

The Almanian

serving Alma College since 1907

Protection measures lead to computer trouble

Ryan Cannon
Staff Writer

Under new direction from David Reed, the Information Technology department plans on bringing many improvements to the college's computer network. Students have already felt the effects of these changes.

Saturday, Sept. 15, students noticed a strange difference in how their Internet connections worked. Downloads were interrupted, instant messaging programs repeatedly lost connections, and using search engines became a time-consuming process.

These occurrences resulted from action taken by Information Technology to reduce the amount of time the network address translation (NAT) table is refreshed to every five minutes. The NAT table assigns a temporary identity to each computer on campus, and when it is refreshed it breaks connections for some Internet software.

Last Thursday, a memo was sent through e-mail to all Alma addresses that detailed a change in the NAT table refresh time to approximately an hour, which is a compromise between the extremely short time and the previous, long one. Reed said, "we probably were a little bit too aggressive initially, setting a very short refresh time."

The reason for these changes is due to an increase in worms and viruses found on the Internet. "Worms" are a type of program that infect one machine and then seek out other vulnerable machines to infect. They are, according to Reed, "like a mindless disease." By resetting the NAT table, the network essentially changes disguises on each computer connected to it. This helps minimize the chance that a worm will find a specific student's computer and burrow its way in.

Viruses and worms can be transferred to a

machine by something as simple as viewing a webpage, downloading music, or receiving an email. Dan Markiecki (03) said, "I found eight viruses on my computer, and they erased my hard drive—everything was gone." To protect their computers, students should be sure to scan for viruses frequently; virus protection software is downloadable free of charge from Alma's Intranet, at <http://intra.alma.edu>.

Information Technology does face some obstacles to its plans. In a draft copy of the college's potential budget solutions, Information Technology will lose \$57,469 from its budget, including \$20,000 from new technological initiatives—the fund that pays for technological advancements on campus. Reed does not consider this a substantial cut, but more of a "reasonable contribution given the situation the institution faces." He added, "it will not prevent us from focusing on improving the information technology resources that are available to students and faculty."

The department does have some ambitious initiatives planned this year, including improvements to the computer labs to make them more effective for student use; a new, larger, file server that will not erase files saved in student folders; new systems for booting up computers and logging into the server will make startup time much

quicker, and a change to the Ethernet setups in Swanson Academic Center and the Library that will speed up connections in those places.

Aside from these changes, Information Technology is dedicating itself to opening lines of communication with students, and will keep them abreast of changes that come about to the network.

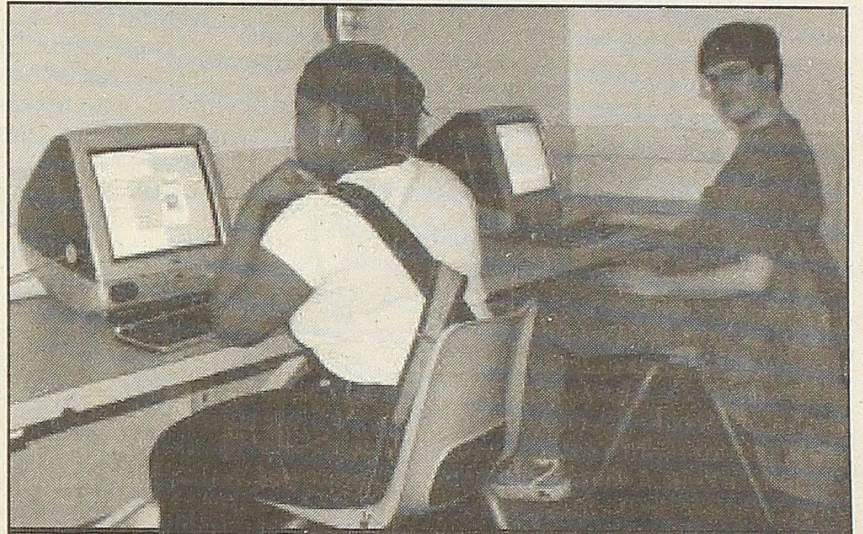


Photo by Dan Joyce

Kolorean Kershaw (05) and Thomas Walsh (02) work in one of the campus' computer labs.

"We are going to try to do a much better job communicating," said Reed.

Results of restructuring will emerge soon

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

Administrative departments on campus have gone through moderate restructuring over the past year, but a final shape is now emerging.

When President Tracy took office, she returned the college to a centralized system. It had worked under such a system before former President Alan Stone's tenure. It is also the same system that Tracy's former college—Mount Union—used while she worked there.

The main goal is to centralize the hierarchy of departments at Alma College so that students, academics, and recreational life are dealt with together.

The idea behind the restructuring is to examine the needs of students. Administrators are now trying to use each department to better serve students. They want to create a balance that will allow the faculty and administration to work better with both extra-curricular and academic needs.

"Things that affect academics may not just be academic," said provost Reginald Avery.

The student affairs office, like all other offices, still operates as it always did, although it is now in the academic sector. The main difference for student affairs is that there will be an attempt for "seamless learning," or, bridging the gap between faculty and students. The student affairs office hopes to bring the faculty into the residence halls

so students can interact with them.

Reverend Jesse Perry (Chapel), Robert Perkins (Student Development), Dean James Kridler (Student Affairs), Paul Pollatz (Admissions), Chris Brown (Financial Aid), and Joe Gelina (Wilcox Medical Center) are no longer required to report to the Vice President of Enrollment and Student Affairs.

Pollatz will now report to the Enrollment Department, Brown and Gelina will both report to the Vice President of Financial Aid, and Perry will report to the Vice President of Advancement.

According to administration, these changes are meant to make the campus run more smoothly.

"The restructuring of the administration will in no way effect the student care or services received at the Medical Center," Gelina said.

Over the next year, the new system will be assessed and monitored. Avery will be working with a new committee called the Academic and Student Affairs Advisory Council (ASAAC) to assess the changes. This committee will meet monthly and students are invited to attend. In the future, a student representative may be included on this committee.

Student affairs has also implemented a new program. Faculty can now take a student to lunch free of charge. Few professors have taken advantage of this new program, but it is seen as one step toward bridging the gap between faculty and students.

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NEWS

Spring Term financial aid available

Jessica Greyerbiehl
Staff Writer

The Financial Aid office at Alma College is responsible for handing out money to students to help with paying for overseas Spring Terms. Each year, the office hands out approximately fifty \$500 scholarships.

Students planning on taking an overseas trip for the 2002 Spring Term can apply for a scholarship by going to the Financial Aid office and adding their name, class year, the spring term they are planning to take and its instructor, and whether or not they have completed the "S" course requirement to the sign up sheet. Everyone planning to apply for a scholarship must sign up by 5:00 p.m. on November 1.

A committee composed of approximately three members, both from the Financial Aid office staff and from the academic sector, examine a student's class year, where the student is planning on studying, whether or not a student needs to fill the "S" course requirement, the total cost of the trip according to the professor, and whether or not the student has taken past advantage of all of the financial aid resources that have been offered to them.

Upperclassmen receive priority in gaining the scholarships. Additionally, students are less likely to receive scholarships if they have been overseas at all while attending Alma, or if they have not taken advantage of all of the financial aid offered in previous semesters.

The number of scholarships given each Spring

Term varies somewhat according to the availability of financial aid and the number of applicants that the office receives. However, according to Christopher Brown, director of financial aid, "the budget cuts will have no effect on the number of scholarships given this year."

If a student is chosen as a recipient of one of the scholarships, he/she will be notified in the form of a letter approximately one week after the deadline. It is important to note that students will not be able to receive this money until just before Spring Term begins, as the Financial Aid office has to receive confirmation that they are registered for the class they planned on taking and that they have been making payments towards that class.

While the amount of money received is only a small portion of what students will likely be paying for their opportunity, the Financial Aid office is also available to assist in applying for other forms of financial aid that may be needed.

According to Michael Trebesh, professor of business administration, who has taken many student recipients of these scholarships overseas, "I am a firm believer in the global community, and the offering of overseas Spring Terms is a great way to expand the beliefs of students. The Financial Aid office does a great service by offering the Spring Term scholarships to students. I would like to see them offer more scholarships for students that cover more of the cost of the trips; however, they are also invaluable in helping students to find further methods to pay for these trips."

English students, faculty launch literary review

Kari Joy Johnson
Staff Writer

In an attempt to encourage Alma College students to contribute personal works of prose or poetry, Ryan Cannon (04), Lisa Miller (03), Mary Rosalez (03), and Robert Vivian, assistant professor of English and creative writing, are providing an outlet for individuals to see their names published in a literary journal entitled the *offKILTer Literary Review*.

Unlike the well-known *Pine River Anthology*, this journal will not feature any pieces of artwork by students. Instead, the 'Review' will focus on written selections for anyone who has composed works of poetry, short stories, vignettes and/or essays.

Lisa Miller, a student on the selection and editing committee for the 'Review' said, "Basically [we're] three English students and we all write a lot of poetry and a lot of short fiction and we knew a lot of others [students] do to." She added, "There needs to be an outlet for other people to let their creative writing out; and so we thought, there needs to be a literary review."

