

# The Almanian

serving Alma College since 1907

## Many Michigan teachers still without contracts

KATIE PERSITZ  
News Editor

Recently many Michigan teachers and others in the education systems have had problems with contracts. Many contracts that expired last May and June have not yet been renegotiated. Over 600 Michigan locals are still trying to bargain with their various school districts.

The Michigan Education Association has taken many steps to help these teachers and lately has placed over forty of its members on a critical list for help. The MEA represents over 157,000 teachers and support staff, including food staff, transportation, maintenance, and office personal.

The organization is dedicated to support members' employment goals, interests, needs and enhancing quality public education. They offer teachers insurance on cars, health and a multitude of other things. As a union they help with credit lines, investments, and pensions after retirement.

In the Pickford School District, in East Lansing, 25 teachers have been placed on the critical list. Bedford's secretaries and Whitefish's support staff have also been placed on the list.

The list serves as a beacon to those who need help renegotiating with their school districts. The MEA steps in as a resource for financial aide to the public for newspaper ads, bargaining support, and a focus of energies prompt support for the plight of teachers and support staff.

As of September 16, there are fifty districts on the critical list from Benton Harbor to Southfield to Marquette.

As time goes by and contracts are still not being negotiated to appease both sides, demonstrations and rallies continue to grow. In the Fruitport school district nearly 400 members and district residents turned out in support for a contract settlement.

With Alma having so many education majors it could be a problem, come the end of the year when students are applying to schools to become teachers.

Robyn Paige (04) is a student teacher in the St. John's school district. "I haven't been exposed alot to the controversy. The teachers signed their contract before I started teaching there. I'm not going to take a job where I know that I won't have a contract. All of that is handled by the unions; I'm more worried about finding a job than the contract it-

See CONTRACTS page 2 —

## First-year enrollment down; student retention up

LAURA SACHJEN  
Staff Writer

First-year and transfer enrollment has decreased this year from 377 to 362 students. While new enrollment has gone down, the overall enrollment has remained steady. This is due in large part to retention. Retention has made up for the 11-student drop.

But why was there a drop in new enrollment? Dennis Bergvall, Vice President of Enrollment, attributes part of the decrease to changes in the Admissions Office. New changes were implemented in the office and the effects may not be seen until next year.

The Admissions Office has become more personalized in financial counseling by going into prospective students' homes to talk with parents directly. The Admissions Office is also broadening its recruitment areas. Instead of going to the same places, the office is beginning to recruit in higher population areas such as Detroit and Grand Rapids in order to attract more students. The Office is targeting more prospective students in their junior years as well.

While Bergvall is disappointed about the drop, he is optimistic about the future. "There are lots of creative ways that we're responding to enrollment challenges." The College is trying to find more new students and retain current ones by increas-

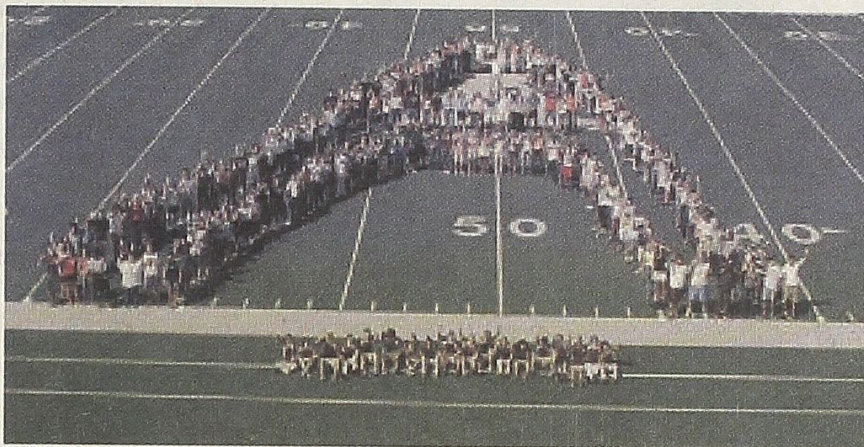


photo courtesy of Skip Traynor

Alma College's drop in first-year and transfer-student admissions has been attributed to changes within the Admissions office and is not expected to be a recurring trend.

ing its attractiveness and appeal. "We can start to make a difference," said Bergvall. "The entire campus is in the situation together."

Even though the new enrollment numbers are less than encouraging, the retention rate at the College has increased. More and more students are coming back every fall. The retention rates are exceeding recent trends. There are several factors to explain the trend, some of which could be greater care of students' needs and better advising.

According to Sue Deel, Registrar, 88.6% of all students came back this fall and 85% of first-year students returned as sophomores.

Retention is not only of financial importance to the College. The high numbers

are an indication of what Alma is doing right in terms of connecting with students.

"We work really hard to keep students across the 4 years," said Associate Provost Karen Klumpp. According to her, most students who transfer out don't have clear reasons for leaving. They jump to the next place and end up taking an extra year to graduate when they could have graduated in 4 years if they stayed at Alma. Those who transfer out think

going somewhere else can solve their problems. "Tell us what's working and what's not," said Mrs. Klumpp.

Mrs. Klumpp believes that the key to keeping students across the four years is to get them engaged in opportunities early on. Whether it is Honor's Day or an organization the student feels passionate about, exciting opportunities will encourage more students to stay on until graduation.

She also stressed the importance making connections with students. "When problems arise finding someone to help is important," said Mrs. Klumpp. There is not a lack of help on campus for students with problems. "Students have access to anyone they want to talk to," she said.

## Currie Scholarship provides academic opportunities to students

AMY WILLEY  
Staff Writer

For the past two years, creative and ambitious sophomores and juniors have had the opportunity to get an extra \$2,500 courtesy of the Currie Grant. The Grant was made possible by a donation from Eleanor H. Currie, the wife of former Alma college trustee Gilbert A. Currie, to fund "scholarly or creative" student research projects for 25 years.

In the Provost's Currie Scholars Program Announcement, "scholarship" is defined as "field or lab work in the sciences or social sciences, library or archival work in the humanities or social sciences, or creation of original performance or artwork in the fine and performing arts."

A committee made up of the Dean of Faculty, and the chairpersons of the Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Science divisions evaluates the proposals. The research projects take place in the summer, and the following year, students' work with a faculty member on an independent study that delves further into their topic.

Last years winners are Amy Pratt (04), Christina Messing (04), and David Hensley (04). Pratt used her grant to document Dr. John Rowe's spring term in Florida, Messing used hers for pursuit of scientific research, and Hensley used his for historical studies.

Hensley explained that this grant is somewhat flexible. He used his money mainly for travel expenses, including lodging and gas, as well as the fees to use archives and money to make copies. Hensley traveled to Michigan State University's Special Collections Library, the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library, and even as far as Cincinnati where he spent five days nosing through the American Jewish Archives at Hebrew Union College.

He explained that this opportunity for research will help him write his senior thesis about fascism in Michigan during the 1930's. According to Hensley, "To look at an actual document, and get a sense that the scholarly body has ignored this and you can make a new addition... that's exciting." Of his hour's long searches through archives, he asserted "As a

historian, its rewarding to find the little gems that make interesting history," but admitting "It got to me a little to read all of the Anti-Semitic pamphlets."

Hensley is very proud of the work he accomplished this summer and says, "I feel that I am going to have a really good product." Both he and his advisor, Patrick Furlong, professor of history, are optimistic about the results. "Furlong hinted that if it's good enough, it could be published in the Michigan Academician," revealed Hensley, adding that it has been ten years since the history department has had a student published. About the prospect of being published Hensley mused, "I would like to think that I can make a substantive edition to scholarship already out there."

For students who are interested in the Currie Grant, Hensley has some advice, he says "One of the main keys to the application is having a well defined research topic, and clear stated uses for the money." Applications will be made available in the Provosts office, and are due in early March.

