

The Almanian

serving Alma College since 1907

Rec Center usage raises conflict

Kari Joy Johnson
Staff Writer

Alma's Executive Staff will meet later this week to consider a proposal to divide the time students and varsity athletes may utilize the Alna J. Stone Recreation Center. As of today, no official word has been given on how the Center's time may be split.

President Sandra Tracy, Provost Reginald Avery, Vice-President for Development Carol Hyble and Vice-President of Finance Jerry Scoby make up the executive staff.

Amy Blackburn, director of the Rec Center, described the situation as one in working progress. "[We] are working on developing the most feasible plan for athletics while keeping student

usage intact."

The process of discerning how the Center's resources and time are used, as well as who uses them, is an arduous task undertaken by the Executive Staff on campus. As of now Blackburn says she is "devising a plan, which then goes to the Executive Staff, where they in turn decide who, yes, or no."

"Right now there are teams (men's/women's track, baseball, softball, men's/women's tennis) vying for time at the Center hoping to each receive an allotment of two hours each," she added.

With demands and requests by intramural participants as well as the varsity athletic program, Executive Staff members face significant obstacles in de-

termining the future scheduling for the Recreation Center.

While the issue regarding intramural sports versus varsity sports remains unspecified, the foremost goal of the Rec Center is to focus on maintaining an environment and facility where 'students come first,' which is the motto behind the college and the Rec Center.

"I understand that the students and community members are concerned and that there are definite conflicts over whether or not this [the Recreation Center] is an athletic facility," said Blackburn.

While students and community members in Alma concern themselves over the purpose of the Center, Blackburn herself continues to struggle with enhancing the Center's usage.

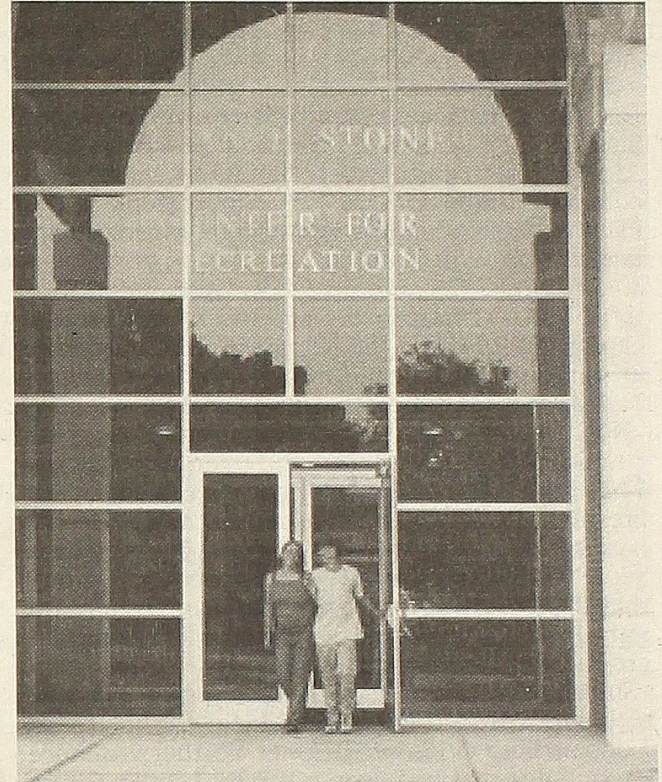


Photo by Dan Joyce

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A firestorm continues to brew over the proposed availability of the Rec Center.

Habitat for Humanity works in St. Louis

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

The Alma College chapter of Habitat for Humanity has been working on a house in St. Louis since the beginning of October and continues to build every Saturday.

The chapter has around forty members, many of whom have helped build the house every Saturday. So far they have replaced the roof on the garage and put siding on the garage and the house.

Originally, the lot contained only a

garage. Since Habitat for Humanity has taken on this project they have begun construction on a home as well.

The college chapter works in conjunction with the Gratiot County chapter, which holds the building license for such projects. The Gratiot County Chapter began work on the house in the beginning of August. They hope to have the house completed by Christmas.

In the future, the two chapters will insulate, build a porch, and put up dry wall. When all of that work is

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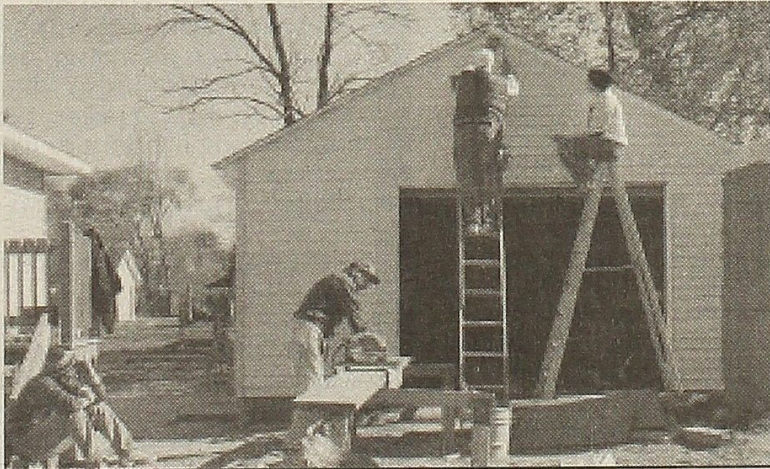


Photo by Dan Joyce

Habitat for Humanity volunteers help to build a house for the less fortunate. Members of Alma's chapter work Saturday mornings.

