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Tony Trupiano visits Alma to motivate campus

ADAM ROSE
Staff Writer

There were reports last week of students being randomly accosted on their way to class by a strange middle-aged gentleman who interrogated them about their campus. Many were relieved to discover that the gentleman was simply a concerned alumnus interested in hearing the thoughts and feelings of students. This man was Alma College graduate Tony Trupiano (84). Starting on Sunday, November 9, Trupiano spent 24 hours talking with students, administrators, and other members of the Alma College community in an effort to get a feel for the pulse of the campus.

Although Trupiano, host of the nationally syndicated radio program The Tony Trupiano Show, was brought to Alma College by WQAC and Bob Murray, Director of Planned Giving, his message was not solely directed at those with interests in broadcasting. Trupiano tried to relay his message to students that instead of simply complaining about problems on campus, students need to work toward making solutions for those problems. Trupiano said, "You guys are pissing me off. So many of you have complained for the past 24 hours, but no one has offered any solutions. No one is going to the appropriate channels and talking to people about this."

Trupiano was discouraged by the situation with Run-outs in particular. He asserted, "The Run-outs situation is bad. It shouldn't take 20-year old alumni [sic] to say this to you." Again, Trupiano's message was clear: students need to act and not just, as he put it, "go through the motions of college." He continued to make his point by saying, "Read between the lines in Op-Ed [in the Almanian]. You guys have something to say. Why aren't you saying it to the people who will listen?" In fact, Trupiano had a few things to say about the Almanian itself. He told his audience, "The Almanian is no longer a newspaper. It is a flyer." Although Trupiano may have had some constructive criticism to make about the paper, he has not yet contacted any of the Almanian's editors about his concerns.

Overall, students were impressed by

See TRUPIANO page 2

"Hero of the Planet" comes to Alma to speak about the environment

JOEL RENDER
Staff Writer

Alma College students interested in politics, the environment, or who just want to hear how one person really can make a difference would certainly be remiss if they chose not to attend the lecture by native Alaskander Dune Lankard next Wednesday. Dune Lankard, who is part Eyak, is originally from Cordova, which is in the south of Alaska near Prince William Sound.

Lankard's story begins many years ago back in 1989. In that year, an oil tanker from the Exxon Valdez Corporation created a disastrous oil spill in Prince William Sound as many of us probably remember. As part of a settlement, Exxon Valdez was required to pay nearly \$1 billion to the Alaskan and U.S. governments.

The governments with the help of some environmentalists suggested that the money be used to preserve some of the land currently owned by native Alaskan corporations. The lands could then be protected and the corporations could live off the invested money for many years to come. This also meant that the corporations would have to relinquish the income they were receiving for the logging being done in the area of the Copper River Delta and the Eyak River.

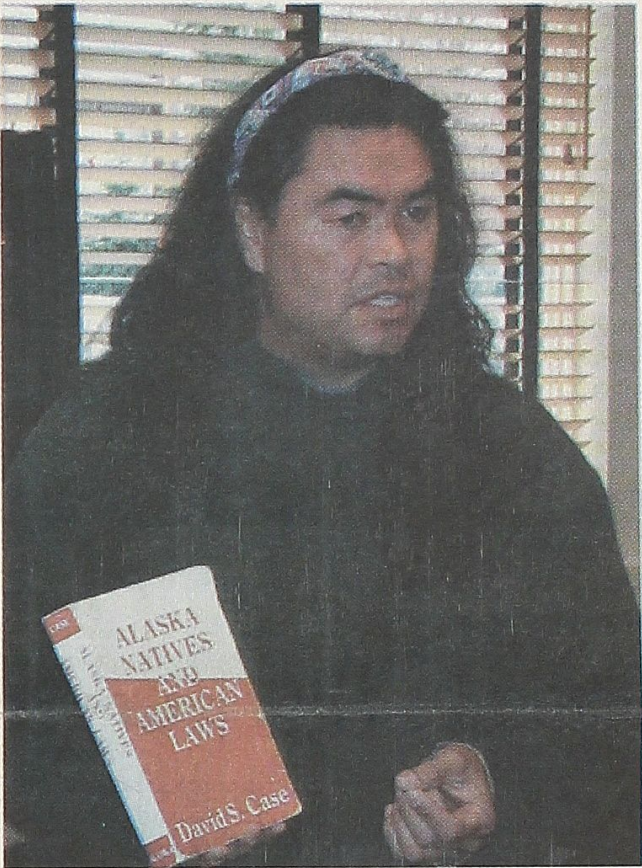


photo courtesy of Marek Payerhin

Dune Lankard speaks about environmental issues to Dr. Payerhin's 2001 Spring Term.

Those in favor of the purchasing plan needed an intermediary between the government, their environmentalists, and the native corporations. They turned to Dune

Lankard, who at the time was a commercial fisherman and a board member of the Eyak Corporation. Lankard took up the cause and presented the plan to the board.

Not surprisingly, the board voted it down 8-1. Also, members of the community began to harass him. He was threatened several times, sued twice, and thrown off the board of directors. Dune was not deterred by this at all. Along with his tribal chief, Lankard bravely sued the corporation, but his efforts were unsuccessful.

Amazingly, he packed up his bag and traveled all the way to Washington D.C., where he proceeded to lobby lawmakers on Capitol Hill who were overseeing the overseeing the land transfers. Day after day he was seen in the hallways of Congress presenting his case to various legislators carrying only his old bag, a laptop, and a stone that he had brought from the Copper River.

Lankard's lobbying eventually convinced the members of the Eyak Corporation's Board of Directors to ac-

See DUNE LUNKARD page 2

Five students and one professor are awarded grants by the Discovering Vocation project

ALEXA BOYCE
Staff Writer

In October, six grants were awarded by the Discovering Vocation project for research projects relating to vocation. The funding for these grants comes from the Lilly Grant that was awarded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc to Alma College in December of 2001. What most students do not realize is that there are actually a dozen separate projects within Discovering Vocation that are actively being implemented, and this set of grants is just one project. The projects are interrelated but distinct in their focus.

The grants were awarded to five students and one faculty member. The students received \$700 to work on a project that is closely related to their

future vocation. A faculty member must supervise each project.

Daniela Benitez (04) is working on a project called "The Influence of the Form of Society on Individual Self-Concept." This sociology project investigates the American and Ecuadorian society influence on the self-concept of college students. **Svetlana Kobzar (04)** is researching "European Union Enlargement: Changing role of the European Commission" at the Harvard University library. She will take the trip to use more current resources than the ones available in Alma. **Jillian Macha (04)** will create a work of liturgical art titled, "The Second Flood Came in Blood." This will be a three dimensional project using many different types of materials, from stained glass to paper mache. This will be displayed in Dun-

ning Memorial Chapel as well as other area churches. **Margaret Malone (04)** will expand an independent study in artifact conservation. She plans to create an archive at Alma College for the Sociology and Anthropology Department, and will spend several weeks in Chicago at the Field Museum to work on enhancing her skills. **Teresa Sutter (04)** will also be expanding an independent study in Christian mission. She will be traveling to New Orleans to participate in a mission project and then compare the experience with various models of Christian mission.