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# Local/State/Nation

## Hurricane Isabel hits Alma students on East Coast

ALEXA BOYCE  
Staff Writer

It takes a lot to slow down DC's hard working government. However, last Thursday and Friday Hurricane Isabel shut down the entire city of Washington D.C. entirely. Offices, monuments and subway tunnels were all abandoned by 4:00 p.m., though the storm did not roll into town until hours later. Rumor has it that the senate voted to adjourn early because a senator once stayed in his office during a natural disaster and was consequently not re-elected.

Jonathan Becks (04) said over the phone from Washington D.C., "The brunt of the storm isn't even here yet and it's [already] craziness." Becks, who is in Washington for Fall Term studying at American University, was happy to report that all classes were cancelled for Thursday and Friday. On Thursday, Isabel hit North Carolina and Virginia with winds of about 100 m.p.h. Isabel didn't hit Washington until early Friday, and by that time the winds had died down to about 70 m.p.h.

At the influx of the storm, Brenda Wickline, (05) also studying at American, witnessed Isabel's fury. "A bolt of lightning struck the power lines outside my room, and we saw the whole electrical tower go up in flames!"

It was illegal to walk on the beach on Friday, just in case anyone was thinking about it. The metros were flooded and had

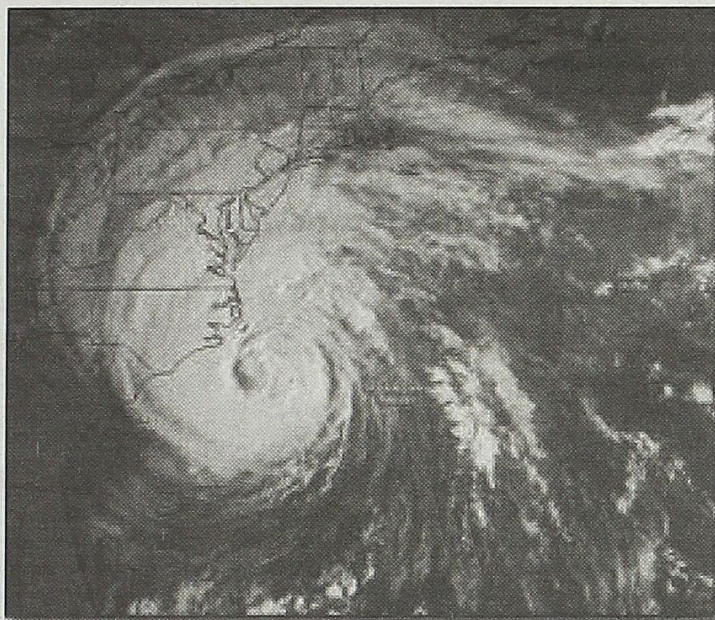


Photo courtesy of Detroit Free Press  
Hurricane Isabel, as it moves up the East Coast towards Washington D.C. on Friday, September 19.

to be shut down on Thursday evening. But it seems that people were taking advantage of the surprise holiday, however disastrous the cause. On Thursday, Wickline reported that there was no alcohol left in the liquor store. All the bars were left open, but the only drink that was available was a Hurricane.

Isabel left Washington with winds of only about 35 m.p.h., not even considered

a tropical storm. It did, however, leave a path of destruction throughout Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland and Washington. More than 4.5 million homes were without power and Amtrak shut down all transportation. On top of that, officials blame at least 14 deaths on Isabel. Much of North Carolina had to be evacuated due to flooding. Maryland Governor Robert Ehrlich said that flooding was the number one danger, whether due to storm surges or heavy rains. The U.S. Geological Survey alerted residents of West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York of the possibility of landslides due to the heavy rains. Isabel is expected to deposit 5 to 9 inches of rain throughout Pennsylvania and then through western New York up into Canada before it dissipates. The Consumer Federation estimated wind damage alone at \$500 million.

Though Isabel was not the strongest hurricane we've seen in recent years, it will be remembered for its size. Isabel was roughly the same square mileage of that of Colorado. Thankfully for Alma's students, Washington was not hit as hard as the states to the south. Wickline was surprised that there wasn't more visible damage. "The aftermath of Isabel is that two trees were uprooted in the District of Colombia. That's all I see."

## Fad diet safety; long-term success unproven

ANDREA RADTKE  
Staff Writer

With all of the new diet crazes and myths floating around today, it's difficult to decide what is healthy, what will help lose weight, and what will keep us going until the exam.

College students lack both time and energy to dive headfirst into the latest in the health and dieting world.

Everyone has been made aware of the "miracle" Atkins diet and now everyone is buzzing about the new "miracle" South Beach diet, but not everyone knows exactly the mechanisms or "rules" of either.

The Atkins diet was designed by Dr. Robert C. Atkins. It is a low carbohydrate, high protein diet. In other words, no bread, pasta, simple or complex sugars are allowed. However, unlimited amounts of meats, eggs, cheeses, and fats can be consumed. The "miracle" of the diet is in how the body burns energy. The preferred source of energy for human bodies is glu-

cose, a sugar from the breakdown of carbohydrates. When carbohydrates are severely restricted, the body begins to break down stored fats. Thus the appeal to the general population: quick weight loss, no hunger pangs, and no exercise. The problems with the plan are the long-term effects. High consumption of eggs, bacon, and the like may produce weight loss now, but may also produce heart problems later.

The South Beach diet is a derivative of the Atkins diet, and was designed by a cardiologist. Like Atkins, it severely restricts the consumption of simple carbohydrates (sugars, pasta, bread), and instead focuses on complex carbohydrates (whole grains), fruits, vegetables, lean fats, and of course proteins. The same problem occurs here as with Atkins: a diet will only be effective if you can stick to it.

The most sensible option, especially for busy college students, is to adopt a healthier view on life. An addition of regular exercise and a focus on eating healthy (no more mystery casseroles at Saga) will

provide much needed energy to break through the obstacles we face.

More miracle workouts are thrown at college students everyday than is known what to do with. Empty promises of flat abs, fantastic arms, and fabulous legs bombarded at students at students.

The new fitness craze sweeping the nation proposes exactly what busy women want to hear: a thirty-minute circuit that alternates strength training and aerobics for a total body workout. They claim to have created "the first strength-training program comfortable for women." Though there are skeptics, Curves for Women is a breath of fresh air in the industry. Curves focuses on exercise and balanced nutrition rather than get-rich-quick-scams.

So for the confused, tired, stressed college student, the best advice would be to find a basic food plan and stick with it. Engage in types of exercise that are of interest and stick to it—whether it be tennis, hiking, walking, or dancing—anything that gets your heart going is an essential part of a workout.



General Sultan Hashim Ahmed, Saddam Hussien's Defense Minister surrendered to United States forces on Friday.

Brian Dalton, a child porn writer, who wrote child torture and molestation fiction, is free only a few months of a seven year term after new lawyers argue that there wasn't sufficient legal assistance the first time around and for free speech.

Fossils found of a 1,545 pound rat in Venezuela, looking like a guinea pig that stands on its hind legs with a huge tail for balance; thought to have lived over six million years ago.

New study found that hangovers are more likely to hit women than men, says *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*.

The United Nations oversteps The United States, telling Israel to drop threats against Palestinian President Yassar Arafat to harm or deport him unless he leaves.

Iraqi leader, Ibrahim Jafaari comes to Detroit to speak at area mosques and churches to Iraqi Americans saying the new Iraq will be one of tolerance and acceptance.

Federal judges are expected to rule quickly on which side is able to appeal to the United States Supreme Court after California vote recall.

Slumping economy helps military recruitment, inspite of problems in Iraq and worries of slow enlistments in past months, since the beginning of the war. The quota for this years active and reserve ranks is 100,000. Army is expected to exceed recruiting goals by September 30.

Former Citigroup leader John Reed is taking over as the intern leader of the New York Stock Exchange for Dick Grasso. Reed will be paid one million dollars, while Grasso will walk away with a 140 million dollar pay package.

New study shows that pheromones found in male sweat cause sensations of relaxation in women and increase the advent of ovulation by 20%.

NASA is preparing to crash Galileo into Jupiter so that it does not interrupt Jupiter's moons.

