it would be raised, citing concerts, representative **Devon Anthony (09)** made her

organization's feelings over the ACUB request clear.

"We plan and pay for the bands that we can afford," Anthony said.

Since the early stages of this proposal, it has brought plenty of debate on campus. Some students in Van Dusen voiced their concerns and apprehensions about the money that ACUB would be receiving—especially since it would be coming from their student activity fee.

"I think it's a waste to spend all that money on a 2 hour event," said **Chris Duymich (10)**, "especially when you could spread it over more events encompassing

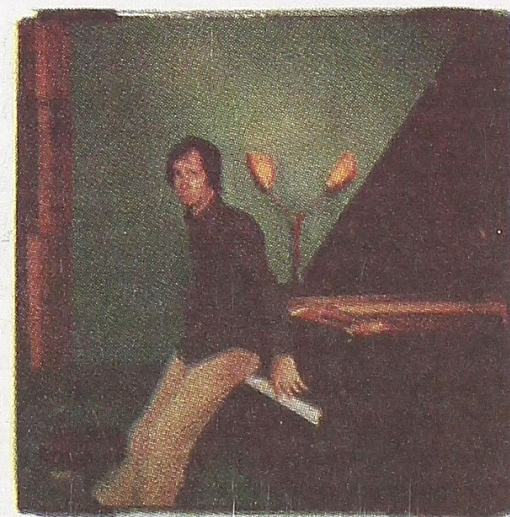


Photo courtesy of www.benfolds.com

more interests."

**Dylan Sova (09)** went a step further. "No matter who you get to play, with this small campus you can't please that

many people. At a larger school, you don't have to please everyone, 'cause even if you get 10% of the student body, that still might be a few thousand people," he said.

Parking was another issue. More than a few people both in the meeting and on campus voiced

concern over ACUB's lack of a plan for where the estimated two to three thousand people coming to see the show from **SEE BEN FOLDS PG. 2**

## BY THE NUMBERS

**\$20,00**

The amount of money given to the Alma College Union Board for a spring concert.

**\$0**

The voted amount Student Congress will be raising the student activity fee next year.

## INDEX

NEWS.....1-2  
FEATURE.....3-4  
OPINION.....5-6  
SPORTS.....7-8

**Congratulations to *The Almanian* on 100 years of service to the Alma College community.**



## Safe areas in MacCurdy House and Mitchell Lobby

ANNA ZICHI  
STAFF WRITER

Even though Alma College is a relatively small campus, the fact that students can feel unsafe on it should not be overlooked. This is why the campus has officially recognized two places on campus as Safe Houses.

A Safe House is an area on campus that anyone can go to if they feel unsafe, have been assaulted, or are in need of assistance in some way.

Mitchell Hall Lobby is the North campus location and the MacCurdy House is the South Campus safe house. The MacCurdy House is located on West Center Street, behind some of the fraternities. By having two locations on the different sides of campus students are able to have quick access if they are in need of it.

A unique attribute to the MacCurdy house is that

(08). "Basically, we act as a link between the victim and the help he or she may need."

Despite the fact that they were trained by a Women's Service Center, the house is open to all students, men and women, and that fact cannot be stressed enough.

Alma has always had Safe Houses but they have not been officially recognized as

**"Basically, we act as a link between the victim and the help he or she may need."**

### Rebecca Peacock (08)

such by the college. Peacock said, "The MacCurdy House, as well as Kappa Iota, have been known as Safe Houses unofficially, but this is the first year for the MacCurdy House that we have had any training."

Before this year, Kappa Iota was trained but did not continue the training through this year.

Students decided to officially designate the MacCurdy House as the Safe House for several reasons. "The MacCurdy House is the perfect location for a safe house because there is not an area designated on the south complex for students to go," said Peacock.

"Also, since the MacCurdy

House is a dry house and does not throw parties, it is a much calmer, more secure place for students."

There is always someone at the house during the week and on the weekends if a problem does arise.

With a Safe House on campus students are able to have a place to go where they can feel safe and secure. "This means that they have the comfort of knowing that there is a group of people who are trained to handle situations dealing with violence, stalking, etc.," said Peacock.

"There is always someone for students to come and talk to, and the students that are trained are spread out across campus or are in different small housing units and can also come and help if needed," said Peacock.

Students on campus enjoy the idea that there is a Safe House here. **Amanda Johnson (10)** said, "I like the fact that with it comes a sense of security and the knowledge that there is some place to fall back on if I need it."

Near the Physical Education Center Building there is an emergency phone that acts similarly to the Safe Houses.

Campuses all across the nation have designated places such as the MacCurdy house for students to go to if they feel threatened. "It is always important for a college campus, of any size, to have a designated place that people can go to and feel safe," said Peacock. "Even if situations do not come to the MacCurdy House's attention, it is still an important resource on campus in case anything does occur."



The MacCurdy House is located on Center St. across from Wright Hall and provides a safe place for people to go when in need.

all of the students that live there have been trained by the Women's Aid Services. "We are trained by Gratiot County Women's Aid Services to handle different situations that may occur," said **Rebecca Peacock**

### Ben Folds from pg. 1...

off campus would park. Other parts of the request that people took issue with were the quality of acoustics in the gym, or any other indoor venue on campus, and finally, the method used to choose *who* would be playing on campus.

"There were some issues with *how* ACUB polled the campus," said Student Congress President, **Mollie Smith (07)**, "The poll was actually a collection of Facebook groups, and to some that didn't seem very scientific."

Possibly the major concern at the meeting on Monday was *if* this request passed, whether or not it would take away from plans that other groups had for the rest of the semester.

Early in the meeting,

representatives were asked to raise their hands if they had events they wanted to do for the rest of this year that would require some of the contingency budget, which after the vote now stands at \$29,000. The hands shot up all over the room. However, when asked for specifics about their plans, only five groups could give definitive answers, and the collective total of projected costs was not over \$16,000.

Those who were for the request were quick to point out that this money would pay off.

"This could be a great recruiting tool," said **Mark Kraft (08)**, "this could be a big draw, especially when we are having a problem with low enrollment."

ACUB member **Colin Murad (09)**, addressed the

issues of logistical problems such as parking and venue acoustics.

"All of those concerns about parking and things will be there whether or not we get the money. We're going to have a concert, so we'll run into these things no matter what, and it's *our* job in ACUB to handle them," he said.

When all was said and done, the vote turned out in ACUB's favor. This doesn't mean that Ben Folds *will* be coming—things have not been finalized with his representation, which means if plans fall through the money will be going right back into the contingency budget.

This aspect of the story was clear to ACUB president **Scott Weir (07)**. "Now the push begins," he said directly after the vote.

### Activity Fee from pg. 1...

events for little or no cost and allows these organizations to be open to all of campus. "They were implemented to decrease individual cost per event for students and to allow for activities to be funded that not only are for the students but for the school/community," said **Kali Edwards (08)**.

