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Four Alma College students win service awards

JENE SHAW
Staff Writer

The Michigan Campus Compact has selected four Alma College students to be recognized for their outstanding commitment to community service throughout their college careers. Shannon Conlan (03), Jill Johnston (04), Susan Kattula (03), and Juliann Schaffer (03) were all nominated by the campus for their time and commitment to community service work while in college. Anne Ritz, Service Learning Coordinator, dealt a significant amount with the nominations of these students.

Only 19 students were honored this year with the Commitment to Service Award, one being Conlan. The award honors students for their community service at individual college and university campuses as part of their education and recognizes one student per MCC member campus for the multiple contributions she or he has made to her/his institution and the community through their community service involvement.

Johnston, Kattula, and Schaffer were all awarded the Heart and Soul award out of a nomination pool of 164 students from colleges and universities across the state. The awards recognize nominees for their time, effort, and personal commitment to their communities through service. "I feel very honored to receive this award—it's good to know that all of the things I have done will be recognized," Schaffer said. "It's not just about the campus involvement, it's about the community as well."

The awards will be presented at an awards brunch on Saturday, April 12, 2003 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, MI.

The Michigan Campus Compact is a coalition of thirty-four college and university presidents dedicated to the education and commitment of Michigan college students to be civically engaged citizens, through creating and expanding academic, co-curricular and campus-wide opportunities for community service, service learning and civic engagement. The compact promotes citizenship by encouraging service experiences for students. Students learn to reflect critically on the world around them and take an active role in their community by becoming directly involved with social problems and their solutions. To find out more about the Campus Compact, contact email@micampuscompact.org or visit the website at <http://www.micampuscompact.org/061802.html>.

Alma students selected for nationally prestigious scholarships

JENE SHAW
Staff Writer

Three extremely prestigious scholarships have been awarded to three deserving Alma College students for their over-achieving talents in different areas of study. Matthew Friar (03) was named a Fulbright Scholar in March, Jessica Karbowski (04) was awarded the Truman Scholarship also in March, and recently at Honor's Convocation, Shannon Finnegan (03) was selected for the highly regarded senior Barlow Trophy.

The Fulbright Scholarship, an enormously honored award, will pay for a full year of living and studying in Finland for one year for Friar, which includes 992 European dollars a month and \$1600 for travel expenses. Because he has never spent more than two weeks abroad, Friar was considerably excited to get the opportunity to spend a year overseas.

To apply for this award, chosen by the J. William Fulbright foreign Scholarship Board, Friar proposed a project involving Finland's security policies in developing a closer relationship with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Along with his application, approximately 20 other candidates (10 were chosen) attempted at devising a program specified for Finland. Friar was chosen for the Fulbright by the National Screening Committee of the Institute of International Education based on the strength of his self-designed program.

In the past, Finland has not been a member of NATO and committed itself to being self sufficient and nonaligned. However, European leaders—who lead the European Union, which Finland is a member of—have affirmed that EU defense and security identity should be built within NATO. "I'm very happy, given the current state of affairs with the US and Middle

East, that I'm going to be in a military aligned country," Friar said.

Karbowski is the second Alma College winner in the last four years of the Truman Scholarship, a national award worth \$30,000. Karbowski has shown a great passion for public and community service through her three years at Alma, which is a must for Truman Scholarship recipients. Last summer, Karbowski used \$5,000 of her own money to travel to Tanzania, where she interned with a non governmental organization (NGO), demonstrating basic sustainable agriculture techniques. Upon her return home, she worked as an assistant campaign manager for a Michigan House of representatives candidate.

During Fall term, Karbowski interned for the U.S. State Department's Management and Reform Division at the United Nations and witnessed the debates concerning the disarmament of Iraq. Her future plans hopefully include obtaining a Ph.D. in International development and addressing the development obstacles facing African nations.

Karbowski will be participating in the Truman Scholars Leadership Week at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo. in May before she receives her award at the Truman Library in Independence, Mo.

The Barlow trophy is the most prestigious academic honor awarded from Alma College. After the top 10% of the senior class was invited to apply for the honor, applications were seeded down to three nominees including: Shannon Finnegan, Joe Phillips, and Mary Rosalez. On Thursday, April 4, Finnegan was named winner of the trophy at Honor's Convocation.

When applying for the Barlow trophy, Finnegan was required to write about all of the activities she has been involved with, and which were most important to her. She chose to mention her work on the Pine River Oral History Project, where

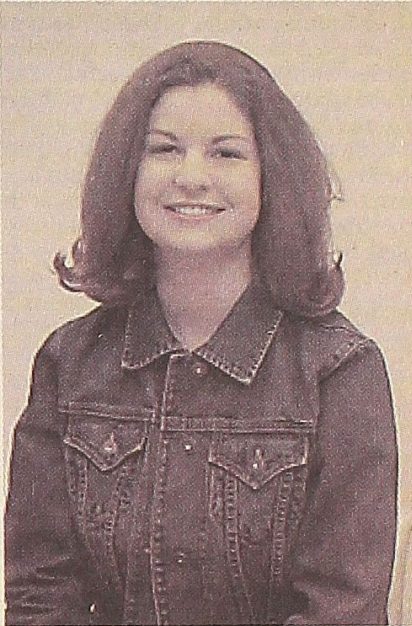


photo by Skip Traynor
Jessica Karbowski (04), has received the 2003 Truman Scholarship, She is the second winner in four years.

she interviewed locals on their feelings towards the Pine River situation; as well as her involvement on the Pine River Super Fund and Citizen Task Force—a community advisory group. The trophy was selected by a secret committee.

"I was really honored and very surprised to be awarded," Finnegan said, "especially with being nominated with Mary and Joe—they've done some incredible things that made me so honored to be up there with them." Finnegan really appreciates all the support that her friends, professors, and family have given her.

Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe raise funds for Ukrainian orphanage

WHITNEY HOPKINS
Staff Writer

Though it may be during the last weekend before finals, the organizers of the first Walk for Orphans hope to make a dent in their fundraising goals this Saturday.

Last year, the non-profit organization Forgotten Children of Eastern Europe was founded by a group of dedicated Alma College students who hoped to bring relief to some of the thousands of Ukrainian orphans. 103,000 children in Ukraine are orphans, and the death rate in children there is 2.5 times higher than in other European Countries.

FCEE has chosen to sponsor an orphanage in Ukraine called Veselka that falls below the poverty line there, and is receiving very little assistance from other organizations. Currently, FCEE is focusing on raising funds to buy a heater for this orphanage, which will cost between five and ten thousand dollars. As it stands, the orphans there only have the option of

layering up at night in hopes of guarding against the cold winters.

Over the past year, members of FCEE have organized money, food, clothing, and book drives for Veselka. However, living conditions are only one aspect of life that FCEE hopes to improve for the orphans. They also focus on education and psychological stimulation. Also remembering that kids sometimes need to be kids, the group sent over some money, and received in return pictures of grinning children eating candy, a rare luxury provided by some of those funds.

While some object to offering assistance to other countries while there are still areas of need in America, FCEE Program Coordinator Lora Ross (04) explained the group's philosophy saying, "There is a far more developed infrastructure to help people in the U.S. These [orphans] have no one helping them. They have needs that are incredibly serious." The orphans at Veselka, Ross explained, suffer from the effects of radiation, as a result of Chernobyl. They also live in cramped

and inadequate facilities, with 60 children sharing one outhouse.