*Interested in volunteer activities?*

Then check out

### Students Offering Service

SOS offers opportunities to volunteer in the areas of Gerontology, Tutoring, Big Brothers/ Big Sisters, United Way, Hunger/Homelessness, Mental Health, and other various large-scale service projects.

1st and 3rd Monday at 9:00 p.m. -Basement of Chapel  
x7598

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self. Most of the teachers that aren't under contract are like that because they don't like the options offered, not because of a lack of contracts. Contracts include everything from prep time, personal time, how much each teacher teaches a day, extra perks and how more much more they would get paid if they did extra curricular sports, clubs, etc. It's a lot of lawyery talk. Mostly the unions just make sure the contracts are what they are supposed to be."



OPINION

Point COUNTERPOINT

Persecuting the P2P networks is ludicrous and ineffectual

Software doesn't steal music, people steal music

ALEXA BOYCE  
Staff Writer

Free. Who doesn't like getting things for free? When Compact Disc technology first came out over 20 years ago, it was a huge innovation in music. Still, the cost per CD was only about \$10-12. Today, a brand new CD in most stores will cost about \$17-18, sometimes more. So what could be better than free music? Even the advocates of free music have given up on the argument that Peer To Peer (P2P) file sharing boosts record sales because you can hear the music before you buy it. Yes, CD sales are falling, and file sharing does not help at all. Yet, there are dozens of alternative reasons one can list for declining sales. We are facing one of the worst worldwide economic climates in years. The record industry is not the only one that has fallen on hard times. As a result, persecuting the P2P networks is ludicrous and ineffectual. The networks themselves are not illegal; it is the act of trading copyrighted material. Imagine these networks being used someday for something other than Britney Spears songs. Perhaps cancer patients could share healthcare information in the same way KaZaA users today share MP3's. When record labels blame the Internet, they only inspire computer nerds to think up new and clever ways to avoid "the man." When Napster was closed, dozens of other networks like Morpheus and Limewire immediately popped up. The more controversy there is over these networks, the more people visit them. It is free PR and the record labels are paying for it. In 2001, there were 32,000 new titles released in this country, not including

re-releases and small-label ventures. That's an awful lot of releases for an industry that claims it is being "destroyed" by file sharing. The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) claimed that 23% of consumers surveyed said they simply download music they want to hear rather than purchase it. However, most consumers download music for reasons other than the thrill of stealing. Many people download music because it is out of print. They download it because they can't find it anywhere else. Or they are downloading to try out a new artist or style of music. Face it- most people can't afford \$17 to experiment. Record label executives receive perks such as 2 million dollar salaries, memberships to country clubs, and expensive luxury cars. It makes the consumer wonder when these people last took a trip to the record store to spend their own hard- earned money on these CDs. The final reason file sharing is so prevalent is that it is difficult to convince an intelligent consumer that the record label is starving for money. These consumers spend \$50- 125 on concert tickets, \$18 on the CD, and \$25 for a T-shirt. When you multiply that by the millions of consumers who do the same thing, it becomes even harder to imagine that a few million dollar loss per year for a few years will seriously damage the quality of the industry. MusiCares is an organization formed to disburse emergency funds to people in the music industry. Only 10% of its revenue has been spent on that so far. Obviously, the industry is still thriving. Why shouldn't poor college students be able to enjoy free music?

AMY WILLEY  
Staff Writer

What are the fundamentals of being an American? The answer to this question may vary from person to person, however, most would agree that capitalism is high on the list of essentials. That being said, it is not surprising that American corporations are the ones taking music pirates to court. These corporations are taking pirates to court not only to protect their profits, and hold people accountable for breaking the law, but also to uphold one of the fundamentals of a capitalist economy - the right to secure private property. The incentive to be creative and inventive is ultimately tied to the security of private property and the ability to make a profit; thus, the drive to produce a new song or product will undoubtedly be drastically reduced if there is no money to be made in the venture. This problem is best illustrated by the example of other countries. China and Russia are numbers one and two on the list of countries hit hardest by music piracy, according to an article in Forbes.com. In these countries, the fact that Intellectual Property Rights are not protected has become a major problem. The article, "Russia seen overtaking China in Music Piracy," went on to say that in last year, Russia's pirated music market exceeded its legal music market by more than \$50 million. According to Jie Liu, an Alma College student from China, "In China, most of the CD's and VCD's we buy are piratical editions. Most of my CD's are piratical editions, because the [legal] CD's are too expensive." However, she

believes that the situation is improving. American companies have also been hit hard by the loss of business. According to Newsweek, a report by Forrester Research said "Downloaders have [already] reduced industry revenues by \$700 million." With 4 out of 5 full time college student expressing a disregard for music copyright laws, according to a Pew Internet and American Life Study, it seems that fact that file sharing is a crime does not faze the dedicated downloaders. It is for this reason that corporations have decided to take the issue to court - but why go around suing 12 year old girls? The answer is legal precedent. Recently, a California judge ruled that file sharing software is perfectly legal. Since this judge set the *software doesn't steal music, people steal music* precedent companies have been forced to sue file sharers themselves. Although 54% of people polled by Newsweek magazine say that they will be less likely to download after the crackdown, some students say that they will continue to download music, regardless of the possibilities for legal trouble - calling it a form of protest against high CD prices. I disagree. If these people really want to push down the prices of their songs in the long run, they should try it the legal way. Apple iTunes Music Store charges 99 cents per song, and, unlike free sites, there is no danger of downloading unwanted extras, or not getting full songs. If consumers support this idea, other companies will be attracted; as these companies compete, the price per song will go down. This way Americans can keep their cheap music, as well as their ideals.

The Almanian

Serving Alma College since 1907

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**Statement of Purpose**  
The Almanian is a newspaper published not only for the students at this institution, not just for the faculty on campus, and not solely for the administrators who work for Alma, but for all people interested in Alma College and the lives it touches. The writers, editors, publishers, and distributors of this newspaper are dedicated to producing an interesting accurate, timely, fun, and error free newspaper on a weekly basis in order to inform and educate the people for whom it is intended about the culture and nature of Alma College.

**Publication**  
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**Letter Policy**  
Letters are published as layout space allows. Submission of a letter does not guarantee publication. The Almanian reserves the right to condense letters for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. E-mail letters to the editors at almanian@hotmail.com or address letters to Newberry Hall, Alma College.

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

Faculty Advisor  
Robert Vivian



What are your opinions about the possibility of Gelston Hall eventually being torn down?

"I don't think it's a good idea. Gelston is supposed to be the fun dorm to be in."  
-Ruth Anderson (07)

"I've lived here both years, and it will be kind of sad to see it go because it's been here so long."  
-Audra Reynolds (06)



Reynolds



Lung

"I don't know how I feel about it. I like Gelston, but I wouldn't have a problem with them building new dorms."  
-Kim Lung (05)

"I think Bruske should be torn down before Gelston. It's in the worst shape, and Gelston is the most popular dorm."  
-Stephanie Berner (05)



Berner

"I think it's good it's being torn down. It's a fire trap!"  
-Michelle Sibbald (07)



# FEATURE

## Hip Hop Dance Group encourages students to cut loose, try something new

KARI JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

Upon arriving at Alma College, Shakira Kirk (07) felt an immediate culture shock. Her first impression of Alma was that it was a quiet, conservative, place where people did not know how or where to cut loose. However, during Pre-Term, she attended the All-Nighter Dance Party and met Tanisha Kershaw (07) where she discovered a common bond between them: dancing. Since their first encounter, both students began the Hip Hop Dance Group as an activity on campus that helps other students unwind, have fun, and dance fervently.

"Dancing is something I love to do. It's incredibly fun and it takes my mind off stress and classes; it helps me stay excited about Alma and what it has here, rather than what it does not," said Kirk. She added, "I just wanted to start something here that people like me love to do."

Kirk helped develop her high school's first Hip Hop Dance Ensemble two years ago and although she is no longer involved, the group continues to operate and succeed. She hopes that Alma students realize there is a demand for all types of organizations on or off campus, but that the best thing an individual who recognizes this need can do is to simply start one.