Svejcara authors sections of environmental publication

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

Late last month Heather Svejcara (02) became a published author. After spending a large portion of her summer working with U.S. leaders of the International Risk Assessment Network (IRN), a coalition of thirteen European countries and the United States), Svejcara's name now appears on the cover of "Cold War Environmental Legacies," a publication about the history of IRN, the challenges they face, and the presentations given at the 2001 Eco-Informa Conference.

The makings for this accomplishment began last year when Svejcara applied to the Environmental Protection Agency for an internship. The competition was intense, and the agency selected only sixteen interns. But instead of working for the EPA, she was assigned to an energy project.

Svejcara's internship began last spring in Chicago, where she was working at the Argonne National Laboratory. There she worked on an international environmental conference called Eco-Informa 2001. She also worked with the IRN and helped organize the conference while sitting in on meetings and learning about the coalition.

Svejcara's boss took notice of her

involvement in the IRN network and talked with Paul Moskowitz, a U.S. IRN leader. The two arranged for Svejcara to go to Long Island, where she worked with Moskowitz and Ludmila Shelenkova at the Brookhaven National Laboratory on "Cold War Environmental Legacies."

Various types of work were required for the publication. Svejcara wrote the introduction and background, designed the format and the cover, and set up tables and illustrations. She also helped Moskowitz and Shelenkova write some of the sections. The publication was produced during June and July and was funded by the Center for Risk Excellence and the Brookhaven National Laboratory.

"It was a great experience," says Svejcara. "I learned a lot about what goes into making a publication and about the international community." She also said that she is proud of the accomplishment and hopes that it will help her career.

Svejcara's Alma experience has launched her into extensive environmental and economic experience. She spent the 1999 summer working with the Polish government on the "Civil Society Project," where she dealt with economic development and environmental issues. The following

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NEWS

War on terrorism rages

Brendan Guilford
Staff Writer

As the war on terrorism stretches into its third month, President Bush spent the last week entreating other nations at the United Nations in an attempt to garner more support for the alliance of nations currently bombing Taliban positions in Afghanistan.

While most nations have been hesitant to commit forces to a battle that many see as over-zealous, several U.S. allies have recently sent troops to Afghanistan. Japan and Germany have both committed military units to support the U.S. and Britain, the first major military action for either nation since World War II.

Meanwhile, U.S. and British warplanes continue to pound Taliban forces around Afghanistan's capital Kabul while the Northern Alliance forces are gaining large amounts of territory against Taliban troops in the northern area of the country.

Northern Alliance officers claim that their troops could push towards Kabul and over-run the city. This move has been strongly discouraged by President Bush, who has pushed for a new, broad-base coalition government to be installed. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld admitted on Sunday that if the Northern Alliance made an attempt on Kabul that "we don't have enough forces on the ground to stand in their way."

Since Friday the Northern Alliance have claimed to have captured the cities Mazar-e-Sharif and Taloqan. Both cities were former Northern Alliance strongholds that had been taken by Taliban forces several months ago recently. It also claims to have slain over 200 of the Taliban's finest warriors in a battle for Taloqan. Both sides have exaggerated

claims in the past and foreign news agencies are unable to confirm these reports, as access to the frontlines is extremely limited.

In Mazar-e-Sharif a more moderate version of Islam is already beginning to take root, even as the fighting rages on in the distance. Men stand in lines blocks long to wait for a barber to cut off their beards, music is played openly in the streets and women are casting off their burqa veils, which cover them from head-to-toe. With the Taliban's Ministry of the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice or "religious police" now cast out of the city, the population jubilantly celebrates its liberation.

While the battle rages on in Afghanistan, Muslims across the globe are voicing anger over the bombing campaign. Massive riots in Pakistan are only barely under control, despite massive military efforts to control the crowds. Pakistan's president Pervez Musharraf is under fire from numerous Muslim nations for supporting the U.S. led efforts and quelling the rioting with military force.

Thousands of Muslims in Indonesia are calling for the severing of diplomatic ties with the United States. Indonesia contains the highest percentage of Muslims in its populace of any nation.

Osama bin Laden recently stated that he and his al-Qaeda terrorist network have biological and nuclear weapons, and two retired Pakistani scientists have recently admitted to meeting with bin Laden several years ago. "Pakistan is fully alive to the responsibilities of its nuclear status," President Musharraf stated on Saturday at the United Nations in New York. "Let me assure you all that our strategic assets are well guarded and are in safe hands."

NEWS BRIEFS

Anthrax terrorist likely a male loner

An FBI official released a statement on Friday describing their likely profile of the person responsible for mailing anthrax to several locations across the nation including New York City and Congress. "The terrorist who mailed anthrax-tainted letters is probably a man, something of a loner, with scientific ability who lacks the personal skills necessary to confront others' face to face," the FBI reported. Since the initial discovery of the bacteria, four people have died and 13 have been hospitalized.

Former President Clinton resigns from Bar

Former President Bill Clinton resigned from the Supreme Court Bar according to his attorney in a statement released on Friday. David Kendall, Clinton's attorney, sent a two-page letter to the Court stating, "Former President Clinton hereby respectfully requests to resign from the bar of this court." This act changes little in Clinton's daily activities, as Clinton has never argued in front of the Supreme Court and had no plans to in the future. The Southeastern Legal Foundation, the group that brought the complaint against Clinton, was satisfied. "Today's decision by Mr. Clinton ensures his place in legal history as the only sitting U.S. president to face disbarment charges and only the second U.S. president to lose his law license," said Phil Kent, the group's president.

Two unexploded bombs found at Michigan Tech

Two Unexploded bombs were found outside the forestry department building at Michigan Technological University at 3:30 a.m. Monday morning. The bombs consisted of buckets filled with an unidentified explosive liquid attached to ignition devices, were defused by state police without injury. Police suspect that the building was a target of eco-terrorism, because the U.J. Noblet Forestry Building and the U.S. Forest Service Engineering Laboratory includes genetic engineering research for the forest products industry.

