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Alma student recommended for Fulbright Scholarship

JENE SHAW Staff Writer

Senior Matthew Friar has been recommended for the distinguished Fulbright Scholarship, a prestigious award created by the United States Congress. Recommendations for the scholarship are made on the strength of applicants' self-designed programs which will be conducted in specific countries, and Friar is now in the preliminary stage to receiving the notable award.

The U.S. Congress created the Fulbright Program in 1946, immediately after World War II, to encourage mutual understanding among nations through educational and cultural exchange. J. William Fulbright was a Senator and sponsor of the legislation, and saw the program as a step toward building an alternative to armed conflict.

The Fulbright Program has provided more than 250,000 participants with the opportunity to observe each others' political, economic and cultural institutions, exchange ideas and embark on joint ventures of importance to the general welfare of the world's inhabitants. 85,000 students from the U.S. and 146,000 students from other countries have benefited from the Fulbright Program since it has been established.

The National Screening Committee of the Institute of International Education and the coordinating body for the Fulbright United States Student Program are the two groups who review the applications and decide the recipients. Ten recipients will be chosen by the Fulbright Commission in Finland out of approximately twenty candidates, and the final selection will be made by the former J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board.

When receiving the scholarship funded primarily by the Department of State, the recipient receives expenses for one year of study. The U.S. Student Program is designed to give recent B.A./ B.S. graduates master's and doctoral candidates, and young professionals and artists opportunities for international experience and individual development. Most grantees plan their own programs, and projects may include university coursework, independent library or field research, classes in a music conservatory or art school, special projects in the social or life sciences, or a combination. Recent projects have involved free market development in Mauritius, cancer research in the UK, contemporary artistic expression in India, and women's rights in Chile.

For Friar's application, he proposed an examination of the Finnish perspective on European-wide security and defense policies. He is studying to be a foreign service major and plans to graduate in the spring. Alma's Nationally Competitive Scholarship Committee helped Friar search for the scholarship and reviewed his proposal and application to select an appropriate scholarship plan.

College begins interview process to hire Vice President for Student Life

KATIE PERSITZ Staff Writer

The candidates for the newly created position of Vice President for Student Life are being brought to the Alma College campus. There have been two interviews in the past week and there is one sched-uled for next week. The visits are part of the search process that has been underway for much of the year. Nicholas Piccolo from Indiana University in Indiana, Sarah Westfall from Denison University in Ohio and James Moore from Creighton University in Nebraska are all here to try to fill the position. The college is looking for someone with a doctorate and a successful record of student life administra-tion experience in a private, residential, liberal arts setting.

The new vice president is expected to develop a vibrant student life that would help to build bridges between the students and the academic programs. He or she would be a member of the college's senior staff and report to the president.

There is no current Vice President for Student Life because the position was recently created. "Having only one vice president or dean of students was typical model twenty years ago. But that was before there was so much governmental help with financial aid, school competitiveness, carrier services and more. Things have become so complex and specialized that people can make lifelong carriers out of doing just one of those for colleges," said President Saundra Tracy.

The one position of Vice President of Enrollment and Student Affairs was manageable twenty years ago. Things were much simpler before there was counseling centers, student recreational centers, carrier

services, internships and placements.

"The reason this position is being cre-

ated is because there is a need to connect all aspects of a student's life. The academics at Alma are somewhat fragmented from the rest of residential life."

When the one job was split in two, Dennis Bergvall was hired last April for fill the spot as Vice President of Enrollment. His full time focus comprises of admission, retention and financial aid.

The Student Life Office will oversee residence life, student activities and organizations, Greek affairs, the Center for Student Development, academic support, carrier services and internships, the chaplain's office, health services, and the Alan J. Stone Center for Recreation.

Whoever is hired is expected to develop a clear student life philosophy and mission, develop a vibrant program that complements student life with the academic curriculum and takes advantage of the residential nature of the campus, apply practices within Student Life that encourage professional development, recruit Student Life staff, serve as an Executive Staff team member who helps planning and de-

cision making and do all of this as a voice for the students within the college and community. He or she is expected to be an innovative, visionary thinker, a consensus builder and knowledgeable about current literature, issues and trends in

"He or she needs to relate well with students, yet able to build bridges with faculty, creating a lively vibrant campus, even on weekends," said President Tracy.
"There needs to be a mission and vision



Dr. James Moore takes questions from students, faculty, and administrators during his visit to Alma to interview for the newly Vice President for Student Life position. He currently works for Creighton College in Nebraska.

> for residence life with pieces that fit together with every other aspect of a student's life here. They can and should link with the classroom for a range of experiences. When you graduate from Alma, you should feel that you should have more than just credits, but you can look at what you have learned and be able to see how you have grown and benefited from these experiences.

Board of Trustees meets to discuss status, future of Alma College

JENE SHAW Staff Writer

After the Alma College Board of Trustees meeting took place on Saturday, February 8, many plans for the 2003-2004 Academic year have been finalized and changed. About five of the seven subcommittees met on Friday, February 7 to prepare for their recommendations to the Board at the Saturday meeting. According to President Saundra Tracy, there were fifteen action items on the agenda for the meeting, many of which students will find important, that were addressed and taken care of at the

First, the strategic plan that the Executive Board has been working on for a year and a half was adopted by the Board of Trustees. Tracy said the plan has many pieces to it, that should be of interest to students. "The plan has to do with academic programs, looking at the general education curriculum, expanded opportunities for service learning and all kinds of engagements into the community," she said. "It has facilities component in it including residence hall, upgrades of others and just some major renovations to work on on the campus." Technology advancements improvements are also included within the plan, including the \$630,000 network upgrade underway, which will be completed this spring. Tracy said the upgrade will also include a new web-based e-mail system and hopes that students will use it more so they will be more easily reached. Two new computer labs and general updated technology in several classrooms will also be part of the plan.

