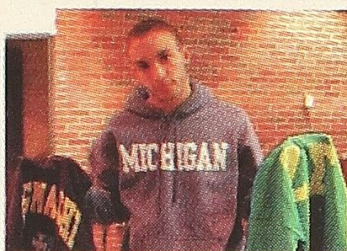




**2005 Detroit
International
Auto Show**

page 5



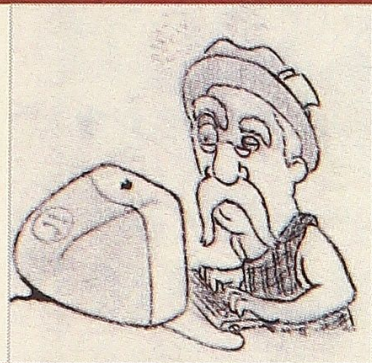
**Where do I
go?**

page 6



Walkouts

page 7



The Almanian

serving Alma College since 1907

Campus Security Updates: " 'reconceptualizing' security"

**KATE VOSKERITCHIAN
PHOTOGRAPHER**

For the past three months campus security has been one of the biggest and most talked about issues across campus. After a series of security incidents took place at the end October, a Security Task Force, (STF) was formed.

The STF is comprised of both faculty and students, with students in the majority to voice their own input on security concerns. The STF has

come up with many complaints, problems, and suggestions that they feel are high importance to improve security. These include lighting across campus, getting key cards to access the residence halls, as well as educating students and Resident Assistants about sexual assault.

The STF submits their findings in a report to the President for review and further analyzing before implementation is possible.

"We focused on the urgent need for reconceptualizing 'security' at Alma

College," said **Joanne Gilbert**, Chair of Safety Task Force.

One of the newest and most important things being done on campus to help out the security staff is the addition of a new part time security officer. Within the recommendations from the STF was to put in new phones on campus next to all of the residence halls that will directly connect you to Central Dispatch for the Alma Police Department.

One of the largest challenges for both President Tracy and the STF is the issue of locking the doors to all of the Residence halls all of the time. While the administration is trying to keep students safe, some students feel as though it is an annoyance and think it should be gotten rid of.

"The door locking thing is dumb because you can knock on a window and someone will come and let you in," said **Jamie Knopf (o8)**.

The hope for next year is to have electronic key cards that would be placed on all doors of every residence hall. The key cards will provide access to every residence hall during the day

but at night the readers will only allow residents of that particular hall to enter.

The other major issue that the STF covered in their recommendations dealt with increasing lighting in places that it is lacking. Students have expressed the concern that the south side of campus, the Rec. Center, and the Center Street areas near the Fraternity houses are in need of brighter lighting. To quickly respond to possible incidents near the fraternity houses, there are plans to add another "blue light" which will also connect directly to the Alma Police department.

All of the recommendations that were submitted to President Tracy and the executive staff have been reviewed. By the start of the school year, a majority of the recommendations are in plans to be resolved; other repairs will be taken care of as soon as it is possible to get done. All of the recommendations and the response to the recommendations are posted on the school intranet.

Student activity fee stays the same for next year

**SCOTT WEIR
NEWS EDITOR**

Last Monday, January 24, Student Congress voted almost unanimously to keep the student activity the same, at a rate of \$100/ semester. This was after last year, when Student Congress approved an increase in the student activity fee by \$15/ semester. The student activity fee, which provides money for student services (i.e. WQAC, The *Almanian*, and The *Scot*), campus events like Song Fest and the recent Your Best Friend concert, and budgets of most of Alma College's student organizations, is voted on every year by Student Congress.

A lot of the reason it wasn't increased was because of the large increase last year. The discussion last year was to increase it by a substantial amount and the discussion followed this pattern. Some arguments against this were the steady increases with inflationary costs by organizations such as *The Almanian* and *The Scot*.

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

One of the reasons for the increase last year was a continuous shortfall in the budget, which fails to provide for the requested budgets of student organizations. The increase was well taken by students and the extra revenue provided a slightly more substantial amount for the contingency fund. Already this year there have been several requests approved by the Budget and Finance Committee. This increase, however, was still not enough to allow student organizations to buy t-shirts and food, a precedence set forth a few years prior, by the Budget and Finance Committee. In the past, the contingency fund held upwards of \$10,000. It has significantly decreased in recent years, and currently started this year around \$8,000. It stands right now at around \$3,000 and student organizations can apply for contingency by using a form located in the Student Congress Office.

Obviously students are in support of this because it simply means that they don't have to pay more money on top of the 5.8% tuition increase. Student Congress is hoping to avoid what has been referred to as "budget padding," and hopes that with this decision that student organizations will choose to budget conservatively, so that the inflationary requirements of needy organizations can be met.

News Briefs

**AMY TOPHAM
STAFF WRITER**

This past Sunday January 20, 2005 Iraq held its first free elections. The turn out was good, but not without any casualties. 44 people were killed, including nine suicide bombers. More Iraqis than anticipated came to the elections. Previous threats of violence and calls for a boycott did not happen. This was Iraq's first free election in a half-century. There was a low Sunni Muslim turnout for voting which could sway how the government will be run. The winner of the election will not be known for some time, the preliminary results are hoped to be had by the earliest Monday. There was no confirmed amount of people who turned out for the elections; however, it appeared to be higher than

57% of the 14 million eligible voters. President Bush feels that "Iraqis have shown their commitment to democracy," Bush said, and had "firmly rejected the anti-democratic ideology of the terrorists. There is much hope for Iraq and its citizens in the future.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Sunday that U.S. troops will remain in Iraq until the country's forces are capable of carrying out their own security functions. Sunday, January 30, 2005, Iraq held its first free elections. Disagreement emerged in Washington over how many Iraqi forces have been trained to ultimately replace U.S.-led military efforts. The Iraqis national security adviser said the U.S. and other international forces should remain in Iraq for years to come. Rice said there was no timetable as to when the 150,000 troops will be pulled out of Iraq.

News

The Almanian reported last week on a constitutional amendment that was recently passed by Student Congress. Below is the new amendment.

New Rule:

Candidates are not to engage in unfair, negative, or derogatory campaigns. The Elections Committee will determine violations, unless it has not convened, in which case the Executive Committee will decide the matter. Any candidate found in violation can be removed from the ballot, upon recommendation by the decision-making committee.

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OPINION

The Almanian Poll

Who is your favorite speaker so far this year?