The Hip Hop Dance Group meets every night in the lobby of Newberry where whoever can show up, usually from 7:30-10:00. Its larger meetings tend to be on Monday evenings with a more full turn out of students who just want to enjoy themselves. While the group of students

recognizes that not everyone can make it every day, they encourage people who are interested to stop in anytime and to check it out. Most, if not all the individuals who regularly attend are also involved in other campus organizations and activities, but as long as they make it at least one night a week, the group holds itself together well. Currently there are ten regular members made up of a diverse group of students, but who all possess an interest of



Photo by Melanie Szweczyk  
The Hip Hop Dance group meets every evening from 7:30 to 10 in Newberry lobby.

some sort in dancing.

"For everyone involved, it [dancing] is therapeutic. We look forward to it every day, especially with so much going on in school and with studying. Everybody comes to choreograph and participate and we encourage each other too so it is definitely a collaborative effort," said Kirk.

With some students in the group who have danced in hip-hop for many years,

most have. What makes the Hip-Hop Dance Group unique is its willingness and enthusiasm to help encourage anyone to join. The group counteracts the idea that there are not fun organizations on campus and wants to promote itself by eventually supporting others through fundraising activities. Plans to work with the Alma College Union Board (ACUB), the Black Student Union (BSU), and PRIDE, the gay/lesbian/transgender organization, are already underway to help raise money through dance performances.

According to Kirk, "The group is just getting started, but we are excited and are just trying to get as many people as possible involved first." With spirited efforts already in progress, the group hopes to grow into an official club on campus with an advisor and a budget to facilitate uniforms and other useful equipment.

Private lessons are available for those too timid to attend the evening meetings by calling Shakira or Tanisha at x8120. Both are willing to

work with anyone at a convenient time, preferably Saturday's and are also open-minded about suggestions for additional choreography.

"We [the dancers] help teach first, but we learn together and then if you want to join or just dance with us whenever works you can. We just want to spread the word around to people who may be interested in trying something new," said Kirk.

## Students prepare for speaker through presidential forums

KARI JOHNSON  
Staff Writer

As one of the many aspects from the Speakers Series of the Discovering Vocation project funded through the Lilly Endowment Inc, several discussions facilitated through Alma College faculty will take place to discuss "Good Work in Turbulent Times: How to Carry Out Work that is both Excellent and Ethical" by Dr. Howard Gardner.

A professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Gardner is the author of eighteen books and several hundred articles, but is currently focused on researching good work: work that is both excellent in quality and also exhibits a sense of responsibility with respect to implications and applications.

The public lecture will take place this Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in the Oscar Remick Heritage Center, an event to hopefully further the understanding of Gardner's latest novel. Seats for the lecture are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Written with two of his colleagues, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi of Claremont Graduate University, and William Damon of Stanford University, the novel conveys the

results of research on how leading professions across a wide-range of fields achieve good work. Recognized as the Good Work Project, the novel's relevancy is enhanced due to its correlation between current work efforts and the individuals who make them.

The Lilly Project at Alma College, which is granted over a five-year (2001-2006) period as a \$2 million endowment helps allow the college to use its funds to "implement a network of programs beneficial to students, faculty and community members," said Sallie Scheide, Assistant Director for the Discovering Vocation Project. Beyond the benefit of various speakers and volunteer opportunities, the Lilly Project enables students who want to work for non-profit organizations to be paid for their time and effort. The goal of the project is to help students become leaders who think critically, lead wisely, serve generously and live faithfully. With such an open-ended mission statement, the Lilly Project serves to benefit an all-encompassing range of individuals.

To help deepen the understanding and knowledge of the novel beyond participating in the forum, five presidential forums

will take place throughout the months of September and October facilitated by Michael Selmon, dean of faculty, President Sandra Tracy, Tom Batchelder, assistant professor of psychology, Jane Thorsen, instructor of math and computer science and Chaplain Christine Vogel. To take part in the discussions, sign-up by stopping in the Discovering Vocation office, Kirk Center, lower level of the Chapel. While some of the panels have already taken place, they continue through early October and students are encouraged to attend.

"I thought the forum and discussion was a very relaxing and open atmosphere. It was as much of a student oriented discussion, as it was leader oriented and it shed clarity on our lives as well as the novel. I'm looking forward to hearing the speaker," said Alex Bartlett (04).

If you would like further information or an application for any of the Discovering Vocation programs, please stop by the office, call (989) 463-7981, or visit the Discovering Vocation Web site at [www.alma.edu/academics/vocation/](http://www.alma.edu/academics/vocation/) or for more information on the Good Work Project, visit the [www.goodworkproject.org](http://www.goodworkproject.org).

## Travel to India enriches Alma students

RACHEL KINGSTROM  
Staff Writer

There is an exciting opportunity available to Alma College students that will allow them to experience a culture completely different from their own and earn academic credit at the same time.

Travel to India is a study abroad program available through the Discovering Vocation Project, sponsored by the Lilly Grant. Students must submit an application in order to be considered for the program. It allows 4-6 students to live in India for 5-6 months. This gives them the chance to experience the many enchanting aspects of India's culture and interact with the people of a specific location in India. The purpose of the program is to help students serve generously in ways they would not be able to in Michigan. It also serves as a way for students to realize that they are living in a multi-global society and that they need to be exposed to other countries and nationalities.

"It is a wonderful opportunity to experience a different culture. The people are extremely welcoming," said John Ottenhoff, professor of English and an organizer of the trip. "It's a whole semester, so it's a great time to really grow and get credit too."

The program accounts for 16 credits, half of which are spent working with children at a local public school and the other half are spent working in the community. There are plenty of opportunities for all areas of study. The program is tailor-made so that the professors are brought to the students, enabling them to do an independent study in the academic interest of their choice.

Grant Kinney (04) recently participated in a similar program in northern India along with 27 other students from across the United States, sponsored by Antioch College. He spent four months doing a four-component program, the first three months of which involved a meditation class, a Buddhist philosophy class and a language course in Tibetan. Kinney spent the last month doing field research where he designed a project that had to do with a specific discipline and composed a 20-30 page paper based on his research.

Kinney found it to be an extremely worthwhile experience, one that expanded his view of the world. It provided him with the chance to look beyond his own familiar environment and discover an entirely different one.

"Studying abroad as part of a liberal arts education, especially in such a different culture, is really important," Kinney said, "because it shows you the relativity of everyday life - the way you interact with people, the look of the buildings, the food you eat, and the clothes you wear. It's eye opening because you realize the world is bigger than what you knew."

Dr. Ottenhoff agreed that traveling to India allows for tremendous personal growth.

"It is an extraordinary chance to discover oneself. When you go to a place as different as India, you discover who you are. It's a transformative experience," he said.

Those who have participated in the trip to India have found it to be an extremely rewarding experience. They quickly fell in love with the country, and many did not want to leave. Discovering Vocation hopes to offer another trip to India in fall 2004.



# FEATURE

## Gamma Phi Beta

Laura Bell  
Carmen Compton  
Jillian McNally  
Beth Opperman  
Andrea Radke  
Sara Ramirez  
Emily Shier  
Chelsey Thurston

# Bids Bash

2003  
ΑΕΔ-ΚΙ-ΑΓΔ-ΦΣΣ-ΓΦΒ

## Alpha Xi Delta

Christina Bailey  
Joy Bailey  
Maureen Campbell  
Jamie Huber  
Jen Huber  
Stacey Morey  
Kellie Nugent  
Jill Reinbold  
Scottie Rumrill  
Melissa Tavidian  
Lauren Vanderlist  
  
Rebecca Ylisto

## Alpha Gamma Delta

Rachel Dyke  
Linda Slough  
Aimee Brzezinski  
Nicole Devers  
Alison Moll  
Adrienne Winchester

## Phi Sigma Sigma

Amber Poulsen  
Chelsea Butcher  
Susan Hamilton

## Kappa Iota

Melissa Draughn

### Service Week

### September 29-October 3

Sept. 29 Sign up for Service Week events at SAGA  
*We would like to have some SOS representatives help Service Learning with this, so please contact Amanda Buck as soon as possible if you can help at either lunch or dinner.*  
Sept. 30 Organization Fair  
Oct. 1 SUN River clean up  
Oct. 2 Game night with Big Brothers/Big Sisters  
*Please contact Jillian Cline if you would like to participate in this event.*  
Oct. 3 All campus clean up

## Transition theme of Parents’ Day eases fears, brings families together

LAURA SACHJEN  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, September 20th, parents of first-year students flooded the Alma campus for Parent’s Day. For some, it was the first time they had seen their sons and daughters since they said goodbye to them on August 23rd. The day gave them the chance to meet with their children and to explore the College.