Attempt to stop assisted suicide halted

U.S. District Court Judge Robert Jones granted a temporary restraining order on Thursday, blocking Attorney General John Ashcroft's attempt to strip Oregon doctors of their medical licenses for assisting patients in committing suicide. The law was approved in 1997 by Oregon voters and was signed into law by Gov. John Kitzhaber in 1999. The action by Ashcroft is a reversal of his predecessor Janet Reno's 1998 order.

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finished they will begin to paint and proceed with the finishing touches.

Gratiot County provides funding for the house. President of the Alma chapter, **Carrie Hecht (03)**, said, "A lot of people are under the impression that Habitat for Humanity just gives away houses, but the people who receive the houses do pay the full cost. A good way to look at it would be to say that we build the house in the cheapest way possible to make it affordable for Habitat for Humanities families."

Houses usually go to families who want to live in a house but cannot afford market prices. Habitat for Humanity uses volunteer labor and charity to build at a cheaper price. The families pre-choose the home and pay with no interest and a low monthly payment. The process does not use mortgage agencies.

Families who receive homes through Habitat for Humanity have to put in 100 hours of what is known as sweat equity. This means that they either have to work on their own home or other Habitat for Humanities homes in the future. If they do not, there are penalties.

A mother and father, three children, and a grandmother will live in the soon-to-be-built house.

Hecht has worked on three different Habitat for Humanity homes in the past. Last spring break, she traveled to New Orleans with Reverend Perry to help complete a home.

The Alma College chapter of Habitat for Humanity began last fall. At the time they did not have a charter. Hecht volunteered to be president and began working to obtain a charter. They became an official chapter last May. Dr. Deb Dougherty, associate professor of Spanish, is the chapter's faculty advisor.

Habitat for Humanity, in this area, usually only builds one home per year. When this project is done, they will continue humanitarian works with the Women's Aide Shelter and the Gratiot Community Commission on Aging. In January, the college chapter will travel to Albion to help that college work on a different home.

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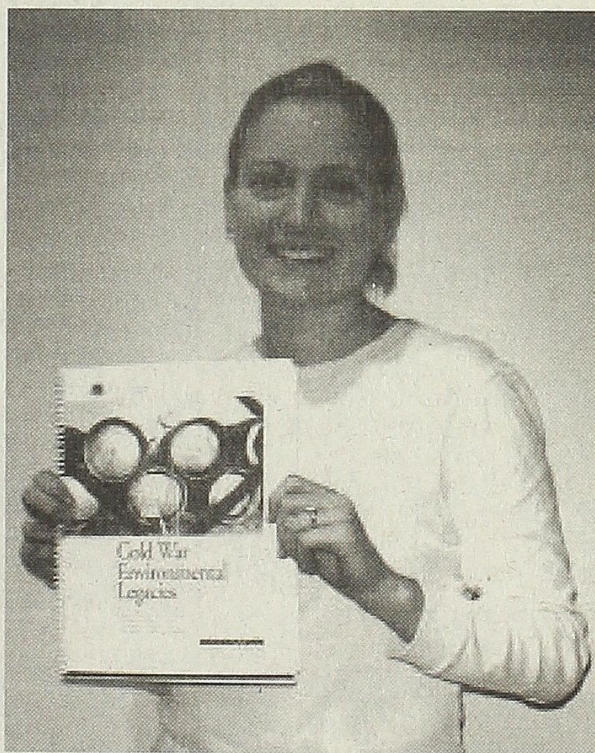


Photo by Brian Waugh

Heather Svejcara (02) holds "Cold War Environmental Legacies," an environmental publication she assisted in writing over the summer.

summer she went to Slovakia, where she worked on similar issues. Additionally, earlier this year Svejcara won the prestigious 2001 Udall scholarship. Her program of emphasis in college is Environmental Policy and Management.

Despite her accomplishments, Svejcara remains modest. When speaking to incoming freshman, she emphasized the importance of taking advantage of the programs Alma offers, as these can play a large part in success. Her advisor, Dr. Lorenz, agrees. "She's a model of what her successors can do," he says.

News

Crawford and Macha sing anthem in Ithaca

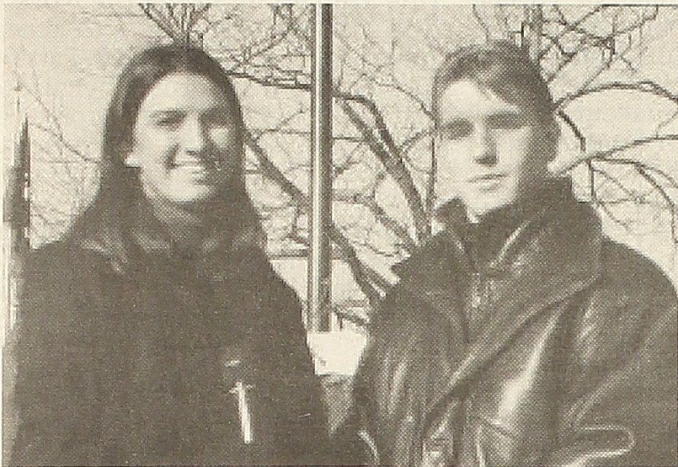


Photo by Scott Timmreck
Jillian Macha (03) and Travis Crawford (03) sang the national anthem at Sunday's dedication ceremony.

Scott Timmreck
Editor in chief

Travis Crawford (04) and Jillian Macha (04) saw a dream come true Sunday afternoon, when they opened the dedication ceremony of the Gratiot County All-Wars Memorial by singing "The Star Spangled Banner" in front of the Ithaca courthouse and approximately 1,200 people.