Archbishop Ndungane	35 votes
Henry Pollack	10 votes
Alan Page	15 votes
Jay Olshansky	15 votes
Thomas Lynch	15 votes
Other	10 votes

What is your favorite concert so far this year?

WQAC Concert	7 votes
Festival of Carols	24 votes
Kiltie Band Indoor Concert	18 votes
Scottish Celebration	9 votes
Student Choreographer	28 votes
Other	14 votes

Sample size was 100 Alma College students

Pass/Fail by Steve Bailey

Maybe Fox should consider shooting this year's half-time show from the neck up to ensure no "wardrobe malfunctions" from Paul McCartney.



Are you dissatisfied with something on campus?
Do you feel like your voice is not being heard?
The best way to voice your opinion is to write a letter to the editor. The *Almanian* greatly welcomes your opinions on just about any subject especially if they are pertinent to issues on campus. They may be submitted to the folder outside the *Almanian* office or by emailing it to almanian@hotmail.com. The *Almanian* staff reserves the right to decide if and when any letters will be printed. Please take special note that no anonymous letters to the editor will be printed at any time.

FEATURE

Quiz: Are you obsessed with your looks?

MEGAN JARCZYNSKI
STAFF WRITER

your clothes and put together a decent outfit.
c. Your wardrobe consists entirely of t-shirts and blue jeans.

7. How many pairs of shoes do you own?
a. 15+; the possibility of several choices for each outfit.
b. 5-14; probably more than you need but you know how to keep your options open.
c. 1-4; only the practical necessities.

Mostly a's: Looking good is definitely a priority for you. You put great care in how you present yourself and are a believer that the way you look will greatly affect how others view you. One positive aspect of placing your physical appearance at the top of your to-do list is that you know how to take care of yourself. However, be aware it is also important to pay attention not only to the exterior but the interior as well. To the people that matter it won't matter what you look like.

Mostly b's: You have found the perfect balance between caring about your appearance and going overboard. You are just as likely to be found wearing a well put together ensemble as sweat pants and a hoodie. Others will notice the effort you put in but won't criticize you for being overdone. Keep it up!

Mostly c's: Being a college student and having a life full of late nights and early mornings, it's easy to let yourself fall into a lazy, relaxed appearance. You're completely founded in your decision to wear your pajamas to class, but just remember to take care of yourself both inside and out. People will respect your down to earth style but will also be impressed by occasional effort. A good pair of jeans and a nice top will work fine.

1. On average, how long does it take you to get ready in the morning?
a. 40+ minutes; All good things take time.
b. 15-30 minutes; You take care of some minor grooming and cleanliness and you're ready to go.
c. 5 minutes; You just roll out of bed and head to class.

2. You consider tanning...
a. A necessity...sporting a year round glow is an essential element to your wardrobe.
b. Only necessary before special events such as weddings or formals or when going to someplace warm and sunny so as to avoid getting burned.
c. You'd never be caught dead fake tanning.

3. When you decide on an outfit to wear, you...
a. After a series of four or five different trial outfits, you finally decide to raid your roommate's closet.
b. Just go to your drawer and pick out something that decently matches.
c. Throw on whatever is lying around and doesn't smell too bad.

4. Where are you most likely to be found when you are working out?
a. Standing in front of a mirror of the reflective windows flexing
b. With your headphones on, minding your own business.
c. Exercise...me? Yeah right.

5. When it comes to your eating habits you...
a. Count every last carb and calorie.
b. Try not to eat too many unhealthy foods, but pretty much eat whatever you want.
c. Are a junk food junkie.

6. How would you describe your sense of fashion?
a. Fashion diva/Metrosexual
b. You know how to match

The Demanding Viewers coach 'Carter'

BRENDAN GUILFORD
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Demanding Viewers are back for the 2005 season of lackluster film viewing and are eager to please.

This week we went to see "Coach Carter" starring Samuel L. Jackson (The Kevin Bacon of the 21st century), Rick Gonzalez ("Old School," "Biker Boyz") and Ashanti (WHAAAT?). Also starring was Ken Brown ("Finding Forrester") who has gotten surprisingly little work since his first film, despite Forrester's overall positive review by moviegoers.

To begin, I would like to say that I have seen much worse representations of high school life than in Coach Carter. It is difficult for movie directors to create a scene in high school that is realistic and still not boring. I fear that director Thomas Carter ("Save the Last Dance," "Metro," "Swing Kids") misses on his "street" image of what life is like for the average person. The Demanding Viewers are implying that they are more knowledgeable of the inner city than other people, but several points of the script flatly do not make sense.

The most glaring problem is the one advertised in the trailer (which fairly well tells the whole story anyway): the boys on Coach Carter's basketball team are not allowed to play because of grades. Parents show up in great numbers to a silly-acted PTA setting scene to protest their sons being barred from

playing basketball, yet showed no interest in their children passing their classes. Even the principal of the high school is opposed to Coach Carter refusing to allow the team to play. This point of the movie made it difficult to take the film seriously, despite its earnest pleas to be considered a dramatic work.

Here's the catch: Carter is real, and really did lock his players out so why was this movie difficult to believe? Why was this movie so difficult to enjoy? The Demanding Viewers enjoy original, well acted, well directed movies that do one of two things: a) make us believe something believable or b) completely remove reality and allow us to flex our imaginations. "Coach Carter" does neither, despite being a fictional account of an actual event.

"Coach Carter" reminded me of an inner-city version of "Hoosiers," the Gene Hackman classic about a financially poor, but high-spirited team taken to greatness by a new, mysterious coach.

Lately I get a sick feeling whenever I hear Samuel L. Jackson deliver one of his sermonizing testimonials that all his directors write in the script specifically for him. Invariably Jackson will have at least one long speech where he is supposed to inspire, terrorize, or soothe us (or all three). While it was poetry in "Pulp Fiction" and so many other it has not been for Coach Carter and The Demanding Viewers hopes he will stay away from 'Inspirational' films in the future.

Congratulations to the Greek Community for all their new members!