The approximately 20-page *offKILTer Literary Review* will be published between two to three times annually, hoping to showcase the writing talent on Alma's campus. The editorial staff of the three English students plans on "distributing them in Saga and definitely in the English bay probably around the middle of November, before Thanksgiving Break."

Currently, the English department, as well as Student Congress, are contributing the funding for production of the *Review*.

As for the title of the *offKILTer*, the name was created with the thought that "maybe we should stick to a tradition of having a Scottish type name," said Miller, the person behind the striking title.

"I came up with the name by just using it and it was off the wall eye catching, plus it sticks with the Scottish roots," she said.

Vivian, the overseer for the *Review's* production and development said, "We're looking for forty or fifty submissions by October 15th. It is just a grassroots journal that is hopefully going to foster a kind of literary community around Alma." Added Vivian, "We are also going to try and schedule readings where writers can get up and read their own work."

According to Miller "[We're] hoping to rally up students' willingness to share writing because they know it is going out on campus and that it is a nice way for them to see their own writing out there." She added, "I have no idea how many to expect, but I would love to say, 'No, we're sorry, please submit again next time'; that kind of response would be great."

The *offKILTer Literary Review* booklet will find itself under its first publication by mid-November. If interested, submit all works by Monday, Oct. 15, 2001. Anyone with interest can drop them off in campus mail to: *offKILTer*, c/o Dr. Vivian/English Dept. or leave submissions at his office in SAC 334.

U.S. and U.K. bomb Afghanistan

Nikole Canute
News Editor

Missiles were fired at Afghanistan throughout Sunday in response to the Taliban's refusal to relinquish accused terrorist Osama bin Laden.

At approximately 9:00 p.m. in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, United States and British forces launched Tomahawk cruise missiles from ships located in the Arabian Sea while dropping dozens of conventional and computer-guided bombs from approximately 40 aircraft.

In his nationally televised address President Bush said, "Now, the Taliban will pay a price...the battle is joined on many fronts. We will not waver, we will not tire. We will not falter and we will not fail."

The Pentagon has issued statements that no allied personnel, planes or ships were lost in Sunday's actions.

According to United States Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, the attacks struck military aircraft, runways, missile launchers and "terrorist training camps" in Afghanistan, but the Taliban is claiming that there were approximately 20 civilian casualties reported in Kabul. Rumsfeld denies those allegations.

The Taliban has reported that leader Mullah Mohammed Omar and bin Laden, who is accused of using his terrorist organization Al Qaeda to orchestrate the terrorist attacks on September 11, were unhurt.

In a statement broadcast on the television station Al Jazeera two hours after the attacks began, bin Laden said, "To America I say I swear by God the great...America will never taste security and safety unless we feel security and safety in our lands and in Palestine." He continued, "America was hit by God in one of its softest spots. America is full of fear from its north to its south, from its west to its east. Thank God for that."

In an effort to give humanitarian aid to Afghans cut off from international famine assistance, United States cargo planes dropped approximately 35,000 rations of food and medical supplies while warplanes were dropping bombs. "The oppressed people of Afghanistan will know the generosity of America and our allies," said Bush.

In addition to the forces contributed by Britain for these attacks, Canada, Australia, Germany and France have pledged to contribute military forces. According to Bush, permission for allies to fly over territory or land on it has been given by more than 40 nations.

150,000 Afghans who have left their homes and are living near the Tajikistan border will receive a massive shipment of humanitarian aid from Russia. While vowing not to let Afghan refugees enter their country, Iran is preparing for approximately 400,000 refugees by setting up camps along their border.

Concerned about possible retaliation against Americans, the State Department has issued a strong warning to Americans abroad. Staying indoors and preparing for possible evacuation were recommendations given to United States citizens in Indonesia, the most populous Muslim nation. Other Americans abroad, especially those in the Middle East, are being told to keep a low profile.

Bush said, "Since Sept. 11 an entire generation of young Americans has gained new understanding of the value of freedom and its cost in duty and sacrifice."

NEWS

Religious affiliation plays no part in college governance

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

Many students come to Alma College to receive a liberal arts education, yet many students do not know the religious affiliation of the college.

Alma College is officially affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. It was founded in the late 1800s by two Presbyterian men and was considered a Presbyterian College. However, in the mid-1960s, the college and its students were looking for autonomy and thus changed the denominational standing of the college.

Alma students used to be subject to mandatory church services. Those stopped during the mid-1960s. Because the college moved from being a Presbyterian college to being a Presbyterian-related college, the required church services had to stop.

Because the college is still linked with the Presbyterian Church, it receives money and works with the Synod of the Covenant, which is a governing body that supports the college.

Although the College still works with the Synod, the body has no governing jurisdiction. Alma is

run by the Board of Trustees, a self-selecting board in which no member of the Synod sits.

There is a wide variety of religious denominations among the campus community. The largest religious group on campus is Roman Catholicism, followed by Presbyterianism, and finally Methodism.

Due to the diversity of the campus, Chaplain Jesse Perry is very careful when giving the mandatory Convocation Prayer. In these prayers, Perry refrains from using the words "Jesus" or "Christ." All prayers are strictly limited to the use of the word "God."

Perry says he understands the politics of it. "Religion on this campus is important to students," Perry said, "but it is also important that they are allowed to practice their own choice of religion."

Furthermore, the college does not use the Presbyterian affiliation as a selling point when hiring new faculty.

The Presbyterian affiliation is only used with Presbyterian students and perspective students. Often, the Presbyterian affiliation is downplayed so as not to deter students of other religions from choosing Alma.

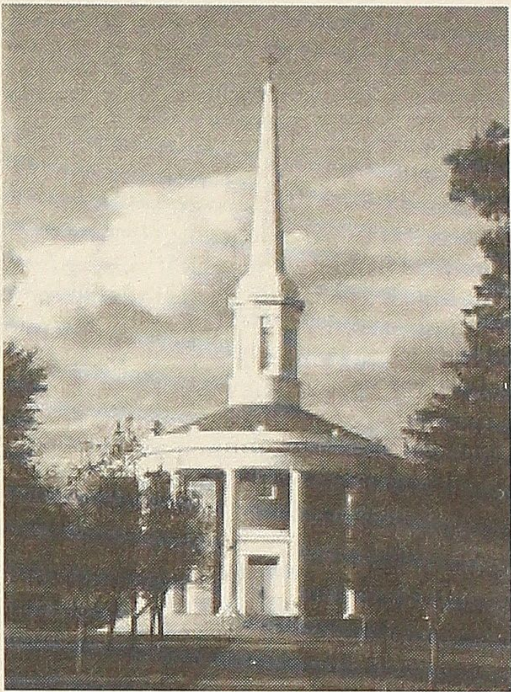


Photo by Bryan Waugh

Escape from the Bubble

Now showing at an International Education Office near you!
Until October 15th for winter participation

Financial Aid May Apply

Please consult with a financial advisor to determine exact amounts of financial aid that will be applied to your study abroad experience. Exact amounts will vary by award type and country of destination.

Foreign Language is not Required

You would learn more about your own language, your self and open new cognitive boxes by learning a second language. You can, however, learn Aussie, Kiwi, Scottish or the Queen's English.

Earn Transfer Credits toward your Major or Minor

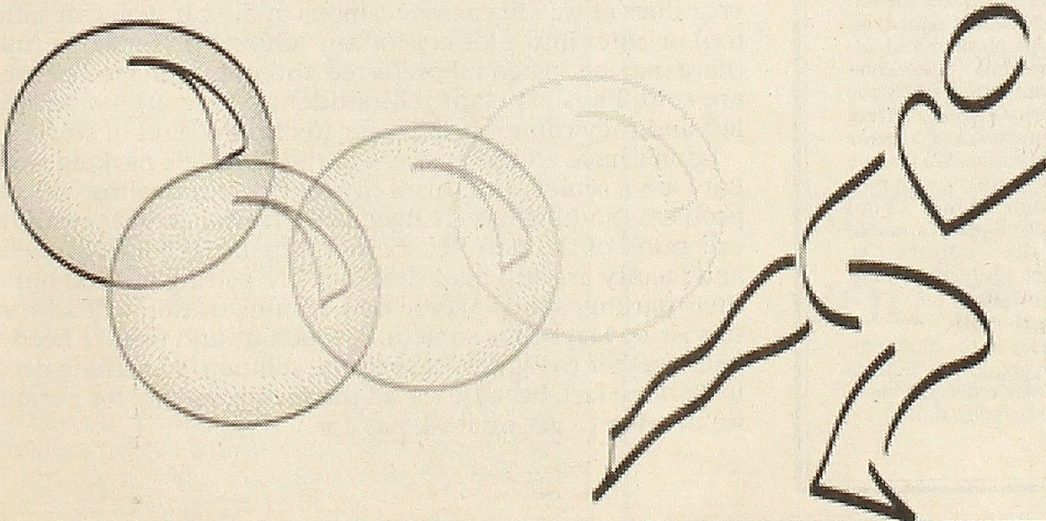
Studying abroad will probably NOT delay your graduation because credits count toward your degree requirements.