Second, the preliminary budget was adopted at the meeting. The Board meets three times a year, discussing a different aspect of the budget each time. This budget discussion included the very important tuition and room/board increase, the salary pool for employees, a target for gifts, and a broad target for expenses. The numbers for next year include: \$18,684 for tuition, \$3324 for room costs, \$3388 for board, and the same Student Activity fee of \$170. The overall

increase will be 6.9% (\$1647) making the full cost of attending Alma College

Tracy also mentioned some new plans for improvements in Hamilton Commons, possibly including a redesign of the hot food line and a whole new strategy for the delivery of meals. "We're not far enough to know the details yet," she said, "but we think we can pull it off over the summer." Tracy also mentioned the possibility of a little bit of changes in the dining area of Tyler Van Dusen, depending on how far the dollars go and how much time there is over the summer.

Planned improvements over the summer will bring necessary upgrades to the South Residence Halls as well. The beginning planning is taking place for a new residence hall, and the renovation of the lower level of the chapel was just completed. Tracy said, "The list can go on, but the message is that we are doing a number of things that improve the quality of the campus environment and offer a quality program at a fair price."

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LOCAL/STATE/NATION

Pulitzer prize winner David Marcus speaks to Alma students about his experiences during his writing career.

Journalist lectures Alma on adolescence

WHITNEY HOPKINS Staff Writer

For several days last week, Alma College found its campus graced with the presence of a Pulitzer Prize-winning writer, David L. Marcus. Marcus is a contributing editor for "US News and World Report," and took a leave of absence to observe 16 adolescents going through a rehabilitation program in Massachusetts. During this time he watched closely, and gave back to the school by volunteering as an English teacher.

Marcus attended several classes, dinners, and lectures while on campus. During one, he spoke of growing up in today's world, saying the cocaine use, pregnancy, and ecstasy use are all down, and suicide rates have leveled off since the 1990's. "However," he says, "there is a sub-group of teenagers who suffer from severe problems. One in ten adolescents suffer from severe mental illness.'

Marcus' book, scheduled for release by Houghton Mifflin under the working title "Laugh Now, Cry Later: the True Story of American Adolescence," is an anecdotal book, aimed to be readable by teens, book, aimed to be readable by teens, "tweens", and even the busiest parents. With it, Marcus hopes to show how even with it, Marcus hopes to show how even book along with exposure to having higher responsibilities. "Iraq should not be our priority," he claims, "I think we should

the upper-middleclass students he followed could have lives that fell apart around them, and hopefully open the eyes of some of the readers.

Not all of the students used drugs. Some suffered from depression, some from eating disorders, some from unhealthy relationships, and some from a combination of many factors. Adoption and divorce were also issues.

models for these kids as a key reason things got out of hand. "Where were the parents? Teachers? Guidance Counselors? ... Some kids in America are disconnected and have no adult influence." Without the support of adults, whether parents or just friends, these students are forced to face life with only the help of their peer

Marcus stresses the lack of adult role

group, many of whom are just as badly

As a possible way to curb the problems this causes, Marcus suggests that teens become more involved in community service, and even suggests many taking a year off before college to serve the community, especially in places like Alma's own Masonic Pathways. School reform is also key,

have a war, a war against poverty, lack of education, and unemployment.'

Common threads Marcus discovered in these kids during his observation were both low self-esteem and some sort of learning disability, such as ADD or ADHD. "It's not that these kids are stupid by any means; they just don't learn in traditional ways," he explained, illustrating his points by reading some eloquently written essays from the class he taught.

While Marcus hopes his book will help people get clued in to cries for help before it's too late, and to understand what teenagers face in society today, he added a disclaimer. "I don't want to come here and give you all my theories; I'm not an academic and my theories are still in the

Marcus received the 1994 Pulitzer Price for international reporting, and has studied at Brown University and the University of the Andes in Colombia. In addition to writing for several nationally known publications, he is a guest lecturer and honorary professor at several universities nation-wide. More about him and his new book can be found on his website at www.DaveMarcus.com

Services reduction from Michigan state police likely

JOEL RENDER Staff Writer

important, Michigan citizens will be dismayed to find out that the number of state police troopers will continue its strong decline. Back in 2000, the number of officers was at its highest point ever of 1,344. Since that time the downturn has resulted in a loss of 202 officers, leaving a total of 1,142 left to patrol the state. It is also predicted that the numbers will continue to decline heavily possibly to less than 1,000 by as soon as next year.

The decline will mean a wide variety of

problems besides the obvious of a decrease in security. First of all, response times to all kinds of situations especially traffic accidents will increase considerably. For a routine traffic accident, the response time now is approximately 10 minutes, but could increase to as much as 20 minutes if the

decrease of state police posts that are open 24 hours a day. Just 10 years ago, every one of the 64 posts were open 24 hours. In a time when security is at its most. Currently, only 13 most of them in big cities are open all day every day

Small cities and municipalities without there own police force will be hurt the most by the decrease in troopers. They have to rely completely on the state police force to handle all criminal problems. This could mean considerable response times in small areas where the nearest state police post is as much as 30 miles away, despite the severity of the complaint.

Like those small cities, interstate highways are under the jurisdiction of the state's police force. Drivers on these roads will be much less likely to observe patrol cars chasing down people on those expressways. The decrease in officers has also resulted in a significant number of unserved fugitive warrants.

Other important areas of crime apprehension that are run by the several bomb squads, crime labs, DNA analysis labs, and a fire marshal that is responsible for investigating arson crimes. Each of these areas will have to make

The decline of officers is mainly due to the budget problems that Governor Granholm must solve. One of the areas of funding that has been cut from the budget in recent years has been a recruitment program for the state police. Without a recruitment program, no new officers are brought in to counter the large number of officers that have retired. State Police officials estimate that the cost to recruit a new class of officers can be anywhere between \$2.1 million to \$6.4 million depending on the size of the class.

Governor Granholm spokeswoman Elizabeth Boyd said that the governor would make sure that the main purpose of the State Police would continue despite the budget crisis. However, she also made it clear that Granholm is not willing to decline in officers continues.

Michigan state police will also see a reserve money from the small budget to reduction in personnel. This includes start a new recruitment program just yet.