The faculty grant is similar to the student grants but is only given out to one professor per year. This year, it was awarded to Catherine Fobes, Assistant Professor of Sociology. The largest differ-

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National/State/Local

Brock awarded Outstanding New Professional of Michigan

ALEXA BOYCE
Staff Writer

Kate Brock, Newberry Hall Director, has been named Outstanding New Professional in Michigan by the Great Lakes Association for College and University Housing Officers. This honor is given to one residence life officer in each state a year.

Brock was nominated by Claire Brady, a former Alma College hall director who now works at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Former Dean of Students, Jim Kridler and Marty Stack also wrote letters of support.

This award is based on a few different categories, including: a 100-point selection system; several letters of recommendation; excellence in job perfor-

mance and the willingness to go beyond job description; initiation and creativity in events and motivation of students and residents; fostering participation and the ability to demonstrate special contributions that go above and beyond the job description.

Brock plans to transfer to a different school within the region next year. She would like to work for either Michigan State University or Ferris State University. Though she really appreciates her time at Alma, she says there is little room for her to grow in her career. She would like a position with more responsibility, perhaps as an Assistant Director of Residence Life or a Complex Director.

Brock says the hardest part of leaving Alma will be the students. She credits the students here as one of the biggest

reasons that she received this award. She says, "Alma has been an awesome experience. I know that the students will be mad at me, and I am waiting for some to start yelling at me. But Alma will always be special to me."

Brock has brought several special events to Alma's campus in the years she has been here. Just this year she introduced Alma to National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness week. This brought in several speakers, MADD presentations, beer goggle races, and a presentation of JAWS in the pool, just for fun. The most innovative event was Diane Crites from Wilcox Medical Center discussing the effects of alcohol on the body as Brock and Mitchell Hall Director Jake Acton played a game of century club with real beer. It is events like these that make Brock deserving of an honor like this award.

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Trupiano's presentation. WQAC broadcaster Michelle Monsour (04) said, "I thought that his visit and his message were influential. Students need to get up and do something." Trupiano tried to encourage Alma College students to act, and, in fact, offered a medium for them to present their solutions to any problem or concern. Trupiano announced during his lecture that he would begin work on a book titled "The Alma College Project." He requested that students submit 1,000-word minimum proposals that outline a problem and also offer a solution. Questions and proposals can be submitted to tony@thetonyshow.com

DUNE LUNKARD from page 1

tion received a cash influx of \$380 million and nearly 700,000 acres of land had been protected. For his efforts, Time magazine named Dune Lunkard as one of the Heroes of the Planet in 1998.

Lunkard did not and will stop there either. He then proceeded to battle to stop the construction of a road across the Basin of the Copper River Delta. Nowadays, he is involved in the protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve during the fall, winter, and spring. In the summer, he makes money by leading rafting tours through the Copper River Delta and Eyak River.

Lunkard is coming to campus as a direct result of the personal request of Marek Payerhin, Assistant Professor of Political Science. Payerhin met Dune as a result of the Exxon Valdez spring term that he teaches every other year.

A mutual friend told Payerhin that Lunkard was the man to talk to about issues dealing with the current status in the Exxon Valdez area. Repeated correspondence between the two has finally resulted in Mr. Lunkard's coming to speak tomorrow night at 7 p.m. in the Dunning Memorial Chapel, and hopefully the Alma College community will be there to hear his version of this amazing story.

GRANTS from page 1

ence is the fact that Fobes was awarded \$20,000 instead of \$700. Fobes plans to use the grant to extend her sabbatical by one semester. Her research, a historical comparison on three Episcopal campus chapel in the Diocese of Florida, will address questions like, "Why and how did young men and women discern a vocation to campus ministries in the first half of the twentieth centuries? What sociological factors shaped these callings? How and why did race and gender influence the call?"

Students may apply until November 26th to receive grants for the Winter 2004 semester. The grants will continue for the duration of the grant period, which is 2001-2006. For more information, see www.alma.edu/vocation or speak to Carol Gregg in the Kirk Center, lower level of the Chapel.

New library director and IT administrator are appointed

LAURA SACHJEN
Staff Writer

Two new appointments have been made by the College in the library and Information Technology Department. Carol Zeile has been named library director and Nokuphwa Langeni (04) has been named an Associate Office Administrator in the Information Technology office.

Zeile has been the interim library director since February and she has worked at Alma for the past five years. Zeile was one of three finalists in the latest search, which started in April, to find a new library director. Dr. Michael Selmon offered the position to Zeile on Halloween, she was given that weekend to think about it, and she accepted his offer.

Zeile is excited about officially becoming the new library director. "I'm excited about being able to make some changes

and transformations in the library," Zeile said.

Zeile is also an alumnus of Alma. "It's kind of like coming full-circle," said Zeile. She has noticed some changes, like the new wings on Dow and other new buildings, but she said that a lot has remained the same since she left for the most part.

"I was struck by that," said Zeile. "It's a good feeling to know that some of the traditions of Alma College stay the same."

Langeni has been hired by the College as an Associate Office Administrator in the Information Technology office. Langeni has been a student employee in the Information Technology office for the past two years. She has had experience with both Macintosh and Windows operating systems.

Langeni graduated from Lansing Community College with a communications and computer networking.

Langeni found that there was a position available in the office, applied, and went through the usual process. The greatest aspect of her new position is that she is guaranteed a job once she graduates from college. She does not have to be worried about searching for a job after college. "It's really ideal," said Langeni. She also will not have to become accustomed to a new job or work environment, because she already knows how the Information Technology office works.

She is excited about the work she does and also about starting her position in the Information Technology office. Langeni noted that what they do in the office is centered more on people. She hears many complaints from people who come into the office saying they hate their computers. "We want to teach people how to use their computers so they don't get frustrated," said Langeni.

Battle between pro-life and pro-choice reignites in Texas over clinic

JULIE BOLITHO
Guest Writer

"This is going to be a battle: God does not want this thing built," anti-abortionist, construction company owner, Chris Danze, stated regarding the building of a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic in Austin, Texas. Over the last several weeks, he organized a boycott that received both national support and hostility.

Danze launched the boycott in a campaign that phoned and wrote over 750 businesses in the Austin and San Antonio areas urging them not to participate in the Planned Parenthood project. Soon, the Texas Contractors and Suppliers for Life Association was formed, and

the campaign was pressed even further. Many local contractors reported threats about being blacklisted—working on the clinic would lead to an extreme loss of business. One subcontractor claimed that he received more than 1,200 warnings from around the nation.