These activities and events include concerts, casino night, voter registration, awareness campaigns and much more.

Edwards said, "This fee is used for major campus activities (fun stuff) and then a percentage is given to Student Congress which, then based on an application process is passed out to the student congress organizations based on need, number of students involved, and their good standing with student congress."

After this money has been allocated to these different organizations the rest of it is placed in a contingency fund that can then be administered to organizations that have applied for additional money.

For the most part student congress handles this fee and every year decides whether or not it should be raised. "Student Congress votes annually on the size of the fee, as a recommendation that is taken by the administration to the Board of Trustees," said **Jerry Scoby**, Vice President for finance and administration. "Ultimately the Board has the final authority to set the size of the fee, along with tuition, room and board."

This fee has been in place longer than most can remember and has only increased as the years go by. "It was raised from \$200.00 to \$210.00 last year, the previous raise was done two years prior to that from \$185.00 to \$200.00," said Edwards. This breaks down this academic year to either \$105.00 a semester or \$210.00 a year, and is paid every year that students attend Alma College. Student Congress discussed at their meeting on Monday whether or not to raise the fee for this next academic year. After some discussion it was decided to keep it at \$210.00 for this next year.

Organizations that do not have open membership are not entitled to this money. Edwards said, "Any organization that does not have open admission to the group, such as honoraries, are required to find funding elsewhere."

In the end there is really only one thing students need to know. "Students should know that they are paying this fee, and to take advantage of what it has to offer," said Edwards. "Campus organizations do not hold events for themselves, but rather for the student body, and since the student body is already paying for these events/activities, they should take advantage of it."

### Kapp Prize from pg. 1...

This year, the medium used [has changed]," said Smith.

This year, the Kapp Prize will be presented on a T.V screen as a video. This year, the Kapp Prize is a student video contest. The contest asks students to make a no longer than 10 minutes video that shows how Alma College molds its students through everyday campus life. What the student film will actually be is completely up to the student and he or she may collaborate with others.

"I think that we have a phenomenal communication and technology program and this topic's medium used will be a great advantage to the departments," said Smith. "I think this is also a great recruiting tool. People seem to positively respond to visual media—and our admissions program can use this Kapp Prize to spotlight Alma's accomplishments."

Though there are many positive aspects of this year's topic, Smith warns that those who do not consider themselves tech-savvy may steer clear of the contest altogether.

"I think people's knowledge of and comfort level with videotaping and creating a film will limit the number of participants," she said.

Though this may be a problem for some, Smith still encourages students to participate in this year's competition.

"The Kapp Prize is a great way to gain a few extra dollars, show off your talent and abilities, and share some insight with the campus community that might not have otherwise been represented," she said.

Students interested in participating must register in the Provost's Office by Feb. 23, 2007 and can use the digital video cameras that are available through the Media Services Office.



## Alma sits well in national survey

**KRISTA PENNINGTON**  
**STAFF WRITER**

Across the country, 557 colleges and universities participated the National Survey for Engagement (NSSE) in 2006.

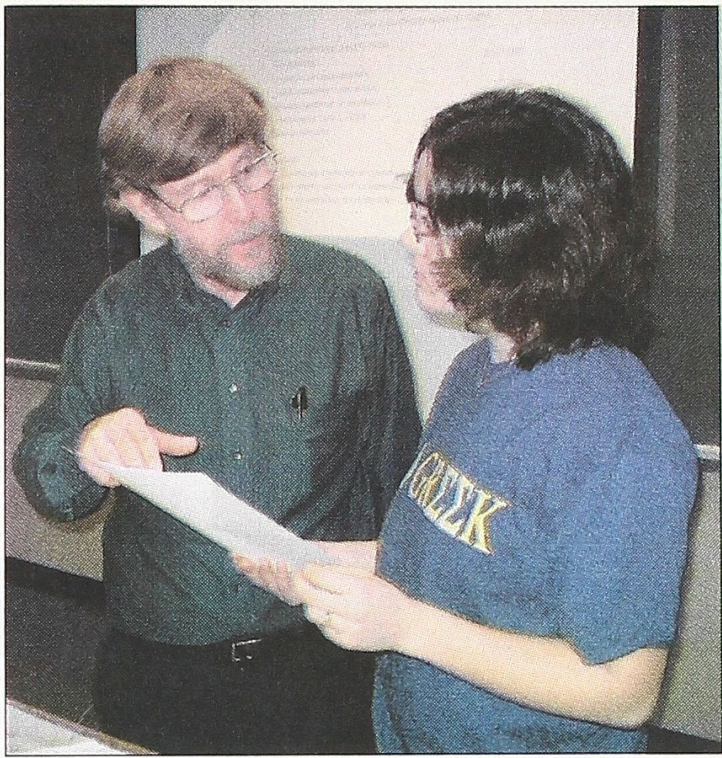
The survey is "designed to obtain, on an annual basis, information from scores of colleges and universities nationwide about student participation in programs and activities that institutions provide for their learning and personal development," said the NSSE website [<http://nsse.iub.edu/index.cfm>].

The survey is administered by the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research, in cooperation with the Indian University Center for Survey Research, under the direction of George Kuh.

NSSE began in 1999 with help from The Pew Charitable Trusts. Institutions' participation fees keep them self-supported, although research grants come from the Lumina Foundation for Education and the Center for Inquiry in the Liberal Arts at Wabash College.

Alma College rates among

the top five percent in the nation in student-faculty interaction. "They show that in their four years at Alma, students are much more likely to work closely with faculty than students at



*Photo courtesy of Nick Green*

A recent national survey places Alma College in the top fifth percentile for student interaction with professors.

other schools," said Provost Michael Selmon, "The average student at Alma reported more student-faculty interaction than 95 percent of students nationwide."

The survey asks more than 750,000 first year and senior students 90 questions about their undergraduate experiences. Their answers are then compiled and "provide information to member schools about how students perceive their education," said the Alma website.

The NSSE begins in late May, when registration opens for the next year's survey which runs until the end of September. There are exchanges of paperwork, and the questions are finalized in October. In November, the survey results are released to participating institutions. In February and March, the surveys are sent out and administered at schools doing it on paper. All schools giving the survey via the Internet give it out in March and April, with all surveys due to be completed by June 1. For the 2007 surveys, the results will

be completed earlier, in August, than this past year's November.

"The 2006 NSSE results are extremely gratifying because they represent the culmination of thousands of hours of faculty work side-by-side with students," said Dr. Selmon. "Student interaction with faculty has been an Alma legacy for generations, and the results of this national measure are further evidence that students who attend Alma have opportunities to interact with faculty members in a variety of ways."