Meet "DR" and "S" Requirements

It is a little known fact that studying abroad during the winter semester may count toward an "S" course requirement. It may, depending on program dates, count toward one of the two Spring Term requirements for graduation.

GET OUT OF TOWN

By contacting the Office of International Education
Lower level of the library or by calling x7055



Campus Reactions

...about the
Computers...from
page 1

It seems ridiculous that we have so many computers and when you want to use them they either don't work or you wait for a year and a half for results that you end up not getting. Way to spend a technology fee.
Robin Johnston (02)

I'm encouraged by the steps the IT Center is taking to improve the campus network. I think we will see better performance before too long.

Priscilla Perkins
Head of Access
Services - Library

I think it is ridiculous that the college network is so slow and unreliable.
Diederik Nelissen
(05)

OPINION

Staff

Editorial

Learn from the budget fiasco

As Alma's administration prepares to send its revised budget to the Board of Trustees for final approval this weekend, it would do well to take a few lessons from the convoluted revision process that has dominated the inner workings of the College over the past weeks.

The transparency that accommodated the revision was, at best, limited. Most students and faculty members were forced to sit passively as administrators, most notably vice-president of academic affairs Reginald Avery and vice-president of finance Jerry Scoby, cut almost \$300,000 worth of programs from their budgets. Unfounded rumors swirled within the student population about Avery slicing various small housing units from his budget; other members of our campus community wondered how such a significant cut would not, in President Sandra Tracy's earlier words, "affect the students." We still don't know how we'll be affected.

Indeed, the President's Advisory Council, including faculty members and students **Janay Anderson** (03), **Chris LaCroix** (02), **Tim Throm** (04) and **Matt vandenBerg** (02), were given a vague idea of the areas where administrators were planning to make cuts, but the information never made its way from meeting rooms into the campus dialogue. The *Almanian*, in numerous attempts to obtain that information, especially specific numbers, was denied access to the data before they become official this weekend.

And although any access to such information at this late date would not provide enough time for a campus-wide debate on the nature of the proposed cuts, administration would do well to initiate that debate in the near future so more members of the community might have a say in where their money is going. Perhaps sometime this winter, administration could provide a forum explaining where significant chunks of the school's approximately \$36 million yearly budget go.

Indeed, no one should expect a complete breakdown of the entire budget, but some idea of where the approximately \$22,000 students pay every year to attend this college would be appreciated, not only by students but by faculty members. If any absurdly large amounts of money are being wasted, some of the bright minds on this campus might be able to suggest how the College can spend its money more effectively and provide students and faculty with a better scholastic environment. And perhaps, in an age of ridiculously high tuition costs at private and public colleges and universities, Alma might be able to lower the cost of attending as a student, making the College an even more attractive place to prospective students.

As the effect of this year's low enrollment ripples into the future, debate and transparency about where our funds go become increasingly important. Let the talking begin.

Peeved about parking

Reannon Broekema
Opinion Editor

Another year, another parking problem. Year after year students complain about the parking situation, and year after year nothing seems to change. What's the deal? Does the Board of Trustees, or the Physical Plant, or whoever makes the decisions about parking even listen to our complaints?

As we all know, there never seems to be enough parking around campus. Students with preferred permits have trouble finding spots close to their lots because they are filled by cars with non-preferred or no permits, and students with non-preferred permits either don't know any better, are too lazy, or are just taking their chances with getting ticketed. And for good reason, too. How often do you pass an unticketed car parked in the wrong lot in a spot YOU paid for? It seems to happen altogether too often.

It's understandable and expected that students are upset about the situation. Every year it's a problem and nothing seems to change. If I pay \$85 for a preferred parking permit and I can never find a freaking parking spot near my dorm, I have every right to be upset. The same goes for students who paid for non-preferred parking permits, commuters and faculty. Each kind of permit has their own designated area for parking, and when someone disregards their permit they take a spot from someone who has a greater right to be there.

Not only do students complain, but commuters and faculty are also in an uproar about their lots being filled with improperly parked cars. Physical Plant takes the abuse from all angles and does the best they can, but because of the College's budget situation limited personnel are available to survey the lots for improperly parked cars, and the result has been fewer cars being ticketed.

Solutions? First of all, once the budget is back to its normal, healthy self there will be more money available to provide greater lot surveillance. More ticket writers=fewer improperly parked cars and more room for those who paid.

In order to guarantee a parking space to everyone who buys a permit the College needs to provide more parking areas. In my endeavors to find off-campus housing at the end of last year I was talking to community landlords and they told me how the College has purchased pieces of land throughout the community. Why not build more parking (among other things, such as on-campus apartments) on these bits of land? I also wonder if there are other bits of unused space around campus that could be devoted to parking. I realize that the College wants to maintain its aesthetically pleasing appearance, but how many times do we need to complain to get someone to look into it?

If the College doesn't want to invest more money in parking lots, they need to alter their parking policies. The student handbook states that you are not guaranteed a spot even if you buy a permit. That's a load of crap. If I am paying \$65+ for a little sticker that says I can park in a certain lot, I darn well better be guaranteed a spot in that lot and no one had better tell me otherwise.

Here's my proposition: the College should limit the amount of permits they issue to the number of spots they have available in every lot, be it preferred, non-preferred or commuter (faculty permits are the exception here). Any upperclassmen should be offered a preferred or non-preferred permit (whichever they choose). These permits would be sold to upperclassmen on a first-come, first-serve basis, much as they are now when we get the letters in the summer. After a certain cut-off date those upperclassmen wishing for a permit would be S.O.L.—too bad so sad you had your chance and you blew it.

First-year students would then be allowed to either buy non-preferred permits (sorry freshman, but I had to pay my first-year dues of walking across campus to my car, you can suffer too) or enter into a lottery for any leftover preferred permits there may be. When all preferred and non-preferred permits are sold, Physical Plant tells students there are no permits left and they cannot bring a car to campus. End of story.

I don't have all the answers to the College's parking woes. But I am a senior, and this is my fourth year dealing with the problem. Nothing has changed since freshman year (with the exception of the new Rec. Center/Bruske Hall lot). Students and faculty are still mad that they are getting pushed out of their parking spots. Maybe new administration will address this issue. Maybe it's something students and faculty need to join together to fight. Whatever the solution, something needs to be done fast, because for all the money we pay for permits, we deserve to get what we pay for.

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.

Letter Policy

All letters to the editors must meet the following standards of publication: signed, include the author's phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published as layout space allows with priority given to letters under 250 words. Submission of a letter does not guarantee publication. We reserve 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.

Staff Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed weekly in the "Staff Editorial" reflect the views of *The Almanian* staff. These views in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.

OPINION

The Left Is Right

Bush's moves not the greatest

Chris Machnacki
Staff Writer

Recent days have seen a surge in concern over the possible use of biological, chemical or nuclear weapons by terrorists. Unfortunately, many of the precautions being taken today will be the least useful in the event of an attack, and the Bush Administration has spent the past several months downgrading our ability to halt these attacks before they even commence.

The best way to prevent a terrorist attack using biological, chemical or nuclear weapons, collectively known as weapons of mass destruction, is to halt the proliferation of these weapons throughout the world. Doing so requires cooperating with other countries under a system of arms control treaties and international organizations, a method that has come under heavy criticism from conservatives suspicious of anything which might infringe on U.S. sovereignty.

In May 2001, a large number of countries finished work on a protocol to the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention which would add teeth to an otherwise worthless treaty by creating a system to verify, via inspections, that all countries have gotten rid of their biological weapons. Unfortunately, the Bush Administration decided that inspections of biological facilities in the U.S., which would include biotechnology firms and research labs, would result in trade secrets being lost and consequently told the world that stopping biological weapons could wait. Hopefully, given current concerns over biological weapons, Bush will revisit his decision.

While preparing its first budget, the Bush Administration cut \$100 million from our nuclear nonproliferation programs in Russia, which seek to ensure that Russia's many poorly guarded nuclear weapons and nuclear material stockpiles do not fall into the wrong hands. These programs have been highly successful to date and need to be expanded, not cut. Surely, we could have foregone tax cuts for a few billionaires and kept these programs fully funded.

Also absent from the Administration budget was funding for the international organization that verifies the ban on chemical weapons. The organization had to drastically cut the number of inspection tours it will run this year because the U.S., along with other countries, has not paid its dues. Less inspections equal more danger.

The battle to prevent the use of these weapons of mass destruction will be won primarily in conference rooms in Geneva and the inspection tours of international organizations. Merely preparing to respond to their use is forfeiting our first line of defense and drastically increasing our own vulnerability.

Given the huge number of targets in this country and the wide variety of weapons that could potentially be used to attack them, it is impossible to defend against every attack. If we try to defend against anthrax, terrorists will use the plague. If we defend against the plague, they will try something else. Just coordinating the responses of federal, state, and local authorities would be a nightmare.

