

The Almanian

Thursday October 6, 2005

Volume IC

Issue 4

Serving Alma College Since 1907

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Ads target PRIDE

LAURA SACHJEN
STAFF WRITER

The Student Life Office has obtained new information regarding flyers that were put up that resembled those of Alma's PRIDE group.

The flyers, which were seen around campus in several residence halls last Wednesday, were carbon copies of PRIDE flyers except that they contained anti-gay messages.

If the SLO's information is correct and they can find who was involved with it, the office will take the issue through to student judicial.

"This type of behavior is not tolerated on campus," said Director of Campus Life Grant Woodman. "People have the right to speak their minds, but when it's derogatory and concerns race, gender or sexuality it's harassment, and we take it as that."

In response to the flyers, the SLO sent out a campus wide e-mail detailing the College's stance on the flyers. The letter stated that "the lack of understanding, tolerance and acceptance of groups or individuals with diverse beliefs is deplorable and unacceptable."

According to the SLO and the Student Handbook, the flyers may have violated the College's "Spoken, Written and Symbolic Harassment Policy." Harassment in this category as defined by the Student Handbook "occurs when people insult, stigmatize or denigrate individuals or groups on the basis of race, religion, creed,

Story Continued under 'PRIDE' on page 2



Photo By Kate Bruder

World-renowned author Dave Pelzer takes time to sign Amanda Leppek's copy of one of his books during a dinner before his presentation at Alma. Pelzer spoke on "Resilience, Gratitude, and Purpose."

Pelzer draws unprecedented crowd

RACHEL DOTSON
FEATURE EDITOR

In what was by far the most attended program in recent history at Alma College, author and humanitarian Dave Pelzer delivered a speech of meaning, inspiration, and perspective.

The event, part of the regular presidential speaker series, drew unpredicted numbers, leaving over 100 attendants listening from outside Presbyterian Hall. Several were displeased with this setup, and after shuffling around to no avail, left after the beginning minutes. Those who stayed, however, received a powerful message.

Pelzer's credentials were enough to impress even the least interested members in the audience. Perhaps the only area more stimulating than his résumé was his personal experiences; namely, those from his childhood.

As a child, Pelzer endured

abusive treatment from his mother, including being stabbed, starved, ignored, and being locked in a bathroom with a bucket full of a Clorox and ammonia mixture.

"All the bad things that happen in your life are like tumblers," he said. "If you can survive cancer, you can survive the flu. If we can

"I think struggle is good. We all have a deficit, and that deficit only makes us stronger."

survive 9/11, we can survive the next set of attacks."

This idea of purpose was just one of the evening's recurring themes named in the speech's title, "Resilience, Gratitude and Purpose."

"I think struggle is good," Pelzer said, going deeper into this idea. "We all have a certain deficit, and that deficit only makes us stronger."

Touching on the idea of gratitude in a surprising way, Pelzer said, "My mom, in an awkward sense, made me more."

He continued by insisting that no problem could possibly justify giving up, particularly for those 25 years of age and younger.

"What is your problem? What can you tell us, or me, or God, that we haven't heard before?"

Furthermore, he instructed listeners to take pictures of the good times, and carry those pictures during the bad times. He emphasized resilience.

"Sometimes you have to hit rock, rock, rock bottom before you can start climbing your way back up," he said. In his eyes, the two most important words of advice are "be happy"—followed by the three most important—"be happy now."

He insisted on never wait-

Story Continued under 'Pelzer' on page 2

Stolen art destroyed

RYAN PETE
LAYOUT EDITOR

Early this school year, during the first week back on campus, a Chalk Pastel by Holly Schaffer '06, hanging in the basement of Hamilton Commons was found folded and torn in the garbage.

"Why it was ripped down?" said Schaffer, "It wasn't offensive."

The art piece was hung on the wall outside of Scotty's Convenience Store by the Kappa Pi Art Honorary. Twice a year Kappa Pi chooses a selection of student work to be placed on the Hamilton Commons wall. The selection is chosen during the final critic at the end of the term in Clack.

Kappa Pi insures their artwork for \$150, meaning that Holly's piece was worth \$150.

Eowyn Knoll '06, Kappa Pi President and curatorial assistant for Alma College's permanent collection of fine art, hung the pieces on the wall next to Scotty's. The next time she was in Saga, 24 hours later, she noticed that one of the art pieces was missing.

"I can't believe someone could do this," said Knoll. "This is the equivalent of stealing someone's final exam."

At first the piece was believed to have been stolen, but Knoll found it after checking the trash can. It had been torn in three corners where it had been ripped from the wall and folded up small enough to be stuffed in the trash.

"They ripped my artwork down and it totally

Story Continued under 'Artwork' on page 2

This Week In Alma

- Alcohol awareness week starts tonight, Oct. 6th at 8 p.m. in Van Dusen
- Tibetan Monks tonight, Oct. 6th at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center
- UofT College of Law visits Friday, Oct. 7th from 10:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. in SAC
- University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Monday, Oct. 10th, 3 p.m. in SAC

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NEWS BEAT

Featured Pictures: Homecoming



Photo by Kate Bruder

Kiltie Band Drumline members perform a difficult step with apparent ease during Saturday's Homecoming 2005 half time performance.



David Kohn (06) of Greenville and Tiffany Balducci (06) of Burton pose for a picture after receiving the honors of homecoming queen and king. The position of king and queen were announced during the half-time ceremonies at the Homecoming 2005 football game. Kohn and Balducci were chosen as king and queen through a voting process which first involved polling the seniors, and then the entire campus. The king and queen from each year come back the next year to crown the new king and queen.

Photo by Kate Bruder

Bathroom floods Mitchell Hall

RACHEL DOTSON
FEATURE EDITOR

Homecoming Saturday proved to be different than any other year for Mitchell Hall Director Jake Acton, who was on party patrol when he received a phone call around midnight requesting him to tend to a bathroom problem in his hall.

"I figured it was just a toilet overflow," he said. "I didn't know what to do when I got there to tell you the truth—I'd never seen anything like it."

The problem was, in fact, a broken urinal pouring gallons upon gallons of water into the first floor. According to Acton, one resident assistant when around measuring the standing water and found it to be consistently around one and a half inches.

Only five or six residents from the afflicted floors were around when the event took place, and they acted quickly to plug everyone's doors with towels, blankets, and, in some cases, dirty laundry. Taking it one step further, they also went through the vacant rooms to pick up all

electronics off of the floors.