## Teach for America: opportunity meets service

**KRISTA PENNINGTON**  
**STAFF WRITER**

In 1990, Teach for America began from what was originally Wendy Kopp's undergraduate thesis at Princeton University. She felt that if a teacher corps existed, they could make a real difference. That year, she raised \$2.5 million to start up the program with a small staff. During that first year, 500 men and women began teaching in six low-income areas across the nation. The following year, PBS ran a documentary on Teach for America, and in 2002, applications tripled after 2001's \$20 million, 5-year growth plan came about with help from first lady Laura Bush. As of 2006, Teach for America was in 25 different regions, and today "with a solid foundation in

place, Teach for America is working to build an even more effective movement along our nation's promising future leaders to expand opportunities for children in low-income communities," said the Teach for America website [[teachforamerica.org](http://teachforamerica.org)].

Becoming involved is very competitive. In 2006, out of the 19,000 people who applied, about 2,500 were accepted. All graduating college seniors and graduates are eligible, and all majors are welcome to apply. It is required to have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and a Bachelors Degree. Being a "citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States" is another requirement.

The application process begins with filling out a form, which can be submitted

online and includes personal and academic information, a one-page résumé, a 500-word letter of intent, and a 500-word essay. Transcripts and letters of recommendation are also required, but do not have the same deadline as the application. There are four separate dates for applications, each following a different timeline for the process. The next step is to check your status, then sign up and participate in a phone interview. After that you can check your status online and see if you have been invited back for a final interview. Before your interview, you are asked to give the preference of the subject, grade-level, and region you would like to teach in, and submit your transcript information, as well as enter every class

**SEE TEACH PG. 4**

## Food Fancy

### Power up for winter Bonus: Remedies you may want to try

**JENNIFER ANDERSON**  
**SPORTS EDITOR**



The winter sometimes just leaves us feeling worn down. We no longer have the sun replenishing our bodies with vital nutrients and curing our SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder). There are key foods to invite a little happiness and power back into our winter routines.

Almonds are known to protect against cancer and to reduce bad cholesterol. They also contain heart-smart monounsaturated fat and a plentiful supply of protein, copper, zinc, potassium, magnesium, and vitamins B and E.

Bell Peppers of all colors contain vitamins A and C, which decreases the risk of heart disease, and vitamin B6 and folate. Spinach, olive oil, and grapes (put them together, and you have a salad), increase iron levels, calcium, and vitamin K, along with promoting heart health. Beta-carotene, found in carrots to promote good vision, is also in olive oil.

Fresh tomatoes, with skins in tact, are composed of the phytonutrient lycopene, which gives them their blushed color. Lycopene is known to reduce the risk of cancers in the breast, cervix, prostate, pancreas, and lungs. Whole grains, with their natural fibers, also prevent against cancer and help boost metabolism, which will keep you active during the season of hibernation.

### breakfast bagel



### Bonus:

My Aunt sent me an e-mail containing these natural remedies. No source was listed. I have researched them, and I was surprised to find that many were listed by credible sources as working effectively. Myth or magic? You decide.

- Drink two glasses of Gatorade to relieve headaches.
- Chew a couple of curiously strong Altoids or peppermints to clear up your stuffed nose.
- Mix 1 Tablespoon of horseradish in 1 cup of olive oil for achy muscles. Let the mixture sit for 30 minutes, then apply it as a massage oil.
- Mix 1/4 cup vinegar with 1/4 cup of honey and take 1 tablespoon six times daily for a sore throat.
- Dissolve two tablets of Alka-Seltzer (not Cold Plus) in a glass of water to eliminate urinary tract infections.
- Cover blemishes with a dab of honey and cover with a Band-Aid overnight.
- Use Coca-Cola to remove rust. (Imagine what the acids are doing to your insides.)
- Cover boils with Hunt's tomato paste
- Soak a cotton ball in white vinegar and apply to bruise for an hour to speed healing process.
- Mix 2 cups of Quaker Oats and 1 cup of water in a bowl

**SEE RECIPE PG. 4**



# CRL fellows make preparations for busy new year

**JORDAN BROWN**  
**STAFF WRITER**

"We want to make better citizens," said **Dr. John Leipzig**, director of the Center for Responsible Leadership.

Leipzig is leaning over a small circular table in the basement of the Dunning Memorial Chapel, in the offices for the Center for Responsible Leadership: small office—big claim.

Leipzig has credentials though. He has been the dean of Alaska Fairbanks College, the Chancellor of the St. Thomas Campus of the University of the Virgin Islands, and a Visiting Scholar in Communication at the University of Johannesburg, the University of Pretoria and the University of the North West in South Africa, lecturing on Leadership and Corporate Communication.

The Center for Responsible Leadership is now going through its recruitment drive for the year. Leipzig says that the CRL is looking to start a trend of accepting 40 to 50 students each year—most of them freshmen—into the well-funded group.

"We want to give students experiences in leadership that they might not ever have had somewhere else," Leipzig said.

The college itself has invested heavily in the

group, promising 11 million dollars of the projected 35 million coming from the Open Windows fundraising campaign. Money is also coming directly from

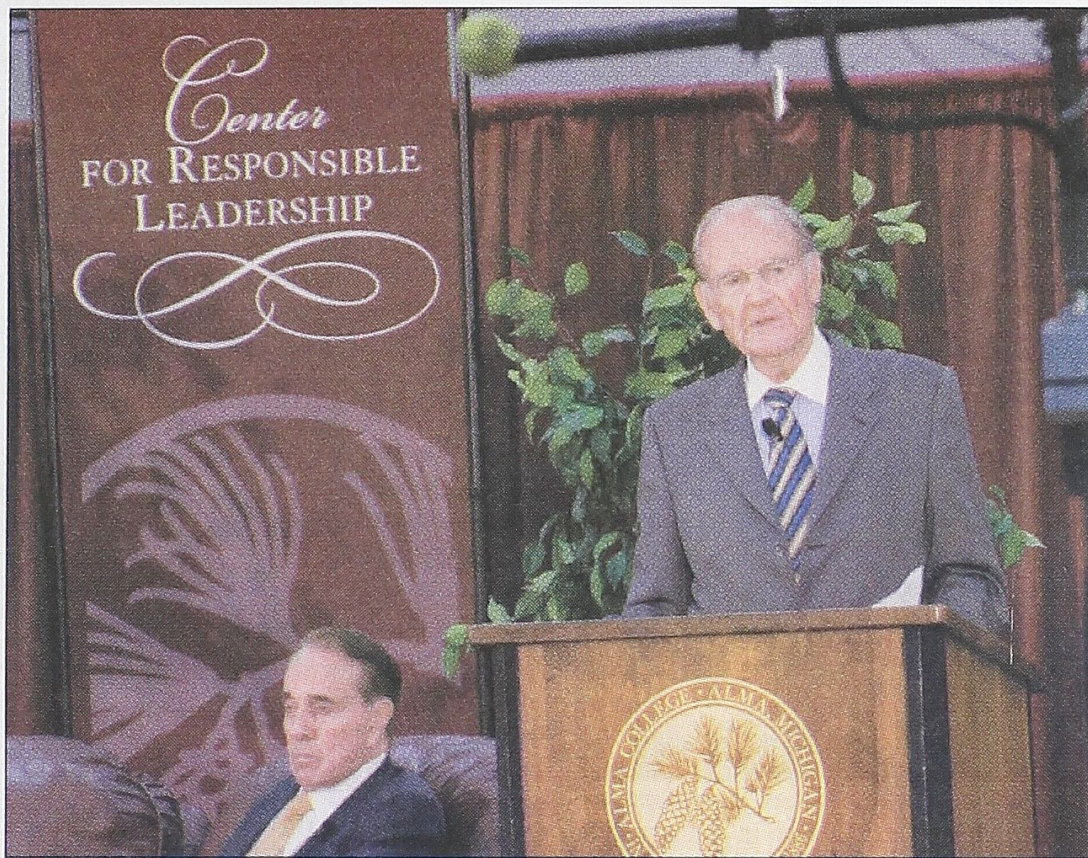
Being the most heavily funded organization on campus shows in its programming. Students on campus will remember when Senators Bob Dole