This Walk for Orphans will be FCEE's first, and a lot of time and organization has gone into getting it organized. Volunteers helped with graphic design and advertising, and donations are being accepted from various businesses and individuals in order to covert the cost of the walk. The one and a quarter mile walk around downtown Alma begins Saturday, April 12, at 2 pm, with registration starting at 1 pm. FCEE hopes to use the walk not only to raise money for a worthy cause, but also to "raise community awareness, and bring the Alma College community and the City of Alma together to work for a common cause."

For anyone interested in donating time or money, or looking for more information, you can visit FCEE's website at <http://www.fcee.org>, or contact FCEE president and Alma College student Svetlana Kobzar (03).

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LOCAL/STATE/NATION

Outstanding Alma students recognized for achievements

KATIE PERSITZ
Staff Writer

Every year students come and go but are often not recognized for their efforts. This year four students were picked to be profiled from combinations of majors in the various departments of music, biochemistry, political science, EHS, dance and communications. These students have shown leadership and excelling qualities within their departments. Each of these students strives to excel in different areas but all have the same goal of bettering the lives of people around them. Their involvement on and off campus have shown them to be quality members of the Alma College society. Each student was picked because not only were they extremely active within their own departments, but also in other departments as well.

Shannon Finnegan (03) was one of the students picked because of her work on Alma's campus and in the community. Instead of a traditional major, Finnegan has a Program of Emphasis in Environmen-

tal Policies and Public Advocacy. "In a spring that I took we went on a trip out to Horse Creek with Murry Borrello and he jumped into the creek and started kicking up oil. I realized that people live right next to this creek with such an awful smell and it made me want to find policies to make sure this doesn't happen. I designed my major/program to fit my interests and needs. It's a combination of political science, communications and science." Her other interests and involvements on campus are being in the Alma College Choir, Students United for Nature, Alpha Xi Delta, Model United Nations, and Pine River Superfund Citizens Task Force.

Kyle Nester (04) is involved with practically every music ensemble on campus. Music Education is his major so that he can teach elementary school. "I have always been in music since elementary school. I have a love of knowledge and I deal well with children. I have taught private lessons before and teaching is a worthwhile and important occupation." His involvements on campus are being in the Alma College Choir, Jazz Ensemble,

Percussion Ensemble, marching band, orchestra and was also the president of his freshman class.

Jana Mapes (04) is going into biochemistry. "I love the study and research. Everything you learn is applicable to a lot of other areas in science, like medicine. It has a wide range for anything." She is involved in Trinity Bible Fellowship, MEGA, Alma Student Ambassadors, Alpha Psi Omega, Sigma Alpha Iota and Chi Epsilon Mu on campus. Her motto that she lives by it to "do it right the first time".

Anna Long (04) is double majoring in dance and EHS. "I've been interested in it all my life, I love dancing and teaching dance. I don't know what I want to do with dance yet, but I want to be an occupational therapist." Her other interests and involvements on campus are being in the Alma College Dance Company, Alpha Gamma Delta, Alpha Psi Omega, Spanish teacher assistant and teaches Pilates at the Recreation Center. She lives by the motto: "Love like you've never been hurt; dance like no one is watching; work like you don't need to be paid."

News Briefs

U.S. soldiers find barrels that may contain chemical weapon material

Baghdad, Iraq- The 101st Airborne division of the U.S. military have found what may be a hidden cache of chemicals that are used to make chemical weapons. While the chemicals were not found prepared for use against human beings, reports suggest that both nerve and blister agents have been discovered. "It's a liquid chemical, but it hasn't been put in a delivery means or anything that could be dispersed against our soldiers," said Brig. Gen. Benjamin Freaky in a press conference. The general stated that the chemicals may be no more than pesticides, but all precautions must be made. More tests will be administered in order to determine the exact composition of the chemicals in the barrels.

President Bush issues order to quarantine individuals suspected of carrying Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

WENDY WOHLFEILL
Staff Writer

President Bush recently issued an executive order pertaining to the mysterious SARS virus. The order, put into place on April 4, allows the forced quarantine of individuals in suspicion of having the virus. Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, known as SARS, has recently affected over 2,400 people from Asia and North America, 115 people in the United States and killed more than 80 worldwide. Researchers are not yet certain what pathogen is behind the illness. Center for Disease Control scientists recently said the "disease may be caused by a new form of the coronavirus, one of a few viruses that can cause the common cold." Other researchers have found signs of another germ family, the paramyxovirus, which causes measles, mumps and other diseases. SARS may be caused by one of those two viruses or it's possible they are working together.

The executive order gives authority to Tommy Thompson, Health and Human

Services Secretary, to decide when a quarantine is needed. "The issued order is not meant to escalate fears in the public's mind about SARS", government officials said, "but to grant authority to health officials to quarantine people if necessary." The decision was brought about after a recent encounter with an Asian woman arriving in American "who was running a fever and coughing and was asked to go to hospital. She refused and took a train to another city," said NBC's Robert Bazell. Before the quarantine order, Health officers at the airport had no authority to detain her.

The SARS virus is the first to be added to the list of illnesses that gives health officials the authority to involuntarily quarantine Americans in two decades. "If spread in the population," the order says, SARS "would have severe public health consequences." The United States has recently been working on a vaccine for the virus. Earlier Friday, government researchers said they "have begun working

on a SARS vaccine and are already trying to interest the pharmaceutical industry in producing a vaccine." "Coronavirus represents the strongest hypothesis for the cause of SARS, so NIH researchers are moving ahead on that front," said officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. CDC officials on Friday stated "10 laboratories throughout the world have found evidence that the coronavirus is the cause of SARS, but need further proof to validate that a variety of different tests can detect the virus."

Animal testing is also in the works to help create a successful vaccine. They hope to produce a "killed vaccine," one that uses a dead version of the virus. Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said that "Even under the best-case scenario, a vaccine is at least a year away."

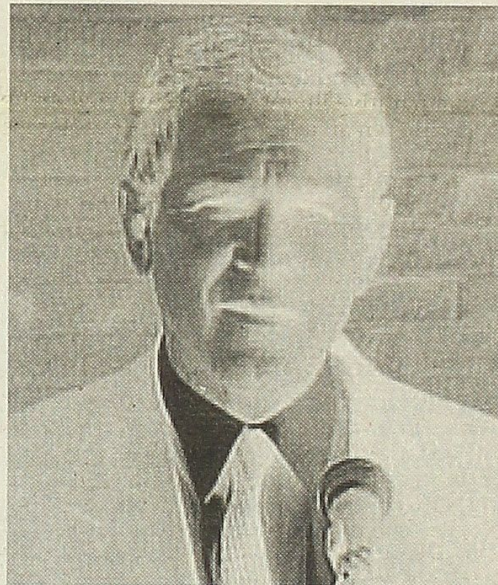


photo courtesy of CNN.com

President George W. Bush has issued an order to quarantine any individual with the SARS virus.

Coalition forces use radar-equipped dolphins to help clear mines from Iraqi waterways

KRISTEN BROWN
Staff Writer

A coalition team of British and Australian navy divers aided by specially trained dolphins have completed work to clear mines from sea lanes around the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr, which will open way for humanitarian aid shipments.

Two dolphins are aiding in the mine-clearing effort. They came for a U.S. Navy facility in San Diego, California and were flown into Umm Qasr by helicopter last week. The dolphins handlers say that they have been trained using their natural sonar abilities to locate and mark submerged underwater mines. The dolphins, Atlantic bottle-noses named Makai and Tacoma, carry fin-mounted sensors which record their response to underwater targets enabling their handlers to pinpoint the location of suspected mines.