"I was very excited," said Crawford. "It's something I've always dreamed about doing."

Macha received the opportunity to sing thanks to her grandfather, who played a prominent role in making the memorial a reality. After being asked to perform, she asked Crawford to accompany her.

"I did this for my grandfather and I thank him for serving our county," Macha said.

Crawford and Macha practiced together once

a week and once with the Ithaca High School Band, which accompanied both students Sunday.

In addition to participating in Alma's music program, Macha leads praise and worship at the United Brethren Church. She also spent one year at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in northern Michigan. Crawford was a key part of his high school's music department.

The memorial lists the names of the 174 Gratiot County residents who gave their lives in Vietnam, Korea and both World Wars. Also at the dedication were State Sen. Mike Goschka, State Rep. Larry DeVuyst, U.S. Rep. Dave Camp and Brig. Gen. Michael J. Rice, director and adjutant general for Veterans Affairs of Michigan.

Confidentiality concerns prevent creation of records database

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

The registrar's and information technologies offices have been working to provide advisors with electronic records of their advisees to improve the advising process, but have postponed the process.

In the late 1980s, the registrar's office moved from a card record system to an electronic database to keep student records. The business, financial aid, admissions, and registrar's offices were tied together in this change in operations. The database was a mainframe that could perform far more tasks than the preceding system. Students and advisors were given more reports throughout the semesters.

Before long, the system changed again. The college moved to a company called Quodata, out of Hartford, Conn. At that time, offices on campus discussed moving away from the mainframe system and moving toward client-server software.

In 1999, Karen Klumpp, registrar, was

students' confidentiality rights. The college only shares students' records if it is in the student's best interest. Thus, records cannot be placed on a system where they would be available to anyone who has access to that database.

"The benefit is that advisors will easily have information available when advising students," said David Reed, director of information technology. "The concern is that we have to be absolutely certain that that information is only available to advisors for confidentiality reasons."

The software that the college currently uses does not lend itself to such confidentiality rights. As of now, the registrar's office can produce any document that a faculty member may need.

"One thing that I really feel strongly about is having everything set up in the students' best interest," Klumpp said.

The implications of a change in software are hard on all the offices and on the IT staff. First, they have to obtain the status

The benefit is that advisors will easily have information available when advising students. Our concern is that we have to be absolutely certain that that information is only available to advisors for confidentiality reasons.

~David Reed

part of a task force that invited other companies to the college to demonstrate different types of software. However, the college made the decision to stay with the Quodata Company, with whom the campus offices still operate.

Software issues were further complicated when Quodata was taken over by another division of that company known as Jenzabar. The college is not in the process of updating existing offices on the new Jenzabar software. The development office is the only office to have gone with a different program that better fits its needs.

The main conflict with moving to an electronic database for advisors is

quo and keep developing from there.

Currently, the registrar's office is running parallel systems - the old system with the new. The office workers are pushing to put a new system into use.

Klumpp and others encourage students to give feedback on the system. They are also encouraged by students' desire to have electronic records available to advisors.

"We want to make sure," Reed said, "that they [advisors] have the most up-to-date information for the students they advise."

Corporate businessman to speak on campus

Nikole Canute
News Editor

Peter F. Secchia, CEO of the William G. Currie company, will speak to the campus community on Friday from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm in Dow L1.

Secchia is addressing the campus following a request from Michael Trebesh, professor of business administration, after Trebesh read an article about him that was printed in *The Detroit News*. The presentation is sponsored by Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), the economics department and by The Ford Motor Company Business Lecture Series, a program established with a grant from the Ford Motor Company.

The presentation will last approximately one hour and focus on international business, and a question-and-answer period will follow.

Secchia is a Michigan State University graduate, whose career includes an ambassadorship to Italy. Currently, he is the CEO of William G. Currie, a supplier of pre-fabricated housing components that booked sales of \$1.4 billion last year.

Trebesh has invited the city mayor and city council members to attend the presentation, as well as posting a community announcement in *The Morning Sun*. "It's open to everybody," he said.

Kim Yaroch, co-president of SIFE, said, "It should be interesting...he seems very upbeat."

Secchia is the first Ford Motor Company speaker of the year, but plans are already being made for a January 25 speaker.

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"[I] was under the impression that if you build it, they will come," said Blackburn.

She encountered surprise with "not as much of a turn out as expected," she added. Rather than acknowledging the surprisingly low participation to lazy students, or unaware students, she optimistically accredits the attendance statistics to "hopefully busy students."

In her first year as director for the Rec Center, Blackburn looks forward to taking another look at the programming behind the activities currently planned. She is investigating the possibility of starting a weekend evening line-up of events such as holding a karaoke, mock-casino and movie night as well as the possibility of a concert. With the available space and facility on the weekend, Blackburn would like to even out the periods of time when students want to enjoy the Center.

"Five o'clock on would be considered the busiest time period, particularly around eight or nine in the evening," said Blackburn.

By making the Center accessible to the College throughout the weekend, Blackburn hopes to increase the Recreation Center's overall involvement and participation.

OPINION

Staff

Editorial

Share democracy

Notwithstanding the awful plane crash yesterday in New York City, our lives seem to be getting pretty close to normal again after two months of war talk, irrational fears and that bothersome anthrax scare. We're already buying Christmas presents and making spring break plans. Good for us. But we're not done.

Our task is a new one. With the world's eyes more closely trained on us than ever before, now is the time for America to present democracy to the world in its purest and best form. The Bush Administration is attempting to accomplish that very task by means of beaming more objective news broadcasts into the Muslim world, and by bringing foreign journalists and students here to see how democracy and a free press can thrive. Some officials have spoken of reopening overseas U.S. libraries and cultural centers that most people deemed useless after the Cold War.