FEATURE

In case you missed it... the 2005 Detroit International Auto Show



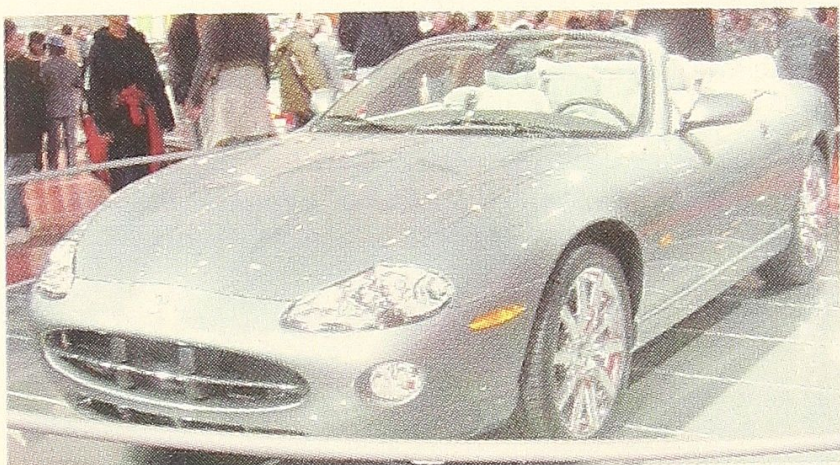
Lexus LF-A - (Rear and side view) Probably the most realistic view of this concept vehicle as it uses the passing lane on a lonely highway

Lexus LF-A - (Front and side view) Large chrome wheels and the carefully styled front fascia accent its sporty nature



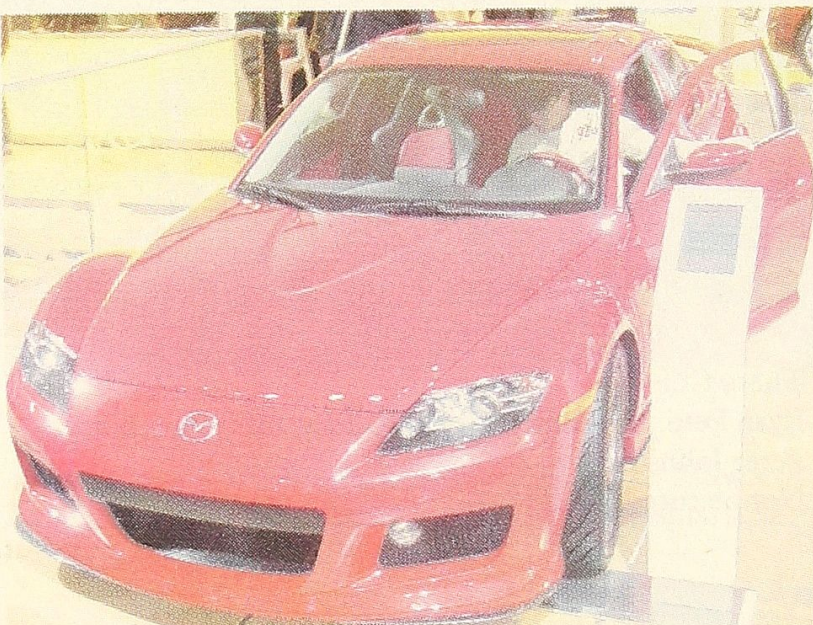
2005 Jaguar XJ Series - Conserving classical Jaguar styling cues for the more mature driver

2005 Pontiac GTO - Slightly redesigned from the 2004 version, the GTO now comes with hood scoops and more base-model options



Jaguar XK Victory - After appearing in James bond movies, this is the latest edition to the XK series

Volvo 3CC - With unique headlight designs, large racing wheels, and doors that demand head to turn in awe, Volvo attempts to appeal to younger crowds



2005 Mazda RX-8 - Sporting subtle racing design changes and interior retooling to recharge the RX series

RUNOUTS

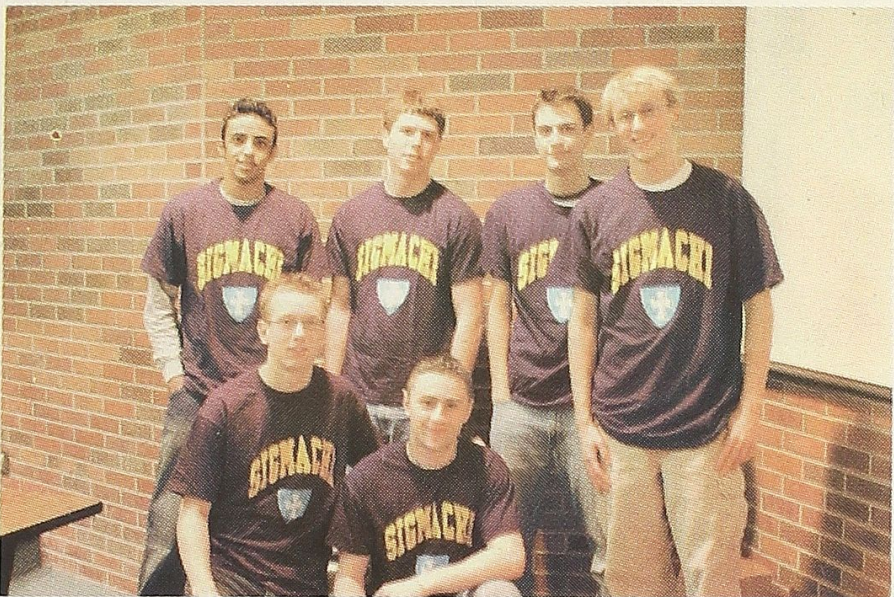


Photo by Kate Bruder

Sigma Chi:
Radi Al-Radi, James Luden, Micheal Buggia, James Abrams , Co-
lin Wasiloff, Joseph Kreft