Umm Qasr is Iraq's only deepwater seaport, until it was closed by the threat of war, was the main entry point for food and other aid under the United Nation's "Oil For Food" program. An estimated two-thirds of Iraqis relied on the food delivered under the U.N. deal for their daily needs.

Since World War II, 14 U.S. ships have been sunk or damaged by mines, while only two have been sunk by enemy fire. Mines sit underwater until they're detonated by the sound of a passing ship and are cheap and effective. Mines are used by more than 50 nations, and new technology is making them harder than ever to detect.

During the Gulf War, Iraq blocked U.S. Marines from landing by stringing the Kuwait shoreline with mines. In deeper water offshore, mines also severely damaged two U.S. warships. After the war, minesweepers removed 13,000 mines from the Persian Gulf.

It has taken more than a decade to develop and field a specialized unit to defeat minefields.

The detonating teams employ humans, dolphins and mechanical swimmers. Humans involved include SEALs, Marine commandos and Navy explosive ordnance disposal experts. The team is not a new concept—Navy underwater demolition teams were first created during World War II.

The detonation of mines with the help of the dolphins is the first crucial step toward transforming what has become a battlefield back into a working port. Aid agencies say that war is likely to drag on for several weeks, if not months, so coalition forces will have to work extremely quickly to open aid routes or face a humanitarian crisis, which will affect hundreds of thousands of people.

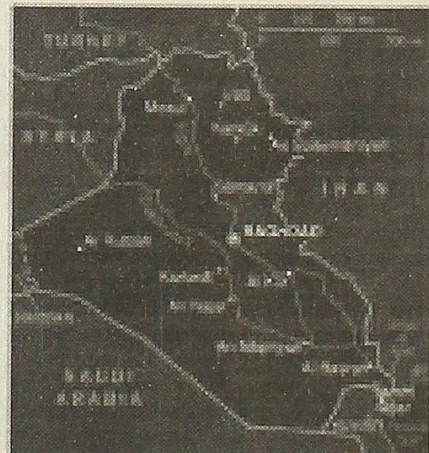


photo courtesy of Reuters.com

Coalition forces are now within sight of Baghdad, capital of Iraq. The troops have met light to moderate resistance from Iraqi forces.

"I feel the quality of the food service, the housing department, and the administrative staff has diminished greatly. A lot of departments do not think logically when making policies."
-Sarah Rutkowski (03)

FEATURE

Pine River Anthology celebrates 50 years of excellence in literary publication

TIM SLADE
Feature Editor

Honors Day at Alma College is typically seen as a day to wallow in the joys of academia, whether the work is one's own or that of a close friend or associate. Alternatively, Honors Day is an excuse to sleep late and waste the day playing video games, getting drunk, and generally loafing in preparation for bar night. This year, however, Honors Day also marked the 50th anniversary of the Pine River Anthology, Alma's premiere outlet for student-generated fine art. Thus,

Thursday evening witnessed a gathering of literary talent unprecedented in the college's history, as writers and professors both past and present shared a get-to-know-you dinner at 6:30 before congregating in the Chapel for an evening of prose and poetry readings.

The dinner included roughly 40 individuals, including current students, faculty (both present and departed), and alumni. The participants formed but a few of the nearly 200 invitees, a list which had included all the past editors of the Pine River Anthology as well as many faculty that had contributed greatly to the growth,

development, and evolution of the publication. "We were hoping to get more of a response from the alumni, so that was a little disappointing," said **Mary Rosalez (03)**. "But we still had a great time."

The evening's readings included original work by former professors Jim Tipton and Robert Wegner (father of Dr. Julie Arnold of the Foreign Language Department), as well as original and as-yet-unpublished work by **Jim Daniels (78)**, Alma's most well-known literary alumnus and Professor of English and Creative Writing at Carnegie-Mellon University. Work was also shared by **Drs. William Palmer** and **Robert Vivian**, various students, and **Ms. Catherine Swender**, an Alma graduate and former Instructor of English.

The 2003 edition of Pine River Anthology comprises 63 pages of poetry, prose, and artwork, including 18 pages of work representing the last 50 years of the Anthology. Ever a labor of love, the anthology required even more devotion than usual this year, as each of the English editors (**Rosalez**, **Lisa Miller (03)**, **Ryan Cannon (04)**, **Carrie Adams (04)**, and **Kimberley A. Crandell (05)**) read through all 50 years' worth of submissions, seeking a few that would accurately represent the preceding five decades. In the end, the editors attempted to select a couple of pieces from each decade to represent the vast quantity of work embodied in the Pine River Anthologies of the past. The foreword to

the Alumni section of the Anthology was written by **William W. Farris** for the very first edition in 1953, and was considered so fitting as to be reprinted untouched.

The PRA is compiled each year to give the students a forum in which to showcase their original work. Besides providing the students with a sense of pride and accomplishment, it permits the contributors to honestly state that they have been published, which is a matter of significant prestige in the literary world. It is free to the student body, and can usually be found at Switch at any given residence hall, although they appear not to have arrived there yet. Traditionally arriving on campus on Honors Day (last year's edition was delayed by a week due to some unfortunate miscommunications between the various parties involved), it usually runs to approximately 30 pages in length. Although there are faculty advisors for both the English and Art departments of the PRA (Professor of English **Dr. Palmer**, Assistant Professor of English **Dr. Vivian**, and Assistant Professor of Art and Gallery Director **C. Sandy Lopez-Isnardi**), the literary submissions are selected and approved by the student editors. Each submission is read by all the editors and assigned a value between 1 and 10; the pieces are then ranked according to their combined scores, and the highest-ranked submissions are included in the Anthology.



Haydn's *Creation*: the latest offering in Masterworks series from Alma Choirs and ASO

WHITNEY HOPKINS
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Alma College Choirs and Symphony Orchestra came together in a performance worthy of the title "Masterworks" in their performance of Franz Joseph Haydn's *The Creation*, under the direction of Dr. Will Nichols.

Haydn pulled verses from both the book of Genesis and Milton's *Paradise Lost*, and adapted them into recitatives, arias, and choruses. Combining these three types of expression into a total of 28 movements, Haydn tells the story of the first six days of creation, from the beginning void, to the creation of man and woman.

Rehearsals began mere weeks ago for many members of the choir, and the orchestra has been working diligently to

learn the complex and characteristically Haydn score. It's not surprising for a piece this difficult that various vocalists and instrumentalists worried about the performance and its quickly approaching opening night. Rehearsals were sketchy for a while, and Dr. Nichols tried to relax the group, saying during one rehearsal, "In 205 years the notes haven't changed. They won't change between now and this weekend." **Adam Rose (04)**, member of the Alma College Choir, enjoyed the production, saying, "Doc was laid back and made sure we had a good time."

However rehearsals went, the performances were breath taking. Haydn made full use of his ability to convey the meaning, through music, behind the plain verses of Genesis. Whether they served as a chorus of cherubim or as the voice of

God, the choir did a wonderful job with the difficult choral line.

They were aided in doing so by the presence of three soloists. Alma College faculty member Vicki Walker, soprano, worked with Interlochen Academy faculty members Ron Gentry, tenor, and Jeffery Norris, bass-baritone, in performing many of the difficult recitatives, soli, and duet and trio pieces. Alto **Angie Touchette (04)** joined the trio for the final movement in beautiful culmination of choral and quartet praises to God. In addition to these three professionals, the performance featured Artist in Residence Anthony Patterson on keyboard, which provided a more classical feeling to the performance.