Here at Alma, students and faculty have behaved admirably in attempting to understand America's situation, as evidenced by the enrollment of Dr. Lorenz's public affairs colloquium centering on Sept. 11 and the number of books on Islam that continue to stream from the library into dorm rooms. But like our country's leaders, we too must apply our understanding of the country's situation and step up and spotlight America, despite its faults some see in foreign policies, cultural decadence and other key areas of our democracy.

Alma can be a rough place to promote democracy because the ideal is commonplace. But simply reminding a friend about the positive aspects of America, like our university cultures (try to name five well-regarded schools outside the U.S. and Britain that have histories of excellence), freedom of speech rights, technological prowess (planes and space shuttles, to name two examples) and freedom of the press, can work wonders for our democracy. We should continually be aware of the good things around us so we can share them with other nations and other peoples.

If ever there was a time to be patriotic, now is it. The bombs and missiles raining down on Afghanistan may have an eventual positive effect on our national security, and some may deem those sorts of actions as a weird form of patriotism, but our real love for the country will shine when we help people, including each other, see what a great place America is and what greatness it can bring to other parts of the world.

Letter to the Editor

To the editors:

In last week's Almanian, Dr. Eugene Pattison offered a rebuttal of an article by Mr. Tim Slade. While I disagree with some of Mr. Slade's opinions, Dr. Pattison's inaccurate and malicious criticism of fundamentalists offended me and, in my opinion, grossly distorted the truth about such groups. Such remarks deserve and necessitate a response.

I am a conservative Catholic, and as such hold many views similar (and some dissimilar) to those of fundamentalist Protestants. I have attended St. Mary's Catholic Church throughout my time at Alma. Furthermore, few of my Protestant friends routinely switch churches. To the best of my knowledge, no religious group on campus has recently switched sponsors.

Therefore, Dr. Pattison's "church-hoppers" comment seems to be an inaccurate and cheap put-down to those he disagrees with. To be fair, some people do change churches, but it is because they are looking for one that shares their beliefs, not to "have their own way." Dr. Pattison claims fundamentalist Christian groups practice "arm-twisting" and "threats about faith." Perhaps the "threats about faith" are merely warnings that can be found in the Bible, namely that Hell awaits us unless we accept Jesus. The "arm-twisting" may perhaps be friendly nudges away from sin. Are these wrong? Dr. Pattison quotes I Cor 13:5 that love "does not insist on its own way." However, these groups are not insisting on their own way but on God's way! The position of liberal Protestants like Dr. Pattison denies the nature of sin. God may love us, but He also instructs us to avoid sin. I Cor 6:9-10 says "Do not be deceived; neither fornicators nor idolaters nor adulterers nor boy prostitutes nor sodomites nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor robbers will inherit the kingdom of God."

Do not be deceived, Dr. Pattison! These fundamentalist groups you deride are merely doing the work of Christ in leading others to accept Jesus and denounce sin. Dr. Pattison further calls these groups "vigilante" and "no better than the terrorists on the fringes of Islam, who beset us now." These comments are divisive, un-Christian and hateful. They have no place on an enlightened campus. Campus religious groups have never in any way advocated or perpetrated violence, and to compare them to terrorists is not only distasteful but the worst form of libel. Instead of presenting rational arguments, Dr. Pattison resorts to malicious mudslinging.

I believe that Rev. Perry and Andrew Pomerville are performing their mission well, which is to provide this campus with ecumenical (and non-denominational) chapel services. By their very nature, however, these services must be watered-down. It is not surprising then, indeed it is commendable, that Christian students choose to attend stronger services, which do more justice to true Christianity. This is not a criticism of Rev. Perry's services but an acknowledgement that true Christianity is more fundamentalist than non-denominational services allow.

You can read more about fundamentalist Christianity in The Bible, written by God and published by a myriad of publishers. If the messages therein seem too difficult for some to accept, feel free to reject God and continue practicing your watered-down religion.

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and those who enter through it are many. How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life." (Matt 7:13-14) "Although they know the just decree of God that all who practice such things deserve death, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them." (Rom 1:32)

John Gardai (03)

The Almanian

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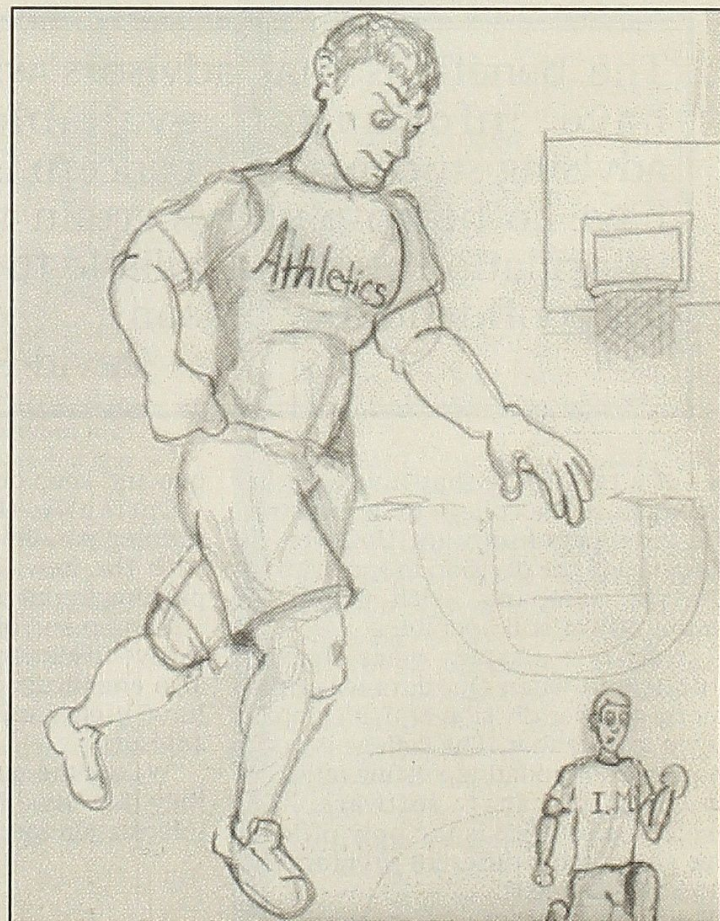
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Letter Policy

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.