"I thought that was really positive how the students came together to help each other," Acton said.

Those living in the basement had a harder time preventing water from entering their rooms, as it was literally streaming down through the ceiling at a steady rate until 3 or 4 in the morning. Who will be covering the cost of the damaged property, which includes books and electronics, is still being determined.

The lingering smell, which Acton said many are comparing to a dead, wet dog,

is in large being attributed to the mildewing carpet. Simply drying the carpet and using anti-mildew cleaners was not enough, so the hallway carpet was removed and is due to be replaced in the near future. As for the room carpet, all residents in the first and basement floors will be asked to stay in North Bruske for few nights while it can be replaced.

With all things considered, Mitchell residents have remained quite positive throughout, and have even created a "Mitchell Hall Hurricane Survivors" group on Facebook.



Photo courtesy of Jake Acton

Water erupts from the auto-flush urinals in Mitchell's first floor bathroom. The entire building's water had to be shut down to fix the urinal.

Habitat builds for a cause

LAURA SACHJEN
STAFF WRITER

Alma's Habitat for Humanity Group has just finished building and renovating a few area homes and the group has more planned in the coming months.

Among Habitat for Humanity's future plans are a Nail Sale at the end of November, the possible creation of an Alternative Break group and building and fixing up more area homes, including some in the Lansing area.

"Habitat is a really good cause," said co-president Robin O'Neill (07). "It's a good way to give back to the community and get to know Alma."

The goal of Habitat for Humanity is to provide free labor and low-cost housing. Families that receive homes must pay for building materials and contribute 300 hours of work in building the house.

"Instead of getting charity," said O'Neill, "people give themselves a boost up."

Alma's group is a campus chapter through the Gratiot County Habitat for Humanity affiliate.

Students assist the Gratiot group in fixing up houses when needed throughout the season.

For the Nail Sale, the group sells nails for \$.25 a piece and buyers can write their names on the heads. The nails are then used for the houses that the students help build. Last year, the group earned \$200 from the sale.

Co-president Janet Van Zoren (06) has been a member

of the group for three years. "I've learned how to build homes and use tools," said Van Zoren. "I can help people who need help and it's a lot of fun."

Habitat for Humanity will hold its next meeting Oct. 11 at 9 p.m. in the Bruske Hall lobby.



Photo by Kate Bruder

Habitat Members walk alongside their float in the Homecoming Parade.

'Artwork' continued...

pissed me off," said Schaffer. "People need to understand that my artwork is my livelihood. It's my life."

This is not the first piece of art to come into conflict here at Alma College. Last Spring Term a print from the permanent collection was taken from above the fireplace in The Hole outside of Joe's.

The permanent collection is artwork owned by Alma College for the purpose of beautifying the campus.

Most of this collection is purchased from professional artists who have work that

appeared in the various gallery shows in Clack. These pieces can be viewed all over campus, in hallways, offices, and classrooms.

Eowyn was in charge of both of the damaged pieces. "I can't risk putting up more art. I am honestly too afraid to put artwork up," said Knoll.

It is still not known who the art thief and defiler was. The search for the piece from the permanent collection in the Hole is still going.

Anyone that can provide any information can send in a note to the Almanian.

'PRIDE' continued...

national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age or physical ability."

"Without concrete evidence, we formally can't do anything," said Woodman. "If we can prove who did it, we will go to judicial."

PRIDE president Elizabeth Wieland (07) and other students talked to Woodman

and reported what happened to the office. Wieland said she was sad and disappointed by what happened, but not shocked because things of this nature have happened to the group before.

"It's very frustrating," said Wieland. "I hope something positive will come out of it."

'Pelzer' continued...

ing to address any problem, particularly in the aftermath of September 11. Furthermore, he said, "Never go to bed upset. When you go bed upset, you wake up more upset...eventually, you can't see what's happening because your walls are up so high."

If one more area had been added to the presen-

tation's title, it very well may have been "focus."

"The 'F' word I want to give all of you who are 25 and under is focus—focus, focus, focus," he said. "How bad do you want it? How bad do you want your marriage to work? How bad do you want that A? You have to make it happen."

Spanish guitarist reflects on music, culture

JIM ALLEN
FREELANCE WRITER

Francesc de Paula Soler, internationally acclaimed classical guitarist, performed last Monday in the Heritage Center to the delight of all attendees. Soler claimed to have enjoyed his visit to Alma saying that "all of the people are very simpática."

The almost filled Presbyterian Hall listened intently to Soler's unique playing, which blended intricate notation and diverse textures while still retaining a soulful passion for the music.

Soler, credit by his native Spain to be 'the poet of the guitar,' played music surrounding famous Spanish author Miguel de Cervantes in celebration of 400 years since the first edition of Cervantes's *Don Quixote de la Mancha*, the "most important novel of all time," according to Soler. Also, the grandiose guitarist played an array Latin-American music, including the styles of Cuba, Brazil, Argentina and Mexico. He played on a Fleta guitar, made in Barcelona, "one of the best classical guitars in world," he proudly said.

This is Soler's tenth tour in the United States, and he has played in almost every state for cultural and music societies as well as college and universities. However, his trip to Alma was far from smooth.

"United Airlines lost my suitcase," he said dryly. "My music, my books, my tuxedo..." Fortunately, Soler was able to attain these items for the concert Monday night.

At least it was not as bad as the time the airlines lost his guitar.

When coming to the United States to play in Maine, it was misplaced. Soler went to get to the baggage claim and "the suitcase arrives, but no guitar." It was forgotten by the company and left in Munich, Germany. "Performance without guitar is impossible," Soler said humorously. Luckily, the guitar teacher at the university was able to lend him one, and it worked "more or less."

Soler was originally from Barcelona, in the Catalan part of Spain, born into a family of all violinists. "[I was the] black sheep of family," he joked.

At age six, Soler began to study piano. He switched to the guitar at age eleven because he believes it is "more intimate than piano," because of the actual contact with

"American people love the music, all the music."
-Francesc de Paula Soler, classical guitarist

the strings.

Soler studied under Andre Segovia, the legendary classical guitar player, who he considers his greatest inspiration. Moreover, Soler expressed his admiration for Carlos Santana, Eric Clapton and Jimi Hendrix, all of whom he considers great guitarists. "Jimi Hendrix played with feeling".