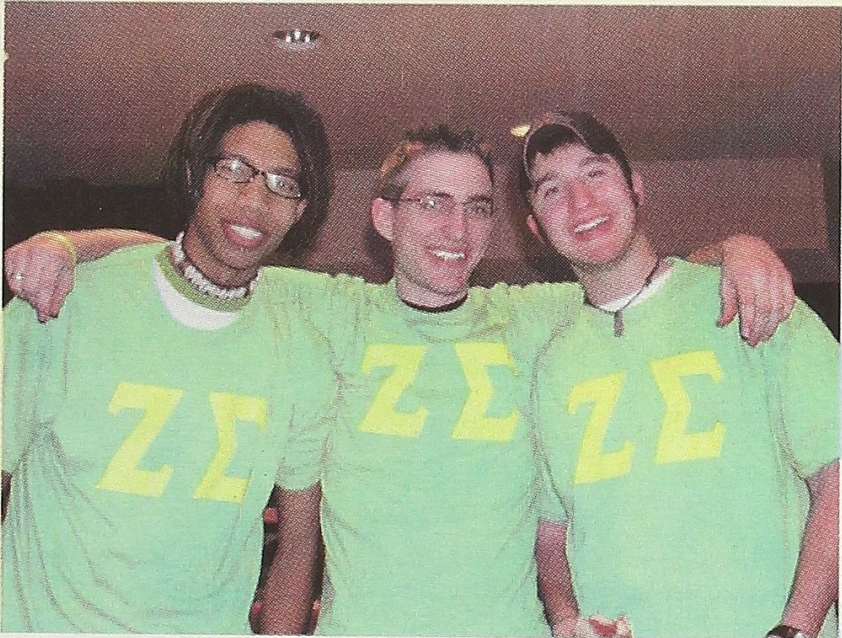


Photo by Kate Bruder

Zeta Sigma:
Desmond Wright-Glenn, Peter Martin, Michael Saigh



Photo by Kate Bruder

Tau Kappa Epsilon:
Nicholas Nicholas, Aaron Weisberger, Christopher Regan

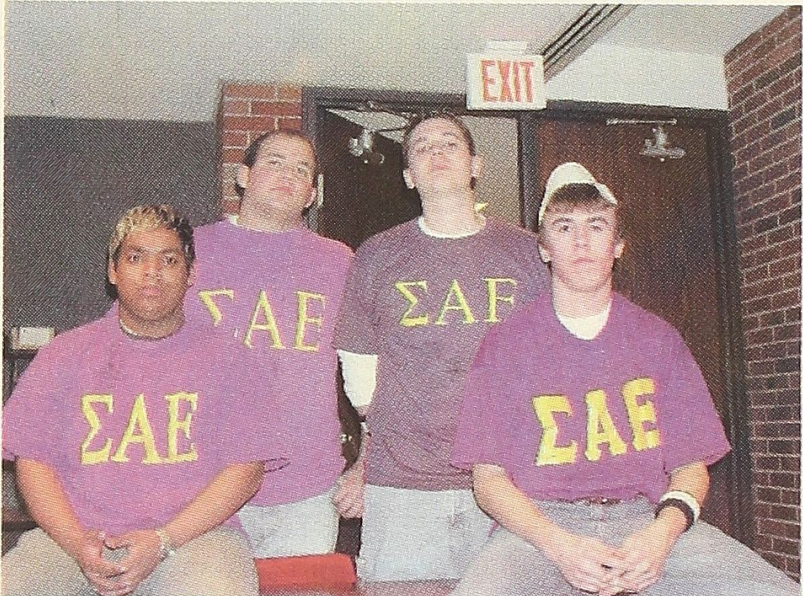


Photo by Kate Bruder

Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Elijah Woolcott, Christopher Lowry, blank, Michael Yates



Photo by Kate Bruder

Theta Chi:
Ryan Pete, Ben Smith, Bryan Killday, Matt Hutchinson,
Peter Johnston
Not pictured: Brad Potts

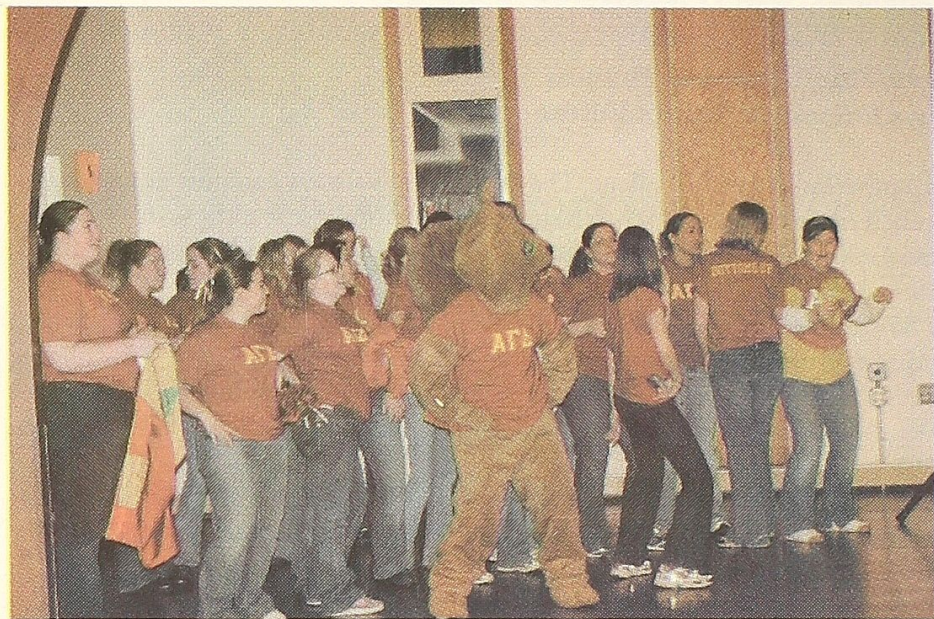
WALK OUTS



Phi Sigma Sigma:

Kristin Minter, Anne Arborster, Megan Thompson, Maggie Simon, Carly Alchin, Sam Lyttle, Hadley Boehm, Jacquelyn Jaqua, Corrina Kizer, Julie Gisler, Ann Armbuster

Photo by Kate Bruder



Alpha Gamma Delta:

Emily Kellermann, Lindsay Dunbar, Kelley Halverson, Brittany Rice, Katelynn Matonich

Photo by Kate Bruder



Photo by Kate Voskeritchian

Kappa Iota:

Kelly Gildersleeve, Rachel Kingstrom, Rachael Krefman, Ashley Masoner, Brianna Johnson, Sarah Chapman



Photo by Kate Bruder

Alpha Xi Delta:

Carly Uthoff, Megan Jarczynski, Ashley Gombar, Ashley Korson, Jennifer Gaston, Terri Whitmore, Lauren Russell, Christina Thueme, Ciara Feko