The day’s events started off in the Heritage Center where Dennis Bergvall, Vice President of Enrollment, welcomed the parents and gave some opening remarks. He also presented some information about how parents can get involved in The Parent Association and the Parent Board.

David Lawrence, associate professor of communication, and Raymond Riley, professor of music, then took the stage to present some digital portfolios created by first-year students in one of last year’s Spring Term classes. The portfolios showcased students’ “first-year experiences” and how they adapted to college life since coming to Alma. All speakers drew attention to the importance of transition. The theme of this year’s Parent’s Day was transition –and how first-year students can make a successful one into college life.

Activities were then moved over to the Dow Science Center where parents had the chance to explore what Spring Term courses their children have the opportunity to take and they were able to speak with some of the professors who are teaching the courses.

Parents were invited to attend one of three “break-out sessions” offered in Dow. The sessions were designed to answer any questions that parents might have. The

topics of the sessions dealt with majors, what parents of first-generation college students should know, and social transitions. Nick Piccolo, Vice President of Student Life at the College, led the session about social transitions. Dr. Piccolo stressed the importance of students getting engaged in activities early, trying new things, and finding a sense of purpose while at college. Parents had the option to ask questions as the session ended. Some parents voiced concerns about alcohol use and their children’s involvement in extracurricular activities. According to mother Angie Adamec, the social transitions session was “very in-depth about how we have to let go, both sides of us, and trust both ways.”

After the sessions concluded, parents had the opportunity to eat lunch at Hamilton Commons with their children and talk about the day’s events. “This is the first time we were able to come up,” said Don and Lynn Livingston. “It was nice getting to meet some of our son’s friends.”

The good, but somewhat cold weather provided for some sporting events in the afternoon. Many parents went to the football game after lunch to see Manchester College eventually be defeated by the Scots. Other sporting events that parents attend included a women’s soccer game against Calvin College and men’s golf at the Pine River Country Club. Parents were also invited to take a tour of the residence halls and theme houses, as well as attend a reception at the President’s house. Mother Barb Cunningham enjoyed the event. “It’s nice to have an occasion where you can see other parents.”

## Fraternities provide philanthropy for community at large

OLGA WROBEL  
Feature Editor

The Greek Community of Alma College is often underrated and stereotyped as nothing but a large group of partiers. However, this is far from true. While students are still getting into the swing of things on campus, the men of Zeta Sigma, TKE and SAE spent the last week working on philanthropy projects for the community at large.

Last week the brothers of Zeta Sigma paired with Tau Kappa Epsilon to collect items for their largest philanthropy project. A large green tent, courtesy of Rent-Rite, was set up in the front yard of

Food,” in order to gain publicity and large numbers of items.

With the help of the entire campus and community, Zeta Sigma and TKE will be able to donate a large offering to the Salvation Army. Zeta Sigma president Mark Ferguson (04) and the men of the fraternity are very enthusiastic about the success. “We would like the thank Alma College and the community very much. Hopefully we can keep up this success in the future.” TKE was also a large part of the food drive, and Chris Heikkuri (04) was very satisfied with the event and participation. “It was the first time we had worked together on this, and we are glad that they came to us. It was good to help the community and strengthen Greek unity.”

While this was taking place, the brothers of SAE were also involved in a project that they participate in every year. The American Association of University Women holds a book sale yearly at a local church, and SAE is responsible for the transport of the books.

Svetlana Kobzar (04)



photo by Melanie Szewczyk

By the end of the week, this tent was full of non-perishable food items and clothing that will be donated to the Salvation Army.

the house, and the ultimate goal of the brothers was to fill it up with food and clothes by the end of the week. This has been successful, and the men are very happy with what was accomplished.

The event began last Sunday and lasted a week. Starting on Wednesday, the men of both fraternities went to all the dorms and small housing and gathered non-perishable food items. They also involved the community and were able to collect clothes and food. The philanthropy was advertised in the local newspaper, and one of the more memorable PR strategies involved a student to sleep in the tent every night until it was filled. Students sat outside during the week, flashing signs that had such messages as “Will Party for

has been involved with the group the last few years, and she is in charge of organizing the event.

This past Sunday, the men of SAE spent hours moving large numbers of books from the basement of Gelston to the church, where they later separated the books into nonfiction and fiction. Nick Chulski (05) had a positive experience helping out. “It’s a blast and we have a great time moving the books. Its good to work with the community members.”

Zeta Sigma, TKE and SAE are all prime examples of the Greek organizations working in philanthropy. There is more to fraternity life and brotherhood than having a good time, and all of these men made great efforts last week to help the community at large.



# OPINION

## The Almanian's VIEWS

OLGA WROBEL  
Feature Editor

Students at Alma, especially women, may have noticed some changes in the services that are provided at the Med-Shed. No longer can females count on the Gratiot County Women's Clinic to make their bi-monthly rounds to the Medical Center; instead they must travel to Ithaca to the health department. True, this is not a three-hour drive, but it does inconvenience those who took advantage of the on campus services when they were still available. The foremost question is, what happened, and why has Alma discontinued these beneficial visits?

When trying to answer this, at first I jumped to conclusions and blamed the school, which is something easy for all of us. "SAGA has taken all the money while basic women's and health rights have been stomped on!" However, I didn't want to attack the college unfairly, and after speaking to the Medical Center, I have discovered that Alma College has nothing to do with this - it is a much greater problem that affects a much larger population in this state.

While passing legislation regarding the Michigan Department of Community Health, the bill HB 4392 was passed, and went into effect this past August. It was responsible for many drastic cuts in services. The reason that students here are directly affected is due to the reduction of funding to local health departments and programs. Large numbers of nurses have lost their jobs, and the women's center was one of many to close; therefore, there is neither the manpower nor the funding to come to our college. Of course this has had an impact on students who took advantage of the Women's Center to receive imperative annual checkups as well as free birth control, but on a larger scale, this bill could affect our sisters, mothers, and friends who are far from the Alma College community.

Due to this legislation, at least 5,000 fewer Michigan women will be screened for breast and cervical cancer in the next year. There will also be a continuation of the prohibition on screening mammograms for 12,000 low-income women ages 40-49. And of course we are aware of the local clinics and health departments losing their funding.