The program listed 175 participants on the stage of Presbyterian Hall at the Heri-

tage Center for Performing Arts, yet Dr. Nichols managed to choose just the right soloists from the groups for the various recitatives. **John-Malcolm Cox (04)**, **Sean Galloway (06)**, **Elise Killewald (04)**, **Wilson Nichols (06)**, **Erin Gildersleeve (03)**, and **Andy Lauppe (03)** performed their solos with enthusiasm, accuracy, and emotion, which conveyed the story in *Creation* extremely well to members of the audience. Their performances were a treat to hear. I applaud Dr. Nichols, the Alma Choirs and Orchestra, and the many soloists and community members for their beautiful rendition of Haydn's difficult and memorable oratorio.

Haydn lived from 1732 to 1809, and his *The Creation* debuted in 1798.

Kiltie Wind Ensemble brings international flavor to final concert of the year

KATIE PERSITZ
Staff Writer

The Kiltie Wind Ensemble concert on Tuesday, April 1 was no less excellent than I've come to expect from any of the musical groups here on Alma's campus.

The first piece, the first movement of "Four Scottish Dances" by Malcolm Arnold, was short but had a good beginning that had a nice full sound. The blend of woodwinds and brass was beautiful.

The second piece wasn't so good. "Irish Tune from Country Derry" by Percy Grainger was a pretty song, but the band didn't play it as well as I thought they could have. The entrance was smooth, but it wasn't balanced very well. The sections weren't together; the oboes didn't play out enough and the brass overpowered everyone constantly through the entire piece and the clarinets' entrance wasn't together as a section. However, there were high points to the song. All the crescendos were well done. The piece actually got smoother

as the band got more into it. The whole band was together at the end and though the piece was rocky at points, they followed the conductor well at all times. The end was rich and full and all around better to listen to at the end than at the beginning.

The third piece, "Early Light" by Carolyn Bremer, was an improvement from the second piece. The French horn could have been a little less timid. I really enjoyed the xylophone and marimba in this piece. I thought they came out extremely well. The entire time the sustained sound of all the instruments blending together carried throughout the theater. The clarinets, horns and xylophone solos were wonderful. They rang out well above the rest of the band. The flutes did a great job. The whole pit did a great job of being just loud enough to be heard without overpowering anyone else, truly blending and adding to the piece in only the way a pit can.

"Elite Syncopations" by Scott Joplin was a lot of fun. It sounded like it could have

been at a country fair merry-go-round. I was impressed with the horns, flutes and clarinets, and the marimba. They all worked well together and the runs done by the flutes and clarinets were excellent. The only complaint I had about the piece was that it was slightly repetitive. By the middle I was wishing for something new. But on the whole, I enjoyed this last piece before intermission.

The fifth piece had a lot of spirit. "The Florentiner March" by Julius Fucik was an energized piece good for coming back from an intermission. The band had a good entrance and lots of good accents and emphasis. It seemed to be a good marching song. There was a wide range of volume (though the soft could have been softer) and intensity which made it more fun to listen to. The trumpets did an excellent job in this piece.

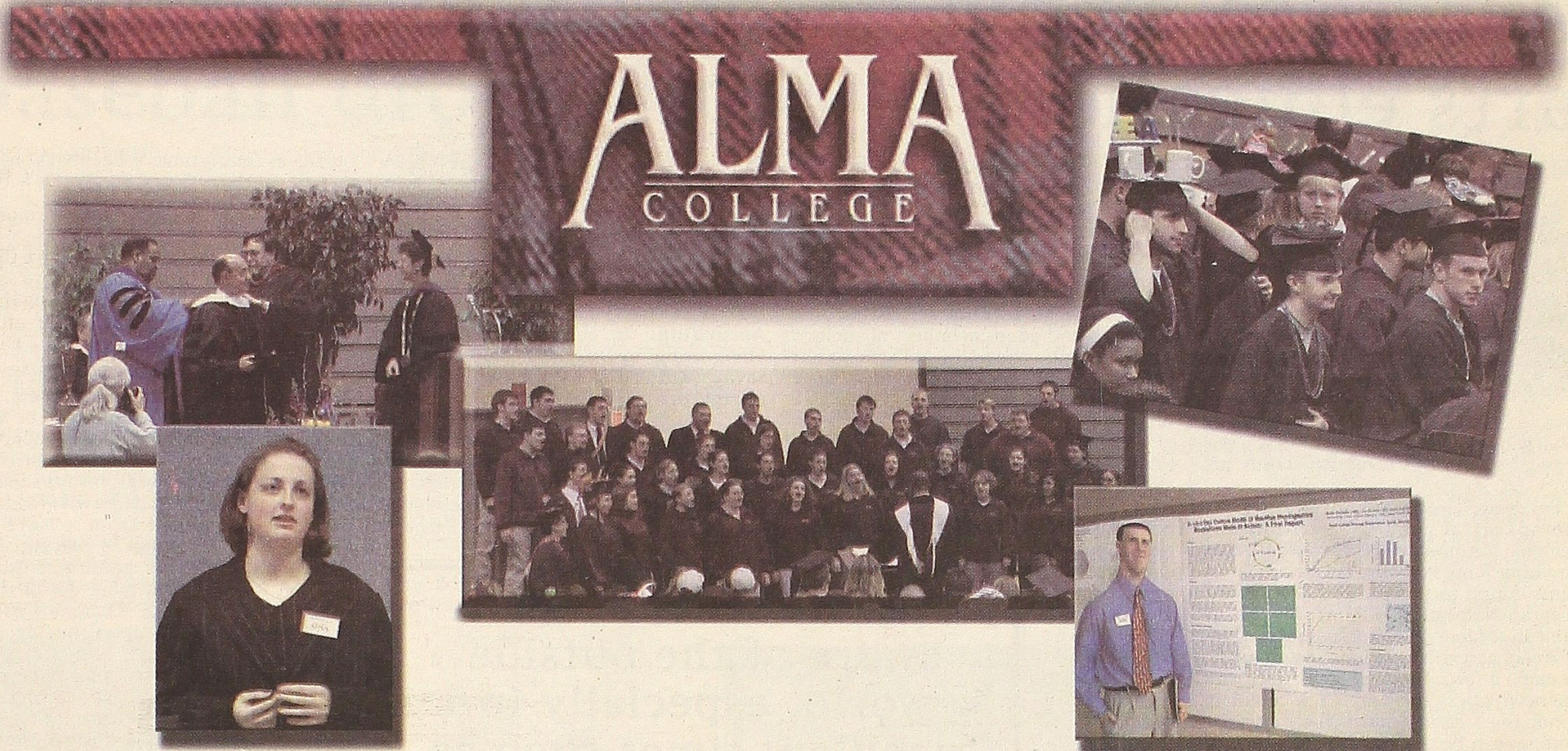
"Amazing Grace" done by Frank Tichelli, the sixth piece, was wonderful. Sometimes the sections didn't sound together as a section, but it was smooth and rich and

was full of emotion. The sustained intensity of Matt Stonebeck's saxophone solo was incredible. The whole piece was very pretty. Each crescendo built in intensity and volume and it gave me chills.

The last piece of the evening was "Africa: Ceremony, Song and Ritual" by Robert W. Smith. It started out with bells ringing. The beginning was loud, with the entire pit at full volume. The African drums began and suddenly the entire band was playing. I was told this piece was the piece to go to this concert for and it was definitely worth it. The decrescendos were very good. The piccolo solo was pretty. Maybe it was just me, but strangely, I thought this piece reminded me of an African version of the *Mission: Impossible* theme song. The building impatience of the singing and the oboe made the whole piece a unique experience. The yells and the African beats were original and I was really glad that I went to the concert.

This concert on the whole was a lot of fun to be at. The band did a really good job with these pieces.