U.N. Security Council says no material breach

Brussels, Belgium-

U.N. secretary general Kofi Annan has publicly declared that the U.N. weapons inspection teams current working in Iraq have not found sufficient evidence of weapons of mass destruction and have issued no statement of 'material breach' which would be sufficient for the United States to enter Iraq with its military

The United States and the United Kingdom have disagreed with the U.N. security council in this decision claiming that Iraq's current and previous behavior have amounted to a material breach. Other EU and Security Council members have been insistent in their belief that Iraq must not be invaded.

French President Jacques Chirac has released a statement suggesting that France would refuse to sign any new Security Council resolution pertaining to entering Iraq militarily and would encourage other EU nations to act similarly.

N. Korea confident in ability to defend against U.S. forces

Seoul, South Korea-

North Korean military officials have issued statements claiming that "Victory in a nuclear conflict will be ours and the red flag of army-first politics will flutter ever more vigorously," when questioned about the possibility of the verbal conflict between the two nations becoming violent.

latest difficulty in The communication between the two nations stems from North Korea reactiviating its nuclear power plants after the United States cut oil supplies to the state. North Korean government spokesmen claim that the power plants have been reactivated stirctly for the purpose of generating electricity.

North Korea is the world's most heavily militarized society, spending \$5 billion or 30% of its GDP annually.

Debate re-ignites over attempts to alter controversial law

WENDY WOHLFEILL Staff Writer

Title IX, a landmark civil rights law, which has profoundly affected many aspects of schooling by requiring equal opportunities for males and females may soon be seeing revisions. The law, which is notorious for pushing equal opportunities in athletics for women, is seen by some as an unnecessary elimination of male sports. A commission appointed by Education Secretary Rod Paige has suggested updating the 30-year-old law to ensure fairness to all athletes. At this point the Commission on Opportunity in Athletics has considered about two-dozen different recommendations for Title IX. The commission proposed changes on how roster spots, non-scholarship and non-traditional athletes would be counted. Although it takes an act of Congress to change the law, Paige can alter the way in which compliance is measured. Paige said in a statement, "I am very pleased that the commission has agreed on a number of reforms that will strengthen Title IX.'

Critics of the law see it as a loss of opportunities for men. "What we're looking my visibility and use it for something I for is a more fair and reasonable way to protect women without hurting men. It's very obvious that everyone recognizes that there needs to be changes, and this is a great first step," said Mike Moyer, executive director of the National Wrestling Coaches Association.

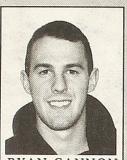
In direct opposition to Moyer, there are many people who feel that Title IX needs no revision. The proposed changes have alarmed women's rights groups all over the country while also bringing wellknown names into the fight. Actresses Holly Hunter and Geena Davis and former Sen. Birch Bayh, of Indiana, will lead a campaign to educate and rally the public. With their rallies, Bayh has said to be in hopes of "Paige being persuaded to padlock the commission's report in a closet forever." Hunter spoke on how she hopes to use her career to her advantage in this fight. "We're a culture of celebrities, whether it's athletes or actors and actresses. We really pay attention to celebrity, as well as to high-profile politicians.

value." Dozens of female athletes also showed their support of the present law by taking part in a rally celebration and campaign kickoff. Well-known athletes, including Olympic women's soccer team member Julie Foudy, were present at the

Statistical studies show support to both sides of this case. The number of girls participating in high school sports rose from 294,000 in 1971 to 2.8 million in 2002. The number of women in college sports since Title IX is over five times the amount that it was before the law was put into affect. But along with this amount, men have seen a substantial loss, about 400 men's college teams were eliminated during the 1990s, as schools attempted to meet a "proportionality" standard. It has been said that Paige is to receive the report from the Commission on Opportunity in Athletics by month's end. He has set no time limit for deciding what changes, if any, to make in enforcing the

PINION

America on its way to an unsupported, unpopular war



RYAN CANNON Editor-in-Chief

I'm scared.

Saddam Hussein called Osama bin Laden Saturday, informing him that he had ordered 100 pizzas and wondered where they should be delivered. The two bantered about the mock prank call—the opening scene to Saturday Night Live—and bickered over who was giving whom the worse reputation.

I sat on my couch feeling helpless.

Meanwhile, the Department of Homeland Security has increased our warning level for terrorist attacks from elevated to high—one step down from severe, although they refuse to release whether this change has been brought on by specific intelligence or simple a bad feeling. This is a code orange, folks.

In order to prepare for any possible attacks, the Fed-

eral Emergency Management Agency has released a publication detailing how to prepare and protect oneself from a possible cyber,

chemical, biological or explosive emergency.

According to the publication, "Are You Ready?" (http://www.fema.gov/ areyouready/) Americans should be prepared with rolls of duct tape and sheets of plastic in order to seal windows, doors and vents from possible airborne weapons. The shelves at Walmart are already empty.

Um, can we be realistic for a second here? Duct tape? While it may be waterproof and tear-proof, be great for hanging posters or fixing carpet, is it going to make a room air-tight? Regardless, sealing oneself into a room has to be about as

effective as using a garbage bag as a gas mask.

National tension has reached such a high that Americans will grasp onto any-

thing in an illusion of safety, and panic at even less.

A spat in a Chicago nightclub led to the country's most deadly human stampedes, where 21 people died trying to escape a perceived chemical attack. People stepped on each other, crush one another and piled against the doors so that they

Meanwhile, across the pond, anti-war protests rage all over Europe. According to the Christian Science Monitor only twenty percent of the British public agrees with Prim Minister Tony Blair siding with Bush, and London hosted a 750,000 to one million-person demonstration to prove it.

What can citizens do? Enlist or hide. As the clock ticks down, Bush will get his way—with United Nations approval, or without. Soon enough we will be on a fuchsia alert level, the Beast will arise and seven angels will be pour out their

Our political leaders are twisting arms, begging and pleading to get into a war with Iraq, pulling the American public along by the hand like a child, trying to convince us to believe it is necessary. I guess we should trust Bush and follow what he says. It is his job to be informed while we are merely civilians.