Danze said that the boycott would not have been nearly as effective had it not been for area churches. He claims that many religious organizations asked him for lists of the contractors working on the clinic: from there, more phone calls and letters were launched. Danze admits that not all the subcontractors were anti-abortion—many just wished to avoid the controversy.

Planned Parenthood has responded by saying the boycott was administered with

"intimidation and harassment." They will not stop construction of the \$6.2 million clinic. At present, Planned Parenthood plans to act as its own general contractor and hire help from contractors who have called in support. One must consider that the clinic is not solely for abortions; it is also to offer men and women's health care/counseling services, cancer screenings, HIV/AIDS testing, gynecological examinations, and contraceptives.

As Alma College students, it is important to discuss issues of abortion and free speech; currently, they pertain to some of the most heated debates in our country. As voters, students affect judicial processes that could lead to major changes regarding such controversies.

OPINION

The real stars deserve some recognition

WHITNEY HOPKINS
Opinion Editor

They finally did it. They gave Britney Spears a star on the Walk of Fame, making her tied with Melissa Gilbert for the youngest person ever to receive a star, at the age of 21. Now, given, the Walk is reserved for the big names in music and entertainment, like Whoopi Goldberg, and Pee-wee Herman, but the way I see it, these people are being honored for using their God-given talents, making big bucks, and finding a really good manager. Considering the lack of really good managers available in Alma, Michigan, I made up my own list of people I think should be given stars, or at least have their handprints and footprints molded somewhere into McIntyre Mall.

First off, one of the few people on my list who are actually artists, I'd like to nominate **Anthony Patterson**, staff accompanist. I'd wager that this man has more talent than at least half of the people on the Walk of Fame, but he's chosen to use it to help college students instead of making millions in recording deals. Tony, as many of you know, is the campus piano man, accompanying the choirs, orchestra, dance company, and various campus artists. A wonderful musician, Tony would distinguish himself from any of the Stars by the simple fact that he's still down-to-earth and is friends with many Alma College students.

Next on my list is someone who lives right down the hall from me, **Jeana-Dee Allen (07)**, affectionately known as Red. Now here's a girl who transferred into Alma, bringing with her a considerable amount of artistic talent, which should be enough to give her a set of handprints,

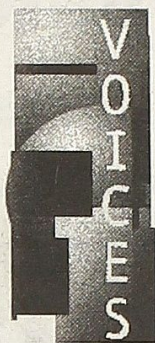
but it doesn't stop there. Red got here and realized she wasn't completely happy with her surroundings, and set out to change that, taking the initiative to start a petition for a Vegetarian House. Way to go, making the changes you want, even if you're the new face in the hall.

A star should also be awarded to the staff of *Alma Doesn't Mater*, the underground periodical reminiscent of *The Onion*. The time, money, and resources required to produce any sort of publication are needed in tremendous quantities, and anyone who uses their time to speak out should be thanked. While I'm at it, let's give out a star to the students behind www.booksatalma.com. I can see this group making a difference on campus, so let's see a star for them, right by the spirit rock. Once again, it's people making a change where one is needed.

A star for **Shabnam Mirsaedi (05)** for starting an Alma College chapter of UNICEF. This girl is insanely busy and active on campus, but took the time to form a group for a noble cause. The number of student organizations on campus continues to grow and offer outlets for creative, service, and physical energies, thanks to people like Shabnam.

I'd like to give a star to the housekeeping staff. I don't even have to say a lot about that one; they've seen the worst of us and love us still. Thanks.

Since non-humans such as Big Bird can get a star on the Walk of Fame, I'd like to give out my share of stars to a non-living thing: Z-packs. Few students on this campus haven't been the reluctant recipients of this strong dose of antibiotics after a visit to Joe at the Med Shed. This wonderful little pack of pink pills has been a close, personal friend to many an AC student, and deserves a place in



We asked: "If you could design your own class, what would it be?"

You said. . .

"I would design an interdisciplinary course that incorporates each student's major with a women's studies course."

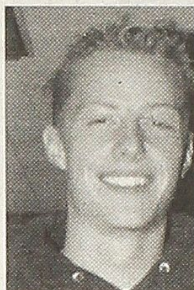
Amber Elenbaas (05)



Elenbaas

"Weapons of the Renaissance era."

Jon Orr (07)



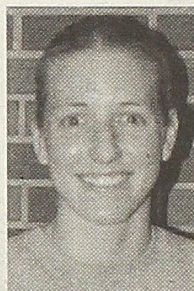
Orr

"Bartending."

Jason Fox (04)



Fox



Graves

"Sleep 101."

Lauren Graves (06)

our memory.

My list could continue for pages. The Resident Assistants, alumni, the lady who makes the cookies at VanDusen, the professors, the campus community of squirrels, the staff at Saga, and the guy who silences the fire alarms at 4am

— you're all deserving of stars because of the differences you make on campus. As Thanksgiving approaches, I'd just like to say thank you, and that if I had my way, McIntyre Mall would be made into an Alma College Walk of Fame for people like you.

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@alma.edu or address letters to Newberry Hall, Alma College.

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FEATURE

Mission: Improvable provides comedy and laughs for packed audience

JOEL RENDER
Staff Writer

Being a huge fan of improvisational comedy, I was of course excited when I heard that a group of this type was going to be featured on campus. After all, *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*, both the British and the American versions, are my favorite television shows of all time.

After watching the show, I definitely think that the Alma College Union Board deserves some praise for bringing the talented boys of Mission Improvable to campus last Wednesday. All of Van Dusen was packed with an enthusiastic and at times rowdy audience that seemed to genuinely enjoy the comedic efforts of these five gentlemen.

For those of you who may not be familiar with this type of comedy, the performers have no scripts or joke plans made up ahead of time. Rather, they make up games and skits on the spot using suggestions from the audience, which by the way was more than happy to contribute several funny comments throughout the show. The humor lies in the fact that the audience truly has no idea what is going to happen next.



photo by Thad Hopkins

The men of Mission Improvable bring comedy in the style of the popular show "Whose Line is it Anyways?" to Van Dusen.



photo by Thad Hopkins

The boys of Mission Improvable, who cleverly referred to themselves as Agents, Chopper, Sliver, Slingshot, Cavalry, and Force, kicked off the show with a game they called Infomercial. In this game, two of the agents left the room, while another took suggestions of four nouns and four adjectives. The nouns and the adjectives were combined into clever phrases, such as swollen sumo wrestler.

The other agents were brought back in the room and then proceeded to have to guess what items they would be selling, which were the phrases suggested by the audience, based only on charades made by one of the other agents. The funniest part was watching how the observed the movements and then made some hilarious guesses.

This was only one of seven games that the Mission Improvable performers played for the audience. In my opinion, the best game by far was called Shoulda Said. In this game, two agents started out by improvising a regular scene. However, whenever another agent said shoulda said, the agents in the scene had to immediately replace what they just said with something else.

The audience was cracking up with some of the replacements that the agents made.