Since coming into office, the Bush Administration has operated with deliberate hostility to arms control structures that have taken 50 years to build while single-mindedly pursuing its missile defense cure-all, much to the dismay of the rest of the world. With our vulnerability to these frightening weapons now common knowledge, the American people should demand that our leaders do everything they can to protect us from them. This is no time to be blinded by partisan ideology.

Alma's religious affiliation doesn't get the job done

Tim Slade
Staff Writer

If nothing else, Alma College is known far and wide as one of the proudest bastions of Scot-dom in the Midwest, if not the entire United States. Anyone who disbelieves need only look as far as our ceremonial occasions: each Homecoming features performances by Highland Dancers; every convocation is opened by a group of bagpipers; the Traditions Dinner consists of traditional Scottish fare; the Marching Band wears kilts in the signature Alma College tartan.

For those who do not know the story of how Alma got its nickname, read on and be edified. During a "Pick the College's Nickname and Win Some Cash" contest back during the dark ages of the early 1900s, a cunning student noted that the panel of judges was composed largely of individuals with Scottish heritage; wanting to curry favor with said judges and win the cash prize he suggested the nickname "The Scots." Surprise of surprises, he won hands down, and the rest is history. Despite the utterly artificial and contrived nature of our college's nickname, we bear it proudly and strive to do it honor in all situations. Why, then, are we not equally as proud or as supportive of the college's Presbyterian affiliation, which is truly genuine?

Although I did not actively seek out Christian schools when applying to colleges, I must admit that the idea of attending an institution with some sort of Christian backing was quite pleasant. When I toured the College and spoke with representatives, I heard a great deal about Alma's Presbyterian affiliation, and was served with the impression that it must be a rather important part of campus life. It was not until I had spent a few weeks on campus during my first term as a freshman that I had been disillusioned by that notion.

Not only is the College's Presbyterian background not an important factor in campus social or spiritual life, it is not of major importance in its academic life either. Many of my friends attend small Christian schools; at many of their institutions, they are required not only to attend a Chapel service at least once (often twice) a week, but also to take at least three or four religion classes throughout their academic careers. In contrast Alma requires only four credits from either religion or philosophy, meaning that someone could quite easily spend four years here and not once encounter a single grain of knowledge related to what the college's founders (or funders) stood for.

The common requirement of attending a Chapel service on a weekly basis is even more of a joke. Without intending to send undue criticism toward Rev. Perry and Andrew Pomerville, this year's Chapel intern, the Chapel services reach approximately no one. They are too watered down for people who take their Christian faith seriously,

and still too 'churchy' for people who are not of the faith. Additionally, they are touted as being ecumenical or all-encompassing (read: non-denominational). Why is this the case? Since when does a college with a religious affiliation need to dilute its commitment to a given affiliation out of fear of alienating its students? So what if the majority of campus is Catholic, or that large minorities are Lutheran, Baptist, or even atheist? Those students who worship the God of Israel should be able to recognize His presence as easily in a Presbyterian service as in a Catholic, Baptist, or Lutheran one; similarly, those students who are offended or disinterested by a Presbyterian service are going to be equally disinterested by a non-denominational one.

For the first time this year, I am pointing out a problem whose roots do not lie in the student body's actions or attitudes. For crying out loud, one of the the largest student organizations on campus, Trinity Bible Fellowship, is a Christian group, and it is far from the only one. Alma also has branches of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Campus Vision, and an organization of Catholic Students; obviously, there are myriad students who feel strongly enough about their faith to get involved on campus.

What is the solution to the problem? Re-examining the College's stance on its faith. The people who make these decisions need to decide once and for all if Alma is truly going to call itself (or allow others to call it) a Christian school. If it is decided that Alma is not going to be a Christian college, then things are great, and I say kudos to Rev. Perry for at least providing some sort of weekly worship service for those who have not found their places in the off-campus community of believers.

If Alma is going to go ahead and embrace its Presbyterian roots, it needs to do so with a fervor that has not been seen to date. It needs to recommit to providing a stronger, more genuine College-founded opportunity for worship (TBF was founded by Shannon Nielsen, a 2000 graduate of Alma) as well as raising the intensity and rigor of the academic religion requirements.

A student who has been educated at a college with a Christian affiliation needs to leave not only with a liberal arts degree and the critical thinking skills that are so highly touted by our professors, but also with a working knowledge of the ideals on which our country was based (even if the nation has begun to move away from them). Regardless of the action taken by the administration, things must not remain as they are: the Bible very clearly states in Revelation 3:15-16, "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm - neither hot nor cold - I am about to spit you out of my mouth." For all the believers on campus, this is not a warning to be taken lightly; changes must be made.

NEED A JOB?

The Scot Yearbook is accepting applications. If you're interested, call the Scot office at x7133

OPINION

Debate to preserve democracy

Scott Timmreck
Editor-in-chief

The earliest news reports from CNN and MSNBC and Fox News on the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks were laced with confusion and gave no clear sense of what was actually happening in New York and Washington and Pennsylvania. Clearer pictures of the situation arrived in subsequent days, all but confirming that Osama bin Laden was behind the hijackings and that the civilized world, led by the United States, had, and of course still has the pressing problem of terrorism on its hands.

What has not emerged from the chaos is an obvious solution to the problem. There is no clear consensus within the Bush administration about how to respond to the attacks, even after Sunday and Monday's bombing campaigns. High-ranking officials are torn; Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz favors taking action against Iraq, while Secretary of State Colin Powell wants to make nice with Iran. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld has peppered his statements with the phrase "cold war," indicating that the terrorism problem isn't going to disappear after a couple bombs and some flashy TV pictures. More disagreement is not only likely, but inevitable.

But if more disagreement about America's moves on the new chess board is going to ensue, why are calls to join the herd increasing? Why is there so much pressure from our fellow citizens to rally behind a president who, before Sept. 11, barely half

the country cared for? (The large polls, like CNN/Time, have consistently put Bush's post-attacks approval rating above 80 percent, and after Sunday, they're sitting cozily at 90 percent.) It's great that the red, white and blue have united Americans, but less great are the reasons we have united.

This should be a time for open debate, for argu-

Clearly, both officials and the administration are smacking down our First Amendment rights and our right to free and open debate that hallmarks our democracy

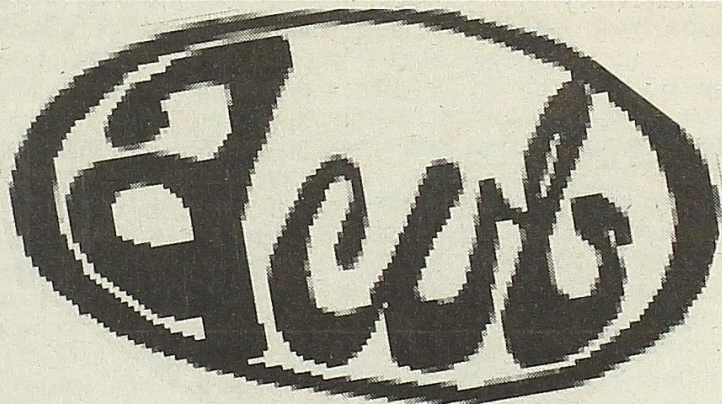
ment, for critical and rational thought. Now is not the time for several local TV stations to drop Bill Maher's "Politically Incorrect" because he boldly suggested that America's ridiculous tendency to shoot cruise missiles at enemies from a distance is "cowardly," a notion that even George Bush earlier turned his back on by saying that such missiles do nothing but wreak havoc on camels and empty tents. Now is not the time for the Daily Courier, a paper in Grants Pass, Ore., to fire a columnist who criticized Bush for "skedaddling" on Sept. 11, nor should the publisher of the Texas City Sun have decided to drop city editor Tom Gutting for speaking out against Bush. The National Review, a

famously conservative publication in which George Bush can rarely do anything poorly, was also wrong for dismissing Ann Coulter's syndicated column, despite her horribly misplaced views that would have Americans "invade [terrorists'] countries, kill their leaders and convert them to Christianity."

Each of these instances illustrates the absurdity of White House spokesman Ari Fleishcer's comment: "Americans need to watch what they say, watch what they do, and this is not a time for remarks like [Maher's], there never is." Similarly, Rumsfeld has already told the media that any information about American action in any combat will stay under extremely tight lips. After Sunday's attacks, the administration, and consequently, the media, provided very little information about what happened in Afghanistan. Rumsfeld did indeed indicate our targets and the means by which we attempted to hit

those targets, but no information regarding our successes and our failures has risen from the dust. Moreover, the administration has yet to clearly explain to the American people why exactly it bombed Afghanistan and what its goals and mission are.

Clearly, both officials and the administration are smacking down our First Amendment rights and our right to free and open debate that hallmarks our democracy. For America to be truly united in fighting our problem of terrorism, everyone wrapped in the flag needs to have access to a wide range of information and have the ability to form a critical opinion of Bush and his administration's actions. Only then will our democracy flourish.



NEXT EVENT:

What: Coffee House

When: Wednesday October 10

Time: 8:00 p.m.