After all, we did elect him.

...In a way.

Comix Crusade

TOWN PROPERTY OF A TILL ON a Squarll a liggi and a Buzzard share a skate. adding fieces Buzzerd wants squirll wents to neck martin

Have a great spring travel story? A vacation disaster? email the Almanian: almanian@alma.edu

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Statement of Purpose

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

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Staff Editorial Policy

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



What is the perfect spring vacation?

"Hawaii, anytime not just for spring break" -Lynsay Masters (04)



Masters

"Jamaica, to sit on the beach and relax!" -Chelsey Foster (06)



"Mexico or Dominican Republic. Somewhere warm to sit on the beach and get a tan."

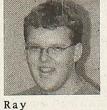
-Kyle Pietila (06)



Pietila

"Home. Colorado Spring, Colorado. I miss my family and want to relax and do nothing!"

-Cameron Ray (06)



"Someplace warm where I can spend time with my graduating friends.'

-Darby Kennerly (04)



Kennerly

FEATURE

The Country Inn: An Uber Un-Urban Experience

WENDY WOHLFEILL Staff Writer

This week, I decided to once again take the recommendations of voices on campus and try out another locally known restaurant. The Country Inn, in service since

1984, is located on Highway 46 towards St. Louis. The establishment is known to many as "The Eat Place". This popular second name is displayed outside the restaurant on a sign visible to all passing traffic. Its business hours are Tuesday thru Saturday, 11am-8:30pm and Sundays 11am-4pm.

I was very impressed with the atmosphere of the Country Inn. Its pleasant country appeal was added to a well-arranged and clean environment. The restaurant was sectioned off into two nicely sized areas that were

adorned with country baskets, shelves, and crafts, all of which could be purchased. The seating included many sizes of booths and tables, which were comfortable and spacious. Compared to other recently reviewed establishments, the Country Inn is at the top of my list for its unique comfortable atmosphere.

Other than just having a great environment, the Country Inn also maintains an

rings, garlic bread sticks, and chicken tenders are priced between 3-5 dollars. Homemade soups include many favorites such as "Potage St. Anne" and cream of potato and are in the price range of 2-3 dollars. And for those who can't get enough of this homemade taste, the soups are available



photo by Jason Garvin

to be bought cold in a pint or quart size to take home. Sandwich choices include a smoked turkey wrap, roast beef and cheddar, hot beef or turkey, and many others in the price range of 4-6 dollars. Choices in pasta dishes are pasta primavera, linguine alfredo, shrimp alfredo, and various spaghetti dishes known for their homemade Italian sauce priced between 5-8 dollars. The "Land and Sea" section of extensive menu. Appetizers like onion the menu included chicken, baked cod,

ground sirloin, New York strip, and shrimp in the price range of 9-15 dollars. Contained in the special "Country Inn Favorites" section were items such as "The Country Inn Baked Chicken" smothered chicken, smoked

pork chops with raisin sauce, and char-grilled prime rib steak for prices of 7-11 dollars.

After searching this large menu, I decided steak sandwich

entree. The appetizer was a great choice. Four bread sticks, smothered in butter and garlic, were served with

a side of the restaurants delicious homemade marinara sauce. The steak sandwich was equally as good. The steak was topped with marinated green peppers and onions and was served with a side of my choice. Basing my opinion on the food that I tried, I would recommend this restaurant to

Although the Country Inn has always offered take-out, it has been trying a few new things to spice up the menu. It now

to order an appe- The clean, well-lit, comfortable tizer of garlic environment of the Eat Place tops the list breadsticks and a of Cheap Eats' favorite atmospheres.

features weekly take-out dinner specials from 4pm-8:30pm on Tuesday-Saturday and 11am-4pm on Sundays. For example, on Monday the special includes 10 deepfried Chicken wings plus one side for \$5.50, and on Thursday it includes Swiss steak and mashed potatoes plus one side for \$6.50. These specials can also be ordered for a large

Although I was too full to try dessert on my trip, it has been said that the Country Inn is well known for their homemade selection of pies. I would encourage anyone to try out the Country Inn or call for take-out (989)681-2213.

Chorale and Women's Glee provide beautiful, romantic Valentine's evening concert

WHITNEY HOPKINS

For one blessed hour on Friday night I found myself distracted from the red and pink of Valentine's Day. The music, stories, and poetry presented by the College Chorale and Women's Glee Club during "Love Song Waltzes" were breathtaking and thoroughly enjoyable, a fabulous way to spend any Valentine's

The performance started out peacefully, with Robert Burn's "Afton Water," in which flutist Nicole Jones (05) provided beautiful rolling harmony and melody lines that blended well with the voices of the chorale and the music provided by pianist Anthony Patterson.

The Glee Club followed with Three Spanish Love Songs by Eugene Butler, and the hall was filled with the characteristic harmonies of traditional Spanish music. Alto Cassie Metzler (06) then provided a stunning rendition of Sagar's "I Still Believe in Love." Metzler's expressive voice entranced the audience, who responded with very notable

Calvert and MacGillivray's "Song for the Mira" highlighted the voice talents of two chorale members, Laura Waligore (04) and Brandon Fry (06), who both performed wonderfully. The syncopated rhythms of the piece showed off the chorale's ability to sing more difficult music, and to sing it well.

Valentine's Day would be incomplete without an appearance by William Shakespeare. The Glee Club performed "Lovers Love the Spring," from "As You Like it", arranged by Frackenphohl. To bring the audience back to a slightly more modern time, soprano Kimberly Graor (06) performed the popular Rogers and Hart song "Isn't it Romantic". Her expressive and narrative voice suited the song well and more than did it justice, providing a wonderful atmosphere.

The performance reached its apex during five "Love Song Waltzes", which deluged the audience with the characteristic melodies and harmonies of Johannes Brahms. Patterson performed beautifully written piano accompaniment with the addition of Dr.