Some of the other funny games were Half Life, which made the agents repeatedly perform a scene in half the time starting with two minutes and eventually being shortened to fifteen seconds, and Challenge, which forced the agents to tell a real story from their lives about some topic and allowed the others to challenge the last statement for a variety of reasons.

Ironically, one of the funniest parts of the show did not involve the agents at all. Audience members were given a rubber heart that was to be used as part of the show as they entered the room. However, everyone could not resist throwing them at each other. The agents could not resist either since they made the reward for winning the last game being pelted by anyone who still had a heart to throw.

Still, I think everyone involved had at least a good time. Also, the team mentioned that they have a website,

www.missionimprovable.com, which is very funny. Do not forget to read some of the biographies and special talents submitted by the cast members themselves.

SOS raises homelessness awareness on campus

RACHEL KINGSTROM
Staff Writer

Students Offering Service has a lot planned for the next two weeks. Last week was Wellness Week and this week is Homelessness Awareness Week.

SOS is collaborating with Alpha Phi Omega, the Alan J. Stone Center for Recreation, the Service House and Marriott for a two-week long food drive. Wellness Week was something that the recreation center was more involved with, but for Students Offering Service, their participation in Wellness Week was part of their preparation for Homelessness Awareness Week. For Wellness Week, SOS collected canned food, pop cans, and money. The food donations will go to the Community Café and to the Salvation Army.

"I think it's important to raise awareness [of homelessness in Gratiot County] on campus," **Amanda Buck (05)**. "As students, we all know we're in our little 'Alma bubble,' and we don't know what's really out there."

The purpose of Homelessness Awareness Week is to raise awareness among Alma College students about the problem of homelessness in Gratiot County. All this week, SOS will have different signs posted around campus with statistics about homelessness. Homelessness Awareness Week will continue until November 22nd.

"Homelessness in the Alma/Gratiot County area is not as prevalent as it is in big cities," Buck added. "Some people are just not aware of it."

This Friday, a big event will take place, marking the end of Homelessness Awareness Week. From 4:30pm until 7:30pm, SOS will have displays about homelessness in Gratiot County, with information being provided by the Salvation Army, set up in the parking lot of Ashcraft's grocery store and collect donations from shoppers, which will be donated to the Salvation Army. On Friday night at 9:30pm, SOS will hold an all night sleep-out in Macintyre Mall that will be open to the entire campus. This is part of SOS's goal to raise awareness of homelessness among students.

Not only does SOS hope to raise awareness about homelessness in general, but they also hope to change students' preconceived notions about homelessness.

"The type of homelessness people think of is people living in cardboard boxes," **Kevin Malburg (04)**. "They don't realize that there are homeless people in Gratiot County going from family to family [because they don't have a place to stay]."

SOS feels that homelessness is a very important issue, but they realize that one week will not allow them to do the problem justice.

"This will only be a small example of what some people experience every day," Malburg added.

Other members of SOS feel strongly that students at Alma need to be made aware of the seriousness of homelessness in Gratiot County.

"One reason we are doing this is because

see SOS page 5

Asian students form panel to address race issues

AMY WILLEY
Staff Writer

On Monday, November 17, Dr. Catherine Fobes, Assistant Professor of Sociology's Race and Ethnic Relations (SOA 241) class held a panel of eight Asian Alma College Students to discuss different aspects and challenges of being a member of a minority group in America. The panelists, **Tien Huynh (05)**, **Jie Liu (07)**, **Kari Johnson (05)**, **Jacqueline Marlink (06)**, **Ok-Jin Ahn (07)**, **Marcus Hong (07)**, **Courtney Reinhardt (05)**, and **Hun-Jung Un (07)**, prepared answers to the following questions: What are your earliest memories of race/ethnicity and when and how did you first become aware of race, would you be willing to share one or two incidents/events (long-standing or one-time only) of racial discrimination that you have experienced during your lifetime, and what would you like to see Alma College students and professors do here on campus?

The different panel members include a variety of students including exchange/international students from China, and Korea, as well as Korean-Americans, a Chinese-American, a Japanese-American and a Vietnamese-American; while the class is made up of mostly white students, or as Professor Fobes calls them, a dominant core – the majority ethnic group. The panel members have a wide variety of perspectives to break down stereotypes including the idea that "all

Asians are the same," as the half-Japanese student-panelist Marlink says.

Marlink, is happy that this class held the forum, "I'm glad that they are doing it because people don't usually pay attention to Asians," she says "People often don't see Asians as a minority group." Marlink who has family members who were placed in Internment camps emphasizes the fact that "In high school we barely even address Japanese Internment, but it's a very important part of American history."

During the forum, the students addressed their own personal experiences with racism, and allowed for frank discussion of their experiences. Many of the students had very different experiences with racism: the international students felt discrimination trying to get into the country and get financial aid at schools, while the Asian-Americans felt discrimination in their environments. The students also broke down stereotypes, with a resounding emphasis by many that "We are not ALL good at Math!"

This is the second minority student discussion panel held this year. **Nokuphiwa Langeni (03)**, a participant from the earlier African American forum, says she received a lot of positive feedback after the first forum, "I think it was good," she says, "because it gave students a chance to cross that boundary that people often don't feel they can cross." Professor Fobes explains this approach to teaching, "This year I thought I want to hear student voices, generally in my teaching I promote student-student interactions."

FEATURE

First ACDC performance of 2003-2004 showcases three eclectic pieces

KATIE PERSITZ
News Editor

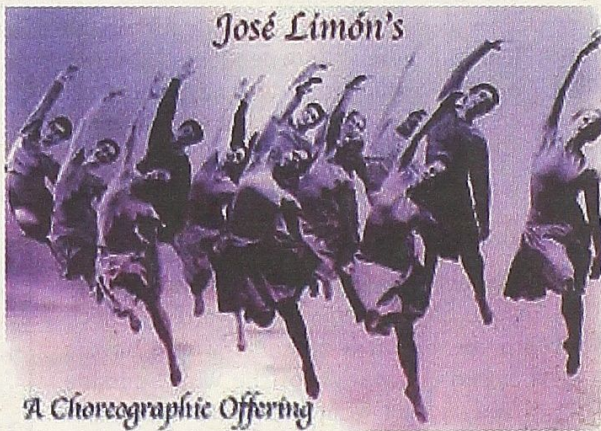
I was extremely impressed with Alma College's Dance Company this past weekend. Their hard work, dedication and long hours of practice really paid off. It looked like all the dancers were having fun and enjoying themselves up on stage, just as a dance like this should be.

Swan Lake is a piece by Tchaikovsky, which tells of a princess and ladies-in-waiting who are transformed into swans by night, and humans by day, by an evil sorcerer (play convincingly by Tom Morris, Associate Professor of Dance). One night during a hunt, a prince and his companions encounter the Swan Queen and they fall in love. However, at dawn, she is turned back into a swan and she flies away when he evil sorcerer shows up. I really like this ballet. It has a lot of emotion. The love between the prince and princess and the devilishness of the evil sorcerer are poignant in print, but even more so in performance.