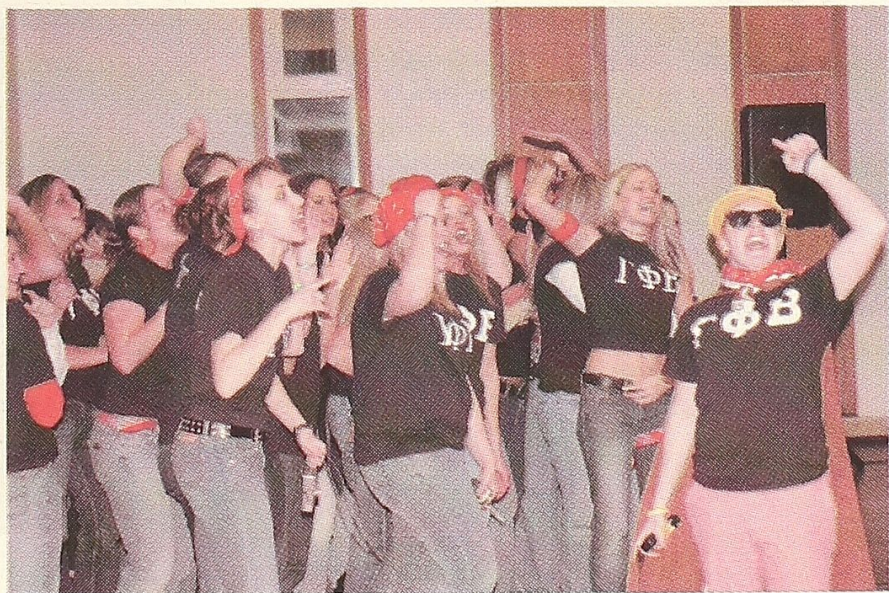
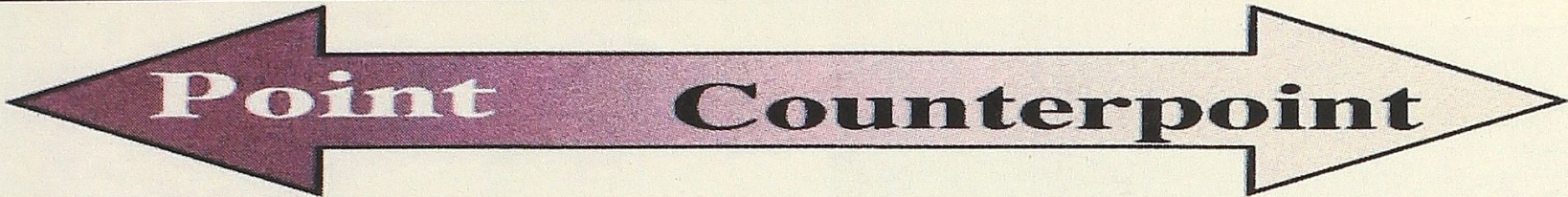


Photo by Kate Bruder

Gamma Phi Beta:

Lillian Peterson, Christy Penka, Meredith Szucs, Elizabeth Shehan, Kali Edwards, Marita Urban, Jessica Gradel, Asia Ameluxen, Kristina Kizer

OPINION



Model U.N. and its budget too undefined

Scott Weir Matt Helmus
News Editor & Sports Editor

An ambassador for the college. The only team to always compete at nationals. A bunch of people who spend their lives in the library. Yes, these all describe Alma College Model United Nations. But structurally and organizationally what is Model UN?

Is Model U.N. really a team? They are a team in the sense that they compete at competitions in St. Louis and New York. However, as of now, the college does not treat it as such. Athletic teams receive their money directly from the college. Their trips (including food) are paid for by the college through the budget.

Is it a class? Well, yes and no. While Model U.N. is offered as a class, it is much more than that. Students sign up intending to go to various Model U.N. conventions around the country.

Though other classes (mostly Spring Term classes) also have students travel around the country and the world. These students are in no way compensated for their travel from the college or Student Congress. If Model U.N. were only a class this would be a glaring double standard.

Are they a student organization? Presumably yes. They receive their funding through the Student Activity Fee, as approved by Student Congress. Though Model U.N. is special among student organizations. Per Article X, Section V of the Student Congress Constitution, they, like other organizations that receive college credit, receive a fixed six percent of the Student Congress budget.

So in years where the Student Activity Fee is increased (such as the past few years), Model U.N. receives an increase proportional to the fee increase.

To put it numerically, when Student Congress raised the student activity last year by thirty dollars, Model U.N. received \$1.80 increase per student.

With roughly 1200 students attending Alma College, this amounts to an increase in their budget of \$2,160. This seems unfair to other organizations that must apply for an increased budget, regardless of an increase in the fee.

Some would argue that Model U.N. is a good recruiting tool for incoming students. I will not deny the fact that there is a sense of prestige for Alma College by having a team that wins at a major national event every year.

However, how many students come to Alma College to join the Model U.N. team? The fact of the matter is, Model U.N. is not that strong of a recruiting tool, and most students do not actually join until they are persuaded to do so, which is long after they have come here.

Model U.N. seems to having an identity crisis. They have exemptions that no other organization on campus can claim. The *Almanian* cannot claim a yearly ten percent of the student activity fee.

A spring term biology class cannot have the college pay for students to travel to Florida to research native wildlife.

So, what is the solution to this problem if there really is one?

Model U.N. needs to define what they are. If they are a class then they cannot be allowed to take money from Student Congress.

If they are a student organization they should be limited to a budget that is flexible year-to-year based on Student Congress approval. No more of this amorphous blob of an organization.

Keep the Model U.N. funding at 6%

Brendan Guilford
Distribution Manager

It may be hard to choke down for some of the few students who follow Student Congress happenings on campus, but we need to continue providing stable, fixed support for the Model U.N. team, despite the fact that they do not have to go through the same process for funding that other groups must go through annually.

The Model United Nations “team” gets roughly 6% of the annual student congress budget to help pay for their travel expenses when the fly from Detroit to St. Louis, Missouri and then from Detroit to New York City a few weeks later.

Additionally, a huge library of academic resources must be kept usable and current. As any student knows, books cost obscene amounts but are vital to prepare for any academic endeavor.

These large expenses cannot, (or at least are not), currently be funded by the political science department, which hosts the Model U.N. class, within Alma academic curriculum, nor does it seem that the school as a whole has the resources available to take over partially funding the class from Student Congress.

These students, who work *very* hard all year to represent Alma College, miss classes and exams (competition is during midterms and finals weeks), compete against 3,000 other students at the annual international U.N. competition against the best Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa has to offer, and they *win* every year.

Consider this: Every time the Model U.N. team goes to New York on the Student Congress dime, they win and make Alma College look like the best college in the world. Observers at these conferences (academics, business people, governmental representatives) notice and remember not the names of the students competing, but the school attended by those impressive winners.