Raymond Riley, who performed seamlessly together. With moods ranging from rousing to dream-like, the Brahms music infected the audience and took them on a whirlwind tour of a range of emotions, and did it beautifully

Baritone Jason Duika (05) showed off his range by singing the difficult piece "Nature Boy", by Ahbez. Duika's performance left the audience with an important Valentine's Day message, that "the greatest thing you'll ever learn is just to love, and be loved in return.'

Of course, Valentine's Day means innocent teasing and flirting, and the men of the chorale took advantage of this, performing the catch "Hodge Told Sue". The audience chuckled, as seemingly innocent verses of text, when combined together, overlapped with a result of "Hodge tickled her tail." This style of song was popular in the 17th century, though is known for having produced slightly more

The women of the combined choirs followed this with a beautiful rendition of David Childs' "Weep no more." Instead of doing as the name suggests, the song brought tears to the eyes of many of my fellow concertgoers with its poetic lyrics and expressive performance.

'Il est bel et bon," composed by Passereau, was a beautiful choice for the evening, and was performed by the chorale, who let the overlapping chords ring throughout the hall. The Glee Club then told the lighthearted story of three men who wish to seduce a fine maiden, the first with bravery and charm, the second with power and riches, and the third with a promise of undying love. The maiden chooses the third, in "Dance On My Heart," by Allen Koepke.

The night ended with the chorales performance of "Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair," which again brought tears the eyes of various members of the audience, and a Glee Club performance of the Chenille Sisters' "Starlight, Starbright," which ended the evening on a note somehow both wistful and hopeful.

Dr. William Palmer provided interludes during the night by reading both wellknown and original poetry, doing his own part to make the audience both laugh and

-see CHOIRS p. 5

Nichols' first ASO Concert a resounding triumph

KATIE PERSITZ Staff Writer

For Will Nichols' first time conducting an all-orchestral performance, he pulled it off magnificently. Well-chosen pieces were technically difficult enough to show off the orchestra's ability, but were still able to be carried off with beautiful tone

The third movement of the first song, Adagio-Allegro from Concerto Grosso in G Minor op. 6 no.8 by Arcangelo Corelli was smooth and beautiful; the whole piece was a nice transition into the rest of the concert. This first song was entirely orchestral, even without the whole orchestra being on stage for this piece. The violas, who as a rule tend to fade into the rest of the orchestra, did a good job bringing their part out the entire time and the minor solo parts of the concertmaster were very pretty. There were parts in this entire piece that were soft and light as air, then lively and deep and went back to light all within a few moments, making the time seem to go by quickly. Personally I'm not a big fan of the harpsichord, but knowing the time period in which Concerto Grosso was written (late 1600's and early 1700's) I let it be. The second Allegro of Concerto Grosso was a familiar favorite to the crowd, being a piece that is often heard on everything from commercials to Bugs Bunny cartoons to cell phone rings. The concertmaster and the first chair of the Second Violins played well off each other; their slowing down and speeding up of tempo and dynamic changes all fit together nicely. The whole orchestra throughout this piece played to Dr.

Nichols well, following his lead. During the last moments of the piece, there were times where the concertmaster could have played out a little more, emphasized his part instead of fading too much into the rest of the orchestra.

For the next piece, Finlandia op. 26 no. 7 by Jean Sibelius, the entire symphony orchestra was on stage. The brass had a nice full quality that was good to hear. The woodwinds were a bit choppy when they played alone, seeming to not have enough confidence to play out strongly on their own. But on the whole, the woodwinds and brass complemented the orchestra beautifully. The brass was precise with all their notes, lending a rich resonant quality to the piece. But there wasn't enough contrast in the volume to be as dramatic as the movements could be in the beginning, but getting better towards the end. Everyone used a long, full bow to make a strong, powerful quality that lasted through the end of the

The third piece, Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K. 550 by Wolfgang Mozart, began soft and light turning heavy and full that showcased the symphony's abilities. The clear notes were well balanced, the deeper cello and viola blending well with the higher violins. The accidentals were clean and exact that brought drama to the song.

Everyone did a wonderful job, especially the brass, violas and cellos, with tone quality and precision. At the end, the fury of playing changed to something soft and rich, played with confidence.

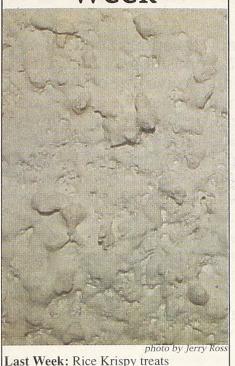
This concert was a joy to listen to; I thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

offKILTer Review is now accepting submissions

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FEATURE

Photo of the Week



CHOIRS from p.4 -

sigh. Dr. Will Nichols, conductor of the Alma College choirs, should consider the night a great success, as both the audience and myself seemed to thoroughly enjoy

"It was a lovely Valentine's evening," said Alma College President Saundra Tracy, and Elise Killewald (04) chimed in, "the Love Song Waltzes concert completely rocked my face off.

This is the Glee Club and Chorale's first Alma College concert this year, and will

'Daredevil' tries hard, falls flat

Daily Trojan (U. Southern California)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES - Besides the "Superman" and "Batman" franchises, the more recent successes of "X-Men" and "Spider-Man" have proven that comic-book-to-film adaptations aren't just for comic fans. The latest property to try its luck is Marvel Comics' "Daredevil."