Oddly enough, this ballet was almost forgotten. In its original form it wasn't a success with audiences and after only seven years it was dropped from the program at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow in 1877. However, Marius Petipa, a balletmaster of the Imperial Russian Ballet of the Maryinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg took the story and score and made a few adjustments and it became from then on

one of the classiest of classic dramatic ballets.

The Swan Queen, Odette, was performed by **Olivia Gorostiaga (05)** and was as graceful and princess like as everything that a little girl dreams of being. Her prince, Siegfried, done by the talented **Edward Klonowski (05)** was as gifted



The dance company performed three pieces, including the classic "Swan Lake," which was the first dance performed at the Heritage Center in 1993.

a dancer as I've seen here at Alma. They worked so well together; it was a joy to see them dancing.

The Dance of the Little Swans was delicate, precise and graceful as swans should be. I have always considered **Jennifer Conkey (06)**, **Erica Olgaard (04)**, **Erica Sandel (06)** and **Kristi Schneider (04)** some of the best dancers in the program, and this weekend confirmed it. The Dance of the Big Swans, performed

by **Micaela Church (06)** and **Amber Nash (04)**, both of whom I have never seen dance before impressed me to the extreme. The chorus costumes were beautiful as well. I loved the white dresses; the skirt was just like a swan princess's should be. The bright costumes of *Pas De Quatre* stood out a little too much, and were too pink!

However, besides this, *Pas De Quatre* was the best part of the whole performance. This piece was first produced for Queen Victoria in 1845. The premiere ballerinas of the time were brought together by the Romantic Ballet divertissement. **Lynsay Masters (04)** as Fanny Cerrito, **Bree Brownlee (04)** as Lucile Grahn, **Lauren Giordano (04)** as Carlotta Grisi and **Rachel Miller (05)** as Marie Taglioni were the highlight of the night. They danced together as if they'd been doing all their lives. Each had a small solo, playing to her own greatest talents: strength, balance, creativity and drama, respectively.

However, I have to say that though I was impressed with the talent of the modern piece, I didn't care for it, as a personal preference. It fit the music, but it had jerky movements and didn't flow well into itself.

Overall, this weekend's dance concert showcased the finest of Alma talent, and left me excited to see what else the company will offer in 2003-2004.

SOS from page 4

a lot of students don't realize what a problem homelessness is. They have never had to deal with it in their life," **Kim Graor (06)**. "[We want] to help students realize how big the world is and how big the problems are outside Alma College."

By sponsoring these events, SOS hopes to raise students' awareness about important issues and to get them more involved.

WQAC Top 30

1. The Shins
2. Dresden Dolls
3. Gaelic Storm
4. Mates of State
5. Jim's Big Ego
6. Gorky's Zygotic Mynci
7. Apollo Sunshine
8. Belle and Sebastian
9. Elbow
10. Outkast
11. Early November
12. Nik Freitas
13. The Stills
14. Primus
15. The Autumn Rhythm
16. Catch 22
17. The Format
18. Teenage Fanclub
19. David Bowie
20. Jamisonparker
21. Rancid
22. Joe Strummer
23. The Thirty Four 10's
24. Saves the Day
25. Dressy Bessy
26. Dashboard Confessional
27. MXPX
28. REM
29. Buffseeds
30. Mojave 3

Young musician takes Alma College by storm

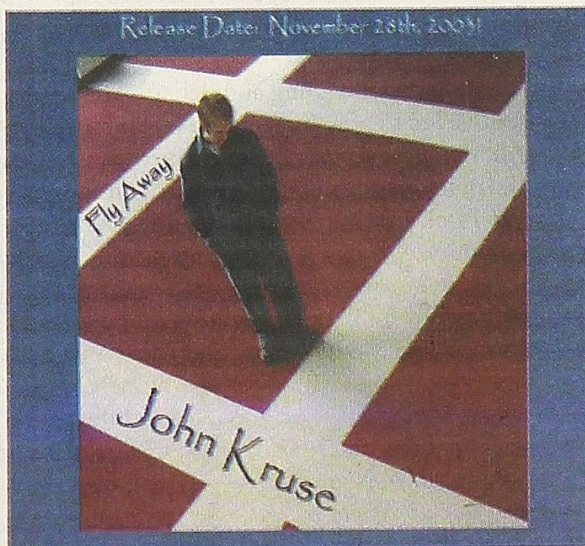
KEVIN BRADY
Staff Writer

First, "Songfest", and now the production of his first CD entitled *Fly Away* - in a matter of weeks **John Kruse (06)** has taken the Alma College community by storm, impressing his peers with his musical talent at "Songfest". Do not expect any letdown as Kruse has produced his first album.

There are seven songs on the album, all of which refer to love and the many ways it can comfort and hurt. Each song has a slow tempo, guitar based rhythm, with Kruse providing vocals. He wrote all of the tracks for his album. The major themes revolved around the loyalty, dedication, and fragility love can have on one person. In each song, Kruse speaks to "you," someone who has touched his life in a way no one has done.

Kruse can be compared to a milder version of John Mayer and Dave Matthews. Even though he does not speak of issues of finding that special someone, it concentrates on the importance of having a person that you can dedicate a large portion of your life to. The song that exemplifies this the most is "The Penny Song". This song talks about the most

fragile part of a person, their heart. A similar song, "Her Eyes," focuses on why someone would give another so much, their love, and every motion they have to a person. Kruse expresses deep emotion



Kruse's debut CD will be released on November 28.

about a specific person, and why she is the one he desires and "what is love for her is all about."

The last song on the album is a tribute to his fellow graduating class of 2002 from Bullock Creek High School. It entails the

memories of high school and the end of a road well traveled. This song provides a perfect example of what seniors know and get use to over time. How many seniors know what they are really going to do after graduation? We are so use to Alma College because that it is all we know at the moment. Kruse makes this very point for any type of senior.

However, the journey for this young man is just starting. On November 28th, Kruse's album will be released. He tributes his album to those around him: his family, friends, girlfriend, and God. A large part of the focus for his album is the listener. Kruse is just beginning his journey for a long and successful music career. Alma College should welcome his album with open arms because his career is on the rise. It is not every day this college has someone as talented as Kruse. His love is music and he is capturing a dream that has been part of his whole life. Kruse is an inspiration to all of us for never letting go of dreams and true life goals.

If you would like to contact Kruse or purchase his album, you can refer to his website at: www.johnkruse.com.

OPINION

Letter to the Editor: study abroad to change world-view

To the Alma College campus and community:

I have been lucky enough, despite consistently slow service of Royal Mail, to receive this year's issues of the Almanian. Hearing news of friends and familiar organizations generates a warmth and feeling of connectedness difficult to achieve from so distant a locale. As a senior and two-year Almanian employee, stepping away from campus has taught me much about it, and indeed how much I enjoy Alma. I agree whole-heartedly with Mr. Trupiano when he wrote that, at Alma, "the more things change the more they stay the same." Scanning the headlines, I find the faces different but the complaints the same.