Cartoon by Dan Markiecki

OPINION

Left is
right

The U.S. is alone

The United States has no useful military allies in the war in Afghanistan. Despite the attention given to the international coalition assembled by Secretary of State Colin Powell since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the fact remains that we are essentially on our own.

Our fearless allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), our main military alliance, simply do not have the capabilities we need right now. The root of the problem lies in geography. During the Cold War, with the Soviet Union capable of marching over Western Europe, the governments of that area designed large armies that could protect their territory but weren't terribly mobile. The Germans, for example, designed their army to fight in the middle of Germany, not to be shipped thousands of miles away.

Surrounded by two oceans, we did need an army that could be shipped a great distance and arrive ready to fight. Hence, we invested heavily in shipping, large transport aircraft, and a million other things needed to support an army far away from home. During the Persian Gulf War, for example, we sent over half a million troops to Saudi Arabia and then brought everything home, something our allies could not have begun to do, even though they still had large Cold War designed militaries.



A second problem lies in the ability to fight, or lack thereof, of our allies. All of our allies in NATO—18 other countries—

Chris Machnacki

spend less on defense than we do in any given year. Even more critically, our allies spend next to nothing researching and developing new technologies. This problem presented itself most acutely in Kosovo, where Americans flew most of the combat missions and nearly all of the specialized missions like radar-jamming. Even if our allies could get troops to Afghanistan, they couldn't do much.

Third, this war is not popular. While sympathy for the U.S. remains high in the wake of the attacks, sympathy for our response has tapered off. No European government wants to send its troops to fight a war its people oppose. Even when our allies do pledge troops, they generally do so with the stipulation that they will not be used in combat. The Netherlands, a true military powerhouse, just did precisely this. Most troop contributions take the form of a small number of naval vessels or planes. Afghanistan being landlocked, ships are not our priority right now.

This cop-out allows our allies to say that they are helping us, and at the same time gives them political coverage at home by saying their troops are not in danger. The main thing we can hope to get from these allies, which is by no means unimportant, is cooperation on the financial and intelligence side of the war that does not get nearly the same amount of coverage.

Except for Pakistan, which knows that it would face our wrath for not cooperating, no Islamic country dares to side openly with us. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and others have all noted that the attacks on our country have not exactly aroused great sympathy among their populations. Osama bin Laden remains a hero in many of these countries. Any help we get from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait will have to be very covert and deniable.

The practical importance of all this is that it frees us of having to wage war by committee, as we did when NATO fought in Kosovo. If we are doing the fighting and dying, no one can really tell us how to do it.

Dance is indeed difficult



This weekend witnessed three stellar performances by the Alma College Dance Company and assorted members of the community, encompassing styles

Tim Slade

varying from classical ballet to abstract

modern dance to contemporary (20 years ago) Motown. The dancers were superb, the costumes were dazzling and the choreography was intriguing. Unfortunately, there were two things that kept me from enjoying the performance to the fullest.

While some of those present at the Friday night performance might think one of the things that bothered me was the little girl in the 5th row from the front who, during Carol Fike's "Glimpse," kept asking when they were going to start dancing and what on Earth their erratic movements were supposed to mean. Quite to the contrary, I thought the little girl was quite cute and was simply vocalizing the things that some of the more refined adults might have been thinking but were too proper to say, and I couldn't really blame her for that. Despite the little girl's constant chatter during said piece, I really dug it. The lighting and costumes were really trippy; combined with the very unusual choreography, they left me quite dazzled.

The first thing that kept me from fully enjoying the performance was the fear that one of the performers who is near and dear to my heart was going to hurt herself again. During one of the dress rehearsals she suffered a wrist injury, and I was terrified that she would aggravate it by performing again. Like many athletes who learn to "play through the pain," she refused to let the wrist bother her; while frustrating for someone who loves her and is concerned for her well-being, her perseverance is quite commendable.

This dancer is far from the only person in the ACDC that has performed through pain. Myriad other dancers perform despite terrible shin splints that leave them unable to walk without pain (much less dance), while others have bad knees, tendonitis in their ankles and Achilles tendons, blood blisters and missing toenails. A select few have to endure the worst scourge of all: the dance belt. The dedication and determination of these dancers is truly amazing, not to mention their pain threshold. It is one thing to have the capacity to tolerate pain or discomfort for a short period of time while enjoying the benefits of the adrenaline rush that invariably accompanies being onstage; it is quite another to subject yourself to incredible discomfort on a daily basis in a more mundane setting, as the members of the ACDC do when they take ballet classes. I am unable to speak for those who take

modern, jazz, or tap classes, as I have not experienced any of them, but I am currently taking Ballet 1, and let me assure you, it can be rough.