It is what Soler has in common with these artists that has earned the title as 'the poet of the guitar,' though he is humble to the praise. "For me, the objective is not to play notes as fast as possible," he explained. "The objective is to



Photo courtesy of Student Life Office
Francesc de Paula Soler combined passion and nativity in his performance Monday.

play one note with feeling. Only the true artist can do that."

Soler expressed sadness when talking about the destruction of New Orleans. "[It was] my favorite city in United States," he said, because of its diversity and because there was "music 24/7". He is playing a Hurricane Katrina benefit concert in Washington D.C. in late November.

America has a large impact on Soler. "American people love the music," he said sincerely, "all the music". In fact, Soler said that he does not miss Spain because he has lots of friends here, though he spoke fondly of his small town home twenty miles from Barcelona.

However, the biggest difference that Soler has observed when comparing Spain and the United States is our concept of time. "Here the life is faster than in Spain," he said. "Our life is more relaxing in Spain."

Anyone who attended Soler's concert though certainly had a chance to relax. To Soler, playing "is a way to communicate with the people," and the language was beautifully soothing and extraordinarily captivating.

Philosophical Fantasy

JENNIFER ANDERSON
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever taken the time to just sit back and think about what we do, or better yet—why we do certain things? Most of you are probably saying to yourself, "I don't have time for that." Ironically enough, that's exactly what has been on my mind all morning: *time*.

While sitting in church today I couldn't help but notice everyone's watches. It's as if time was jumping out to me. "10:34!" "10:36!" "10:30!" They all were screaming. I began to think our perceived importance of time and where it might have come from. Strangely, I thought of *Gulliver's Travels*. This is probably because I am in the middle of research concerning this literature, but one particular part stuck out to me: While in the land of the Lilliputians, these 6-inch creatures noted that Gulliver had a pocket watch on him. Their description of the object makes me believe that they either used a different method of time, or the text was stressing the importance of time in Man's life. Either way, it was significant (or typical) for the author to mention in the

"It seems that time has been misused and abused to the point where we have scheduled ourselves to extremities, trying to fit in as much as possible into one 24-hour day."

1700s when the story was written.

I also realize that long ago, or when stranded without technologies, time was calculated by hash marks or other clever resources. Why is *time* so important to us? Is it simply a way to structure our day to consider logical sleep patterns? I am arguing a big "no" on this one. Rather, it seems that time has been misused and abused to the point where we (as an American culture) have scheduled ourselves to extremities, trying to fit in as much as possible into one 24-hour day. This is a sad thought. Instead of taking time to stop...*think*...share time with those we care about, we are pushing those spontaneous moments aside and looking right to our planner to tell us what is supposed to come next.

When I had the opportunity to visit Poland last Spring Term, *time* was not viewed the same as it is here. Of course, the streets were busy, people had agendas and daily lives, but care and concern for those around them seemed to be the majority's priority. Having a horrible sense of direction even allowed me to do a random sampling of this speculation. Each time I got lost, no matter how short on *time* the people were or if they were on their way to work, they would stop and direct me where to go. Often times, they would even seek *me* out if I looked lost, switch trams, and take me directly where I needed to go. This definitely made me question whether I would do the same if I was in their position.

Story Continued under
"Fantasy" on page 4

Celebration rejoices ordination of women



Photo courtesy of fpcnw.org/Staff2.htm
Reverend Nancy Jo Dederer, a 1985 Alma graduate, led much of Sunday's service.

JIM ALLEN
FREELANCE WRITER

Many students who partied to celebrate Alma's homecoming victory Saturday night missed another celebration Sunday morning for the ordination of women in the Presbyterian Church, which rose from Alma's Presbyterian heritage.

The Home Coming worship

service, which was held in Dunning Memorial Chapel, acknowledged and was themed around the 100th, 75th and 50th anniversary of women being ordained as a Presbyterian Church deacon, elder, or minister, respectively. It also reflected on women's participation in enriching church life.

Opened by President of Alma College and ordained elder, Sandra Tracy, the service was led by four ordained women and one 'token male', all Alma alumni. Only six students on campus were present. Many other people attended, though women almost outnumbered men two to one. However, the message focused on the importance of both men and women in the church.

"[The] church benefits from shared gifts men and women working side by side," said Reverend Nancy Jo Dederer, ordained Presbyterian minister and an '85 Alma alumni, who gave the message for the service.

"Today we give thanks to God, and remember those women who have blazed a way for all women today on this landmark anniversary."

-Reverend Nancy Jo Dederer

"Today we give thanks to God, and remember those women who have blazed a way for all women today on this landmark anniversary."

These path-making women referred to by Rev. Dederer include Katherine Bennet, who became the first woman to speak to the

Story Continued under
"Ordination" on page 4

Tim Burton keeps consistent in directing of "Corpse Bride"

SAM STONEBURG
STAFF WRITER

It's nineteenth century England and your parents arranged your marriage; you meet your wife-to-be the day before the wedding at the rehearsal and fall short of impressing her parents as you clumsily go through the motions. So what are you to



do? My first thought would not be to run off in the cold winter night into an old graveyard on the side of the forest to practice the vows with some stumps and twigs. However, movie director Tim Burton has proved in previous films that his characters are anything but normal. *Corpse Bride* is yet another dark, twisted, overly exaggerated romance that follows other Burton films such as *Edward Scissorhands* and *The Nightmare before Christmas*.

The story line is like driving down a curvy road in the middle of the night: you never know what direction you are going or if there are any deer waiting to jump out at you. Despite the lack of predictability, the nature of the characters was my headlights that guided me down this

"Somewhere between 'Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory' and 'Big Fish'"

mysterious path.

The one-liners and references make this movie entertaining to the adult audience while the songs and the well-animated characters appeal to children, making this particular film one that the whole family would like, or even one to watch on a date.

I feel that Burton's message lies in the sly irony that is depicted throughout the entire film. In the living world everything is in tones of gray, the sun is not shining, it is winter, life is very routine and nobody seems to enjoy, or be allowed to enjoy anything. On the flip side, in the world of the dead the characters are very colorful, it is warm, people are happy-go-lucky and dare I say vivacious.

This is a story of how one deals with what life has thrown at him. It has an underlying message that tells its audience not to preoccupy themselves with the little nit-picky things in life because they don't matter, and to not wait until you're dead to live your life. It seems as if Burton has added another original and somewhat touching story under his belt. I would have to say that to me it is somewhere between *Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory* and *Big Fish*: it was emotional in a way, but unlike *Big Fish* I did not cry for a half hour after the credits stopped rolling, and some of the characters were over-the-top weird, like the (literal) head chef. I feel that this combination of serious and funny is what makes this movie so appealing, despite the trailer on television, which causes you to channel surf or get up and make a sandwich. Therefore I would give it the grade somewhere between a B and an AB. I liked it, but I'm not sure if it is one that I would like to own.