FEATURE



The following individuals participated in Alma's Honors Day "Celebration of the Liberal Arts" either as presentors or research contributors. Congratulations to all participants on behalf of the Almanian.

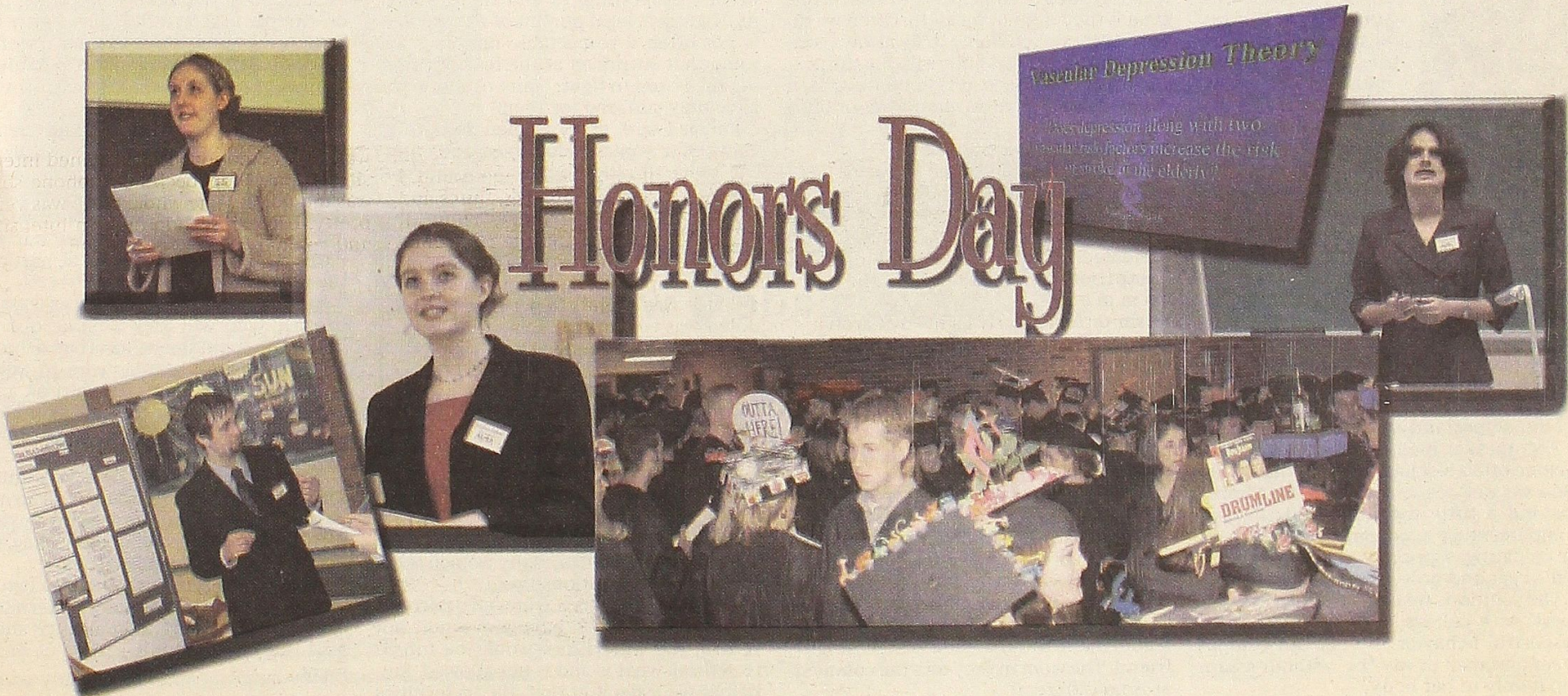
Andrew Talik
Chad Whelton
Beth Reinbold
Holly Honigfort
Laura Riddering
Theresa Thompson
Mylene Wood
Curt Anderson
Matthew A. Piccirilli
Jeffrey LaPorte
Mary Pietsch
Colin McLaughlin
Mary A. Hakken
Ryan L. Riley
Melisa Bower
Jennifer Banister
Janet Daig
Amanda Chappel
Amy Pratt
Olga Wrobel
Josh Ernst
Lisette Hoeltzel
Jennifer Herbert
Joseph D. Phillips

Raymond VanSteenkiste
Timothy Wertz
J. Malcolm Cox
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Grant M. Kinney
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Timothy J. Throm
Tara Braun
Ross Alexander
2002-2003 SIFE Team
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Laura Cassidy
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Rebecca Logan
Ryan Lueker
Cassie Neubecker
Lisa Miller
Shabnam Mirsaedi
Hyun-Yoo Chun

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Mary Robinson
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Steven Bailey
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Holly Paquet
Jessica Roberts
Sarah A. Jewell
Jennifer Antoline
Robert Lake
Cailin Wilson
Heather Dowding
Hannah M. Alexander
Andrea Faber

Lora C. Ross
Kimberley A. Crandell
Breanne Harmon
Dustin Bissell
Lyndsey Van Wormer
Larry Elliott
Ethan W. Dereszynski
Shannon Finnegan
Anne Love
Stacey Kowal
Taylor A. Heins
April Joy LaCroix
Matthew C. Franko
Scott Sawyer
Mary K. Hakken
Julie Bolitho
Sol Cortez
Kimberly Sinclair
Matthew Friar
Jessica Karbowski
Mary Rosalez
Svetlana A. Kobzar
Janet Daig
Brooke Palm

Bree Brownlee
Rachel Miller
Sarah Radtke
Adrian Rowe
Paulena Thompson
Adrienne Winchester
Micaela Church
Jennifer Conkey
David Smith
Kimberly Graor
Abby J. Rourke
Laura Powers
Jill Johnston
Meredith Henry
John Kruse
Amanda Leppek
Laurel Chapman
Rebecca Creguer
Noelle Harkiewicz
Melinda Ketchel
Kristin Moore
Elizabeth Pitts
Megan Sloat
Kim Thielke



LETTERS

Access to media necessary to liberal arts education



Radtke

I did not think it was possible to live in a bubble. I knew coming here that Alma was a relatively small town, but I had no idea how cut off from the real world I would be. After surviving my first semester as a college student, I have begun to wonder once again

what will happen to me when I hit the real world, because this is most certainly not it.

Everyone here acknowledges the metaphorical bubble surrounding campus, but no one seems to want to do anything about it. There are many factors contributing to this bubble, such as the geographic location of Alma, the lack of cable in student dormitories, and the lack of freely accessible national newspapers, to name a few. No one complains about the newspapers and only a few complain about the location, most likely because nothing can be done to "move" the city; we chose to come here. However, students can frequently be heard complaining about the lack of cable in the dorms. The term "Alma Bubble" was born as a joke that students here are very bright, but have generally no idea what is going on in the outside world.

As I am now well into my second semester here at Alma, I have realized that a majority of professors ask, or in some cases require, that students watch the news and keep up on current events. An article written by Mary Cummings titled "The Media is the Message" gives a perfect example. As an instructor of engineering at Virginia Tech, Cummings was invited to be a judge on The Learning Channel's program "Junkyard Wars." Cummings stated that she frequently referred to the show in class to inspire creativity and imagination in her students. Cummings argues that "to reach students, we must use the medium they are most familiar with—television." In 2002 ESPN conducted a study on college students' television viewing habits. The results showed that an average student spends 14.5 hours a week watching television.

The study also showed that 90 percent of students' out-of-home viewing takes place in their dorm rooms.