*Featuring the jazz stylings
of the Clayton Miller Band*

Greek Life

ΖΣ ΑΓΔ ΣΧ ΑΞΔ ΟΧ ΓΦΒ ΣΑΕ ΚΙ ΤΚΕ ΦΣΣ ΖΣ ΑΓΔ ΣΧ ΑΞΔ ΟΧ ΓΦΒ ΣΑΕ ΚΙ ΤΚΕ ΦΣΣ

Profile

Zeta Sigma

Olga Wrobel
Feature Editor

Founded: 1887, by Joe Northon and James Mitchell
Active Members: 15, 8 currently reside in house
President: Darnel Williams (02)
Famous Zeta Sigs: Well known Zeta Sigs include James Mitchell, the former president of University of Michigan, and the man whom Mitchell Hall is named for. Frank Knox was a Secretary of the Navy under Franklin Roosevelt, ran for the Presidency in 1936 and is the namesake of the Reid-Knox administrative building. John Writ Dunning was Alma's fifth president, and is the namesake of the Dunning Memorial Chapel.
Interesting Facts: Zeta Sigma is the only local fraternity on Alma's campus.
Activities: Every year the Zeta Sigs hold a food drive for the Salvation Army. Another popular event is Hockey Night, when the fraternity takes charter buses to a minor league hockey game. This year Hockey Night will be either November 10 or 17, and everyone is invited. P2 happens on Tuesdays, and all non-Greek men are invited. On Wednesdays, the brothers host "Theme Night", and non-Greek men are invited to come and hang out at the house.
How the fraternity members view themselves and how others view them: Zeta Sigs differ from the rest of the campus Greek organizations, besides Kappa Iota, in the fact that they are a local fraternity. Their status affects the way they see themselves, and is a unique characteristic of the fraternity. Marty Stack, associate dean of students said, "Zeta Sigma's history coincides with the history of our college. They have been around about as long as the school."
When asked why they chose to pledge Zeta Sigma, the brothers answered enthusiastically, stressing the closeness of the fraternity. "When I came to the house for the first time I was overwhelmed with



Photo courtesy of www.geocities.com/zetasigs

the amount of history," said house manager Alan Kast (03). "I felt welcome and appreciated. I haven't felt that way in any other place."
Williams believes that the fraternity is one of the most diverse on campus.
"We are not robots; we have many different types of brothers, and I think that is what makes us strong," he said.

Kristin Shea (03) is a Zeta Sigma social sister. "[Zeta Sigma] is the fraternity that makes everyone feel the most welcome," she said. "Zeta Sigs are open minded, down to earth, genuine, and a lot of fun. Whenever you are upset, there will always be someone there for you no matter what."
For more information, visit the Zeta Sigma website at www.geocities.com/zetasigs

Extras

Utilize Student Congress properly

Tim Slade
Staff Writer

Without trying to stir up a debate over the topic of creationism vs. evolution vs. the theory of divinely-guided-yet-not-micromanaged-development-of-the-human-race, I would like to point out that one of the greatest leaps forward in the history of living beings was made when apes (or humans, or both) first started making tools. Having said that, it follows logically that our development as an intelligent race would not have progressed as rapidly or as completely as it has without our making use of all the resources at our disposal.
Some of our readers may be wondering what on earth that first paragraph has to do with Student Congress; others may already see where this is leading. The stark truth is this: students are allowing one of the most powerful tools in their arsenal of influence to be largely neglected, all the while grumbling about how changes do not get made at this school. Obviously, the situation is absurd; it gets even more ridiculous when you consider that the four top officers of the Student Congress (President Matt vandenBerg (02), Vice Pres. Chris LaCroix (02), Treasurer Andrew Pomerville (02), and Secretary Amy Plackowski (02)) also happen to be among the most recognizable faces on the campus. These four students are involved in numerous campus activities, ranging from Greek

organizations to Choir, from being RAs to being chapel interns, from the Alma Democrats to the Kiltie Band. Two of the officers were on the Homecoming Court, including the King. If the majority of the campus can at least put faces to these names, there is no reason for students not to talk to them about the important issues of the day unless they are unaware of the awesome power this organization possesses.
The Student Congress is composed of representatives from over 60 campus organizations, including all the residence halls, fraternities and sororities, the academic clubs (XEM, HST, etc.), theme-based clubs (such as SALSA and SUN), and myriad others. To ensure proper participation by all organizations, representatives must avoid missing two consecutive meetings or they risk having their budget (which is controlled by the Congress) revoked. The entire Congress meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the SAC Auditorium, and is completely open to the public. In fact, students are encouraged to attend.
"Students gain a lot by going to the meetings and seeing how decisions get made at this school," said Plackowski.
In addition to divvying up money gained from the student activity fee among the various campus organizations, the Congress passes laws in the Student Constitution, on display in the Congress' office across from Student Affairs in Van Dusen,

and acts as the voice for the student body in meetings with the administrators. As might be expected, the President serves as the physical manifestation of the students' voice, meeting with Dr. Tracy, Dean Kridler, and other key administrators on a weekly basis. It is important that our readers understand that, as LaCroix says, "Student Congress' voice is taken very seriously [by the administration]."
This is not an insignificant lobbying group; the Congress has the power to effect major changes unless it is underused, which is the current feeling among the officers regarding the campus' attitude towards the organization. In fact, some people are not even aware that this tool exists to be used.
While the Student Congress has no skeletons in its collective closet and will probably never win a "most exciting campus organization" contest, its glamour has nothing to do with its importance. It is time for students to move the Student Congress up a few rungs on their 'awareness ladders' and start getting involved; a campus organization of this type cannot effectively serve the student body if no one bothers to express interest in it but the people who have to be a part of it anyway. If you want to get some changes made, to get your voice heard, go to a meeting and take a stand. If you are unwilling to do that, you have no right to sit around and gripe about the state of our campus and school. The tools exist; make sure you use them properly.

FEATURE

Martin speaks on sexual issues in the workplace

Reannon Broekema
Opinion Editor

In her keynote address on Oct. 4, Dr. Patricia Yancey Martin, the first Roseanne L. Hoefel Women's Studies Scholar-in-Residence, enlightened students, faculty, and staff about gender construction in the workplace and demonstrated how males, the "privileged" sex, ignore the less privileged females in their work environment.

Martin's address "Gendered Practices, Practicing Gender: Women and Men Construct Each Other at Work" stimulated thought throughout the audience. As a female about to enter the wide world of work and sexism, I was particularly interested in what she had to say regarding the matter.

In light of the events of Sept. 11, Martin began her address by linking her gender topic to the terrorist attacks. While I think the attacks and gender are very important issues to discuss, her connection was somewhat weak as it compared gender attitudes in the workplace to disadvantaged people of the Middle East. (She did, however, admit to the weak link.)

Martin went on to explain what a social institution was and why gender can be labeled as one, and she discussed how people "do" gender. Anyone who has had SOC101 is familiar with these terms and could relate to Martin's address,

especially as she proceeded to explain that the workplace is partly constructed by gender, but that it also constructs gender.

She told a few stories about men and women in the workplace. I thought these were the most entertaining part of her address. While they were nothing I hadn't heard before, she emphasized well the idea that men don't pay attention to gender in the workplace, therefore creating a barrier. Her evidence showed that women consider their careers "work" while men often consider it as a time to build status among other men and play political games.

While Martin's address was very informative, I felt slightly disappointed. I suppose I was expecting her to reveal "new" information about gender issues, not reiterate things that are standard knowledge. I expected her stance to be more feminist-oriented towards gender inequalities in the workplace, and I wanted her address to inspire me to go out and whip the men I am going to be in competition with after graduation.

Gender issues are extraordinarily important in today's society. Women have been historically disadvantaged, and I'm happy to see research, time and energy devoted to changing that. Alma College did a wonderful thing in bringing Martin to the campus. Though her address left something to be desired in me and others, it was an excellent opportunity for students and faculty to become

more acquainted with the gender differences that are present in the workplace. Hopefully her talk will cause everyone, both male and female, students and faculty, to become more aware of what is going on around them in their workplace and their world.

Martin is the Daisy Parker Flory Professor of Sociology at Florida State University, where she specializes in the study of gender, work, organizations and the contemporary women's movement. She has received six awards for teaching excellence, a three-year National Science Foundation grant to research gender in corporations, the 1999 Katherine Jocher-Belle Boone Beard Distinguished Feminist Lecture Award for the Study of Gender, and the Distinguished Feminist Lecture award for 2001 by the American Sociological Association. Her visiting appointments and lectures include several U. S. and European universities. She is the author of over 80 articles, various book chapters and three books.

Martin's residency was sponsored by the Roseanne L. Hoefel Women's Studies Scholar-in-Residence fund. The fund was established in memory of former Alma College associate professor of English and women's studies coordinator Roseanne Hoefel, who passed away in May 2001. The residency incorporates three days of interaction with students and faculty on campus, forums, and the keynote address.

Spring Term Profile China

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

Dr. Liping Bu will introduce a new spring term in 2002 and take twelve students to China to study the country's vast history and culture.