Photos courtesy of <http://corpsebridemovie.warnerbros.com/>

Arts of Tibet find their way to Alma

JENNIFER ANDERSON
STAFF WRITER

What do the Drepung Loseling Monks and Brad Pitt share in common? A Golden Globe nominated soundtrack from the motion picture *Seven Years in Tibet*. This group of renowned Tibetan Monks will come together as *The Mystical Arts of Tibet* Thursday, October 6, and perform sacred music and sacred dance in the Alma College Heritage Center, just as they have done at such events as the July 4, 2000 celebration at the National Mall Washington, D.C., where they were featured for guests of over 50,000.

The show will begin at 8 p.m. and is free to all students and Alma College staff, and only \$8 for adults. Professor James Mueller said, "This price is a gift from the International Program as a way to expose our community to things we have never seen before." Also just added, there will be a presentation earlier Thursday at 2:30 p.m. in SAC 113 titled "Meditation: A Tool for Conscious Living." The insightful lecture will be followed by questioning. Note that the presentation

will be open to all until the room is filled and there will be reserved seating for the Heritage Center performance since it is such a big event.

The Mystical Arts of Tibet uses sacred performing art as a way to promote world peace and healing. Much of their inspiration originates from the His Holiness the Dalai Lama. With His advising, the Drepung Loseling Monks reacted to the September 11th attack with presenting one of the biggest mandalas (sacred painting) ever created in the West and held a prayer ceremony at Ground Zero.

Another name you may recognize that is in association with the Drepung Loseling Monks is Richard Gere. *The*

Mystical Arts of Tibet is a part of Richard Gere Productions, with much support from the famous actor. When asked how Alma College ever found out about this unique group and who decided to bring them here, Professor Mueller said that a former employee had brought the group to their attention and "there wasn't a lot of debate about it; we just thought it would be really neat to do." Whether you are a peace activist, have an interest in performing arts, or just like to explore cultures, you will undoubtedly find this performance a one-of-a-kind. Take advantage of this opportunity and reserve your ticket today.

The Drepung Loseling Monks, pictured here, are set to arrive on campus today. Their performance this evening is hoped to deliver a taste of another culture to those in attendance, and was brought to Alma by the International Program.



Photo courtesy of www.mysticalartoftibet.org

'Ordination' Continued...

Presbyterian General Assembly in 1916. Other milestones include Sarah Dickson: first ordained elder, Margaret Towner: first ordained minister, and Lois Stair: first woman moderator of the General Assembly, a position held by only one person at a time.

The service also strayed from the focus of sexism to embrace diversity by thanking God for the first female African American (Katie Cannon), Korean American (Elizabeth Kwon), Hispanic (Miriam Ortega) and Native American (Holly Smith) ordained minister.

Overall, the student's reactions to the service were positive.

Junior Christina Jensen, already an ordained Presbyterian deacon, found that she was "uplifted" adding that in "observing those [women] I saw myself in thirty years."

Despite her denomination, senior Katie Stieror, a leader of the Catholic Student Organization attended the service as well. She commented that to "see women leadership is very

different," being that the Catholic Church has not yet accepted the ordination of women as clergy. "I think it's great that women are empowered to lead."

For those that read the Almanian two years ago, one may recall a rather crude debate about the role of women in the church that went back and forth in the Opinion section. Obviously, everyone that attended the worship service supports the ordination of women in the church.

Sophomore Katie Matonish, a Student Ministry Coordinator, expressed happiness in that the "church is finally practicing what it preaches. It's showing that God is inclusive, not exclusive."

"The exclusion of women makes us half of what we would be," adds new interim pastor Greg Boettner, who was present at the service as well.

Though there is still some controversy over woman ordination, Dederer said that, in the Presbyterian Church at least, that is not the biggest issue. "The concern now is

our longing for women and men to respond to God's call to service," she said, noting that only 7% of clergy are under the age of forty.

Afterward, the service was followed by a brunch, in which students considering the ministry as a vocation were able to socialize with those involved in the service. It was a pleasant, eye-opening, and even nostalgic time for all.

'Fantasy' Continued

A little philosophical questioning keeps us on our toes. Rather than thinking about time like I have today, I encourage you to think about "not thinking about time." That doesn't mean blame me for a homework assignment you failed to turn in because you were practicing *non-existent time*, but act on those moments that occur spontaneously and would make a difference in your life or the lives of those around you. "...Be the change you want to see in the world."- Mahatma Gandhi

PIG Book a little too handy

ALANA K. RAAB
STAFF WRITER

Alma College's PIG Book supplies campus members with valuable information, from how to contact your professors to finding the cute kid's campus extension that sits next to you in Biology.

The PIG Book is actually a loving namesake for the Personal Identification Guide, and is published by Alma College Yearbook Staff.

In years past, the PIG Book has contained not only student's campus address and phone number, but their home address and phone number, their advisor, their campus e-mail, and their advisor.

It also provides an extensive list of Alma staff and faculty that includes not only professors and their campus contact information, but the names and jobs of Physical Plant workers and some Sodexo staff.

This year the yearbook staff decided that maybe providing so much student information was not a very good idea, and are only publishing a student's hometown in the PIG Book, as well as their picture.

I feel that this is a smart decision on behalf on the yearbook staff. Granted, the PIG makes it very

convenient to contact someone for people working on a group project to contact each other in case they forget to exchange contact information, or to get a hold of someone to study for a test together. I think that campus phone numbers and addresses should be published in the Pig Book for those very reasons. If there is a problem with someone calling your

Almanian Poll
Should the PIG Book publish students' home information?
24% no
30% yes
46% no opinion

campus number and leaving creepy messages, or stopping by your dorm room, I'm sure that Alma College would be more than willing to try to rectify the problem.

I also feel that the PIG Book is very convenient way of not only getting a professor's contact information, but a nice way of storing that information in one handy dandy little notebook.

Many students find that the PIG Book is handy for contacting friends during the summer, after all, it is

much easier than trying to remember your friend's hometown and searching for their home phone number on the internet.