Alma College students are a great and varied group, as incoming students are told from their first convocation. They fill their lives with activity, pride themselves on their many accomplishments, and strive to forge lives of independence and accountability. Perhaps it is the remoteness of our campus and the lack of connections with nation and world problems, but they can also be a bit short sighted.

In London, I find myself for the first time an ethnic minority. Most of the students here listen to bhangra instead of pop music, and pashminas, even burquas

are common sights. Americans are not well liked here. As soon as many hear my accent, people I meet build stereotypes I struggle to break down. We appear as rich, ethnocentric and apathetic people, sheep herded by our government into oppressing other countries in order to maintain our high standard of life.

At Speaker's Corner last Sunday, while listening to a Palestinian thrash American foreign policy, I met a group of Iraqis, and asked them about their views of the US. They were not concerned about us, convinced that within a year our soldiers would be out of their country. However, by our involvement, Iraq will maintain a shadow of stars and stripes. Members of the countries surrounding Iraq, fearing American demonization and persecution of Islam, have begun making guerrilla attacks on Iraqi civilians, hoping to destroy the American influence.

Next to him was an Islamic scholar rationalizing practices in his religion unfathomable to westerners. Gender and family roles, the meaning of marriage and living a good life have different definitions in the East. Not understanding these differences, many westerners put a flawed value judgment on them, as this scholar conversely did to western life.

Many things here seem similar at first and grow stranger upon examination. They

cannot throw away refrigerators. Mobile phones are more common, cheaper and more advanced. Fireworks occur almost daily, as one group or another has something to celebrate.

British degrees are some of the most difficult to earn in the world. After nearly two months of study, I understand why. *They do not teach you anything.* Almost all learning here is independent. Libraries operate until 5pm. A late assignment receives a failing grade. I could not appreciate the Alma College method—hands-on, forgiving and facilitating learning in every way—until I experienced its opposite.

It is at this time I need to make a shameless plug for International Studies (Julie Elenbaas, please forward my check to the business office). I would have a flawed conception of the world outside America if I would not have left it, and would concern myself with the network issues, the cafeteria's new layout and the Greeks' problems with their self-imposed party restrictions.

Do not believe me. Study in Europe. Find out for yourself. Doing so is the only way to learn.

Ryan Cannon (04)

Study Abroad Programme
University of Westminster

Adventures in Absurdity: A Modern-Day Fairy Tale

BRENDAN GUILFORD
Editor-in-Chief

Once upon a time there was a small liberal arts college. This school was pretty nice, and most of the people that attended school there, worked there, or lived around there were pretty nice too.

Ma'la College was like most other schools in many regards. It had special events, yearly traditions, and other great stuff too. One of those wonderful traditions was the annual Pet Rock Festival, a time when all of Ma'la College's past and present students returned to the campus to celebrate stones as pets, along with their time spent at Ma'la.

But not all was well at Ma'la College.

The Malitburo, the student governance body, was responsible for controlling the campus. The Malitburo's secret goal was to ruin the lives of all the honest, hard-working kiddos trying to get a high quality education for a reasonable price. No one outside of the Malitburo knew what went on during those meetings because the members of the Malitburo were forbidden from leaking information to outsiders.

The leader of this evil kabal was named Vrom Vrom, the most notoriously naughty and power-hungry despot ever to dwell upon the earth. Everything Vrom did in the name of "transparency and fairness" was actually a play to improve his chances of brainwashing the campus into liking him more than anyone else ever.

As the fall colors appeared on Ma'la

College's campus, the group of students hired by the College (and represented in the Malitburo) began to plan the festival. As the festival approached, they contacted Vrom and his underlings with a request for money to pay themselves and to fund the events. The Malitburo denied their request because the Pet Rock Committee had not submitted a budget proposal during the previous year. The Pet Rock Committee's response was simple: no pay, no work.

Fair, right?

Vrom and the rest of the Malitburo explained to the Pet Rock Committee that they were following the rules that had been established long ago, and that *any* organization (even the dreaded *Almanian*) that didn't turn in a request for a budget would not be given any money the following year. Still, the committee was resolute. The leadership of the Pet Rock Committee decided that if they couldn't have the money just because of a few stupid rules, then they would blame the absence of the festival on none other than Mr. Vrom himself.

Later that same week, Vrom and the leadership of the Pet Rock Committee met to discuss the predicament in private. The committee leader explained that it wasn't his fault they hadn't turned in a budget; they simply didn't realize that they were required to. Even if the Pet Rock Committee was a member of the Malitburo, attended every meeting, and was reminded constantly about budget proposals, why was Vrom trying to spoil

the campus's fun just because of some silly rules?

Meanwhile, the head of Ma'la College, Commandant Lacy, caught word of the predicament facing campus. She, too, made a resolution: there *would* be a festival, and it was up to Vrom to make it happen. Lacy called Vrom and explained that it was up to him to make the Pet Rock Festival a go, no matter what. What was Vrom to do? The wily Pet Rock Committee had convinced Lacy and the rest of the campus administration that it wasn't their responsibility!

After much haggling and debate, Vrom was forced to seek financial help from the Alumni Office of Ma'la College and spend the precious coin of the Malitburo on the Pet Rock Festival and the payroll of the committee.

So, our story ends happily: Vrom was compelled by campus politics to break the laws of the student body, and the Pet Rock Committee got the money it wanted without ever having to follow those stupid rules. Rule-enforcing evil was vanquished and Ma'la College got its Pet Rock Festival.

The End... at least for this year.

Almanian
Opinion
@yahoo.com

The Almanian's VIEWS

Seniors: carpe diem

OLGA WROBEL
Feature Editor

With the semester coming to a close shortly, some students may be stressed more than usual. A specific group that especially may be experiencing panic attacks, fear of the future, and mass confusion are the seniors. In fact, at the time of this issue, graduation is less than five months away. Five months! It really does feel like the last 39 months have gone by in a blink of an eye. Even though this time of our lives is filled with indecision, grad school applications, job interviews, or other endeavors we wish to achieve, it is important to take a break from the chaos and really live in the moment, because these moments will be gone before we know it. And even though most of us are probably very ready to be done for good, it will be hard to escape the comfort zone the bubble has provided for us.

The last few months of college should be as memorable as possible. If there is something you have wanted to do these past few years, but have never gotten around to, take the chance now. Muster up some courage and talk to the person you have been eyeing since English 101. Spend more time with those friends you were close to back in the day, but have spread apart from due to the circumstances that college creates for everyone. Support a sports team, see a play, go to a party... maybe these are activities you have never been interested in, but they are all part of our experiences here. We can no longer use the excuse, "I'll do it later," because later has become now. As frightening as that may sound, take advantage of it as much as possible.