In fact, my experiences in ballet (note this seamless segue) are the second thing that prevented me from fully enjoying the performance. As someone once rightly said: ignorance is bliss. Having some idea of the difficulty of the techniques shown on stage just served to frustrate me. All I could think of while watching Ed dance was "Jeté, jeté, assemblé..." and how he was making things with which I had struggled mightily look easy beyond belief. My ire was equally piqued when I saw Emilia and assorted other females onstage perform developpés to the height of their shoulders, where I can barely get my leg to reach waist height, much less stay there while promenade-ing around two or three times in rapid succession.

The entire performance was a reminder of how difficult the things these men and women were doing truly are. Take myself as a case study: I have been playing sports, both organized and otherwise, since I was four years old. I have shown enough coordination and overall ability to be at least average in every single sport I have tried, and above average in many. What is more, all the sports have blessed me with a fair amount of flexibility, at least for a male. Regardless of the above facts, I have shown myself to be an abysmal failure in ballet. My plié is depressingly short, I cannot get my legs to remain fully extended when I jump, and the effort required to remain [nominally] turned out at all times takes more mental strength than any puzzle I have ever tried to solve—all these shortcomings are evident at the barre (which you would think would be the easy part of the class). When we move out to center, things completely fall apart; I will spare us all the painful description thereof.

Essentially, I was unable to fully appreciate the beauty of the dancer's performances because I was distracted by my appreciation for everything else about them. Their capacities to overcome pain, especially all those girls in point shoes (rock climbing shoes hurt bad enough; I cannot imagine being on point), and the knowledge of the difficulty of the maneuvers they were performing had me completely in awe. As an athlete, I feel fully qualified to say that none of the styles of dance showcased over the weekend are in fact sports. However, as someone who has attempted to dance, I also feel qualified to say that ballet requires just as much overall body coordination as any sport out there, and a lot more discipline/mental focus. It is time that those of us who represent the athletes of the world start according dancers the respect their efforts deserve; they not only do things most of us could not imagine doing, they do it in a beautiful manner.

Dear Scottie . . .

Dear Scottie,

I love music just as much as anyone else like, in particular, my neighbors. Unfortunately, they have a habit of flaunting the bass of their sound system by blaring rap from the crack of dawn until the wee hours of the morning. Now, I am down with Nelly and Jay-Z, but at 6 a.m. they just don't do it for me. I've tried slamming my head, hand, and finally my entire body against the wall to let them know how painful their rap is to my ears. Please, Scottie, help me! I'm on the road to masochism madness!

-Rapped in Agony

Dear Rapped,

It sounds as if you have quite the issue to settle with your neighbors. My suggestion is to kindly knock on their door (lightly, considering how sore you are) politely asking them to keep their music turned down. If this doesn't work, you may want to resort to a more assertive means of problem solving. Perhaps referring to page 100 in the trusty Student Life Handbook will help. I suggest you rip out the 'Quiet Hours/Noise' section, highlighting the key points and taping it to your neighbor's door. Your little gift of a reminder will be sure to get your point across. If this still doesn't work, try ripping their stereo out of the wall and tossing it into the hallway. Sometimes a not-so-subtle message is the only answer to this sort of problem.

OPINION

Rec Center use: Fix the time woes

The new Alan J. Stone Center for Recreation is one's of Alma's biggest recruiting tools this academic year. The



**Reannon
Broekema**

new facility boasts a suspended indoor track, four basketball/tennis/volleyball courts, a fitness room, a multi-purpose room and a climbing wall. Students can participate in a wide variety of intramural sports and fitness classes offered. All in all, the new Rec Center is a great facility for the community.

The Rec Center should provide students, faculty, staff and community members with the warm fuzzy feeling that the College wants to provide them the best recreational facility it can offer. The presence of such a facility on our campus should also leave would-be Scots (prospective high school students) with the impression that Alma College cares enough about its students and community to offer them a versatile

recreational center that they can use at their leisure.

While the Rec Center does provide a source of pride for Alma College, the rumor mill has been churning again and the Rec Center is the focus. Word has it that the new facility is going to be largely reserved for varsity athletics practice time, with regular student and community recreational time dramatically decreased. This violates everything the Rec Center stands for, according to its mission statement, objectives and purpose (this information can be found in booklets that are available at the Rec Center front desk).

If I may cite the mission statement: "The mission of the Alan J. Stone Center for Recreation is to provide recreational programs to the College community with emphasis on meeting student needs. The services offered provide life-enhancing recreational opportunities for the physical, mental and social well-being of all our users. The Center takes great pride in providing students, faculty, staff and the community an opportunity to balance work and recreation through a variety of

programs and services."

According to the mission statement (and common sense), the facility was put on this campus to serve ALL students, faculty, staff and community members, not just students who participate in varsity athletics. How can the College "meet student needs" if it denies them the opportunity to use the building? I don't think I'll have any "life-enhancing recreational opportunities" for my "physical, mental and social well-being" by watching a sports team practice through the Rec Center windows. What's the use of "balancing work and recreation through a variety of programs and services" when my balancing time is pushed back to inconvenient hours of the day or night because I have to wait for the sports teams to finish?

I realize that the Rec Center most likely won't be completely closed to students while varsity sports use it for practice time, and this may just be a nasty rumor being spread around campus (it's happened before). Some sports even require its use. I know the tennis teams have always had to drive to other facilities to obtain an indoor practice environment during winter months—now they don't have to, and I am happy that our college can provide them with this environment. While it is acceptable for teams with

no other means of practice facilities to use the Rec Center for practice, has the College forgotten about the gym, pool, weight room, locker rooms and athletic training facilities of the Hogan Physical Education Center? Varsity sports now have this entire facility to use at their leisure. I'm not saying that an occasional practice in the Rec Center is out of the question. Having been on a varsity team for two years I realize the inconvenience of having 10 p.m. to midnight practices because the gym was in use for a basketball game. But do varsity sports need to dominate the use of the new Rec Center?