Some of the highlights include Rabbi Sally Priesand, America's first female rabbi, John Glicher, the Recruitment Director of Teach for America, and Dr.

August 1 through the 11. The students who attend will receive leadership training and insight from a European perspective, which is part of the global aims of the CRL. It will range from conflict resolution classes to panel simulations and insights into the European Union. This England trip is on top of the already annual Ghost Ranch leadership training seminar for incoming freshmen.

In the coming school years, the CRL will be taking on even more leadership roles that will be visible to the Alma campus, community, and even the nation. Already in the works is a program for Alma students to take a sort of limited leadership training through a certificate system, a national leadership survey to be published in *Cranes Business Detroit*, closer connections with other Alma organizations, and a Michigan Forum. The forum will be created entirely by the students in the CRL and will bring in experts on a variety of subjects critical to current state events. These events will be followed by panel discussions completely coordinated and moderated by the CRL.

"We will have learned a lot in the coming year," said Leipzig, "and it will be our responsibility to do something with it."



*Photo courtesy of Skip Traynor*

The Center for Responsible Leadership, which was responsible for hosting Senators Bob Dole and George McGovern in the fall, is preparing for a global institute in England this summer.

foundations such as the Lilly Foundation, which has given the CRL a 3.5 million dollar grant over the next three years, the Dow Foundation, which has given 3 million in endowment, and numerous other private donors also giving millions.

and George McGovern came to speak about civility in leadership. For the rest of the semester, the CRL is bringing four speakers and three workshops to Alma, each focusing on some aspect of leadership and social responsibility.

Robert Musil, the executive director of Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Leipzig has plans for the organization beyond the school year as well—a leadership training session in Wroxton, England, at Wroxton College, this coming

## 'Recipe' from pg. 3

warm in the microwave for 1 minute, cool slightly, and apply the mixture to your hands for soothing relief from arthritis pain or other soreness.

A word to the wise: In 1765, chocolate was thought to cure tuberculosis, fever, and the common cold, as well as increase the probability of conception. It was also thought to invigorate the body, strengthen the limbs, and reduce belching.

### Breakfast Bagel

#### Ingredients:

1 whole wheat bagel  
1 large free-range egg  
1/4 tsp apple cider vinegar, or light vinegar  
1/4 large sliced tomato  
1/4 bunch arugula  
1/2 Tablespoon extra virgin olive oil  
1/4 medium clove garlic, pressed  
salt and black pepper to taste

#### Directions:

Bring water and vinegar to light boil. Make sure there is enough water to cover egg. Toast bagel. Press garlic into oil and brush on cut side of toasted bagel. Garnish bagel with arugula and sliced tomato. To poach egg, crack into water and cook about 5 minutes, just until the white is set and yolk has filmed over. Remove with slotted spoon. Place on top of bagel and vegetables. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve open-faced.

Recipe adapted from LHJ.com

## 'Teach' from pg. 3

you took in undergrad into the online form. The final interview takes places all day, with about

be asked to accept or decline online by a specified date.

Once admitted, you will prepare for your placement

involved with Teach for America in New Mexico. Also, **Danielle Poulson**



Teach for American presents recent students with a great opportunity to help k-12 students low-income areas across the country. Recently, representatives from Teach for America spread the word around campus.

*Photo courtesy of Nick Green*

twelve other applicants. Decisions will be made comprehensively from the day, and that interview is non-competitive, as each interviewer does not have a quota to make. If admitted, you will receive details on your placement, and will

through a five-week summer institute in Atlanta, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City or Philadelphia. For more information, check out the website at [teachforamerica.org](http://teachforamerica.org).

Currently, Alma graduate **Rhonda Linn (06)** is

**(03)** has been involved, according to **Sue Deel**.

Teach for American has become the biggest group of teachers for low-income areas in the country, and have been recognized for their commitment to quality and excellence.



# Absence of incentives explains lack of athletic success at Alma

MIRIAM JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

A few times over this past semester, athletic scholarships have been a topic of heated debate. Being an athlete here at Alma (Cross Country and Track), I have had some experience with the rules that come with the subject—and the waiving of these rules.

While scholarships are technically are not given for athletics in Division III schools, it is easy to get away with giving an extra boost to the athlete's scholarships by

simply awarding them with academic scholarships that are not really deserved.

Almost all of the talented athletes that I know here at Alma have received some sort of technically illegal scholarship. You don't have the grades, but you do have the speed or physical ability. What's the difference? Either way, it is talent.

This led me to think, "How much does this really happen?" It couldn't be just here, at Alma College that the rule is bent. What about the other DIII schools? Running cross-country, I

have noticed that certain DIII schools have some FAST people. Extremely fast. These are the types of runners that could definitely rival the best competition in DI or DII schools. These kids could have easily gotten full ride scholarships at a DI or DII school.

I have learned that when you have a certain amount of talent, you should use it. In the running world, the fastest runners use their talent by getting a college to pay them to do it. This leads me to

SEE ATHLETICS, PG. 6

# Exposing good, ugly effects of raising minimum wages

KRISTINA SCHWAB  
STAFF WRITER

Since this school year started, the minimum wage has increased from \$5.15 to \$6.95. Within the next year, the minimum wage will increase yet again. Minimum wage workers everywhere rejoiced, knowing that their pay will finally be up to the standard of living Americans have created for themselves.

Being a nation full of consumers and spenders, including the government, America's inflation has increased steadily while the minimum wage stayed constant since the mid 1990s. The government's spending on imports and the subsequent investment that comes with a trade deficit has led to a steadily increasing price level.