The friendships we have formed here may last us lifetimes, but never again will we be in such close proximity to each other. After we leave Alma, no longer will we be able to walk down the hall to talk, meet at Joe's, or relax at The Braveheart. School, careers, and (scary thought) our own developing families are going to take over, and the phone or internet may be the only way to communicate. Spend as much time with the people you care about these last few months. Make it a goal to cherish every moment, and to put aside worries for at least a few hours a week. As cliché as it may sound, years from now we are going to fondly remember the wonderful times we had together rather than the honors thesis we wrote senior year, or the night we took a few too many No-Doze after studying for 17 hours straight. As amazing as graduating will be, the majority of us will most likely have at least a small pang of sadness and dissonance the day we leave for the last time.

SPORTS

Key returnees will lead women's basketball team into 2003 season

ANDREA RADTKE
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team is going for a new look this season after losing three key seniors to graduation. The Scots are coming off an excellent 17-9 season last year that gave them a second-place finish in the MIAA. Returning starters are first-team all-MIAA forward **Karen Hall (04)**, who was fourth in scoring last year (15.1), along with third in rebounding (8.6) and field goal percentage (53%). She was also 80% accurate from the free-throw line last season. Head coach Charlie Goffnet expects her to be a key component once again this year.

Also returning is **Mindy VanDamme (05)** a 5-7 guard, who started 15 games last year and is a three-point threat. **Katey Peacock (06)** a 5-8 guard who averaged 22 minutes a game last season

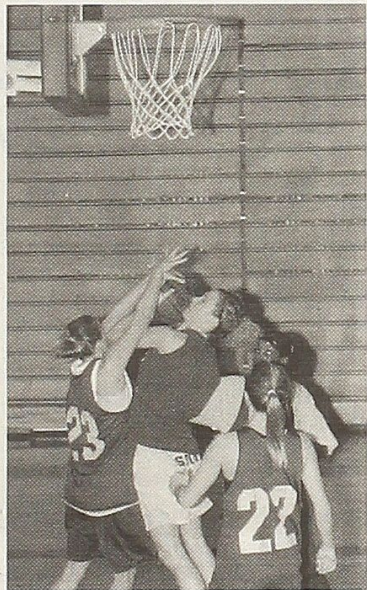
returns hoping to be a key player this year as well. **Michelle Dettling (05)** a 5-10 forward, and **Ashley Borcharding (06)** a 5-6 guard, will look to take it up a notch this season. The only other senior on the team, **Annie Love** will be resting for a while on a torn Achilles Tendon from an early scrimmage. **Jesse Rosten (05)**, **Lauren Graves (06)**, and **Cathy Ballentine (06)** are all returning letter-winners who will be competing for more playing time this year. Rounding out the upperclassmen is junior transfer **Rondi Lounds**, a second team all-league player who led her junior college to a 24-7 record and a league championship. She will add her high energy and high intensity to the team this year.

Ten aggressive freshmen joined the team this year, with great opportunities to step up and earn some playing time. Freshman forwards are **Lauren Bar-**

telli, **Natasha Dennisuk**, and **Sarah Ellsworth**. Freshman guards are **Micki Booms**, **Amanda Cooper**, **Kristy Endebrook**, **Missy Garvin**, and **Emily Whitmer**. Last but certainly not least are freshman centers **Kelly Halverson** and **Emily Neimi**.

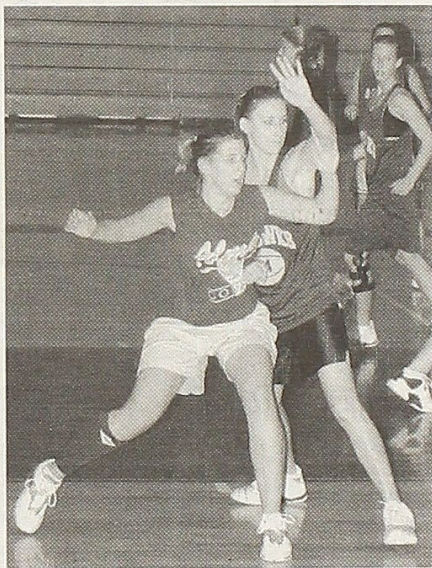
So far the freshmen have enjoyed their experience on the team. According to Halverson, "It's really exciting to be able to play college ball. It's a huge step from high school. All the girls are really focused—they love the game. I'm looking forward to the upcoming season because it's going to be a lot of fun and we should dominate the conference with all the heart and talent we have on the team."

The Scots' first games of the year are November 21st and 22nd, at the Capital University tournament in Columbus, Ohio. Their first home game is November 25th against Spring Arbor University. Game time is set at 7:00pm.



Left: Karen Hall (04) goes up for a shot in the team's scrimmage against Muskegon Community College. Hall is the team's top returnee and will look to solidify the post for the Scots. Last season she was a first-team all-MIAA selection.

Right: Michelle Dettling (05) fights for position underneath the basket with a defender from Muskegon Community College. The Scots will start regular season play this week as they travel to the Capital University Tip-Off in Columbus, Ohio.



Photos by Thad Hopkins

Volleyball beats Thomas More before falling to Wittenberg in NCAA Tournament

ANDREA RADTKE
Staff Writer

Though the season is over for the 2003 Alma College women's volleyball team, they certainly made their mark on the conference and in the NCAA. They traveled to Wittenberg University this past weekend to compete in the NCAA regional finals. They earned the right to compete in this tournament after becoming champions of the MIAA conference. The Scots ended their season with a 31-6 overall record and many honors.

Earning All-MIAA honors were head coach Steve Humm, who was named Coach of the Year, and junior setter **Lindsay Baker**, who was named Most Valuable Player. Baker was also the only Scot to be named to the All-MIAA first-team; it is the second time she has earned this award. Named to the All-MIAA sec-

ond-team were **Erin Fralick (06)**, **Kerri Judson (05)**, and **Kristin Judson (05)**. **Kelley O'Connor (05)** and **Caitlin Deis (05)** earned Honorable Mention.

The Scots were pitted against Thomas More University in the opening round of the tournament on Thursday. Alma defeated them in four games: 30-16, 21-30, 33-31, and 30-26. The first game was dominated by the Scots, as they cruised along on an 11-point serving run by Kristin Judson. The second game Thomas More came back to even the score. The third game went back and forth between the two teams until the Scots rallied at the end with a pair of kills from both Judson sisters. Game four was the most exciting, with Kerri Judson going on an 11-point serving streak to win the game. Statistically, O'Connor had eight kills and five digs, while Kerri Judson had ten kills, four service aces, and 24 digs. Sister

Kristin Judson had 11 kills, three service aces, and 36 digs. Deis had 14 kills, three service aces, a block, and 24 digs, while Fralick had 17 kills and a dig. Baker once again topped the charts with 43 assists, five kills, 14 digs, and a block, and **Kelsee Krull (07)** had 17 digs.