If students are not aware of the outside world, especially in turbulent times such as these, they are not being responsible U.S. citizens. This is one of the basic reasons to go to college: to become educated and adept members of society. Alma College is one of the few schools left in existence that does not provide at least basic cable for its students. This is a problem.

Alma only provides a television in the lobby of each residence hall equipped with extended cable. It is understood that having the one television in the lobby promotes relationships and helps residents meet each other, but this method has a significant flaw. Aside from promoting relationships, the single-TV method also leads to arguments over which channel to watch or the volume level. It should be obvious that the tastes and preferences of the many residents vary greatly and many arguments often arise.

It would not be effective to argue a point without offering possible solutions. One seems glaringly blatant to me. Everyone notices the bright stickers on every light switch the beg us to "conserve energy" and turn off the lights when we leave. Hall bathrooms even have huge posters in the middle of the mirror above the sinks asking to "save energy." Yet the lights in the actual hallway are left on all day long, needlessly. In the daylight, the halls are plenty bright, therefore the college is effectively wasting energy. Though they are dimmed, the lights are left on all through the night as well, again wasting valuable energy. The money spent on this waste could possibly pay for the service

of at least basic cable to each of the rooms. The Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, a school very similar to Alma, recently implemented energy conservation measures that were designed to "significantly reduce energy consumption" as well as save millions of dollars in energy costs in the long run. According to the article "Power Engineering" by Douglas J. Smith, the cost savings will also act as "a buffer for future energy price fluctuations." The article concluded by stating that "these measures not only reduce operating costs, but they also improve the college's infrastructure, benefit the environment through reduced emissions and reduce their dependence on imported energy resources." Perhaps

ourselves comfortable in beanbags on our own dorm-room floors. So give us access to the world in our dorms.

A study conducted at Penn State University completely supports this idea. The article is titled "A Newspaper a Day: Penn State Students Learn to Love Their Daily Papers" and is written by Mark Fitzgerald. The president of the University, Graham Spanier, decided to see if it was true that if young people were given newspapers, they would read them. He thought, "college students should be able to pick up local and national newspapers free every morning from racks in their dormitories." After a year, results showed that the number of students who read the paper daily jumped from a mere 15 percent to a whopping 73 percent. The article included the general student reaction that they got more out of their education. They said, "that newspaper reading prepares them better for classroom discussions; and that they understand and can discuss current events better than ever." Even college professors are excited by the new program. A Central Michigan University journalism professor, John Hartman, spoke out that he would "have to do anything from begging to threatening to get a student to read a daily paper [...], yet when [they] are made as easy to access as cable TV or radio or even the computer [...] the number of young people reading a paper skyrockets."

Whatever Alma College decides to do to break the bubble, it needs to be done soon. We students often feel as though we live in our own world here, completely cut off from society. Sometimes it is like a comforting blanket, shielding our eyes and our hearts, and making us believe that the world is still a wonderful place to be. Other times it is frustrating; we feel as though the college is preventing us from both shaping the world and from letting the world shape us. Providing a service such as cable or national newspapers for the students to use in the comfort of their own rooms is just one small step, but it just may be the pinprick needed to burst the bubble.

Andrea Radtke (06)

"If students are not aware of the outside world, especially in turbulent times such as these, they are not being responsible U.S. citizens."

Alma College should look into something like this.

Aside from not paying for cable, Alma College does not offer easily accessible national newspapers to the student body. Of course there are always recent copies available in the library, but they cannot be taken out, and copies can become expensive. The problem facing students across the nation is apathy towards society. We do not think of picking up a newspaper in our free time to catch up on the happenings of the world like college students of previous generations once did. This is largely because we only find national newspapers like *USA Today* in the library. Sorry, but the average college student does not prefer to spend a rare moment of free time lounging in the library. We would much rather make

Accountability key in ending sexual harassment, especially for Greeks



Joyce

The film and speaker Monday night brought to light the issue of harassment in a format, which should be utilized more often. Sadly, not many men were in attendance. The film opened up a discussion that should be held on a larger scale.

First, I do not feel the film could stand and bring out the discussion that took place without a competent facilitator. The film brings to light the problem of men degrading women in ways that men do not often think about, but it did not offer enough hope for change.

More importantly, the discussion did. The speaker made perfectly clear that women often feel harassed by what many men do not see as harassment. Simple looking a little too long, whistling or complimenting a woman can be seen as intimidating, especially since men are often larger and pose a threat to women.

The solutions we came up with are cultural. As a culture, we need to practice respectful behavior. A man can compliment a woman or say "hi" without meaning it only to her body.

In reality, most men have made a woman

feel degraded at some point in their lives, even if they did not mean to. Often we do not realize we are doing it. By always considering our actions and realizing the possibility of being seen as intimidating, men can hold themselves accountable for their actions.

Alcohol is never an excuse.

When the women in the audience were asked to acknowledge ever being intimidated by a compliment, comment, touch or look, nearly every woman raised their hand.

Every responsible man needs to realize that what we think women feel about looks and compliments may not be the truth. Often, a woman will realize the man's motives.

I think many men make comments that would offend them if someone else had made them toward their sister or girlfriend. The woman they aim the comment at is no different.

On the other side of the coin, many

women do nothing to end the problem. As discussed, legal pursuit of the problem is not often a respectable option. I was somewhat surprised at the fear of bringing the issues to light. Many of those who have only suffered for them.

But, as I said, many women do nothing about. If a woman is harassed and enters the same situation again, men may see

"In reality, most men have made a woman feel degraded at some point in their lives, even if they did not mean to."

their action as all right. After all, the woman returned. Also, many women settle for unhealthy relationships.

A case in point is a fraternity party. If every woman to be harassed would not return, the fraternities would be forced to rethink what is and is not allowed. But, before we leave it at that, the fraternities should lead the way.

Our houses should be THE safest place on campus. Fraternities select men they feel portray the values of their fraternity and who will continue to strive to always achieve them. Allowing harassment at a party is unacceptable.

A sticky situation arises when the man at fault is a brother. Why do we allow our brothers to do the very things that would cause us to kick out a non-brother? Why do we hold those outside, whom we have not selected as men who value our standards, to a higher standard at parties or the dinner table?

In every fraternity there is at least one brother who will kick anyone out of a house for harassment, brother or not. If you are harassed, know who to talk to. Find someone with an IFC shirt on and tell them about the problem. If nothing is done, go to the Marty Stack and inform him of the problem.

Fraternities must be held accountable for what their brothers do. If security at parties is not promoting a secure environment and the fraternity does nothing, they do not deserve to hold parties.

Respect and accountability are two values held in esteem by every fraternity on campus. The Greek community should lead the way in ridding Alma of harassment.

Dan Joyce (03)

SPORTS

Softball splits doubleheader, baseball drops three

KRISTEN BROWN
Staff Writer

The Alma Scots Softball team split the MIAA doubleheader against Albion last Wednesday. They lost 2-1 in the first game than came back with a 7-4 win in the second. The Scots are now 18-3 overall, and 3-1 in the MIAA.

In the first game, the intensity reached a breaking point in the sixth, when two runs were driven in by Albion from a triple.

Although the Scots attempted a comeback in the bottom of the seventh, bringing in a run from pinch runner **Anne Westerman (06)**, the Scots fell short to the Brits.

In the second game the Scots fought hard, getting a 6-0 lead, by the top of the third. **Lindsay Powers (04)** hit a three run home run in the second inning, while

Colleen Trybus (04), scored two runners with a triple. Trybus later scored on a Powers' single, making the score 6-0.

Albion proceeded to score twice in the bottom of the third and worked hard for two more in the sixth. Alma resulted in one more run, ending the game, 7-4.