However, I think that listing a student's home address and home phone number could create more problems than it could prevent. It is really easy to give a friend your home phone number before you leave campus for the summer, and much harder to get some creep from who-knows-where to stop calling your house and interrupting not only your life, but your parent's as well.

Maybe I'm paranoid, but what if the PIG got into the hands of someone off campus that is a little off the rocker, so to speak? What's to stop them from stalking you at your house, where there is a lot less security than there is at Alma? At least at Alma there are security guards, safety alarms, and a lot more people walking around that could help you should a compromising situation arise.

I'm not saying that people shouldn't have their home information printed in a campus directory, because can be very convenient. But I am saying that the system of consent needs to change.

See PIG page 6

Abstinence doesn't justify ignorance

CASSIE GOODRICH
STAFF WRITER

I know how to clear a room. Just mention sex or sexually transmitted diseases, and a few uncomfortable laughs and cleared throats later, everyone scatters.

To be clear, I am not arguing that everyone on Alma's campus is uncomfortable talking openly and honestly about sex. It is just that there is not very many people doing the talking, and I wanted to know why.

Even if students do not plan on having sex, they need to know about STDs and contraceptives so they can help others who may have questions and need advice. High school health teachers should make sex education a priority in their classes. Thanks to the proliferation of abstinence-only sex education classes in public and private high schools, however, many college students nationwide are ignorant of all things sexual.

In 1991 and again in 1996, Congress passed legislation that encouraged and provided funds for abstinence-only sex education. I read somewhere that this year alone they appropriated something like \$170 million to tell students to just say no to

"The problem is that some students know too little about sex or are so uncomfortable talking about it that there will not be enough people interested in joining such a group."

sex without educating them on contraception methods.

Furthermore, conversations about STDs, especially HIV/AIDS, are discussed only to scare the crap out of kids who might be thinking about having sex. Heaven forbid schools actually discuss the symptoms of STDs, or what to do if students think they

may have contracted one.

Obviously abstinence-only sex education is not working, considering the astronomical rates of teen pregnancy in the U.S. There is nothing wrong with pledging to remain a virgin until marriage, but there is something wrong with using this pledge to justify the absence of adequate sex education programs in high schools.

I used to insist that Alma College was subtly encouraging students not to have open conversations about sex because administration would not want parents or anyone else thinking the college encouraged promiscuity. It turns out I was wrong, or at the very least, shortsighted. I truly think that the college would be supportive of a group dedicated to educating students about safe sex if students actually insisted on one.

The problem is that some students know too

See Sex page 6

Burger's beef

SAM STONEBURG
STAFF WRITER

In the past, during homecoming weekend I haven't really appreciated campus being taken over by alumni of all ages who are here to reminisce. This year, however, I wasn't so bothered. I've found a unique comfort talking to them because I know that only they understand what I'm experiencing at this stage in my life.

Because I'm a freak about organization I have categorized the alums into a system like we students are categorized.

First of all there are the freshmen, I have many friends in this group and am aware that I will soon be in their shoes, so I like to study them, in a way. A lot of these grads have gone on to a higher level of education or started careers. It is interesting to see a high school teacher by day come to the homecoming festivities and bong a beer like his frat days were just yesterday. They have taught me that even though the days of working your schedule around your ridiculous sleep routines are over you will never forget the significance of the number 463-3881 or how to order.

For most, the freshmen stage ends when a family is started. The "sophomores" are the ones that walk around campus with their family, all dressed in matching outfits like they were on a trip to Disney World. As they observe how Alma has evolved since they were here they picture how it will look the day they move in their children.

The current "junior" alums were here when new dorms were actually new. By the time one becomes a junior they have pretty much mastered the art of a passion that started here at Alma. This is a period of reflection for the majority of these individuals who are now watching their own children take a stab at college. These are the alums with the best stories. After talking with a "sister" I found out that my crazy Spanish teacher from high school was the president of my once-local sorority and that she could chug cheap wine like a champ. Finally, I can respect this woman for being a real human and not



somebody who considers the craziest substance to pass through her liver Kool-aide, goes to bed at eight o'clock and spends her free time conjugating irregular verbs. I also learned that my dentist who also used to live across the street from me and whose boys taught me to ride a two-wheeler down an inclined driveway was quite the stud in his day.

It seems that once you reach a certain age even the law considers you a senior. The seniors are the easiest to spot, if someone didn't know it was homecoming weekend they'd probably think that the Masonic home dumped a load off to hang with us for the day. They are my favorites, every single one of them that I have seen has a constant smile and you know it is because they love Alma College more than any of us could ever know. Hearing about the couple that met freshmen year ballroom dancing makes my heart melt. Seeing the little old lady with the butterfly clip holding back her curly hair and an outfit that was probably straight out of the pages of Vogue in her day sing with the soprano section of the choir is like looking into the future.

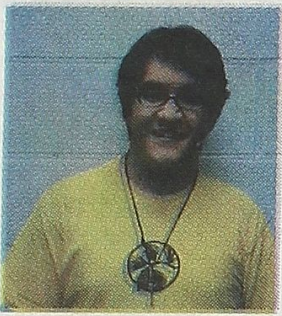
Age is nothing more than a number. Alums aren't such aliens either; they are one of us whose number just happened to come up before ours did. They've been here, done that, and probably have many tee shirts.

Homecoming is like a great motivational speaker; after hearing all the stories and learning of all the opportunities Alma grads have I feel like my work here is priceless, regardless of whatever amount financial aid has quoted me.

If you have a beef with Burger, submit your Letters to the Editors to 07sdweir@alma.edu by 5 o'clock on Monday. The Almanian does not publish anonymous submissions.

Fliers display childish behavior

MARC HONG
NEWS EDITOR



As a concerned member of the college community, I find the recent events involving slanderous fliers on campus to be disheartening. Disagreements are certainly common in college circles, and I have no qualms about people disagreeing; in fact, I think conflicts of interest and different viewpoints can serve to sharpen and shape one's beliefs. Nevertheless, there is a wide gap separating thoughtful and accurate differences of opinion and mindless attacks on a

specific group of people.

I grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah, where my mainline protestant, Presbyterian beliefs were a minority. In Salt Lake, over half of the more than 1 million people are involved with the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons, as they are commonly known).

Every few months throughout my entire eighteen years in Salt Lake, my family would look out our livingroom window and watch the black-slacked, white-shirted, black-tied, gold-nametagged missionaries walk up our side walk, Books of Mormon in hand.