With an interesting hero, a top-notch cast and passionate director, it seems that nothing could go wrong, right? Unfortunately, "Daredevil" comes off flat and uninspired, rather than exciting and in-

For those who haven't read the comic, 'Daredevil" follows Matt Murdock (Ben Affleck), a blind man who works for justice during the day as an attorney and at night as a superhero. Murdock lost his sight when he was 10 years old in an accident. When he awoke, however, he found that he could still "see" through the sound waves that his now-superhuman hearing picked up. "Daredevil's" fight takes place primarily in Hell's Kitchen, which is controlled by the evil Kingpin (Michael Clarke

As Murdock attempts to free his town of the Kingpin's influence, he also crosses paths with another vigilante, Elektra (Jennifer Garner) and the Kingpin's hired assassin, Bullseye (Colin Farrell)

There's a lot to like about "Daredevil," however, despite its problems. The fight choreography of Cheung-Yan Yuen is well crafted, showing off the skill, energy and creativity of Hong Kong cinematic stunts. The actors were well cast, as Affleck and company put together good, if not great performances throughout. In particular, Farrell steals the spotlight every time he's on screen. Playing up a one-dimensional villain to perfection, Farrell looks like he's

genuinely having fun, and it fits Bullseye

Also, the sequences between "Daredevil" and Elektra are nice, for the most part. Affleck and Garner have good on-screen chemistry and brought the romantic angle to the story without seeming too out of place or pointless. Finally, director Mark Steven Johnson's work shows that he really cares about "Daredevil" - both as a movie and a comic. His passion comes through as he focuses the story on Murdock, rather than taking the approach of splitting the character development

between the hero and the villain.
This approach is, however, the biggest problem with the film. Because the movie focuses so much on Daredevil, there is not enough attention paid to the supporting cast. The lack of development for Elektra, Kingpin and Bullseye's characters not only takes away the back story of three genuinely interesting characters but also means that Daredevil has to carry the story by

The problem here is that Johnson attempted to show too much development of Murdock, as he goes through several rushed metamorphoses rather than one or two well-developed ones. With less Daredevil and more about the supporting characters, the story could have been much more interesting.

The other significant problem with the movie lies in the action sequences. Most of the sequences are far too dark, almost to the point of making the images unrecognizable. Although the original goal was to make the film feel gritty and more "real," many sequences simply come off as unclear. This is inexcusable because the darkness masks the creative stunt chore-

Johnson proves that in almost every fight sequence, he doesn't know how to



push the camera in and cut quickly rather than letting the camera sit back and take in the sequences fully. Hong Kong-fight choreography has sometimes been compared to an complex dance; instead of showing the beauty of the entire dance, "Daredevil" chooses to direct the audience's attention by showing only portions and hiding the rest of the dance from

While "Daredevil" had its moments, these were few and far between. For every cool and stylish sequence, there is another that is too slow or too dim. For every good fight scene, there is one that is almost impossible to decipher. And for every layer of character development the filmmakers reveal about Matt Murdock, there's less for the supporting characters. While there was a lot to like about "Daredevil," ultimately it falls short both of ex-

film Hong Kong-style action, choosing to pectations and its potential. ACT presents Shakespeare's Measure for Measure: Intense, emotional performances abound in bleak, minimalist environs

SEAN WILSON Staff Writer

Measure for Measure has long been regarded as one of William Shakespeare's most unusual and confusing plays. This weekend's rendition by the Alma College Theater department (ACT) allows us to examine it through the eyes of co-directors Scott Harman (99) and department head Joe Jezewski.

The comedy deals with issues more serious than the Bard's better-known works in that field; the sweeping moral and ethical judgments that fuel the plot are certainly not the sort of thing one encounters in A Midsummer Night's Dream, for instance, but the play remains amusing in many cases despite this seriousness of demeanor. Particular note should be given here to the exceptionally

comical efforts of Jonathon Musser (05) as Lucio.

The story concerns itself with the efforts of Isabella (played by Aili Meister (03)) to spare her brother Claudio (Pat Kosal (04)) from execution at the hands of the provost (Mark Penzein (03), whose performance was his senior thesis). Meister, who also undertook her role as a senior thesis, displayed a remarkable range of emotion throughout. From cajoling Lord Angelo (Jerry Ross (03)) for her brother's freedom to weeping tears of rage at his betrayal, her performance was riveting without fail.

The other utterly compelling stage presence of the evening was, perhaps predictably, the theater department's resident sage, Joe Jezewski. Playing the role of the Duke of Vienna, who has disguised himself as a friar to allow Lord Angelo to enforce long-forgotten laws, his compassion for the characters he encounters is almost palpable. Jezewski easily shifts from the role of a supplicant to that of a lord in a split-second, however, when his disguise is removed. Although his dialogue was occasionally marked by a slight stutter, his personality was utterly

These, though, are merely the most outstanding few of what was really a remarkable performance overall. The set was designed in black, and its most prominent feature was steel bars. The costuming was austere and military for the governing class, and outright flamboyant for the various whores and panderers of the less-reputable (and more comedic) scenes. This served only to heighten the sense of a world where one must choose between black and white, between an ultimate good and unspeakable evil.

And it is this dichotomy that really makes the play into a comedy, for its characters do not perceive the infinite variations on these two themes. When



Mariana (Kennerly) faces down the Duke (Jezewski) in the final scene of Measure for Measure.

Isabella deceives Angelo, the Duke reasons that the deception's outcome must make it a good and moral act, and so she does it. When Angelo refuses to pardon Claudio for a felony of which he himself is guilty, then his act becomes evil. The message to the audience is that a world where there is not any gradation of morality is necessarily absurd.

The work is rarely performed, but Friday night's performance left this reviewer wondering why that might be. It is complex and demands intellectual effort on the part of cast and audience alike, but it offers a great deal to those who are willing to put forth that effort.



photo by Dan Joyce

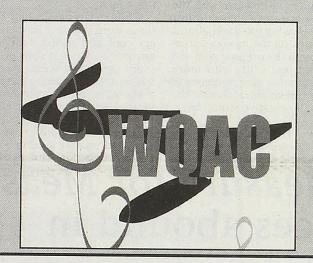
The denouement of the play arrives with the Duke's return to Vienna; the entire cast turns out to welcome him back.

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SUMMER CONFERENCE MANAGERS: The Alma College Conference Office is now accepting applications for summer Conference Manager positions. Conference Managers are paid a salary and receive free on-campus housing, as well as meals when conference groups are being served. The job requires staying on campus throughout the summer, including most weekends, but hours will vary. Good interpersonal, decision-making and organizational skills are required. The ability to work with Word and Excel will be helpful. Applicants with lifeguard certification and/or theater technician experience will be considered for additional employment to support summer conference activities. Responsibilities will begin at the end of spring term. Applications are available at the Human Resources and Conference Office in the Reid-Knox Building and are due by March 7, 2003.