With the prices constantly getting higher, the minimum wage that was acceptable over 20 years ago no longer covers the necessity of the average family. So now that workers are making more money, everyone is happy, right?

Wrong. Businesses, especially those in Michigan, have been hurt by this change in wage. Michigan's economy is currently the worst in the entire country. Not too long ago, Michigan was in the top 5 of states with the best economies.

Due to this increase in wages, businesses have been forced to cut back workers. Besides the fact that it is now more costly to employ one worker, some employees are even more willing to work

## Negative findings of increasing minimum wage by 10%:

- \* *Minority unemployment increased by 3.9%*
- \* *Hispanic unemployment increased by 4.9%*
- \* *Minority teen unemployment increased 6.6%*
- \* *African American teen unemployment increased by 8.4%*
- \* *Low-skilled unemployment (i.e., those lacking a high school diploma) increased by 8%*

Businesses are laying people off because in order to stay afloat and have some hope at turning a profit, while it is impossible to afford a higher number of workers. Even if every single employee continued to work at his or her place of occupation, unemployment would still be on the rise. Without the numbers being published yet, it is hard to say how much the labor market has really been affected, but the wage increase caught the attention of swarms of people.

What kind of workers are the one affected by these layoffs though? Who works at minimum wage jobs? High school dropouts, uneducated adults, teens, and even minorities are the groups affected according to Dr. David Neumark, an economist from the University of California.

Neumark found that

for every 10% increase in the minimum wage:

- \* *Minority unemployment increased by 3.9%*
- \* *Hispanic unemployment increased by 4.9%*
- \* *Minority teen unemployment increased 6.6%*
- \* *African American teen unemployment increased by 8.4%*
- \* *Low-skilled unemployment (i.e., those lacking a high school diploma) increased by 8%*

In theory, this new minimum wage should have flooded the labor market with workers. In reality, since most states already had a minimum wage level above that which the federal law required, it only affected about 4% of the workforce.

Since this number is so small, the House and Senate

# Presidential candidates bring high school drama



KEVIN BILBREY  
STAFF WRITER

So the big shots are starting to flex their muscles and the 2008 race for the Presidency of the United States has begun. However, unlike any election since 1928, there is no incumbent president or vice president running for the highest office in the land. As a result, the candidates have come out en masse.

There are currently potential candidates for both parties running into the double digits and it is starting to seem to me more like some sort of strange high-school popularity contest than a reasonable debate as to who can and will do the best job in the capacity of the commander-in-chief.

I mean, there is the starting quarterback for the Republican Party, John McCain. Everybody knows him, most everybody likes him, and he's even done pretty well in classes (without any help from his principal dad...cough, Bush, cough....). His problem, however, is that nobody really knows him well enough to know exactly what he would do.

Then, there is Barack Obama, who I would currently call the 2<sup>nd</sup> string quarterback. There's a lot of potential there, and tons of raw talent, but until he understands the playbook better, he's really nothing more than a glorified cheerleader, exciting the crowd about what the rest of the team has done.

Rudy Giuliani comes in as the popular teacher, who everyone thinks back on with fondness. You know, the one who helped us out when we were in our greatest moment of crisis, but then kind of

retired and left us drifting on to graduation.

Bill Richardson is probably a pretty good candidate, but every time he tries to say something he gets drowned out by someone who thinks they know better. This is where a former first lady, turned senator, comes in.

I'm not really sure how to identify Hillary Clinton in this whole high-school hierarchy thing. Then again, that might be because I never really had any experience with anyone like her. Where do beings of pure evil go to school anyway?

John Edwards is the pretty-boy who has always been friends with everybody, but who I wouldn't necessarily trust to keep an eye on my house while I'm out of town (I mean, Hillary's husband might show up and convince him to throw a party that results in more than a few M.I.P.s and some massive property damage).

And, just because I know that somebody will mention him, there is the treasurer of the Audio-Visual club with delusions of grandeur. But like most of America, I'm just going to ignore Tom Vilsac.

The rest of the candidates (all 19 of them) are a veritable "who's who" of politics. Although there are a couple worth mentioning who were once political powerhouses—Kerry, Gingrich, even Condoleezza Rice, but they will never be much more than the homecoming court, watching on as the others take the crown.

Now, I know that this analogy doesn't necessarily do any one of the candidates justice, but until I see something a little more substantial in them, I'm not really prepared to go any further in depth on the subject. After all, I am still much more concerned about who will win the Superbowl, and there isn't much room for this trivial presidential stuff until the important things have been decided.

are hoping the incentive of employees to work will be increased, leading employed workers to become more efficient while being at the workplace—also because they know now they can be easily replaced with the many workers looking for jobs—which will eventually lead to an increase in productivity for companies, leading to higher profit margins, and an

overall better-off economy.

Whether or not this pans out will not be seen for a few more years, but the likelihood of this occurring is pretty great. When workers have an incentive to continue working, whether it be higher pay or the potential to get canned, employers will find satisfaction—and the size of their corporate wallets will increase.



# Speaker Robert Bullard proved disappointing

**MIRIAM JOHNSON**  
STAFF WRITER

After attending the talk on Environmental and Human rights on MLK day, I had some mixed reactions, although they were mostly negative. The speaker, Dr. Robert Bullard, was advertised as being something like a "modern Martin Luther King Jr.," fighting for social justice, but he seemed to fall short.

I must admit that if all of the audience members expected something like this, they were in for severe disappointment. I am not saying that his cause was unimportant, but its delivery lacked something to inspire.

When I first arrived at the Heritage Center, I was actually quite excited. I had just gotten done participating in the street activism project and was really anticipating more of the inspiration and passion that comes with Martin Luther King Day. I knew that this talk was to be about a struggle going on in the here-and-now, and I hoped to become informed, if not inspired, toward his cause.

When Dr. Bullard came out on stage, he seemed very

confident and engaging. He talked about Martin Luther King and a little about himself. He explained what it was in his life that made him passionate about the social injustice of landfills in poor areas and how it eventually led to his passionate feelings about economic situations for the underprivileged.

This is an amazing cause and I completely respect him for his accomplishments in the field. However, I just do not

think that he reached out to the audience in the right way.

My first major complaint about this speech was the fact that it was not at all inspiring to the average audience member. I have been to speeches where I can feel the enthusiasm of the speaker and

really want to be part of his or her cause. I did not feel like this during Dr. Bullard's talk. I felt more like I was being lectured than anything else.

He presented us with a large amount of slides, all of which had way too much information and text on them for us to bother to read. He clearly got up and gave the same speech that he had given innumerable times before. This was obvious because of the fact

that it was definitely not tailored to fit the audience of Alma College students, or students in general.

He did not create any common ground between himself and us. He did not RELATE his topic to our lives, or even try to stretch it. No one could connect with what he was saying.