Powers commented on the game saying, "The intensity we came out with during the second game during Albion showcased the pain we felt from the loss of the first. After struggling with the lucky breaks that Albion seemed to be handed in the first game, we were ready to fight back to show our hard work and dedication proves to our reputation."

The Scots' JV doubleheader on the April third and their doubleheader on the fourth were both postponed due to bad weather conditions.

The Scots baseball team did not enjoy quite the success as that of the softball

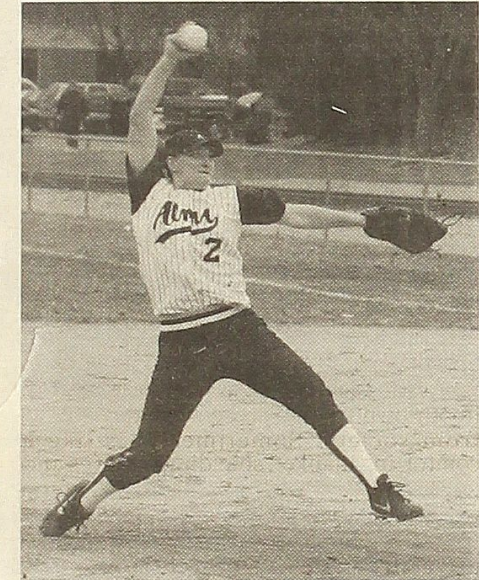
team. They lost in their third game of the MIAA on April 1st to Hope College, 6-3.

Hope took a 1-0 lead in the first during the game on. They then added a run in the second when a Hope player reached an error and later scored on an infield out.

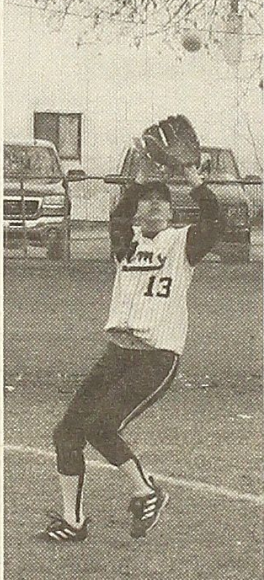
Hope increased the lead to 4-1 in the fourth. The Scots rallied in the bottom of the sixth, with **Steve Slowke (03)** leading off with a walk and later scoring on a ground out.

Nick Duflo (03) gave up nine hits and five runs in six-plus innings with two walks and three strikeouts. **Mike Kahl (05)** pitched the final three innings for the Scots, which allowed one run on three hits, walking two and striking out one.

The Scots are now 3-10 overall and 0-3 in the MIAA. They are playing in a doubleheader on the ninth in Alma at 2:00 vs. Albion.



Sophomore Leigh Ann LaFave pitched the first game for the Scots. The team lost 2-1 and LaFave dropped to 8-1 on the season.



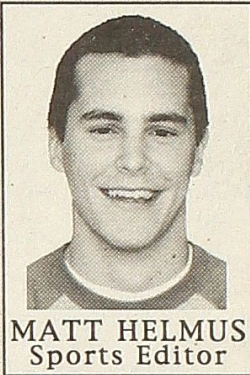
Julie Wiest (03) catches a foul ball. "Junk" had 2 hits and 5 putouts in the 2 games.



Photos by Melanie Szewczyk

Junior Jamie Stahl pitched the second game. The Scots defeated the Britons 7-4. Stahl is now a perfect 5-0. The team is 18-3 overall, 3-1 in conference play.

Best darn sports column ever



MATT HELMUS
Sports Editor

As class schedules get busier so does the athletic calendar. Saturday alone sees seven Scot teams in action, three at home. The men's and women's track

teams host Hope and Olivet in a league meet while the women's tennis team hosts Adrian.

Hopefully the snow and cold will clear out of the way before teams swing into action. This week many teams were forced to postpone and cancel games due to the weather. It does look like it should get a little nicer this week although there is no guarantee that the snow will melt.

Among teams hoping for better weather for their fields are the baseball and softball squads. Currently the softball team is 3-1 in the conference sitting in third place behind Olivet and St. Mary's. They are 18-3 overall. The baseball team is 0-3 in the league and 3-10 overall.

The baseball team will look to improve their record against Albion and Olivet. The softball team takes on Calvin and Adrian as they look to take the lead in the MIAA.

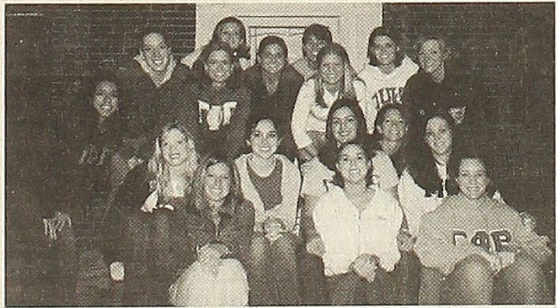
This week has just proved another theory of mine about the Alma community: we really need a dome. Wouldn't that be sweet? We could build it over by the soccer fields. Really, think about it. The baseball, softball, soccer and whatever else teams could play anytime of year in comfort. They have one at Northern Michigan, why not here? (Well, not considering the costs of land, building a dome and upkeep.)

Well, as this is the last column of the year I guess I am free to reminisce about the year. It started off great with the football and volleyball teams beating the crap out of everyone. We even got to host a playoff game, giving us another chance to freeze to death. It has to really be horrible to be in the Kiltie Band and be even colder. Oh well, that's what they get paid the big bucks for. I really think more fans should wear kilts to the game, it would make it all the more Scottish.

I've also heard the idea of some fans getting together next year and getting shirts made, sort of a Super Fan idea. Their "Rowdy Piper" nickname has a nice ring to it. I guess we'll have to wait and see if that ever pans out. It would probably mean that more people (other than Paul Nottoli) would be rowdy at games.

Well, it's been fun getting to spout about sports for an entire year. Make sure to check back next year and see what fun ideas the sports section has. I'm sure they'll be great.

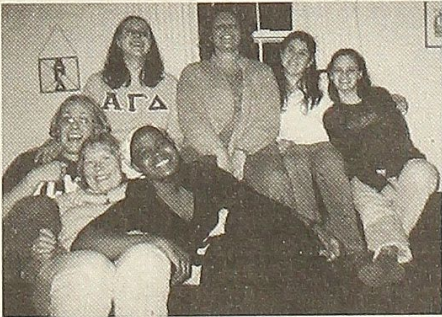
Congratulations to the Graduating Seniors of Gamma Phi Beta.



Dawna Anderson, Kristen Brown, Tara Braun, Jessica Roberts, Kristy LaPine, Christine Stevenson, Jennifer Wild, Theresa Thompson, Meredith Henry, Kristin Shea, Sarah Rosenthal, Julie Plasencia, Heather Stellow, Brooke Palm, Ali Cargill, Amanda Dahn, Alicia Hegle, Alicia Huffman, Krisha Larson, Dannielle Poulson, Jenesha Penn.

We would like to wish you all the best of luck and fulfillment of all your hopes and dreams.
Love,
Your sisters in Gamma Phi Beta

Congratulations Graduating Seniors of Alpha Gamma Delta.



Andrea Ballinger, Anna Dorf, La'Keyta Rayford, Michelle Reinecke, LeAnn Vilman, Juliann Schafer, Kat Farmer, Cathy Keppler, Erin Hasty, Anna Long, Melissa Driskill, Kim Thielke.