Unlike other groups receiving money from the Student Congress budget, the tangible benefit of the students participating in Model U.N. is four academic credits. Other organizations receive payroll, funding for events, and resources to run an organization that does not necessarily benefit anyone but themselves. Even if no one read the newspaper, it would continue to run with paid staffers. If no one listened to the radio, it would continue to have disc jockeys. If Student Congress were to reduce or even eliminate funding for Model U.N. our school will feel an impact on our academic reputation.

Model U.N. is a strong recruiting tool in attracting bright, hard-working, and academically motivated students.

If other students or student organizations are really upset by the fact that Model U.N. gets a cut of the total pie rather than their own slice, they should try to gain greater influence on campus politics and change the policy the same way the Model U.N. students got their 6% in the first place. If students are upset with the Student Congress Constitution, change it.

We must guarantee funding to those things that have worked in the past and that we know will work in the future. An investment in the Model United Nations team can easily be equated to an investment in increasing the prestige and worth of all of our degrees simply through association.

The Almanian

Katherine M. Persitz		Serving Alma College since 1907	
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Kate Bruder	Photographer		
Kate Voskeritchian	Photographer		

Statement of Purpose	Editorial Policy
The <i>Almanian</i> is a student publication of Alma College, and strives to fulfill several objectives: 1) to provide timely, unbiased coverage 2) to inform students of events or policies otherwise unpublicized 3) to voice concern over campus, nation or world events though well researched editorials representing the majority opinion of the editorial board 4) to allow individuals from the campus community to express concern through signed opinion articles while reserving all editing rights 5) to provide interesting, informative, or thought-provoking articles on timely topics.	Opinions expressed in the bylined editorials reflect the views of certain Alma students or staff. They in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.
Publication	Letter Policy
The <i>Almanian</i> is distributed to Alma College's campus Tuesday evenings and is sent to subscribers the following day. The paper is published weekly, excepting College breaks.	Letters are published as layout space allows. Submission of a letter does not guarantee publication. The <i>Almanian</i> reserves the right to condense letters for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. E-mail letters to the editors at almanian@hotmail.com or address letters to Newberry Hall Alma College.

OPINION

Advertisement

HEY! Are you looking for a paid internship for next year? Are you interested in pursuing a career in Marketing, Communications, Counseling, Higher Ed Administration, or just like meeting new people? Then the Alma College Admissions Office has an opportunity for you!

We are currently accepting applications for Student Admissions Representatives for the 2005-2006 school year. Qualified candidates must be reliable, organized, self-motivated and able to work with limited supervision. Duties will include, but not be limited to; making direct contact with prospective students and their families via email, phone calls and in person, data entry, office administration, researching peer institutions, and limited travel. Hours are flexible. Some weekends will be required.

If this is you, stop in to the Reid-Knox Building for an Application or call extension 7312 for further details.



Kandance Mallard (o8)

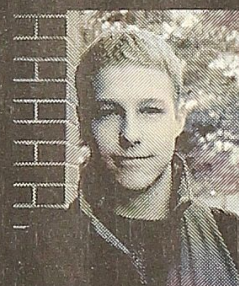
I don't think it's good at all because it's already too expensive to go here.

What do you think of the recent tuition increases?



Tyler Martinez (o8)

I don't care about them because I have to go to college either way.



Josh Borgerding (o6)

It stinks, but you can't avoid it.



Chelsey Foster (o6)

I think a 5.9% increase in tuition is excessive especially with the low rate of inflation in the past few years. I am sure glad I will be done next year, I'll be in debt up to my eyeballs!



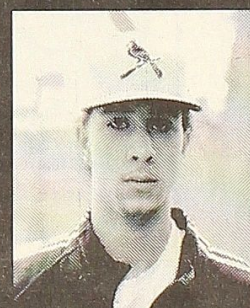
Iffat Rahman (o8)

I think it is stupid. I mean we don't even know why they are increasing the tuition. They should at least tell us why they are increasing it.



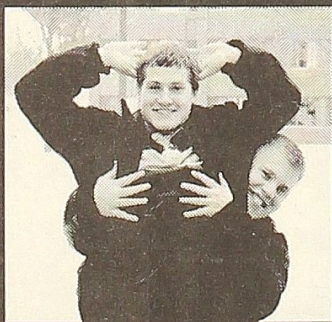
Christy Brewer (o5)

I don't care because I'm graduating.



Anthony Naylor Jr. (o7)

I think it's terrible. Why?



**Morgan Whitmore/
Derek Chamberlain (o8)**

Well, to make a little extra cash, we are heading to "Chip and Dales" to put on a little show in order to make the tuition bill.



Ruth Howell (o5)

I think that continual increases will cause lower enrollment, which causes tuition increases. It's stupid and sucks.



Nate Jervey (o6)

Like 27+ is not enough?



JaQuavis Johnson (o7)

They are kinda unfair because tuition was high enough to begin with.

Photos by Kate Bruder

SPORTS

Best darn sports column ever

**MATTHELMUS
SPORTS EDITOR**

Ah, the friendly confines of the MIAA. Well, not quite. This semester the rest of the conference has not been too friendly to the Scots. Our four active teams are a combined 6-23 in MIAA action. Ouch. Spring cannot come to soon to mid-Michigan.

The swimming and diving teams stand a combined 0-11 in the league. The only meet left for the swimmers will be the conference meet. They will have their chance at redemption February 10 through 12 at Holland. The swimmers have a reputation for coming on strong at the end so hopefully they can continue this tradition.

The women's basketball team is also struggling this year. They are 7-9 overall but only 2-8 in the conference. The second half of the MIAA season will be a measuring stick for the Scots as they are reloading this year after several successful years in the conference. The team should be able to climb a few spots in the standings before the season runs out.

One major surprise on campus has been the men's basketball team. The team was picked to finish last in the conference. However, they have defied expectations and are sitting around the middle of the conference. Many of the younger Scots seem more willing to take leadership roles as the season rolls on. As the team continues to gel they have a shot at being competitive during tournament time.

While these sports are winding down their seasons there are several other teams gearing up for spring competition. Baseball, softball, tennis and track provide great opportunities for fans to lend their support when the balmy Michigan spring weather rolls around. Tennis and track will also be starting back up soon. My advice would be to skip the tanner and instead wait a few weeks before basking in natural sunshine at a great Scot sports event.