I can vividly remember the transition from my safe, sheltered private middle school to the LDS-packed halls of high school. People there knew I was different. Most of them had gone to

the same junior high, or at least lived in the same stake (the city is divided into different areas, located around a Mormon house of worship known as a "ward"; all the people in that "stake" go to the same "ward").

Within the first week, I'd been asked more than once what religion I was. Over my entire high school career, I had more than two dozen long conversations about my religious beliefs, and how they differed from the norm.

Every day of high school, close to fifty percent of the school would go to the nearby seminary building to take classes in the Latter Day Saint religion while the rest of us watched them move in packs.

Why do I mention all of this? Simply because it gives me a unique perspective. I could have lashed back, written nasty messages on bathroom

stalls, put up posters calling them "morons" or "LSDs." I could have sat, waiting, outside the doors of the school, ready to jeer the seminary-goers. But I didn't.

Even though my social, religious, and even political views differed from those of most of my peers, I soon found out that dialogue and discussion served me much more than slander. My faith and my beliefs were sharpened by the discussions, my opinions made ever clearer as I fought to articulate them to people who eventually became my friends.

Was it difficult? Of course. It would have been much easier to blow people off, reject people, or sing the favorite song: "BYU (Brigham Young University) stinks like poo, and if you go there you will too."

But this childish behavior

serves no one. Neither does the childish behavior that I've seen recently on campus.

Sure, poking fun at those you disagree with is good for a laugh, especially if you can mock them. But in the long run, all it does is create division, anger, and hate. The only progress that it forwards is actually backward motion, to three-year-old playground fights, scraped knees and potty-jokes.

I personally expect more from students at a liberal arts institution. Let's grow up, honestly.

If you would like to take action against harassment on the Alma College campus, there will be a group forming to discuss these types of issues. For more information contact Laura Powers at x8185 or o6ljpowe@alma.edu.

PIG from page 5

Somewhere along the line, lost in the paperwork of enrollment, there must have been a sheet that gave expressed consent to Alma College to publish our home information.

I tried to investigate the paper trail, and got nowhere. Student Life had no information to offer me, Registrar's Office couldn't even give me a department to refer to, and I was even so desperate as to ask the Sodexo office, as they take the pictures supplied for the PIG Book. It appears as if consent to have home information published has somehow gotten lost in files at the back of filing cabinets?

Perhaps a better system would be to assume that

no one wants their home information published. Then, sometime during pre-term, freshman are informed about the PIG Book (as many freshman aren't even aware



Photo by Sean Carter

of its existence), and are told that if they want their home information published, specifically for PIG Book use, they must turn in a completed consent form. That way, the only people that have their home information published will be those that have went to the trouble of doing so.



Sex from page 5

little about sex or are so uncomfortable talking about it that there will not be enough people interested in joining such a group or

the group would probably receive a lukewarm response from the campus community. People either do not know or do not care to admit that they are ignorant about the issues surrounding sex.

To continue to do nothing, however, only adds to the

problem of widespread sexual ignorance, which is dangerous, ignores reality, and promotes intolerance. Sex happens, and unless high school students are well educated on STDs and contraception, they will arrive in college dangerously naïve.

The Almanian

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

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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

Letter Policy

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

Advertising Policy

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

The Almanian is distributed to Alma College's campus Thursday evenings and is sent to subscribers the following day. The paper is published weekly, excepting College breaks.

Staff Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed in the unbylined editorials reflect the views of The Almanian editorial staff. They in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.

The Better Darn Sports Column

COLIN WASILOFF
SPORTS EDITOR

Welcome back after another successful homecoming! With exams and term papers just now beginning to litter schedules school wide, the Scots athletics teams are once again picking up and moving on after a productive week in MIAA play.

It was a great day for most Scots teams out there this past weekend. The Alma College community welcomed new and old friends, and even brought a crowd of 3,762 fans to the trademark of the homecoming festivities, the gridiron match up between Olivet College and your Alma Scots.

After a dismal first quarter, the football team, lead this time by **Joe Wysmierski(06)** and the O-Line opened up mega holes and took control over the Comets. **Josh Brehm(07)** threw for over 300 yards, and hit go to receiver **Nate Jervey(06)** with a 22 yard strike early in the second quarter to put the Scots on the board for the third time after running back **Matt Lambourn(06)** successfully ran over the Comets from 29 and 81 yards in the first quarter.

Brehm was also able to connect with **Kelley Newzek(06)** in the second quarter and **Joe Cline(08)**, and **Andy Brzezinski(06)** each snagged touchdowns in the second half. Overall, the Scot-Gun was firing in full effect with a great help from the hard working guys up front who are rarely credited for much of anything, let alone a win.

On the opposite side of town, the Soccer teams both faced off this past Saturday. The men's team finally received their first MIAA victory against Adrian. **Ben Queen(08)** was credited with the Scot's first goal, and **Nick Kost(07)** and **Isaac Smith(07)** also contributed with a goal each. The women's team fared worse in their game against Olivet, losing 0-1.

Taking a road trip was both the men's and women's cross country squads, who placed sixth and ninth respectively at Lansing Community College. **Dirk Callahan(06)** and **Joe Whitman(09)** placed well for the men, and **Emily Sias(07)** and **Allison Gibson(09)** led the way for the women's team.

In tennis news, Chris Sandro has been awarded the job of the rebuilding of the men's team. Sandro has played on the Hope College tennis team and has coached a plethora of sports at the multiple levels. Good luck to Sandro on his task at hand and the rest of the Scots as they gear up to come home victorious this weekend!

GAME OF THE WEEK: The race for the MIAA: Football @ Adrian

WHY: This is an easy call; whoever wins this game will sit atop the MIAA standings and have a leg up going into the following weeks. Brehm and the Scot Gun will have their work cut out for them, seeing as the Bulldogs defense will be geared up to shut him down after an overtime win against Albion last week.

BOTTOM LINE: If the Scots can contain running back Jon Servoss and make Adrian quarterback Randy Hutchinson throw the ball up like he did last week, this is a winnable game. Adrian's secondary was able to keep Steve Wasil, Albion's signal caller, to under 50% completion and under 200 yards passing for the day. Let's just say that the Bulldogs can only hope they got to play Wasil and the Britons again.

Look for Chad Abbey(06) to step it up along with the rest of the Scot's secondary, and as always linebacker John Ditmar(06) will have another huge day.