Good luck with all of your future successes!!
Love,
The sisters of Alpha Gam

SPORTS

Men second, women third in league track meet

JOEL RENDER
Staff Writer

If not for the strange weather that we have been having, the Alma College Men's and Women's Track teams would have had a very busy week. Both teams did participate in their triangular MIAA meets on Wednesday at Albion College, but their meet at Calvin College on Saturday was cancelled due to the severe weather.

Out of both teams, the men's team fared better at the MIAA triangular meet between Adrian, Albion, and Alma College. Mike Palmer (04) was the star for the team. Palmer won both of his events, the pole vault and the 400-meter dash. He cleared a height of 15 feet 0 inches to win the pole vault competition. His final time in the 400-meter was 50.12 seconds.

To go along with Palmer's win, the Scots had a whole slew of second and third place finishes. Gavin Cornwell (04) took second in both the long jump and the triple jump. His distances were 21 feet 5 and 1/2 inches and 40 feet 10 inches respectively. Dan Draper (03) also received three second places. Draper took second in the javelin event with a distance of 151 feet 11 inches. In the 110-meter hurdles, his final time was 15.53 seconds. He also tied for second in the high jump with a height of 5 feet 8 inches.

Tom Sterling (03) came in with a time of 4 minutes and 12 seconds in the 1,500 meter, which was just good enough for second place. Overall, the men's team defeated Adrian College by a score of 92 to 59. However, they lost to Albion College by a final score of 119-34. The team will host Hope and Olivet College in another MIAA triangular meet this Saturday beginning at 12 noon.

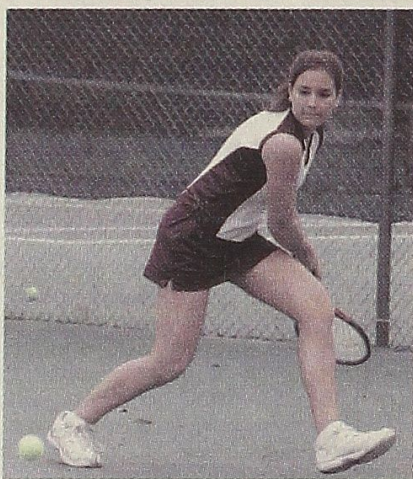
The women's team ended up losing to both the Adrian and Albion teams last Wednesday. The Adrian Bulldogs defeated the Scots by a margin of 91 to 63, while Albion won by a narrow score of 86-68.

Out of the whole meet, the Lady Scots finished first in three different events and garnered second or third in several others. Sarah Harrelson (05) easily won the javelin throw with a final distance of 97 feet 9 inches. The nearest distance was three feet short of Harrelson's throw. In the 400-meter dash, Roberta Squires (03) beat everyone else by three seconds or more. Her final time was a very impressive 59.94 seconds. The 4 by 400-meter relay team took the final first place. The team's final time of 4 minutes and 19 seconds just narrowly beat out both the Adrian and Albion relay teams.

Honorable mentions for second place finishes go to Roberta Squires, Erin McFarland (05), Vallory Babyar (05), Thyra Folk (03), Erin Wicker (05), and the 4 by 100-meter relay team. McFarland made second in the long jump, the triple jump, and the 100-meter hurdles. Babyar finished second in the 800-meter event, while Folk narrowly took second in the pole vault event. Wicker garnered second in the shot put event. With a final time of 52.06 seconds, the relay team just barely took second behind the Albion team and in front of the Adrian team.

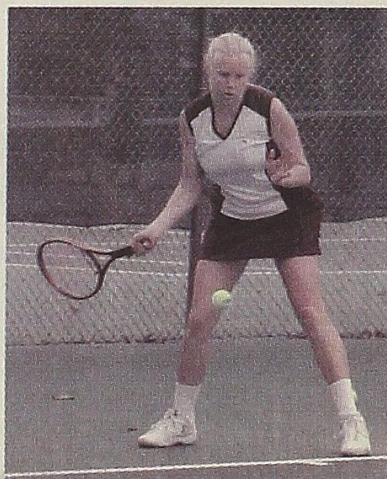
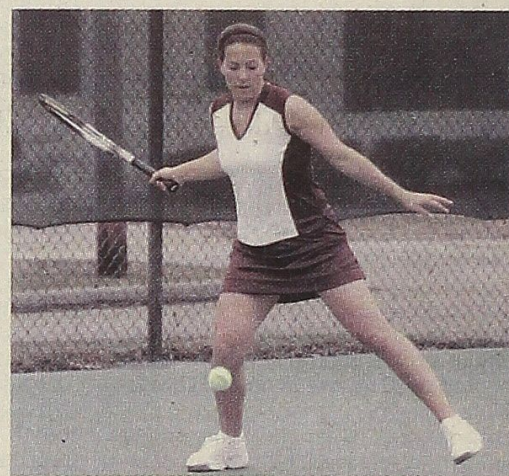
As is the case, the women's team will also be hosting Olivet and Hope College this Saturday at noon in a MIAA triangular meet.

Scot tennis drops league match to Britons



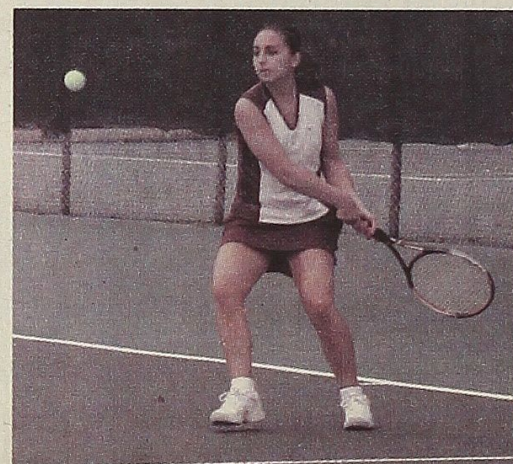
Left: Laura Powers (06) runs to return a shot in the Scots' loss to the Britons. Powers won the only point of the day for the Scots by winning her match 6-3, 7-5.

Right: Lindsey Thelen (05) returns a shot against Albion.



Left: Kelly Ross (05) plays in her match against the Britons. The Scots lost the match 8-1.

Right: Megan Hlavaty (05) winds up for a wicked backhand.



Photos by Melanie Szewczyk

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 9

2 p.m. - Baseball Home v. Albion (2)

3:30 p.m. - JV Softball @ Olivet JV (2)

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

8 p.m. - Alma College Jazz Ensemble (Heritage Center - Presbyterian Hall)

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

Thursday, April 10

3:30 p.m. - Softball @ Calvin (2)

4 p.m. - Men's Tennis @ Spring Arbor

8 p.m. - Alma College Theatre Presents *The Heidi Chronicles* by Wendy Wasserstein

9 p.m. - Chapel Service

Friday, April 11

2 p.m. - JV Softball @ Muskegon CC Tournament

4 p.m. - Baseball @ Olivet

4 p.m. - Women's Tennis Home v. Olivet

8 p.m. - *The Heidi Chronicles*

Saturday, April 12

10 a.m. - JV Softball @ Muskegon CC Tournament

Noon - Men's & Women's Track Home v. Hope & Olivet

1 p.m. - Baseball @ Olivet (2)

1 p.m. - Softball @ Adrian (2)

1 p.m. - Men's Tennis Home v. Adrian

1 p.m. - Women's Tennis @ Adrian

8 p.m. - Alma College Percussion Ensemble (Heritage Center - Presbyterian Hall)

8 p.m. - *The Heidi Chronicles*

Sunday, April 13

3 p.m. - *The Heidi Chronicles*

9 p.m. - Chapel Service

Monday, April 14

EXAMS BEGIN!