Coaching will be key for Super Bowl XXXIX victory

**JOEL RENDER
OPINION EDITOR**

The Super Bowl is fast approaching and much of the usual hype is surrounding whether the ailing Terrell Owens will be able to play despite his lingering injury. Regardless of whether Owens plays or not, the Patriots and Eagles players will definitively be battling for the title present some interesting match-ups.

The first of those key match-ups will be the vaunted Patriots defense against Donovan McNabb and his array of up-and-coming stars. It is a well-established fact that McNabb's versatility as well as his arm strength can create a variety of problems for just about any defense. On several occasions in the last few years, he has almost single-handedly crushed the hopes of his opponents.

Atlanta's containment problems in the NFC Championship game present a perfect example of this. However, the Falcons did not have the benefit of the best linebacking core in the league like the Patriots.

Teddy Bruschi, Mike Vrabel, and Willie McGinest are all fairly large linebackers that have the ability to

run sideline to sideline and to guard against scrambling quarterbacks. Still, they might not be much of a factor if the Eagles choose to throw passes most of the game.

Another intriguing match-up will be Tom Brady and his bevy of talented wide receivers against the Eagles blitzing defense. Brady is pretty much a drop-back passer, which could create several sack opportunities for Jevon Kearse. Lots of tough running and the careful inclusion of draw plays and play-action could negate the Eagles' eager pass rush.

Perhaps, the most interesting match-up is between the two head coaches. Andy Reid has come so close to making it to the Super Bowl on several occasions. He must feel like this could be the Eagles only shot to the win the Lombardi Trophy with the current personnel.

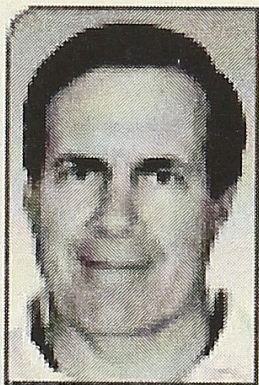
His style is to acquire defensive players that are designed to merely slow down the other opponent's offense rather than stopping them outright. He is able to do this because of the explosive offense that he has developed. Make no mistake in claiming that Reid is a balanced coach. He would much rather use assistants to

implement his defense, while he manipulates the offense into a well-oiled machine.

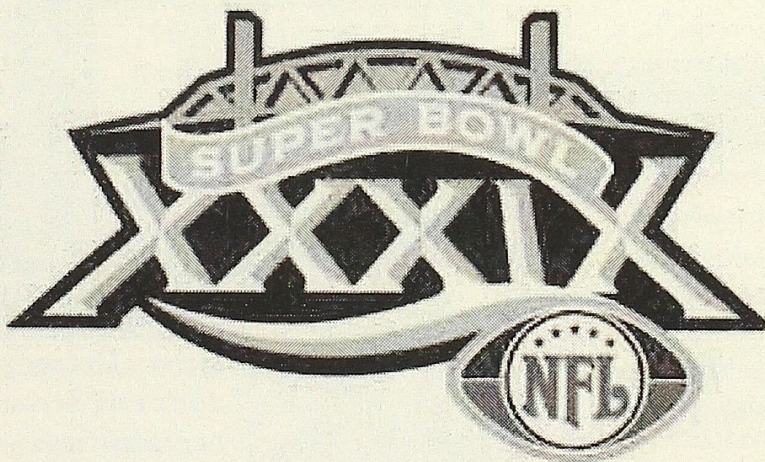
Patriots' coach Bill Belichick is quite the opposite. He is a defense first coach that would probably prefer to win a close game by three than a blowout by thirty. His workman-like style and meticulous preparation has led many to refer to him as a defensive genius.

Along with the help of his brilliant defensive coordinator Romeo Crennel, Belichick has developed a powerful defense that frequently confuses and cleverly disguises their coverage and blitz schemes. The shutting down of the Colts juggernaut offense just a few weeks ago could not provide better proof of this keen fact.

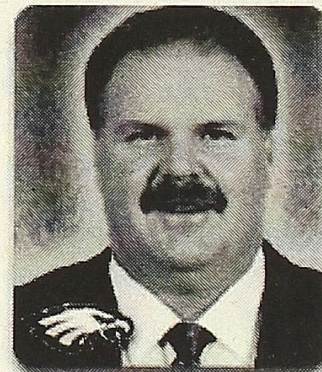
Still, despite all of the hype about whether Owens will play or not and the dulled down halftime show, this could be a very good game. My faith is placed in the Patriots because they not only have the superior coach, but have been to the big show before. In the end, the Super Bowl experience of the Patriots will give them a slight edge that will result in a ten point victory.



Patriots' coach Bill Belichick



graphics courtesy of nfl.com



Eagles' coach Andy Reid

The Almanian staff conducted an informal poll regarding the upcoming Super Bowl. The staff was asked which team they thought would win Super Bowl XXXIX: the Patriots, the Eagles or "I have no clue or don't care." Here are the results:

**Patriots - 8
Eagles - 5
Don't know/care - 3**

SPORTS

Busy weekend leaves
Scot swim teams winless

COLIN M. WASILOFF
STAFF WRITER

After a snow storm cancelled last week's meet against the Olivet College Comets, both the men's and women's swim teams traveled to Olivet on Friday. A few short hours and a quick nap later, the team hit the water again and hosted Hope College on Saturday afternoon. Both teams were still in search of that elusive first win of the season.

The cancellation setback gave the Scots both an advantage and a disadvantage. Although both teams would have an extra week to prepare for the Comets, it meant that they would have to participate in back-to-back meets.

"It's really tough going into back to back meets, especially with the conference meet rapidly approaching," said **Jim Abrams (08)**, first year swimmer.

The extra preparation time did not seem to bid the Scots

any good luck. Both teams failed to come away with a win, and fell to 0-4. Some Scots, such as Abrams, set some personal records but only a few walked away with wins.

Stephanie Druskinis (05) placed first in the women's 50 yard freestyle, and **Kristen Kuczera (08)** took home the trophy in the 100 yard freestyle. Both took part in the first place 400 yard freestyle relay along with **Emily Dolan (06)** and **Rosemary Dutka (06)**.

Brent Gostomski (07) came in only a blink late and lost a first place finish to Olivet's Fetters in the 100 yard freestyle.

"We had a few first places as a team; more than we expected," said Abrams.