SUMMER RESIDENCE HALL SUPERVISORS: Students interested in living on campus this summer are invited to apply for Summer Residence Hall Supervisor openings. Housing is provided. Applicants with lifeguard and/or theatre technician experience will be considered for additional employment to support summer conference activities. Applications are available at the Human Resources and Conference Office in the Reid-Knox Building, and are due by March 7, 2003.

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SPORTS

Scots drop to 0-11 in MIAA after loss to Bulldogs

Staff Writer

With just a little over 200 people in attendance, the Adrian Bulldogs spoiled the Alma College Scots last home game of the season defeating them by a score of

The Bulldogs rained three pointers all game long especially during the first half. In just the first half, they attempted 21 shots from the beyond the arc and made an astonishing 12 of them.

It just seemed that there was nothing the Scots could do to stay with the Bulldogs no matter what they did. As a result, the score at the end of the first half was 50 to

The Bulldogs cooled off in the second half making only 3 of 15 three-pointers, which allowed the Scots to rally and close the gap slightly, but not enough to challenge the lead that the Bulldogs had established. Rob Taylor (03) led the Scots with 17 points on 8 of 14 shooting, and he snagged 6 rebounds as well. Joe Baysdell (05) also had an impressive outing as well. He scored 16 points, while shooting a superb 7 of 8 from the field. Three players from the Adrian Bulldogs

also deserve an honorable mention. Adam Novak scored 10 points and grabbed 8 boards, leading the Bulldogs in rebounds. Dan Walter went 3 for 5 from beyond the arc and had 17 points. Standing head and shoulders above all players was Steve Brooks. He took 12 three-point shots and sank an amazing 6 of them. Overall, Brooks had 26 points and four rebounds.

The three bright stars for the Scots on the season are certainly no surprise. Rob Taylor has averaged 14.1 points per game along with 7.1 rebounds. His field goal percentage is a very respectable 48.8 percent. He has led the Scots in scoring in 12 of their 22 games and led them in rebounds in 15 games.

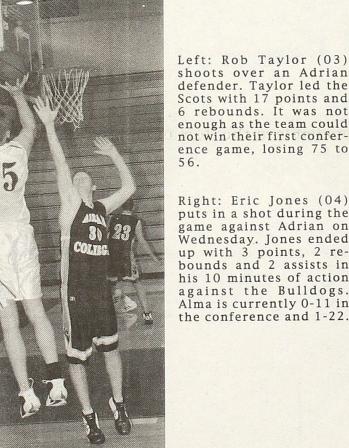
If this season is any prediction about how he will play, then Joe Baysdell is a future star. In just his second season on the team, Baysdell's average of 10.2 points per game is very good. His rebound average of 4.2 is pretty good considering he came of the bench in 2/3 of the games

that the Scots have played. Like Taylor, his shooting percentage is a very good 48.7 percent. He led the Scots in scoring in 5 games as well.

Although Cory Heitsch (05) has a slightly lower scoring average (7.5) than both Taylor and Baysdell, he still has a place on the team as the three-point shooting threat. On the season, Heitsch has taken 121 shots from beyond the arc and made 45 of them. His three-point shooting percentage of 38 percent is something that most professional basketball players are happy with.

As a result of this loss, the Scots have played 22 games and came out on top in only one of them. Unfortunately, they still do not have a victory in the MIAA, but they have come close a few times.

They will have one more chance to claim a victory in the MIAA when they play Calvin College on Wednesday the 19th. This will be the last regular season game this year. Despite the lack of wins, the Scots have never been short on effort, as they have played hard in every game.



defender. Taylor led the Scots with 17 points and 6 rebounds. It was not enough as the team could not win their first conference game, losing 75 to

Right: Eric Jones (04) puts in a shot during the game against Adrian on Wednesday. Jones ended up with 3 points, 2 rebounds and 2 assists in his 10 minutes of action against the Bulldogs. Alma is currently 0-11 in the conference and 1-22.

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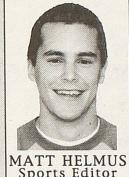
Photo by Dan Joyce



Photo by Dan Joyce

Above: The Alma College Rhythm Dance Team entertains fans during halftime. They have been performing throughout the season at home games. There are 12 women on the team, three from each class. The women practice on their own time, dedicating around 8 hours practice per week.

Best darn sports column ever



Sports Editor

corner. Both teams will be heading down to Florida for break to compete in the Gene Cusic Classic. Hopefully both will be in the running for an MIAA title again this year.

The season is over for the men's and women's swimming and diving teams. The teams competed in the conference tournament this past weekend. They represented the college well, swimming some of their best times this season.

Many parents, but very few students, showed up at the meet to cheer on the Scots. From personal experience swim meets can be very boring to watch if you don't know what's going on. However, once you get a handle on things they are fairly exciting. It was especially exciting to see the women's team squeak out a victory over Albion. (Who doesn't like to see the Brits lose?)

The weekend meet marked the end of the season for the teams, who were obviously well rested and excited for the meet. One of the highlights of the event occurred when the entire squad entered the pool area in kilts, led by a piper, on the last day of competition. Other teams dressed up including the Hope women's team in wooden shoes and the St. Mary's team in (what else) catholic schoolgirl outfits. Other highlights included defending national championship diver Tony Holt from Kalamazoo and many record setting swims by Hope, Calvin and K'zoo squads.

Meanwhile back at home the men's basketball team was dropping a game to Adrian. Earlier in the week the Scots came so close against Olivet. Only miscues in the final seconds of the game cost the team a W. The Bulldogs prevailed 78-77. This week Alma has one final chance to break the streak, traveling to Calvin for a Wednesday night game in Grand Rapids. Hopefully Coach K has a few tricks in his bag for the defending league champs.