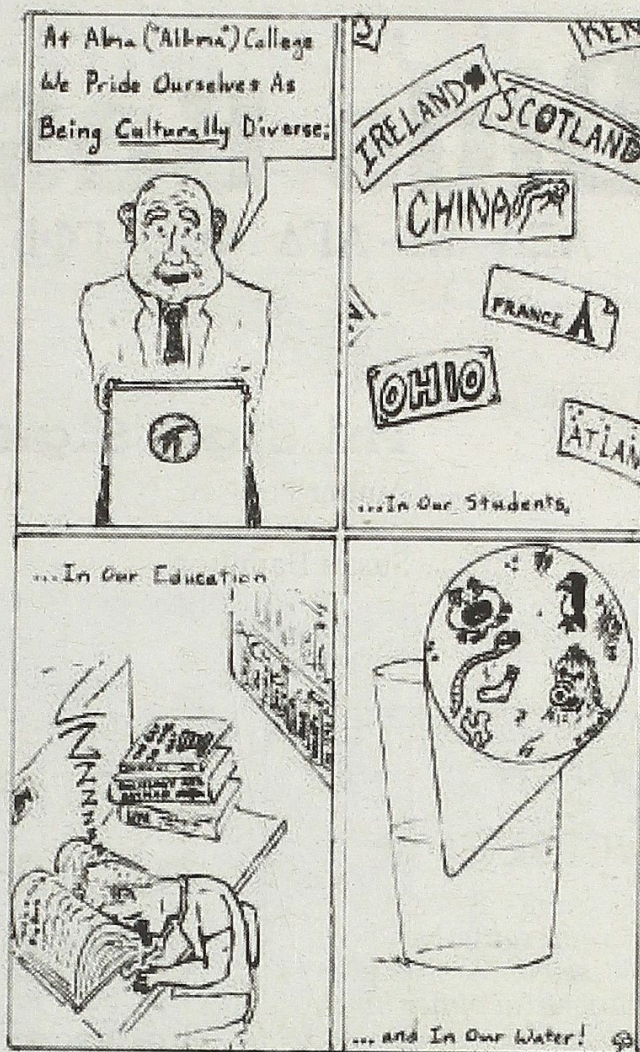
Another population that has been directly affected by this bill is children who suffer from mental and emotional disorders. Children already receive less than 5% of mental health services, and now thousands more will be denied any help. This has angered mental health advocates as well as parents and teachers.

I realize that there may be many wonderful areas that this money is being directed towards, but take a look at who is being neglected. Mental health is already an unpopular area to fund, and the less attention given to women's health issues, the longer it will take for us to fight breast and other cancers that affect millions of people every year.

It is evident that what takes place in Lansing really has an effect on people from all corners of the state. It is foolish to attack the school or blame budget cuts on campus without investigating the bigger picture. This is just an example of the need to involve ourselves in politics and take advantage of our rights as American citizens. By educating ourselves on who will be representing our needs and voting, we can possibly avoid a repeat of the unfortunate consequences of such legislation as HB 4392.

**AlmanianOpinion  
@yahoo.com**

## Alma Diversity by Steve Bailey



## What do You Think?

Do you currently use a P2P media-downloading program?

Yes 34%

No 66%

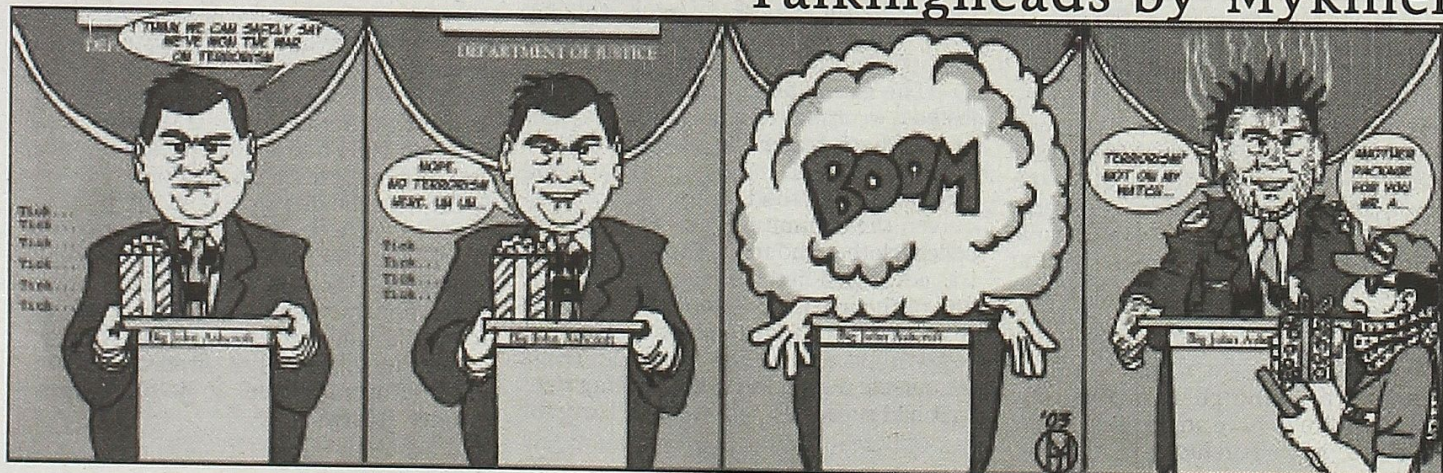
Do you intend to participate in intramural athletics this term?

Yes 56%

No 44%

*Every week The Almanian will be publishing poll results to campus-pertinent questions. Next week, the questions are: Do you feel like you're getting your money's worth from your Alma College experience? Are you satisfied with your access to technology on campus? What are your favorite aspects of Alma? What are your biggest gripes about Alma?*

## Talkingheads by Mykiller



## Letter to the Editor

As I stepped out of SAC after yet another intellectually rigorous and thought provoking class, I thought I'd indulge in the only other thing that could rival such exhilaration: take a deep breath of fresh air. My mistake. Much to the dismay of my lungs, I inhaled a solid stream of smoke that was just recently shared with me from a few of my fellow Scots who were smoking immediately outside the front doors of the academic building.

I recall being a little put off, but I am all about people doing their own thing, whether it be smoking, drinking, or playing co-ed naked Cram. It's not the pastime of smoking I have a conflict with, rather the shroud of toxins that engulfs me a little too often.

However, when it happened twice more during the week, the whole smoke-intake-as-I-exit routine was beginning to get under my skin. Literally, it was probably getting into my bronchial tubes and causing the premature destruction of my alveoli.

The purpose of this letter is to serve as a reminder of sorts to students and the College about the health risks that accompany cigarette smoke, particularly second hand smoke.

Why the big fuss about second hand smoke? According to the EPA, secondhand smoke is a mixture of the smoke given off by the burning end of a cigarette, pipe, or cigar, and the smoke exhaled from the lungs of smokers. Secondhand smoke has been classified by the EPA as a known cause of lung cancer in humans.

Moreover, at the conclusion of a 10-year study (1997), the EPA estimated that passive smoking causes approximately 3,000 lung cancer deaths in nonsmokers each year. If you're digging all of these numbers, it also projected that regular exposure to secondary smoke increases one's chances of heart disease by nearly 50%.

After reading these staggering statistics, you might be scratching your head and wondering why there aren't laws that pertain to smoking, specifically in public areas. Your intuition is correct, there actually are such laws, including Michigan Public Act 198, preventing smoking in all public places (including educational facilities). You can find this in page 74 of your trusty Student Life Handbook, as well as on page 75 a rule stating that no smoking should occur within 20 feet of public entrances. I may be more of a metric person, but I don't think that standing just outside the doors constitutes 20 feet. Also, it's not as if the weather is freezing yet.

Furthermore, I contend that taking some sort of action to remedy this situation is essential to improving the image of the college in the eyes of prospective students. It doesn't take the Lawlor Group to figure out that potential Scots might be deterred from exploring Alma further based on their initial stroll through the central academic building on campus.

In short, whether you agree with me or not, I hope I have sparked some interest in the minds of students and administration alike on the issue of smoking outside public buildings, for I have the best interests of the student body and Alma College at heart.

NATE BELILL (05)



# SPORTS

## Intramural action begins again at Rec Center

JOEL RENDER  
Staff Writer

Intramurals can best be described as an opportunity to participate in several different sports with and against your friends, and it is no surprise that the popularity of intramurals has been growing. As always Amy Blackburn, the Intramural Director, is here to deliver. This semester there are 9 unique sports to choose from.

Like other semesters, some old favorites have returned, while a few brand new sports will be introduced very soon. The popular sports that are back this semester are Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, 4-player Volleyball, Euchre, Dodgeball, and Floor Hockey.

Ultimate Frisbee and Flag Football are already underway so if you missed the opportunity to play this year, just be patient, and no doubt they will return again either next semester or next year.

The new sports being introduced are 2-ball Indoor Soccer, 2-man Shoot-out, and 3-player Basketball. 2-man Shoot-out is a weekend competition very similar to the three-point shooting contests that take place during the NBA All-Star games with

a few exceptions. Shooting will take place from all over the court, and two players will compete as a team with a combined score to determine who wins the tournament. An intramural sport similar to this has been held in the past only with single person teams.