"Jim had his personal best in the 106 and the 100 breast. They were good swims and we are proud of his performance," said **Lucas Livingston (07)**.

After the meet captain Livingston was apprehensive but ready for the next meet the following afternoon.

"Hope is a strong team, so we were

unsure of that meet. They were pretty good last year and we know what some of their weaknesses are. We didn't really do anything different in practice; as a team we never train for a dual meet," said Livingston.

On Saturday, which was also senior day, both men's and women's unfortunately fell to Hope at home. The men's team fell by a total of 67-101, and the women's team fell victim to a 78-126 loss.

Alma's premier freshman Abrams finished first for the Scots in the 100 yard breast stroke contest, followed closely by upperclassmen Livingston who took second.

The women's team also took home the 100 yard breast stroke with **Jaci Wilkie's (06)** stellar 1:14 run.

However, the Scots failed to come up with the win and remained without a single victory for the season. The next time the Scots will get wet will be at the MIAA championships in Holland from February 10-12.



photo by Kate Brulder



Left: Members of the swimming and diving team cheer on fellow Scots in the pool on the Senior Day meet against Hope College. The Scots will face Hope again in two weeks at the MIAA Championships in Holland.

Swimming & Diving Championships



Hope College will be hosting both the MIAA and NCAA Division III Swimming & Diving Championships. The MIAA meet will be February 10-12 at the Holland Aquatic Center. The women's NCAA meet will be March 10-12, while the men's meet will be March 17-19 at the same location.



MIAA
Standings

MEN'S
BASKETBALL

	MIAA	Overall
Albion	7-1	17-1
Calvin	7-1	15-4
Adrian	5-3	11-7
Hope	5-3	9-10
ALMA	4-4	9-9
K'zoo	2-6	6-12
Olivet	1-7	7-12
Tri-State	1-7	4-15

WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL

	MIAA	Overall
Albion	10-1	18-2
Hope	10-1	14-4
Calvin	8-3	14-2
Tri-State	5-6	8-12
K'zoo	4-6	9-10
St. Mary's	4-6	9-10
Adrian	3-8	6-12
ALMA	2-8	7-9
Olivet	2-9	7-12

MEN'S SWIMMING
& DIVING

	MIAA
Hope	4-0
Olivet	4-1
Albion	2-2
Calvin	2-2
K'zoo	1-3
ALMA	0-5

WOMEN'S SWIMMING
& DIVING

	MIAA
Calvin	5-0
Hope	4-1
K'zoo	3-1
Olivet	3-2
Albion	2-3
St. Mary's	1-5
ALMA	0-6

SPORTS

Scots down Hornets, get
pounded by Flying Dutchmen

COLIN M. WASILOFF
STAFF WRITER

This past week the Scots hosted both the Flying Dutchmen from Hope College and the Hornets from Kalamazoo after a short break from their previous week. The Scots faced adversity and were challenged in every part of their game, testing both their mental and physical repertoires.

In front of the home crowd Wednesday the Scots faced off against Hope College. Hope came into the match up only one game behind the Scots in the log-jammed MIAA. The stage was set, and upon tip off the home student section was about as offensive as their favorite team.

Chanting, whistling, doing anything possible to influence the already drama infected Flying Dutchmen; the crowd had a large effect by presence rather than noise.

"I really didn't notice the crowd, but it definitely helps to know that you have a big crowd behind you" said **Jamie Diener (07)**, center. "When you play for as long as we have, you tend to drown out the noise."

Unfortunately, the rowdy spectators seemed to

have more bouts of energy than the actual game. Before falling by a final of 79-59 the Scots struggled through the first half, completing only 7 buckets out of 26 attempts. At the half, the score was lopsided at 41-24 in favor of Hope.

The Scots saw big time play from **Anthony Jones (07)** with 20 points and four rebounds, but was dismally outmatched by Hope's onslaught of Andy Phillips and Stephen Cramer, who accounted for 13 each. Cramer hit three huge buckets from beyond the arc that made it impossible for the Scots to mount a comeback.

Also chipping in for the Scots was **Isaac Smith (07)** with 12 points, and **Marc Barnes (08)** who had six rebounds. Unfortunately, Barnes, one of the Scots most potent offensive threats, was held to only three points. Barnes' performance was almost mirrored by **Jayme Fazi (05)** who was held to five points and a single rebound.

"It was a big disappointment, I can't say it's a game we should have won, but that's what it felt like," said Diener, who was blanked on his field goal attempts.

The Scots tried to recover from the double-digit loss and set their sights on the 6-11 Hornets, who

sat just one win behind the Scots in the MIAA. Although it had been a rough week, Diener spoke about what it would take mentally to defeat Kalamazoo.

"Not pondering on our last four losses, but getting our minds on playing well against Kalamazoo was really the only thing we could do," said the second year player.

From the tipoff the Scots showed up to play. The losing streak bid them farewell, and the Scots emerged as victors by a final of 88-85. Scoring 30 points for the Scots was Jones and **Ricky Clarkson (07)** went 5 for 6 from three-point range for a total of 15 points and four rebounds. Barnes contributed as well by pulling down 10 rebounds and scoring 14 points, a double-double. The Scots improved to 9-9 (4-4).

If you missed out on the action this week, check out the Scots at Tri-State on Wednesday. **Dave Burkart (07)**, a mainstay of this year's student section will surely be there.

"We just try to get as many people to come out to the game. The games are great and we hope to make the team feel like they are playing in front of the home crowd!" said Burkart.



AJ Jones, Jayme Fazi, Isaac Smith and Jamie Diender get back on defense during the Scots' matchup with the Flying Dutchmen.



The Scots huddle up during a timeout. The team is now 4-4 in the MIAA and 9-9 overall. They are assured of their best record in a number of years.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2

7:30 p.m. - Men's Basketball Home v. Tri-State

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

THURSDAY, FEB. 3

8 p.m. - Alma College Republicans present "Celsius 41.11" (SAC 104)

FRIDAY, FEB. 4

8 p.m. - ACUB Casino Night (Hamilton Commons)

SATURDAY, FEB. 5

8 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Scholarship Day Competition

1 p.m. - Women's Basketball @ Olivet

3 p.m. - Men's Basketball @ Olivet

SUNDAY, FEB. 6

9 - 10 p.m. - Chapel Service

MONDAY, FEB. 7

Spring Term Pre-Registration Begins