The women's team also finishes up action this week with home games against Calvin and St. Mary's. Both games are home, providing fans with one last chance to watch Shelly Ulfig, Janell Twietmeyer and Kristie Gehrs in action at Cappaert Gym. The team is currently looking to move up in the conference to get a better draw in the MIAA tournament. The tourney will take place during spring break.

SPORTS

Scots save best times for last

MATT HELMUS Sports Editor

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams headed south last weekend to compete in the MIAA Championship Meet at Holland Aquatic Center. The Scots placed fourth in the women's events and fifth in the men's. Host Hope College won the women's meet while Kalamazoo College won the men's

Kalamazoo sent their retiring coach Bob Kent out in style with his eighth straight win. He has coached 25 K'zoo teams to championships. Following the Hornets 660 points were Hope with 507, Calvin with 418.5, Albion 236.5 and Alma with

Hope College won its 20th overall swimming title, with the 2003 title being the women's 10th. The Dutch's 583 points beat out Calvin's 521.5. Trailing the leaders were Kalamazoo with 298, Alma with 242.5, Albion with 233 and St. Mary's with 206.

The Scots had a very successful weekend, gauged by individual and season best times achieved. Swimmers and divers alike put on their top performences of the performen their top performances of the season after having some time to rest in the weeks prior to the meet. For the men 16 season best times were set in Holland. The women managed to set an astounding 19 season best times, only failing to set the 100 yard butterfly mark.

Leading the Scots were the diving duo of Cole Hughes (06) and Lyndsy Carr (05). Hughes placed sixth in both the 1 and 3 meter competitions behind a very strong foursome from Kalamazoo including Tony Holt, the defending national champion in the 3 meter event. Carr attained two season best marks in taking seventh place in the 3 meter event and fifth in the 1 meter. Morgan Hansen (05) was not able to defend her 1 and 3 meter titles due to in in. titles due to injury.

The only swimmer to make the championship finals on the men's side was Mike Porter (03). Porter placed sixth in both the 100 and 200 yard backstroke events. The men placed fourth in both the 200 and 400 yard freestyle relays. Swimmers scoring in the consolation finals included Will Heyd (05), Keith Hansen (05), Erik Johnson (06), Nick Dunckle (06), Ben McDonald (06) and Porter.

The women placed nine times in the championship finals. Meredith Henry (03) placed 4th in the 400 yard individual medley and 6th in the 200 yard I.M. Stephanie Druskinis (05) swam to 5th and 6th places in the 100 and 50 yard freestyle events, respectively. Junior Liz Smith swam in the 100 and 200 yard backstroke events, garnering top 5 times in both. Julie Fantone (04) took a grueling 6th place in the 1650 yard freestyle event. Brianne Hauser (05) and Jaci Wilkie (06) placed in the 200 butterfly and 200 breastroke events, respectively. Placing in the consolation finals were swimmers Erin Wicker (05), Jill Johnston (04), Theresa Thompson (03), Henry, Wilkie, Druskinis, Hauser, Fantone and

Women's basketball loses to Olivet, rebounds against Adrian SEAN WILSON Olivet had attained a 10 point lead, and first half (which closed at 29-23). This

The Alma College women's basketball team was defeated at home by Olivet February 12, but brought the fight to Adrian on Saturday, February 15, and won. Olivet defeated Alma 75-64, but Alma went on to defeat Adrian by a 66-

Despite maintaining a strong lead through much of the first half and remaining only a point behind the Comets at halftime (34-33), the Scots were unable to prevail in Wednesday's game with Olivet.

By the 10th minute of the second half,

the Scots were unable to rally quickly enough. Three free throws were given to Olivet in the last 3 minutes, which certainly didn't help matters, and Alma simply could not prevail over a surprising Olivet defense.

Shelly Ulfig (03), however, scored 15 points and 6 rebounds in the game against Olivet, putting her at the front of her team. The game was only the second home loss for the Scots this

Over the weekend, though, in another MIAA game, Alma redeemed the loss in a 66-57 victory against the Adrian Bulldogs, maintaining a lead from the

win brings the team record to 13-8 overall and 7-5 in conference games.

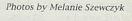
The team's most notable player in Saturday's game is again Ulfig, but this time because she became the Scots first women's basketball player to score 1000 points and obtain 1000 rebounds in her career. Her rebounds on Saturday (14) bring her to 1,010 overall, and her current cumulative score is 1,371. The high scorer for the team on Saturday, though, was Karen Hall (04), with her 24 points and 7 rebounds.

The Scots will return home this Wednesday to play a conference game against Calvin College at 7:30 PM.



Left: Kristie Gehrs (03) drives through Olivet defenders. Gehrs helped the team in a big way with 13 points, including going 3 for 4 from beyond the 3-point line. Overall the team went 6 for 17 from behind the

Right: Katey Peacock (06) goes up for a shot against Olivet. Peacock finished the game with 4 points and 4 rebounds. The Scots couldn't hold on in the game as they lost, 75-64. They are currently tied with Albion for third place in the conference at 7-5. They are 13-8 overall.





CAMPUS CALENDAR

Wednesday, Feb. 19

Middle of Term

7:30 p.m. - Men's Basketball @ Calvin (JV @ 5:45)

7:30 p.m. - Women's Basketball Home v. Calvin

8 p.m. - Catholic Student Organization (Fireside Lounge)

9 p.m. - Trinity Bible Fellowship (Jones Auditorium)

Thursday, Feb. 20

Begin 2nd Seven Week Classes

Friday, Feb. 21

1 p.m. - Men's Tennis Home v. Lake Superior State (Stone Center)

4:30 p.m. - Men's Indoor Track @ Skoog Open, Mt. Pleasant

Saturday, Feb. 22

Winter Term Recess Begins

3 p.m. - Women's Basketball Home v. St. Mary's

Sunday, Feb 23

9 a.m. - Softball v. St. Michael's @ Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic, Ft. Myers, Fla.

2 p.m. - Baseball v. Hanover @ Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic, Ft. Myers, Fla.

5 p.m. - Baseball v. Capital @ Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic, Ft. Myers, Fla.