When it comes to the topic of social change, I am very specific in what I want to hear.

If a speaker is advocating a change like Dr. Bullard was, he must make it clear

what WE, the audience, can do about it. It is completely useless to stand up and inform us about how corrupt and cheap our government is and how, "it is the faulty construction of the cities that caused the devastation of Hurricane Katrina."

Although statements like this obviously grab attention, they are worthless in the long run. It makes me angry when anyone resorts to blaming others for things that are past when they do not have a resolution in mind for the future. In essence, this man had good intention, but the speech was a waste of everyone's time.

## What's your opinion?

*Sound-off about any of the following issues by emailing  
o7dtharr@alma.edu:*

- *What could help increase enrollment here at Alma College?*
- *Do you agree with the federal minimum wage increase?*
- *What did you think about the events of MLK week?*

**Your Ad  
Can Be Placed  
Here  
New Student  
Organization Rates!**

**Don't miss out on  
great advertising!**

Contact Rachel Dotson  
at 463-7161 or at o8radots@alma.edu

## Athletics from pg. 5...

believe that the runners at say, Calvin College, are getting some sort of compensation for their talent. I would go as far as to believe that they are getting full ride scholarships. However, because they attend a DIII school, it would be labeled as an academic scholarship.

Because of the increasing potential for these undercover scholarships, it seems right to question why

the athletic rule exists at all. It is completely unfair, for example, that Alma can give out choir scholarships by the dozen, acting scholarships, bagpipe scholarships, and whatever else, but cannot even give money to the people who suffer pain and sweat—those who excel in the world of sports.

This concept makes me quite angry actually. I think that just because Alma is a

private and small school does not mean that we can only be known for the arts. I think that if we also attracted more people who were athletically inclined, perhaps our school would have a little bit more diversity.

Overall, I feel that this silly rule about athletic scholarships needs to go. I am sick and tired of seeing our sports teams lose, time and time again. I am sure

that the reason that our teams suffer so much is that they are being forced to compete against schools that have been a little bit more generous in their black market scholarships than we have.

Lets face it - athletics can get depressing here at Alma. The school spirit that we all experienced in high school, the kind that exists with our friends at other colleges, is

gone for us.

As a final thought, maybe if our school (or DIIs in general) did give away athletic scholarships, WINNING sports teams would create a more unified and spirit filled atmosphere. Perhaps this would help the alumni endowment fund a little bit. Who knows how much the institution of athletic scholarships could do for Alma.

## The Almanian

Rachel Dotson	Editor-In-Chief
Scott Weir	News Editor
Drew Coleman	Sports Editor
Kaitlin Logan	Feature Editor
Derek Harrison	Opinion Editor
Nick Green	Photo Editor
Jennifer Anderson	Copy Editor
Mackenzie Hunter	Circulation Editor
Tony Rosenblum	Photographer
Kristina Schwab	Staff Writer
Kevin Bilbrey	Staff Writer
Anna Zichi	Staff Writer
Lauren Russell	Staff Writer
Amanda Metzler	Staff Writer
Miriam Johnson	Staff Writer
Faina Polt	Staff Writer
David Miller	Staff Writer
Krista Pennington	Staff Writer
Jordan Brown	Staff Writer
Robert Vivian	Faculty Advisor
Ken Tabacsko	Faculty Advisor

## "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 Tuesday before requested publication. E-mail letters to the editors at o7dtharr@alma.edu or address letters to *The Almanian*, Newberry Hall, Alma College.

### Advertising Policy

Advertisements can be submitted to o8kmmato@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.



## Matuzak shines for Scots basketball

**JAMES THRUBIS**  
**STAFF WRITER**

The Alma College Scots' women's basketball team has been turning heads this season with their performance, and some of that credit can rightfully be given to Ashley **Matuzak (08)**. This season, Matuzak has led the Scots in scoring with an average of 16.1 points per game along with leading the team in rebounds and minutes played. Matuzak contributes her success mainly to her parents, "My dad was my coach from third through tenth grade, and he was always giving me some pointers on how to play the game."

Matuzak was the last of her two brothers and one sister to make a shot when her family would play a game of 'shoot around' in the driveway; but once she hit her first bucket she was in the fast lane to success. A former stand out at Nouvel Catholic Central, Matuzak was coached by a fellow Scot, Coach Kris Johnson (87). Johnson was the only player in MIAA history to ever win the MIAA MVP award twice and with the help of Matuzak made it to the state finals for only the second time in Nouvel Catholic Central history.

When asked about state

finals, Matuzak said, "It was an amazing atmosphere and experience; I just wish it had a different outcome." When asked how she felt about Coach Johnson, Matuzak had nothing but praise, "She is a great coach with a lot of enthusiasm. I loved playing for her; she's the girl version of Coach Mott."

After her senior season,



*Photo courtesy of Alma Athletics*

Matuzak decided to become a Scot. Needless to say, Coach Johnson had a large impact on her decision. In her third season with the Scots, Matuzak has not only been a standout on the court, but as well in the community. Matuzak is a volunteer at the Community Café and frequently volunteers to work children's basketball camps, "I have learned a lot of life

lessons playing basketball, such as teamwork and having patience with others and I enjoy passing that on."

Matuzak has led the Scots to a 7-8 record on the season, which ranks them 6th overall in the MIAA. Some may think this has been a disappointing season for the Scots, but Matuzak feels differently, "We were picked 9th overall in the pre-season, and I think we will finish better than most people expected us to." And when asked how she thinks the Scots will do in the MIAA conference tournament Matuzak said, "We have been constantly learning and the whole team keeps on improving; hopefully come tournament time we will turn some heads."

Ashley Matuzak is the prime example of a student athlete. Everything from her hard work in the classroom, to her volunteering in the community to her play on the court—it is all done with class and respect. The little youngster who was the last of four kids to hit a shot in the driveway has grown up to be quite the all-star for the Alma College Scots.

Hop on the road to catch the Alma College Women's Basketball team tomorrow as they take on long-time rival Albion College at 3 p.m.

## Alma in need of athletic signage

**JENNIFER ANDERSON**  
**SPORTS EDITOR**

I was leaving Saturday's swim meet and was headed outside when I heard a voice in the athletic trainers' office. It was an elderly woman calling out, "Hello? Is anyone here?" She was short of breath and wheeling around her oxygen suitcase. I called back so I wouldn't startle her from behind, and I asked if she was looking for someone. She sighed in desperation (and tiredness) and asked where to find the pool. "There aren't any directions," were her words—and ones I certainly share.

I had wondered before how latecomers found any of the sporting events. I worked for the athletic department, so I didn't have trouble locating the basketball courts; but I can't imagine anyone would guess they would be up two



flights of stairs and around the corner to the left. Finding the pool is just as difficult; and for those wanting to get in the pool, virtually impossible. It took me over two years before I finally mustered enough guts to ask how to find it. I had gone at least twice (bathing suit and all) and turned straight back. I guess each time I was hoping there would be a new sign directing me where to go.