On Friday, the Scots played in the semifinals against the Wittenberg Tigers. Alma lost in three games: 30-22, 32-30, and 30-15. Though the Tigers were dominant in the first and third game, they struggled against the Scots in the second game. Statistically, O'Connor had three kills and a dig, Deis had six kills and 11 digs, Fralick had seven kills, one service ace, and a dig, and Krull had 16 digs. Kerri Judson had eight kills, 18 digs, and a block, while Kristin Judson had 12 kills and 24 digs. Baker finished the season with 33 assists, nine digs, and a block.

Best darn sports column ever

MATTHELMUS
Sports Editor

Well, football season at AC is over. At least it ended on a positive note. While the team did not defend their MIAA title, they did have a few key victories. The team struggled with injuries and other problems all season but managed to make it through with a winning record. Senior Day proved to be a nice sendoff for the seniors as well as a building-block game for next season. The Scots should return plenty of talent next season to make another run at an MIAA championship.

At the same time, the volleyball team will be making another run at a title next season. The team will not lose any players from this year's championship squad. The team went to Wittenberg to compete in the NCAA Tournament for only the second time in school history last week. They were able to win their first match against Thomas More College but fell to host Wittenberg in the second round. The team has now made significant steps in its first two years under coach Steve Humm. Hopefully next year will lead to another tournament run for the Scots.

Even though not a lot of snow has fallen basketball season is upon us. The men's and women's teams have both started scrimmaging and will begin their regular season schedules this week at the Capital University Tip-Off in Ohio.

While I have not seen the women's team play I am confident that Coach Goffnet will have the team ready for another great season. On the other hand I have seen the men's team in action. In a scrimmage last week the team ran well with Division II Northwood. The team has many freshmen and sophomores that should help the team get back into the MIAA race. After seeing them play I am sure that we will see more than one conference win this season. The team is very dangerous with their athleticism and could very well surprise some of the top teams in the conference. Hopefully the team will have more fan support this season, and maybe even the home crowd will outnumber Knight supporters when the Scots play Calvin at Cappaert Gym.

Well, being a State fan I figure I'd stay off the statewide football subject this week. At least there are a few teams left with national title hopes. That's right, Division II playoffs start this week and both Grand Valley and Saginaw Valley will be competing. They could even meet in the quarterfinals in a rematch of their league game won by the Cardinals. Oh, and there is some sort of hundredth game between two schools. Oh well.

2003 NCAA Division III Volleyball Championships at Wittenberg University

Quarterfinals - Alma def. Thomas More College - 3-1 (30-16, 21-30, 33-31, 30-26)

Semifinals - Wittenberg def. Alma - 3-0 (30-22, 32-30, 30-15)

SPORTS

MIAA STANDINGS

FOOTBALL (FINAL)		
Hope	5-1	7-3
Adrian	4-2	8-2
Albion	4-2	6-4
ALMA	3-3	6-4
Wisc. Luth.	3-3	5-5
K'zoo	2-4	6-4
Olivet	0-6	4-6

VOLLEYBALL (FINAL)		
ALMA	13-1	31-6
Calvin	12-2	28-8
Hope	11-3	21-13
Adrian	6-8	15-13
K'zoo	6-8	18-15
St. Mary's	5-9	15-13
Albion	3-11	10-22
Olivet	0-14	3-29

MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING	
Calvin	2-0
Hope	1-0
K'zoo	1-1
Olivet	1-1
ALMA	0-1
Albion	0-2

WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING	
Calvin	2-0
Hope	2-0
Albion	1-1
K'zoo	1-1
ALMA	0-1
St. Mary's	0-1
Olivet	0-2

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY NCAA REGIONALS	
ALMA - 25th	
23.	Joe Whitman
123.	Dirk Callahan
156.	Nate Belill
174.	Paul Phillips
186.	Tony Cutitta
208.	Matt Seipke

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY NCAA REGIONALS	
ALMA - 29th	
78.	Erin Stone
151.	Corey Cunningham
156.	Emily Breczinski
164.	Andrea Miller
191.	Carly Day
227.	Megan Gibson

Scots destroy Thunder 42-14, finish the season at 6-4



Photos by Melanie Szewczyk

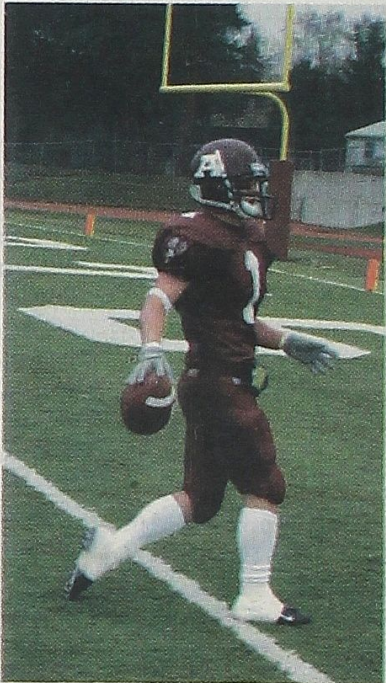


Above Left: James Edington (05) runs through a tackle attempt by the Thunder defense. Edington ran all of the defense with 107 yards and a touchdown in just 9 carries.

Left: Jeremy Droptiny (04) uses his speed to get past an Thunder defender. Droptiny finished with 172 and 2 touchdowns on the day.

Above Right: Clayton Sims (05) saunters into the end zone after catching a pass from quarterback Ryan Palmer (04).

Right: Brad Hovinga (05) sacks Tri-State's quarterback. The sack was one of 5 on the day for the Scots.



CAMPUS CALENDAR

Tuesday, Nov. 18

- 9 - 10:15 p.m. - Trinity Bible Fellowship (Jones Auditorium)
- 9 - 10 p.m. - Residence Hall Association (Fireside Lounge)

Thursday, Nov. 20

- 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. - Movie & Discussion: Laramie (Rotunda)

Friday, Nov. 21

- Last Day to Drop a Second Seven-Week Class
- Men's Basketball @ Capital University Tip-Off (Columbus, OH)
- Women's Basketball @ Capital University Tip-Off (Columbus, OH)
- 9:30 p.m. - Homelessness Awareness Sleep-Out (McIntyre Mall)

Saturday, Nov. 22

- 1 p.m. - Men's and Women's Swimming & Diving @ Albion
- 8 p.m. - Alma Symphony Orchestra II - Made in America (Heritage Center, Presbyterian Hall)
- Men's Basketball @ Capital University Tip-Off (Columbus, OH)
- Women's Basketball @ Capital University Tip-Off (Columbus, OH)

Sunday, Nov. 23

- 3 p.m. - Alma Symphony Orchestra II - Made in America (Heritage Center, Presbyterian Hall)
- 4:30 - 5:30 - Mass (Chapel)
- 9 - 10 p.m. - Chapel Worship Service