Bu's China spring term is a combination of HST180C and HST 280C. The class will spend its first week studying and preparing on campus so that students have the appropriate background knowledge for the trip, including several useful Chinese phrases.

The group's first stop is Shanghai, which, according to Dr. Bu, is the Chinese equivalent of New York City. After a short time, the group will continue on to Nanjing, where students will spend a week studying and touring. Morn-

ings will be spent studying and the afternoons and evenings will be dedicated to visiting historical sites, schools, and local villages. There will also be some day trips to nearby cities looking at different types of Chinese industry and history.

From Nanjing, the class will head for Xi'an (pronounced Shee-an), the ancient capital of China (where the first emperor established it as such and united the country over 2,000 years ago). Today it is an active economic area in China. While there, students will visit ancient tombs and area villages, paying attention to the differences between central China and Nanjing. One evening will also be spent on cultural events; the unique dancing and music of the Tang dynasty (rulers of the seventh to tenth centuries) will be performed for the group.

The last stop scheduled will be Beijing, the country's capital. The group will spend four to five

days there, touring the city with the goal of experiencing the modern development and influence of Western culture. Students will visit the Imperial Palace and see the Great Wall.

Though eleven students have signed up for the class, Dr. Bu stresses the importance of a dedication and willingness to try new things.

"You have to have intellectual curiosity to learn about other cultures, to try to learn about other people's lives, their history, their culture, and try to understand different customs and values . . . try to be a little adventurous," she said. Not using western values and philosophy to judge others will be essential, she added.

Bu pegs the trip's cost at \$2,900, effectively covering all transportation, hotels and meals.

Next Week's Spring Term Profile will showcase Peru

FEATURE

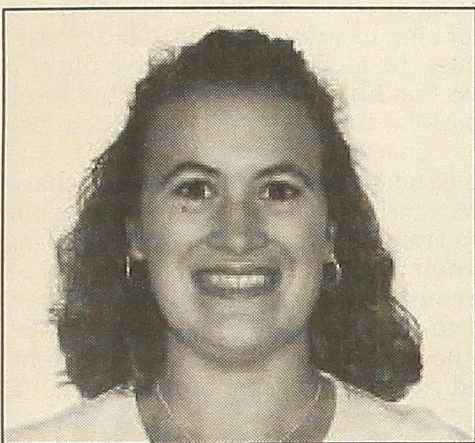
New faces on campus: Gelston and Mitchell Hall Directors

Jennifer Richardson

Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

Students may have noticed a new face in Gelston Hall. That'd be Jennifer Richardson, the hall's new director. She calls her new home "the very social hall."

Richardson is a 21 year-old native of Flushing, Michigan. She attended



Michigan State University and received her bachelor's degree in organizational communication. Her undergraduate work makes her perfect for the position of hall director, as her degree is focused on those involved and in charge of group atmospheres. She is currently applying to continue studies at Michigan State. She would like attend graduate school and earn her master's degree in student affairs.

Richardson was drawn to the job for quite a few reasons. Alma College's size (in comparison to MSU) played a factor. She notes that Alma has "a greater sense of community," and that

the people here tend to respect one another. Richardson also noticed that Alma College is a peaceful place, especially in comparison with East Lansing and Flushing, a community near Flint.

Richardson is well qualified for her new job as she has had some experience keeping college students under control. She was a Resident Assistant at Michigan State and was on the Residence Hall Association, which is similar to the Student Congress at Alma College. She hopes to work with the RAs and help them with their responsibilities.

When Richardson is not in her room or on duty, she can be found in various places. She spends a lot of time with her fiancé (she is engaged to be married in July). She also enjoys shopping and working out at the new recreation center.

Along with serving as an advisor to Alpha Phi Omega, Richardson also assists Amy Blackburn, director of the Recreation Center, in getting students to utilize the center to its greatest potential. She also helps many of the RAs come up with new ideas for their monthly programming.

If you get the chance, make sure to stop by Gelston and say hi to both Richardson and her 3-month-old kitten, Morgan. If you don't get the privilege of meeting her, she still has some advice for all Alma students. "Don't be afraid to try things," "have an open mind," and "have a great time."

Photo by Dan Joyce

Kate McNamee

Kari Joy Johnson
Staff Writer

There are times in life when everything you expect to happen simply does not. Likewise, there are times when things go and take a twist, and suddenly you realize you are somewhere else, doing exactly what it is that you love to do.

Kate McNamee, the new Mitchell Hall Director and employee at the Student Affairs Office, identifies with this sort of mantra.

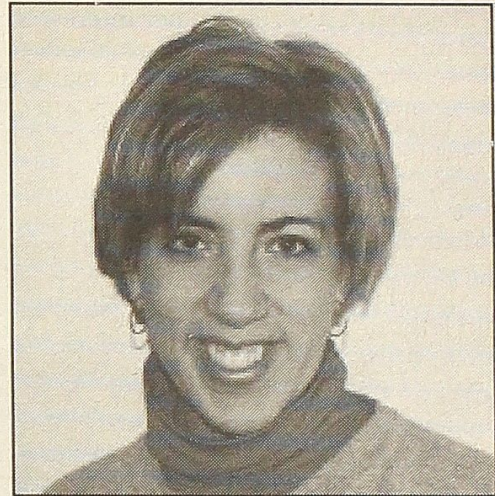
"I never thought I would be a hall director; I wanted to be in fashion marketing and advertising," said McNamee, "but being an RA [Residence Assistant] two and a half years has helped me to realize how much I enjoy the closeness and the environment."

A graduate of the College of St. Catherine's, an all women's school in St. Paul, Minnesota, McNamee majored in business administration with a concentration on marketing and management. Although working at a co-ed college, let alone a "predominately male hall," has been a significant challenge to work with, she says, "I'm looking forward to experiencing a different environment."

Another obstacle McNamee faced when taking the job as a hall director was moving from the Twin Cities area to Alma, but she remembered her first impressions of the school and said, "When I first came here [to Alma] in April, the people that I met were awesome and very welcoming. It was the exact environment I was looking for."

McNamee says she plans to "definitely work on knowing each of my residents on a first name basis so that I can talk to them when they walk by. I love working with students."

Once she realized that being a hall director was something she wanted



to do, she began looking for available positions. "[I] interviewed with a lot of schools and it was quite a job process...a lot of traveling and a lot of interviewing."

With almost a full year ahead of her, McNamee looks forward to the possibilities of how much she will enjoy working with something she loves.

"This year has been so much fun already, and I keep hearing about all the things yet to come."

Photo by Dan Joyce

Eisenhower Dance Ensemble performs, will be part of a two-week residency

Ryan Cannon
Staff Writer

On Saturday, Alma College had the privilege of hosting one of the Midwest's premiere modern dance companies, the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble (EDE), in the Heritage Center's Presbyterian Hall. The group, led by its founder and artistic Director, Laurie Eisenhower, ran the gamut of emotions in five dances.

Bella Danza, the first piece, showed the audience the magnificent technique and grace they would experience during the night. Set to the music of Franz Schubert, the dance showcased the ensemble's mastery of timing and body control.

The second dance, *Veneer*, left its interpretation up to the audience's imagination. Beginning with the dancers on a black stage making grotesque faces and moaning while a voiceover whispered darkly in French, the dancers proceeded to gain momentum as they picked up shoes, and the music became an upbeat polka. Picking up hats changed the music to sultry violins,

and jackets changed it to big band. Eventually the music switched again to mourning woodwinds, as the dancers removed the clothing they had picked up and wandered away forlornly. As it ended, the audience stared in general confusion, but according to associate professor Carol Fike, chair of the Theater/Dance Department, the goal of such a dance is to encourage audience interpretation, create thought, and make each viewer decide what it means to him or her. The fact that you don't "get it" is irrelevant.

A short solo interlude, *My Girl*, featured Laurie Eisenhower in full 70's garb—complete with afro, gold chains, and shiny purple clothes. She illuminated the Temptations' song with signs for almost every word; "can" was signaled by pointing to her rear, and "my girl" symbolized by the traditional hourglass-figure hand motions. The audience was in stitches.

Brava, the last piece before intermission, showcased the group's near perfect timing and synchronization with timed chair scooches and saucy salsa music. Said

Fike, "They worked extremely well together—as an ensemble they were smooth as ice." EDE finished the show with *Evermore*, the musical dramatization of Benjamin Britten's *Simple Symphony*.

Fike said of the performance; "These dancers ate up the space; they danced on the edge; they exhibited exquisite, intelligent movement phrases; they brought it to the audience—whether we understood it or not."

"They explored all the ranges: comical, painful, and beautiful. They made the audience think, and that's what modern art is supposed to do."

The Eisenhower Dance Ensemble performance was part of a two-week residency, during which they will be giving lessons to the College's dance classes. Part of the Alma College Dance Company's concerts on November 9, 10, and 11, will be a section of *MOTOWN*, learned from EDE. The other pieces will be choreographed by the College's dance department faculty.