Not only is signage missing for location of sporting events; there is also no indication of where to find the elevator—or that there is one available at all. If it wasn't for **Kyle Ryan (08)**, I would have been waiting about 10 minutes with the woman to catch her breath before carrying her oxygen suitcase up two flights of stairs with her. I could not find an elevator and didn't even think we had one in the building. It makes perfect sense for elderly visitors or injured players, yet there was no signage indicating where to find it.

I contacted Ellen Curtis, Associate Director of Admissions and former Athletic Director, and asked if she had realized the absence of signage in the athletic building. "You know how if you spent your whole life with six toes, it wouldn't cross your mind that it is strange until someone pointed it out for you?" said Curtis. She had never realized the lack of signage, and now that it has been brought to her attention, she will do what she can to remedy the situation. "I [contacted] Bob Boyce, Director of Physical Plant, Dr. Piccolo and Dr. Tracy (who sent it to Jerry Scoby). I know they have a big 'to do' list for Hogan and campus signage, but I imagine that this would be a relatively easy and quick fix for physical plant to make," said Curtis.

Scoby followed up on the issue and said he had not yet heard the concerns about Hogan signage. "The one (building where we need to improve the interior signage) we will be working on next will be the library," said Scoby.

I have complete confidence in our administrative forces and hope to see appropriate signage in the athletic building very soon.

## Alma Scots never end their training

**KYLE RYAN**  
**FREELANCE WRITER**

Clean out your locker, turn in your gear, the season is over. Time to relax and concentrate on your schoolwork, right? Well that may have been the case a couple of decades ago, but in today's college sports world the season never ends. Alma College is no exception. Take a stroll through the Physical Education building or the Rec. Center and you will notice first hand how hard players and teams work in the off-season.

The sports world is steadily getting bigger, faster, and stronger. Off-season conditioning used to only include some of the high-contact sports, but today, athletes from all venues work hard in the off-season in order to get the upper hand in the next season.

This spring's Scots sports teams are really turning up the heat on their conditioning preparation for the 2007 season. One team that just began practice for 2007 is the tennis team. For this season,

the they implemented a new off-season training regiment. Men's tennis player Josh Sanders (09) is one of the Scots who participated in this year's new program. "Last year we didn't start until the beginning of formal practice and we were unprepared, but this year we could do more once practice started because we were already in shape," said Sanders.

Athletes from other sports have similar opinions about out-of-season workouts. Kelsey Thompson (10) of the always-busy softball team also appreciates the importance of off-season training. "I think that off-season workouts are a real good thing. Besides, I don't like to just sit around, and working out gives me something productive to do," said Thompson. Both Thompson and Sanders are hoping that their team's off-season efforts will produce in-season results.

You also may have noticed that Alma has its fair share of multi-sport athletes as well. How do these athletes train for one sport in the off-season

if they are in another season at the same time? Some athletes simply focus on one sport at a time, which is, in most cases, completely acceptable by the coaches. Other athletes, like football/basketball player Buddy Scarborough (09), try to stay a part of both teams at the same time. "Even though I have to work twice as hard, I like to continue with the off-season training while in season. I like to feel like I am still a part of the football team, even during basketball season. I like to be a part of both, full time," said Scarborough.

College athletics are becoming a year-round activity, and Alma Scots athletics are no exception. It takes an awful lot of work to field a competitive team, and that work starts in the off-season. So, next time you are cheering on your Scots as they give their all on game day, take a moment to remember that their skills in the spotlight took the whole year to develop behind the scenes.



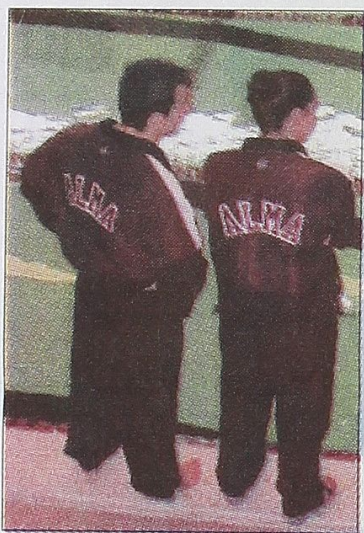
## Kelly and Nate go head to head

JEN ANDERSON  
SPORTS EDITOR

**Nate McDonald (08)** and **Kelly Marks (07)** crashed heads during sprints at swim practice earlier this season. It is evident that there are no hard feelings about the incident by observing the two during swim meets; they are never apart. The two were asked the same set of questions, and here is what they had to say:

**(Q) What is your recollection of "the incident?"**

**(A) Nate:** During an intense sprint set at practice, Kelly and I were swimming our best in the same lane working to maintain the highest of the highest intervals. With Coach Kyle's thundering voice in the background, Kelly and I placed our long fins on our feet to



prepare for the on coming set. Kelly (a.k.a "the white water whirlwind") got in the push-off-position readying herself to fully dominate the rough waters of the Alma college swimming

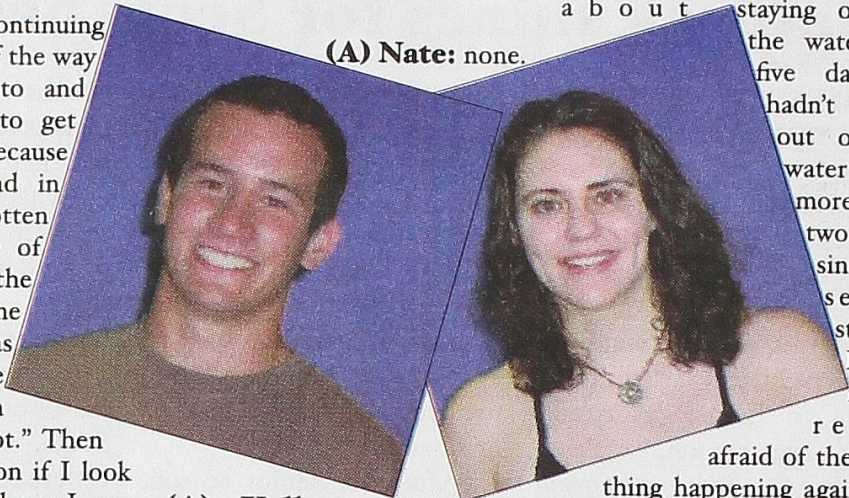
pool. Pushing off with the force of a killer whale and the grace of a playful otter, she plowed through the water. At the same time, I pushed off the wall and began swimming with the grace of a stampeding ox pushing through the water with no knowledge that Kelly had accidentally drifted into my side of the lane. Like two speeding freight trains heading directly for each other we collided with an unimaginable force, leading to intense destruction of Kelly's forehead. Dazed and confused, we both finished the swim and made it back to the side of the pool. "I'm fine...I'm fine" said white water whirlwind Kelly, insisting that there was nothing wrong. "You seem to be bleeding a bit, I think you cut yourself under your cap," said Momma J. Swanton. Kelly reluctantly climbed out of the pool and removed her cap leading to a cascade of blood down the front of her face, "&\*%@" Without missing a beat Corey "save the day" White ran in and took Kelly into the training room where she was fitted with a head bandage fit for an amputee. With half her head missing, White Water Whirlwind Kelly was taken to the ER where she received a grand total of 21 stitches that seamlessly placed both halves of her head back together. In the mean time I, without a single scratch, nervously hoped that my secret identity of super-head-of-steel-man was not blown.