3-player Basketball is the sport that is being reintroduced because it was originally held during the first year that the Alan J. Stone Center for Recreation was open to students. Thankfully, the sport plays exactly like the name would suggest. Blackburn thought that reintroducing this sport would help generate even more excitement for the 5-player Basketball that always takes place during the winter term.

Brand new to the intramural scene is 2-ball Indoor Soccer. The rules for this game are rather simple, but no doubt the sport will look like chaos when being played. The sport will be played on the MAC court with six competitors on each team playing at one time. Just like in regular indoor soccer, the point of the game is to score more goals than the other team, however, a few twists exist in this particular rendering of the sport.

First, neither team is allowed to have a

goalie. Second, the sport uses the smaller goals used in floor hockey. Third, and most importantly, two balls are in play at all times. This means that if one team scores then the other will take the ball out of their goal and put it back into play right away. Blackburn is hoping that this unique system will attract students that both enjoy and typically do not enjoy playing indoor soccer.

Students who have played in the past will be glad to see that Blackburn has instituted meetings with team captains before and during the seasons to discuss possible rule changes and explain why some rules cannot be changed. Blackburn said, "I really value student's feedback."

This new meeting certainly seems like a good way to provide that feedback. Floor hockey players will be definitely be intrigued by roller hockey possibly being integrated in the future.

Ralph Griffith (04), who plays several intramurals each term, commented, "I think it's cool how diversified the sports are becoming. Even better you don't have to be terribly athletic to play some serious sports like football or basketball."

## League action begins for men's and women's golf teams

JOEL RENDER  
Staff Writer

For the Alma College Men's Golf team, the start of the season has been less than perfect, but far from hopeless. The team has played four tournaments, two of them in the MIAA, and so far their finishes have been tenth, fourth, fourth, and fifth.

Mark Starkweather, the men's golf coach believes in the talent of the new players and the old veterans. He said, "We have a chance to turn it around." According to Coach Starkweather, the chance lies in a few players on the team that have been playing up to their potential. Those players have been the seniors Justin Desjarlais (04) and Ryan Munro (04) and Chris Lowry (07). Starkweather said, "They have been playing very good golf. Desjarlais' average over four tournaments has been about 80. Munro's average is 78, and Lowry has an 82 average."

Last year the team finished third in the MIAA. That was the best ever for the team, while Starkweather has been the coach. It would not take much for the team to fin-

ish better than this, but the players have to start turning it around very soon if that is going to happen. Currently, there are seven tournaments left; five of them are MIAA Jamborees. The top five golfers on the team in no particular order have been Desjarlais, Lowry, Brandon McNally (05), Munro, and Ryan Riley (05).

Altogether the team has sixteen players. The other team members are Jonathon Abent (07), Jeff Ballinger (05), David Burkhart (06), Collin McLean (07), Nathan Moulton (06), Greg Nelson (06), Justin Rose (06), Steve Sanchez (07), Corbin Swiastyn (06), and Chad Vietzke (05).

Collin McLean agreed with Coach Starkweather and several of the other players when he said, "We're not playing up to what's expected of us, but I definitely think we will improve." Whether that will happen remains to be seen, but at least the coach and the team has faith in their ability to improve.

Although the Women's team has not played as many tournaments as the Men's team, their play has looked very good so far. No doubt, they can definitely improve

upon last year when they were unable to garner enough players to qualify for MIAA standings. Hope has arrived, however, as five new freshman have been recruited to join the team.

The Women's team has played two tournaments so far. On September 6, the team took first place in the Scottie Invitational on their home turf of the Pine River Country Club. Fourth place was the best they could manage ten days later in their first MIAA Jamboree at Albion College.

In both tournaments, the Lady Scots were led by the team's star Courtney Rheinhardt (05). She shot an 82 and an 84 in the two tournaments respectively. If the team has any chance of finishing well in the MIAA, Rheinhardt has to continue to lead by example. The team has a total of 8 golfers this season. They are Rheinhardt, Abbey French (06), Leigh Gardner (07), Sarah Halbert (04), Mary Kay Lesko (07), Kristina Schwab (07), Carolyn Snoap (07), and Megan Stevenson (07). It certainly seems that the future of the team has been established with the addition of these five freshmen.

## Best darn sports column ever

MATT HELMUS  
Sports Editor

It seems that Head Football Coach Jim Cole would like to see into the future. At least that is the way it seemed to many fans watching Alma's 60-7 win over Manchester this past weekend. The Scots beat the Spartans so badly that the second half was played by many second and third string players. Besides being great experience for the younger players it also allowed the fans a look at names they will be hearing next year and beyond.

The game was also a learning experience for these players. More than one Scot was given the opportunity to block Larry Wiggins, the Spartans' 6'5", 370 pound tackle. Sophomore running back Eric Ryden entered the game with a 6-yard run but was clobbered on the next play by Spartan Erik Peracki. While Ryden has taken a hit before I'm sure that he'll remember his first big hit of varsity college football.

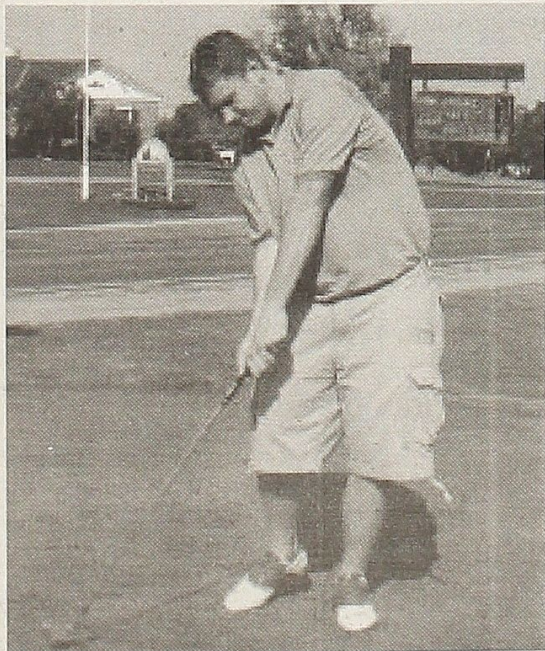
It is good to see the Scot offense on a roll early in the season. While Manchester is not a powerhouse the win will help the team's confidence. We'll likely see another lopsided victory over Defiance this Saturday before the Scots must travel to Hope on October 4. The Flying Dutchmen will be able to tell us if the team is ready to contend for another MIAA title and NCAA playoff berth.

Another team searching for a title is the women's soccer team. The Scots enter this week still undefeated in the MIAA. They are tied atop the standings with Hope. This week the women will face Adrian and St. Mary's before traveling to Hope on October 1 for a very important league game. The Scots have been burying opponents this season, including their first-ever MIAA victory over Calvin College. They have shown no signs of letdown this year.

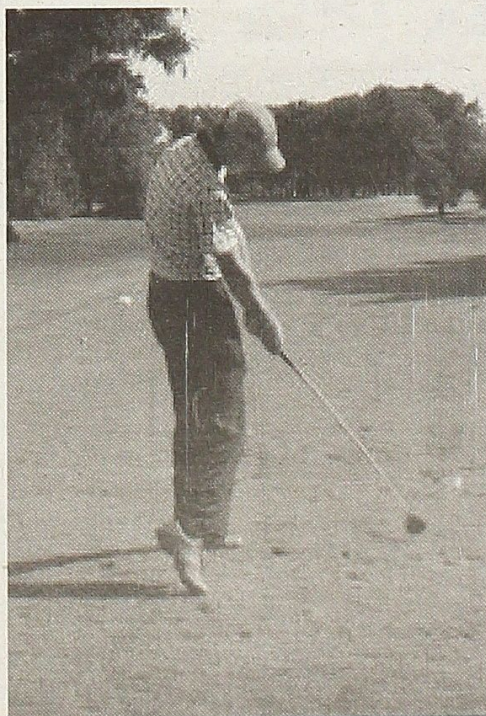
Hope College seems to be this year's nemesis for the Scots as the men's soccer team will have an important game against the Flying Dutchmen this Wednesday. The match will be the Scots' first MIAA contest and will show the team how far they have progressed in their early season play.