SCOTS TO WATCH: The Offensive Line- **Brian Weston(06)**, **Joe Wysmierski**, **Drew Garno(07)**, **Tyler Wellman(08)**, and **Mike Tobin(07)**.

BULLDOGS TO WATCH: Running back Jon Servoss

PICK: Scots by 7! Good luck!

Soccer Team Suffers Homecoming loss against Olivet

ECHO SACKETT
STAFF WRITER

This past Homecoming Saturday on October 1st, brought a loss for the Alma College women's soccer team. The game took place in Alma against Olivet. The game stayed intense up to the very end. Each team played well and each remained scoreless. That is, until there were only two minutes left to go in the game. That's when



Matt Saffarian(06) fights for possession.
(Photo by Christina Harig)

Olivet's Stacey Stickney scored, leaving the Scots with an almost impossible chance to score. The game ended with a loss for Alma at 0-1.

Ivyrose Hess (08) is into her second year playing for the Alma Scots.

"Even though we lost, we played really well. We dominated the game up until the very end. The team's chemistry is definitely better this year. We just need to take more shots and finish strong," said Hess.

This is Mike Snouffer's first year helping out with the goalies.

"Mike is really helping out. The goalies have improved a lot. Coach Ly has changed the formation so we're still figuring it out," said Hess about Snouffer as the new coach.

Kim Hoeltzel (08) agrees with Hess as far as improvements go.

"Ivy is right, we need to work

on finishing strong and keeping the intensity up throughout the whole game," said Hoeltzel.

"I think it was definitely our best game yet. We played really well together. Just within the last few minutes we kind of let our guard down and they got lucky," Hoeltzel added. This season we've had our highs and lows, and even though we lost it was our best game yet."

Even though the women's team lost, the men's soccer team stepped up and had their first win of the MIAA season. The team also played at Alma against Adrian College. The game ended with a close winning score of 3-2.

Jason Wilbur (08), who is in his second year of soccer here at Alma, was really pleased with the way the team played on Saturday.

"The freshmen have really stepped up and added to the team. There are three freshmen that have started some of the games. That didn't happen last year, but they are definitely stepped up," said Wilbur.

When questioned about his own performance, Wilbur said, "I've really improved since my freshman year. I've had more playing time and the experience has really helped me."

Scott Snyder (08) thinks that even though the coaches are new this year, they are doing the best they can.

"It's taken a little while to get used to their way of coaching, but they're doing a pretty good job of keeping us together," said the second year Snyder.

Both **Nick Host (07)**, **Isaac Smith (07)**, and **Ben Queen (08)** scored one goal each for the team.

"I think we need to work on keeping the intensity up and just maintaining and moving the ball around, and scoring goals," said Snyder.

THIS
WEEKEND
IN SCOTS
SPORTS:
OCTOBER 8TH,
2005

12:00
Volleyball
@ Tri-State

1:00
Football
@ Adrian

2:00
Men's Soccer
vs. Olivet

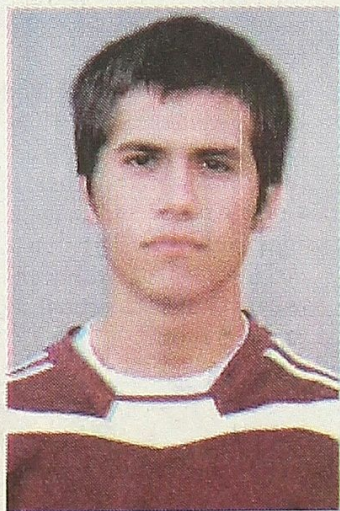
Women's Soccer
@ Tri-State

Volleyball
vs. Adrian
(@Tri-State)

3:00
Men's and
Women's
Cross Country
@ Oakland
University
(Friday)

GREAT SCOTS

The Alma College Athlete of the Week



BEN QUEEN(08)
MEN'S SOCCER
#7 FORWARD

Alma Sophomore Ben Queen scored the opening goal on Saturday's 3-2 victory over Adrian.

Queen has proven himself to be a valuable asset to the Scots, and will continue to add to their domination on the field!

Congratulations!

Volleyball Team Battles through Injury to key Player, Struggles on the Road

ECHO SACKETT
STAFF WRITER

The past few weeks has kept the Alma College volleyball team busy. On September 24th, the team traveled to Notre Dame, Indiana where they faced both Calvin College and St. Mary's College, picking up both wins.

Against St. Mary's, they won three games in a row: 30-21; 30-28; and 31-29. **Erin Fralick (08)**, led the team with 19 kills while setter **Mary Murdoch (07)** had a staggering 60 assists.

When the Scots faces Calvin College, the win didn't come as easily. The two teams bounced back and forth. Alma won the first game 30-26, only to lose the second at 17-30. The Scots bounced back to win the third game 31-29, and then lost again 25-30. With the games tied the girls needed to step it up and win the fifth and final game. They succeeded. They won the game 15-13, making the final score 3-2 in their favor. **Erica Philp (08)** led the team with 23 kills while **Kaylee Sova (07)** added another 20 kills and 30 digs.

On September 27th, the team traveled to Albion, Mi where they left with a 3-1 win. The first game brought an easy win: 30-23. The second game however, didn't go as well as the Scots had hoped for. They picked up a loss at 27-30. After that, the Scots decided that they weren't going to let that happen again. They won the next two games 30-23 and 30-28 for a final 3-1 win. The games were played extremely well and the girls definitely showed off their talent. **Kelsee Krull (07)** led the team with 33 kills followed by **Erin Fralick (06)** who had 18 kills, 2 solo blocks,

and 3 block assists. Setter **Mary Murdoch (07)** had 59 assists and 14 digs.

Lyndsey Piesko (08) has had to sit out a few games due to a shoulder injury.

"My injury was from repeatedly hitting the ball, but it feels better and I can play now," said Piesko. Though she couldn't play, she still attended the games and had a chance to watch the game as a spectator.

"We are doing a lot better than at the beginning of the season. We could work on defense and just playing together. We're still not 100% trusting in each other. But we're almost there," said Piesko.

Since Piesko was injured, fellow teammate **Megan Gillis (08)** came in the third game against Albion to give Piesko a chance to rest.

"It's hard going in off the bench, but I think I stepped up. Of course there's always room for improvement," said Gillis on Piesko's condition and the fate of the team.

Since the team has traveled for the past few games, it would seem to take a toll on the team and their playing abilities.

As if the team hadn't traveled enough, they still had to travel to Holland, Mi. on September 30th, to face Hope College. The day ended with a 2-3 loss for the Scots. The first game started off great with a 30-22 win.