**(A) Kelly:** The whole team was doing a sprint set and we were supposed to be swimming sides (much of the time we circle swim). As I turned at the wall I forgot about swimming sides and crashed idinto Nate. We both looked up and asked each other if we are okay, and Nate say he was okay and I said I was fine, but we both said our heads

hurt. I considered continuing to sprint the rest of the way but decided not to and swam backstroke to get back to the wall because my head hurt, and in the past I've gotten small cuts because of my goggles. At the other end someone asked if there was a collision in lane 4 and I said, "yeah because I'm an idiot." Then I asked Sara Swanton if I look alright and she told me I was bleeding and it looked like it was under my cap, so I started to lift my cap off, but before I got it off she said, "KELLY, YOU NEED TO GET OUT OF THE POOL NOW." So I was pissed at myself because I was having a good practice. And I climbed out of the pool and ripped my cap off (while saying "&\*%@" and threw it down on the ground. Then I looked down and started apologizing because I got blood everywhere. Then Corey White told me to go to the training room, and at this point blood started getting into my mouth. So I listened to him, and Bob (the athletic trainer) started wrapping my head as I drank the blood... and after a little while I asked if we could do something about the blood, which they were kind enough to do. So then I had a bandage all around my head and I looked like an old war patient. I walked back onto the deck to go change and the team laughed at me and I started laughing, but laughing hurt so I tried not to. Then as I was changing, I noticed all of the blood that was still on my face. It was pretty gross, but the athletic trainers cleaned me up some more. I went to the hospital (it was my first time) and got stitches.

**(Q) What injuries did you acquire?**

**(A) Nate:** none.



**(A) Kelly:**

Before they put the stitches in you could see my skull, and Nate actually left a mark on my skull, which will be there forever. I ended up getting 4 stitches on the inside and 17 on the outside (a total of 21 stitches, which was more than any of the football players got this season). I do have some numb areas because a nerve got cut, but the doctor said that might go away with time.

**(Q) Have you been involved in an incident of this sort before?**

**(A) Nate:** Yes, but that one was my fault.

**(A) Kelly:** Well I have had collisions with swimmers before, but nobody has ever cut their head open like this that I know of. My freshman year I did get a black eye because a breastroker kicked me in the face.

**(Q) Did this incident make you hesitant to swim?**

**(A) Nate:** Not really; sh\*t happens.

**(A) Kelly:** Actually, I was really upset when I thought about staying out of the water for five days. I hadn't been out of the water for more than two days since the season started. I was not really afraid of the same thing happening again, but I was a little nervous when I was putting my cap on for the first time because I didn't want the cut to spilt open again and have to stay out of the pool even longer.

**(Q) On a scale of 1-10 (ten being the worst pain you've ever felt), how would you rate the pain from this incident?**

**(A) Nate:** 1.25 I wasn't in much pain from the collision; it was the headache after that hurt the most.

**(A) Kelly:** Eh, it was really only like a 4. I mean, my head hurt pretty bad at times waiting to get the stitches, but I had so much adrenaline when it happened it didn't really matter.

**(Q) Is there anything you want to say to Nate?/Kelly?**

**(A) Nate:** I see kelly everyday so I know that she is all well. If anything I would tell her how strong she is.

**(A) Kelly:** Nate you have a hard head. I'm sorry I swam into you, but I'm glad that I didn't hurt you real bad.

## Boise State reinvigorates trend of BCS controversy

JAMES THRUBIS  
STAFF WRITER

This past college football bowl season was filled with big hits, big plays and big time controversy. This seems to be a theme at the end of every college football season since 1998 when the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) took over college football. For those who do not know about the BCS, here is the run down.

The BCS formula is comprised of five components: The average ranking in the Associated Press (AP) poll, the ESPN coach's poll and the average ranking of the best six of seven computer polls, the number of losses, strength of schedule (SOS), and the quality of wins (QW). To add confusion, the following bowl games are considered

as the BCS: the Sugar Bowl, the Rose Bowl, the Fiesta Bowl, the Orange Bowl, and the National Championship Game.

The question is, which teams get the rights to play in these prestige contests? Teams from conferences such as the Big Ten, Big XII, SEC, Big East, Pac-10, and ACC will always have an automatic bid into at least one of these games. I know what you're thinking, how about the teams who are not in a BCS conference, or what about the schools that are not associated with a conference? These teams all have the chance to make it into the BCS via an at-large bid.

As you can see, the BCS system is quite confusing. And this is where the controversy begins.

Since 1998 when the BCS

was implicated, five teams have been undefeated and have not had a chance to either be in the National

***"I firmly believe Boise State would have had a legitimate shot against both Ohio State and Florida"***

**-Matt Whetstone (07)**

Championship game or a BCS bowl game. In 1998, the Tulane Green Wave were undefeated and were not invited to a BCS bowl game.

In 1999, Marshall was 12-0 and was also not included in the BCS. Four years later, the Auburn Tigers went 13-0 and shut out of the National Championship Game. The team who took their place was the 12-1 Oklahoma Sooners, who ended up losing to USC 55-19 in the title game.

That same year, the University of Utah was 12-0 and still had no chance of winning a National Championship. Yet the most recent instance of this was just earlier this year when Boise State defeated Oklahoma 43-42 in an overtime nail biter.

This system of crowning the best football team in the land is inconsistent.

**Mike Ricco (07)** had this to say of the BCS, "I think its intentions are good but they are still a lot of problems with it, like the fact of undefeated teams not making it to the

national championship game."

What would be the easiest way to settle this controversy once and for all?

Many coaches, players and fans have asked for a playoff. A playoff system can give teams like Boise State a shot of being able to win the National Championship.

**Matt Whetstone (07)** agrees, "I look at Boise State vs. Oklahoma, in which Boise State beat Oklahoma very convincingly. I firmly believe Boise State would have had a legitimate shot against both Ohio State and Florida."

Will a playoff system be the savior of college football? It's hard to say; but for now, we are stuck with the BCS until at least 2010, which is when the contract between the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the BCS is over.