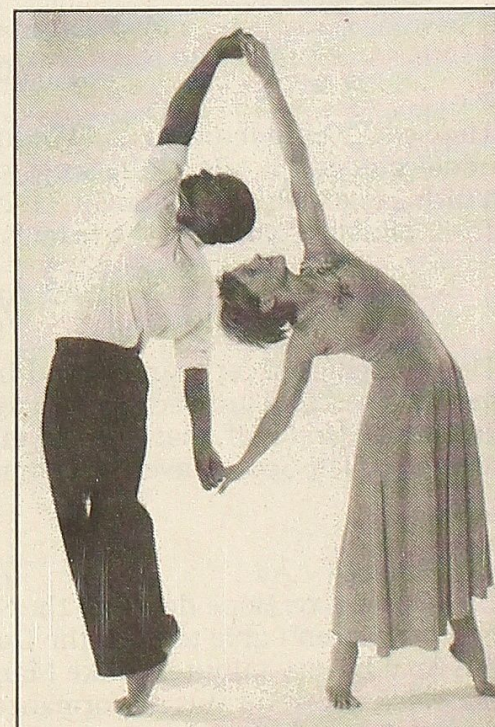


Photo courtesy of Maureen Electra Monte
Gregory Patterson and Darby Wilde perform during the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble's performance on Saturday night.

SPORTS

Rheinhardt sets golf records

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

Golfer Courtney Rheinhardt broke the MIAA and Alma College records on Sept. 22 after completing an 18-hole course in 74 strokes, effectively surpassing her personal record as well.

Rheinhardt has been golfing since she was six. She was on Clio High School's golf team, which she led to state competition during her four years.

Rheinhardt asserts that her interest in golf is not purely competitive. The atmosphere at the conferences is almost social, as many players know members of the teams they are competing against. She believes that having fun while playing golf is essential.

Before Sept. 22, at a non-conference meet, Rheinhardt set a new school record but soon after broke that record with her 74, making her the league MVP. Her season average is currently 79.5; no other player in Alma history has averaged under 80.

Coach Charlie Goffnett believes that at her current rate, Rheinhardt has an excellent chance to qualify for the national tournament this May. He commented that Adrian's course was a very difficult one, and the next best score after Rheinhardt's was ten points higher than her score of 74.

"She's re-writing our books," he said.

The first time she broke a record, Rheinhardt was surprised to learn of her accomplishment. The next week, however, she was more aware of what the record and her own total score were, and she was expecting - though still delighted to find - that she had broken a new record.

"You can't think about the end score while you're playing, you have to think about each hole at a time," Rheinhardt said.

Now that the excitement from her recent record-breaking is dying down, Rheinhardt would like to move on, and set new goals for herself. She does, however, admit to being proud of her accomplishments.

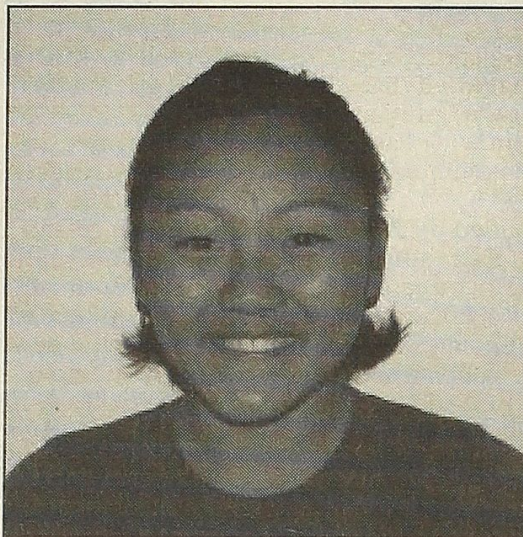


Photo by Dan Joyce
Courtney Rheinhardt (05) broke the MIAA and the Alma College records for Women's Golf during her first season.

"She's re-writing
our
books."

- Coach Charlie
Goffnett, on
Rheinhardt

Sports Track

A fine finale to a grand season

Michael Murphy
Freelance Writer

Barry Bonds' chase for the homerun record has not been the only exciting element this year in baseball.

The fact that he passed by Babe Ruth's record for walks is quite a feat in itself. We are looking at someone that does not go up to bat looking to swing away. Instead, Bonds epitomizes the idea of the "selective hitter." He knows that his skills as a power hitter force the opposition to try whatever it takes to bar him from smacking a round tripper.

When issued a walk as his homerun chase drove on, fans would boo. And they were not even San Francisco Giants fans! Opposing fans booed their home team when they tried to pitch around Bonds. Why? Because they wanted to win the game! Imagine that. Of course, no one would complain if the home team did not win the game because he got a hit.

Well, I commend those teams and pitchers who did pitch around Bonds, even if it meant him getting a walk. They tried to prevent him from beating their team, even if it came at the expense of setting a record that night.

Other big time records have been set this season as well, however they have been obscured by Bonds' chase.

Swingin' Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs became the first player in Major League Baseball history to crush 60 dingers in three straight years. This is an incredible accomplishment. Remember, before 1999, hitting 60 homeruns seemed impossible. No one could do it, we all said.

How wrong we were.

Sosa has smashed that thought. He has become one of the game's preeminent power hitters of all time. Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Hank Aaron, Mel Ott and other Hall of Famers never came close to doing what Sosa did.

Furthermore, when Sosa was chasing the homerun race with McGwire a few years ago, people questioned whether Sosa could do it again.

Oh, has he proven the critics wrong!

Look at McGwire this year. He is having a horrible season due to an injury.

Sosa is showing that he can still hit homeruns despite trying to be pitched around to. He is slowly chiseling his way into Cooperstown.

Definite Hall-of-Famer Rickey Henderson, of the San Diego Padres, broke Ty Cobb's record of most career runs. Cobb originally had claimed the record by scoring 2,245 over his illustrious career.

The record was 73 years old. That record stood longer than Lou Gehrig's record for most games played in a row. It stood longer than Babe Ruth's homerun record. It dates back all the way to when our great great grandparents were living.

That in itself is another amazing record. Once on base, Henderson is always a threat to score.

These three ballplayers have done some pretty amazing things this year. They have broken what seemed to be timeless records. Now people will be wondering if the records they have set will remain the same forever.

Who knows? Probably when we are all gone, someone will be smashing these records over and over. And the excitement we have experienced while watching them chase the records will be enjoyed by others in the future.

That is why records were made to be broken.

Sports Briefs



Women's Volleyball

The Scots were victorious on Wednesday against Hope College, who had previously been undefeated in the MIAA. The Scots lost the first game but took the next two. The Dutch forced a fifth game with a hard fought 31-29 victory. Alma came out victorious in the deciding game 15-8. The next game for the team is today at Kalamazoo College.

Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team played host to Hope on Wednesday but couldn't prevail in the match. The Scots jumped out to a very early 1-0 lead, but Hope managed to pull even at the end of the first half, marking the end of the day's scoring. Jessica Roberts (03) scored the lone goal. The Scots travel to Kalamazoo for a game today.

Men's Soccer

On Wednesday, Hope defeated the Scots 2-0. They kept the game scoreless through the first half but weren't able to keep the Dutch off the scoreboard, as Hope popped in two goals in the final twenty minutes. Mike Mansfield (03) was awarded the MIAA Defensive Player of the Week award for this performance last week. The Scots play host to Kalamazoo at Scotland Yard today.

SPORTS

FAST Stats

Football

	W	L	PF	PA
Adrian	0	5	102	146
Albion	3	2	125	113
Alma	3	2	125	113
Hope	3	1	157	78
K-Zoo	4	0	151	91

Women's Soccer

	W	L	GF	GA
Albion	7	0	20	6
K-Zoo	6	1	29	8
Calvin	6	2	39	11
Olivet	3	3	18	10
St. Mary's	3	4	10	25
Hope	2	5	8	11
Alma	1	6	18	26
Adrian	0	7	2	46

Men's Soccer

	W	L	GF	GA
K-Zoo	4	0	17	1
Calvin	4	2	13	6
Hope	3	1	16	7
Albion	2	2	8	4
Alma	1	3	17	8
Olivet	1	3	12	21
Adrian	0	5	3	36

Volleyball
(League Standings)

	W	L
Hope	7	1
Calvin	7	2
Adrian	6	3
Alma	6	3
Albion	4	5
K-Zoo	4	4
St. Mary's	1	7
Olivet	0	9

Team Profile
Volleyball

Overall
14 - 7



League
6 - 3



Photo by Bryan Waugh

Amanda Baushke
Sports Editor

The Scots volleyball team is currently leading the MIAA with 14 overall wins, seven of which have come against MIAA opponents.

Penny Allen-Cook has been the team's coach since 1996. Before coming to Alma she coached three high school teams, and coached at Grand Rapids Community College. She has high expectations for the rest of the season. "I expect us to continue winning, and to win the conference championship tournament."

"We have a very young team this year. We didn't start slow, but we didn't start in championship mode. We have continued to improve throughout the season. We have gone from middle of the pack to leading the conference in kills, digs, and assists."