However the wins were followed by two losses: 22-30 and 20-30. The Scots then bounced back to win the fourth game 30-27 to tie it up. But the team just couldn't pick up the last win. The game ended close with a loss of 13-15, making the final score 2-3 loss.

The Scots now have a final overall record of 5-13, and are ranked third in the MIAA

Brehm, Scots Shoot Down the Comets for a Huge Homecoming Win

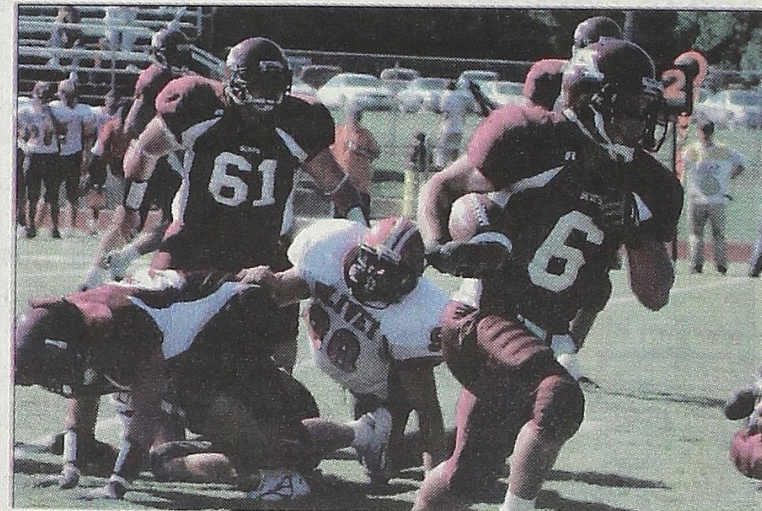
JOEY ZEHNER
STAFF WRITER

The Alma College men's football team made sure all who came back for homecoming 2005 did not leave disappointed. Playing their best game of the season to date the team rolled over the Olivet Comets by the score of 49-24. The win moves the Scots up to 3 and 1 on the season and they are undefeated in conference play.

The Scots offense racked up 623 yards of total offense on the day. The team was the definition of balance as they had 312 rushing yards and 311 passing yards, while gaining 14 first downs by running and 13 by passing.

The Comets scored first with Travis Sleight running the ball in from two yards out.

Alma responded too that score rather quickly. With Olivet blitzing on almost every down and daring the Scots to run, the team turned to running back **Mat Lambourn (06)**. Lambourn responded by scoring the next two touchdowns. The first came on a 29 yard run into the end zone. The next one covered a little more distance as Lambourn scampered 89 yards to make the score 14-7.



Olivet closed out the first quarter with by tying the game 14-14 on a run by Drew Nielsen.

When the second quarter began, the offense really started to heat up for the Scots. **Josh Brehm (07)** threw a 22 yard touchdown pass to **Nate Jervey**. After the Comets responded with a 24 yard field goal, Alma did not look back as they scored three consecutive touchdowns. Brehm hit **Kelly Nezwiek (06)** on the final play of the second half for an 11 yard touchdown pass.

The Scots started off the second half by padding their

lead, scoring two touchdowns in the third quarter to make the score 42-17. Kyle Ryan scored on a two yard run capping off a 16 play drive in which the Scots drove it 85 yards and held onto the ball for over six minutes. For the second score of the third quarter, Brehm found Joe Cline for six points on a 29 yard pass.

In the fourth quarter the Scots and Comets traded touchdowns. Olivet finally found the goal line again as quarterback Chris Quackenbush ran it in from two yards out. Alma responded by tallying the final points of the game on an **Andy Brzezinski (06)** reception from Brehm, making the final score 49-24.

Brehm ended up with throwing 43 times, completing 27 of them for 311 yards and four touchdowns. Lambourn had an outstanding 18.7 average yards per carry as he gained 168 yards on only nine carries. Cline led all receivers with 84 yards on eight catches.

The defense was led by **John Ditmar (06)** again as he had five tackles. Ryan Coon also had five tackles on the day for the Scots. **Calvin Hilson (06)** recorded a six yard sack to go along with is four tackles.

The Scots return to action next weekend against Adrian.

Former Scots Come Home to Reflect on their College Careers

JOEY ZEHNER
STAFF WRITER

Homecoming 2005 was a chance for former students to come back to the college they called home for so many years. It also was an opportunity for former athletes to come back and reminisce about their athletic careers.

Former players in such sports as football, lacrosse, cross country, and soccer had the opportunity to meet and discuss their old playing days at halftime of the homecoming game.

"Cross country gave me a chance to stay active while in college and I came away with experiences that I will take with me for a long time"

said former cross country runner Nathan Belill. Belill graduated just last spring and is currently teaching high school Spanish at Bloomfield High School. He is also assisting in coaching the high school cross country team.

When asked on the outlook for this year's college cross country team Belill had this to say, "I really like what the team is like this year. They are really young, but at the same time they do have some senior leadership that will help them compete this year and hopefully the team can build off of that."

Matteo Lopiccolo is also a recent graduate, graduating in spring

of 2004. Lopiccolo is currently attending medical school in Rochester, New York. While he was at Alma College though, Lopiccolo was a safety for the football team.

"I really miss being able to play the game. It was always fun for me and I was able to take a lot away from the game."

Lopiccolo also commented on the state of the team. "The team looks really good this year so far, being undefeated against Division 3 teams so far and being able to compete with a Division 2 team in Tiffin. I really think that this team could make a run if they get to the playoffs."

Michael Tommy Martin also made the trip back for the homecoming festivities. Martin was a former lacrosse player at Alma College. After graduating last spring, he is currently working and living in Grand Rapids, selling and installing security systems.

"I really loved playing lacrosse and it is one of the things that I miss most about college life. Lacrosse was a fun sport for me to play because it helped get some aggression out and gave me the chance to bond with teammates and make some good friends" said Martin when asked why he decided to start playing lacrosse.

Martin had a positive outlook on

this coming lacrosse season.

"From what I hear about the team, it sounds like they have the chance to have a great season this year and help build on what the seniors left behind," said Martin. It seems as though the campus is getting more interested in the sport and getting behind the team."

Whatever the sports was, it was evident that the alumni really missed their respective sports. They all agreed though that the experiences that they received by playing division 3 athletics is something that they have been able to carry into the next phase of their life.