As a sidenote this week I would like to point something out. Take a look at the Sports standings on the back page. Looking at the standings it is easy to notice one thing, Albion is horrible at sports. They are below Alma in every sport except men's soccer, which hasn't started their conference schedule yet. It makes my day to see the Brits not doing well. Watching those you don't like fail is just as fun as watching yourself succeed.

The only bad part of Albion's horribleness is the fact that we play the Brits at home in football but it is during fall break week. It would have been great to have a home game with Albion where everyone could come and enjoy a good Brit-beating. Oh well, I guess the powers-that-be don't want the student body to be too happy.



Left: Jeff Ballinger (05) takes a swing with the Pine River Country Club in the background.



Right: Dave Burkhart (06) tees off. The Scots hosted the MIAA Jamboree on Saturday.

Photos by Melanie Szewczyk



SPORTS

MIAA STANDINGS

FOOTBALL

	W-L	PF-PA
Adrian	3-0	86-44
K'zoo	2-0	82-28
Olivet	2-0	65-12
ALMA	1-1	84-42
Hope	1-1	62-59
WI Luth.	1-2	52-57
Albion	0-2	21-55

VOLLEYBALL

	MIAA	Total
Calvin	4-0	10-2
Hope	4-1	7-4
Adrian	3-1	8-4
ALMA	2-1	12-3
K'zoo	1-2	10-6
Albion	1-4	5-8
St. Mary's	1-4	8-6
Olivet	0-3	2-9

WOMEN'S SOCCER

	MIAA	Total
ALMA	4-0-0	7-1-0
Hope	4-0-0	6-0-1
St. Mary's	1-1-1	4-1-1
Albion	1-1-0	2-4-0
K'zoo	1-2-0	3-4-0
Calvin	0-2-1	0-4-1
Adrian	0-2-0	0-6-0
Olivet	0-3-0	0-6-2

MEN'S SOCCER

	Total	GF-GA
K'zoo	3-1-3	11-6
Hope	2-2-2	11-6
Calvin	3-3-0	14-13
Albion	1-3-1	6-12
ALMA	1-4-0	23-12
Adrian	1-5-0	6-23
Olivet	1-5-0	4-17

MEN'S GOLF

	Strokes
Hope	918
Olivet	919
Calvin	933
ALMA	948
Albion	952
Adrian	995
K'zoo	1016

WOMEN'S GOLF

	Strokes
Hope	686
St. Mary's	689
Albion	728
ALMA	770
Olivet	772
Calvin	795
K'zoo	866
Adrian	DNF

Young Scots look to fans for support in their title chase

ANDREA RADTKE  
Staff Writer

After losing three key seniors to graduation, the 2003 Alma College Volleyball team will look to build upon last year's success with more experience and depth. Head Coach Steve Humm has set big goals for his talented team. The Scots have set their sights on the MIAA Championship as well as the conference tournament. They also hope to qualify for the NCAA tournament this year.

Though they have no senior leadership this year, the Scots boast eight returning players, four of whom garnered All-Conference honors last season. Juniors Kristin Judson and Lindsay Baker were named first team All-Conference, while juniors Kerri Judson and Kelly O'Conner were named second team All-Conference players. Last season, Kristin Judson set the school record for kills, while Baker continued to break her own school records for assists and service aces.

Four more juniors that lead the varsity team are Michelle Dupuis, Stephanie Erndt, Brandi Wangler, and transfer Caitlin Deis. One lone sophomore transfer, Erin Fralick, represents her class well. However, it is the eight freshmen that bring depth to the team. Betsy Bulthuis, Aubry Giese, Jessie Hill, Kelsee Krull, Mary Murdoch, Kaylee Sova, Beth Raycraft, and Terri Whitmore are all gaining valuable experience on the junior varsity team.

Coach Humm commented that his new

incoming players, both freshmen and the two transfers, are very solid, "our depth is one of our strengths this year." He sees a lot of room for improvement with his young team, saying "we are not quite ready yet," and explaining that the potential is there for the 2003 Scots to be a very solid and very successful team.

Thus far in the season, the Scots are 1-1 in the conference. They started off the season with a tough road loss to Hope College. The scores were 20-30, 30-19, and 31-33. Statistical leaders were Kristin Judson: 14 kills and 21 digs, Fralick: 13 kills and a .400 hitting percentage, Baker: 37 assists and nine digs, and Deis: 14 digs.

The Scots came back with strong wins over Olivet College for their conference home opener. Scores were 30-16, 30-19, and 30-18. Statistical leaders were once again Kristin Judson: 12 kills and eight digs, Fralick: five solo blocks and 11 kills, Baker: 26 assists and seven digs, Krull: seven digs, and O'Connor: six service aces.

The one thing the volleyball team wishes for is more support during the home matches. Despite winning their first MIAA volleyball championship since 1984 last year the team sees very few Alma sports fans make it to the gym to cheer on the team during their home matches. The team would like to see more fans in the stands for some intense competition, hard-hitting action, and raw entertainment. Their next match is Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> against rival Albion followed by a match on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> against Kalamazoo College.

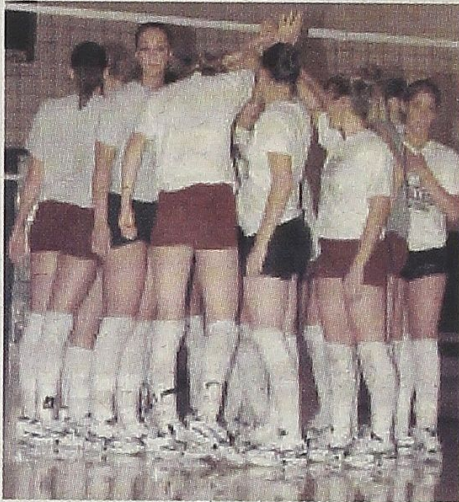


Photo by Melanie Szewczyk

The volleyball team gathers together during practice. The Scots will be looking to defend their MIAA title this season. They also will be making a run for an NCAA playoff spot.

Upcoming Home Matches

Sept. 23 - v. Albion (6:30)  
Sept. 27 - v. K'zoo (Noon)  
Sept. 27 - v. Adrian (4:00)  
Sept. 30 - v. Calvin (6:30)  
Oct. 9 - v. Hope (6:30)

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Tuesday, Sept. 23

4 - 5 p.m. - What I Did This Summer (Heather Room)

6:30 - Volleyball Home v. Albion

9 - 10:15 - Trinity Bible Fellowship (Jones Auditorium)

Wednesday, Sept. 24

4 p.m. - Men's Soccer Home v. Hope

4 - 5 p.m. - What I Did This Summer (Heather Room)

Thursday, Sept. 25

1 p.m. - Men's Golf @ K'zoo

3 - 5 p.m. - Good Work in Higher Education Presentation (VanDusen)

7 - 7:30 p.m. - Evening Prayer Service (Chapel)

7 p.m. - ACUB Euchre Tournament (The Hole)

8 - 9 p.m. - "Good Work in Turbulent Times" by Howard Gardner (Heritage Center)

Friday, Sept. 26

8 p.m. - Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats

Saturday, Sept. 27

11 a.m. - Men's & Women's Cross Country @ Adrian

Noon - Women's Soccer Home v. St. Mary's

Noon - Volleyball Home v. K'zoo

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

1:30 p.m. - Football @ Defiance

4 p.m. - Volleyball Home v. Adrian

5 p.m. - Men's Soccer @ Tri-State

Sunday, Sept. 28

1 p.m. - AIDS Walk (Lansing)

9 - 10 p.m. - Worship Service (Chapel)

Monday, Sept. 29

Lunch & Dinner - Service Week Signup (Hamilton Commons)