Kerri Judson (05) has high expectations for the rest of the season. "Just like anyone else we expect to go as far as we can go. Our main goal was to beat Hope, and we already did that."

Eight first-year students have spots on the

team. "They have all come from solid high school programs where they had high expectations," said Allen-Cook. "They have brought in high expectations of their performance, and it has rubbed off on the upperclassmen. They have brought tenacity to our team."

"Compared to high school I like playing in college a lot better," said Judson. "It's more competitive. In high school there isn't much of a choice who plays. In college everyone knows what they're doing as far as playing on the court."

Seven players returned to the team. According to Allen-Cook, the upperclassmen have been doing well this season. "They have all found their role. Some of them have starting roles and some have back-up roles. We had a meeting, and I told them that they need to be team members. Just because they're not starters does not mean that their impact is any less. They have all been playing their role."

"In all my years coaching, this team has gelled the best of any of my other teams, and this gelling has enhanced our season."

Schedule

Oct 9
Kalamazoo College
Kalamazoo
7 p.m.

Oct 12
Calvin College*
Alma
6:30 p.m.

Oct 13
Madonna University
with Tri-State
Livonia
1 p.m.

Oct 16
Olivet College
Olivet
6:30 p.m.

Oct 19-20
Scotty Volleyball
Invitational
Alma
TBA

Oct 21
St. Mary's College
(Ind.)
Alma
1 p.m.

Oct 25
Adrian College
Adrian
6:30 p.m.

Oct 30
MIAA Tourna-
ment - First
Round
TBA
7 p.m.

Nov 2-3
MIAA Tourney
Semifinals &
Finals

SPORTS

Scots suffer tough 27-26 loss at Gannon

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

The football team suffered a heartbreaking loss Saturday afternoon as Gannon University edged out Alma in the fourth quarter and took the game 27-26.

After coming off a wildly successful homecoming against Hanover that scored him "co-player of the week" status in Don Hansen's Football Gazette, **Steve Slowke** (03) was rattled in the pocket the entire day, sacked 11 times.

The Scots started off on a good note, marching down the field on their first drive and scoring, as Slowke threw a 15-yard touchdown pass to **Mark Boehms** (03).

Gannon answered in the second quarter as Kevin Cloherty sprinted from 15 yards out to score a touchdown. The score remained 7-7 until Scots kicker **Matt Piccirilli** (03) booted a 39-yard field goal to put Alma up 10-7. Gannon would score their final points of the first half as quarterback Jason Cunningham threw a short 5-yard pass to Pat Cain.

After receiving the following kickoff, the Scots eventually moved into field goal position. With 14 seconds left in the first half, Piccirilli added another field goal from 35 yards out, making the halftime score 14-13 in favor of Gannon.

The Scots came out firing on all cylinders in the third quarter as Slowke threw a 12-yard pass to Boehms for a touchdown. Boehms' catch was his second of the day and put Alma up 19-14.

Scots receiver **Kris Ernst** (02) joined the action in the third quarter as he caught a 14-yard pass from Slowke for the score. Things looked to be in check for the Scots as they went up 26-14 with 2:40 remaining in the third quarter.

But the new "lumberjack" defense couldn't cut down the Gannon rushing attack as Kevin Cloherty added two 1-yard touchdown runs in the third and fourth quarters to give Gannon the win 27-26.

After coming off their best rushing performance of the season against Hanover, the Scots managed -24 yards on the ground, while Gannon punished the Alma defense by massing 371 rushing yards.

Although the Scots lost a close call this week, players seem to be optimistic about next week's MIAA conference opener against Albion.

"It's always a big game when we play Albion, but this week will be even bigger because it marks the start of the conference schedule," said running back **Doc Trumble** (03). The Scots must have a win against Albion if they are to compete for the MIAA.

"Every time we play Albion it always has championship implications," said **Ryan Mikulich** (03).

"Every game in the MIAA is always tough, so that is why we can't get ahead of ourselves," added Trumble, "we have to take it one week at a time."

The Scots will look to get back into the win column this week as they travel to Albion Saturday to take on the Albion College Britons. Kickoff is slated for 1:00 p.m.

Score by Quarters 1 2 3 4 Score

Alma College..... 7 6 13 0 26
Gannon University... 0 14 6 7 27

Scoring Summary:

1st 11:19 ALMA - Mark Boehms 15 yd pass from Steve Slowke (Matt Piccirilli kick) 10 plays, 71 yards, TOP 3:41, ALMA 7 - GANNON 0
2nd 14:35 GANNON - Kevin Cloherty 15 yd run (Jarrett Kier kick) 4 plays, 26 yards, TOP 0:31, ALMA 7 - GANNON 7
07:50 ALMA - Matt Piccirilli 39 yd field goal 8 plays, 19 yards, TOP 3:44, ALMA 10 - GANNON 7
01:49 GANNON - Pat Cain 5 yd pass from Jason Cunningham (Jarrett Kier kick) 4 plays, 62 yards, TOP 1:01, ALMA 10 - GANNON 14
00:14 ALMA - Matt Piccirilli 35 yd field goal 4 plays, 9 yards, TOP 0:31, ALMA 13 - GANNON 14
3rd 07:23 ALMA - Mark Boehms 12 yd pass from Steve Slowke (Steve Slowke rush failed) 4 plays, 39 yards, TOP 0:36, ALMA 19 - GANNON 14
02:40 ALMA - Kris Ernst 14 yd pass from Steve Slowke (Matt Piccirilli kick) 1 play, 14 yards, TOP 0:05, ALMA 26 - GANNON 14
01:44 GANNON - Kevin Cloherty 1 yd run (Jarrett Kier kick failed) 3 plays, 82 yards, TOP 0:56, ALMA 26 - GANNON 20
4th 12:52 GANNON - Kevin Cloherty 1 yd run (Jarrett Kier kick) 9 plays, 85 yards, TOP 2:51, ALMA 26 - GANNON 27

	ALMA	GANNON
FIRST DOWNS	14	18
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	-24	371
PASSING YDS (NET)	277	64
Passes Att-Comp-Int	54-24-1	22-7-2
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	78-253	88-435
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	5-64	2-33
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-88	2-3
Interception Returns-Yards	2-15	1-20
Punts (Number-Avg)	32-8	23-4
Fumbles-Lost	3-1	3-2
Penalties-Yards	7-52	6-46
Possession Time	27:13	32:47
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-16	11-71

RUSHING: Gannon Kevin Cloherty 29-221; Darnel Whitfield 10-92; Jason Cunningham 19-41; Al Donadi 5-5; Rausaan Powell 1-12; Tony Cerminara 2-0; Steve Slowke 16-39; James Eddington 2-11; Laurence Trumble 3-3; Jeremy Droptiny 3-1;
Alma

PASSING: Gannon Jason Cunningham 20-6-2 55 1 18 2
Darnel Whitfield 2-1-0 9 0 9 0
Alma Steve Slowke 54-24-1 277 3 36 11

RECEIVING: Gannon Garrison Brown 3-29 Pat Cain 2-14
Kevin Cloherty 1-14 Chris Rioux 1-7
Alma Brian Pierce 7-79; Mark Boehms 8-100; Brian Burgdorf 5-66 Laurence Trumble 1-1; Kris Ernst 3-33

Cross teams place third, fourth

Amanda Baushe
Sports Editor

The men's and women's cross country teams placed third and fourth, respectively, Saturday, at the E. DeWitt Baker Invitational in Huntington, Indiana.

The men finished with a score of 81, 43 points behind Grace College's 38. The leaders were **Ryan Rau** (02), who placed sixth with a 27:57, and **Reid McGuire** (02), who placed seventh with a 28:12.

"It was the most horrendous of courses, but our team accepted the challenge with ferociousness and pride," **Andy Kibbe** (02) said. "I believe the results show our effort."

The women took home 106 points, placing them 75 points behind Huntington, who won. **Erin Stone** (05) and **Corey Cunningham** (05) led

the Scots with times of 20:47 and 20:48, respectively.

"Our team did really well," Stone said. "It was a challenging course and we all looked at it with positive attitudes instead of worrying about running through mud and a stream."

"When we first got to Huntington and looked at the course we saw that we had to run through a river, and we were nervous about the course, but the team pulled through and we had several personal records," said **Lindsay Nederhood** (02).

The Scots were the only teams at the meet in the NCAA's Third Division. All of the other teams that attended the meet are in the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics).

The men's and women's cross country teams travel to Kalamazoo on Friday for the Michigan Intercollegiate Meet.

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Campus

Tuesday

Developing Your Network
4 p.m. The Center

Alpha Gamma Delta
pre-recruitment party
all non-Greek women invited
7 p.m. - 9 p.m. AGD House

Wednesday

Resume & Cover Letter Workshop
2 p.m. The Center

ACUB Coffee House
8 p.m. Van Dusen

Thursday

Life Beyond Alma: Grad School
Success
4 p.m. The Center

Saturday

Alma Symphony Orchestra
8 p.m. Heritage Center

Sunday

Alma Symphony Orchestra
3 p.m. Heritage Center