If Alma College administrators are really thinking about allowing major varsity athletic practice time in the new Rec Center, I suggest they reevaluate their policies. The Objectives and Purpose of the Rec Center handbook states one of the objectives of the facility is "to assist in the recruitment and retention of students." With enrollment down 80 students, limiting the Rec Center's student use would not be a wise recruiting decision. Prospective students will not want to attend a college where there is limited access to a recreational facility. Do students a favor and let us work off our stress by working out in the Rec Center; don't add to it by depriving us of an outlet.

Drugs don't relieve stress

Alan I. Leshner, Ph.D.
Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse

Bethesda, Md.—(COLLEGIATE PRESSWIRE)—Stress in college can be tremendous. Social, academic, and financial pressures all take their toll on college students from the day they arrive until graduation.

For freshmen, there are problems adjusting to separation from home and family, as well as leaving the comfort of high school for the overwhelming demands of higher education. For seniors, there are concerns about jobs and the future.

Every student copes with myriad problems, including peer pressure and social acceptance, dating and relationships, finances, and the stress of the academic program itself—workload, papers, and exams.

For many students, the stress builds, often producing physical, emotional, and social disruptions of varying degrees. For some, the stress becomes so great that it results in depression.

Too often, students under stress turn to drugs of abuse to relieve the pressure. Nicotine, alcohol, and illegal drugs are seen as a panacea for stress, anxiety, depression, and personal pain. The problem is that this approach merely treats the symptoms while, at the same time, increasing the risks of long-term health problems.

Students use cigarettes as stress reducers in spite of well-publicized risks. Nicotine acts as both a central nervous system stimulant and sedative. But it's highly addictive. Once a person is hooked, it's tough to quit. The health risks of long-term cigarette smoking are well known. And coeds who smoke, especially those who take birth control pills, are opening themselves up to an extra set of risks.

Marijuana is another stress-reduction choice that has drawbacks. Short-term effects of marijuana use include memory problems, difficulty in thinking and problem solving, distorted perceptions, loss of coordination, increased heart rate, anxiety, and panic attacks.

More importantly, studies of college students have shown that long-term marijuana use can impair the essential skills related to attention, memory, and learning—even after discontinuing the drug's use for 24 hours.

Some students try to relieve stress by partying. A variety of drugs are now available at campus parties, bars, and clubs including ecstasy, methamphetamine, and "date rape drugs"—GHB, rohypnol, and ketamine. All become more potent and dangerous when mixed with alcohol.

Ecstasy is called the "hug drug." Users feel that it breaks down emotional barriers, while having no side effects. Yet research has shown that regular ecstasy use can lead to damage of brain cells that regulate sleep, mood, and memory.

Methamphetamine—"speed," "chalk," "ice"—is a powerful stimulant that is similar to amphetamine but more toxic to the central nervous system. Short-term effects include agitation, decreased appetite and increased energy levels. Long-term health consequences include memory loss, potential cardiac and neurological damage, and aggression.

Date rape drugs have no taste and are odorless and colorless. If slipped into a student's drink, they create a sedating effect that removes barriers to sexual assault or unplanned, unsafe sex.

Alcohol, nicotine, and illegal drugs will not make your problems go away. Before you turn to them to help temper your stress, check out your campus health center. Let school health professionals help you work things through in a constructive, healthy way.

A.C.U.B.

C'mon out and watch Songfest!

Friday, Nov. 16
at 8 p.m. in the Chapel

ACUB is working collectively
with A Phi O in donating canned
foods/non-perishable items. If you can
help out, just bring your item with you
to Songfest; they will be
collected at the door.



Greek Life

ΖΣ ΑΓΔ ΘΧ ΑΞΔ ΣΧ ΓΦΒ ΣΑΕ ΚΙ ΤΚΕ ΦΣΣ

Alpha Xi Delta

Olga Wrobel
Feature Editor

Founded: 1893 at Lombard College, in Galesburg, Illinois. Alma's chapter was founded in 1986.

Active Members: 59 are on campus, and three are abroad. Eleven women currently live in the house.

President: Lisa McGee (02)

Interesting Facts: Alpha Xi Delta is the only national women's fraternity with Xi its name. The sisters have been the top academic chapter on Alma's campus the last few years; they have maintained an average GPA of 3.35 to 3.5.

Activities: Alpha Xi Delta's national philanthropy is Choose Children. The sisters hold the Alpha Xi Delta Open, a golf outing for the fraternities, and this year all the money collected went to the children who lost parents on September 11. The sorority also holds a teddy bear drive, and the toys collected go to the local fire department. A school supply drive happens in the spring. This past weekend Alpha Xi Delta held its open formal. Sisterhood events take place every week to every other week, and include such activities as ice skating and going out to dinner. Alpha Xi Delta sisters are very involved on campus, and two sisters, **Heather Moon (00)** and **Jessica Kotas (02)** have been OC co-chairs in the past four years. **Betsy Keller (00)** and **Elizabeth Weber (01)**, who have been past presidents of AXD now work for the national office as Education Leadership Consultants (ELC's).

How the sorority views itself and how others view the sisters: Alpha Xi Deltas are very involved in both Greek and other social organizations.

"To have two women from the same campus as ELC's speaks highly of the sorority," said Marty



Photo courtesy of Theresa Miller

Alma's Alpha Xi Delta chapter is, according to Marty Stack, "a very successful group of women."

Stack, assistant dean of students. "They are a very successful group of women; the chapter has had much recognition and many top awards." The sisters have received numerous group and individual awards, including the Quackenbush award, which is the top honor for an individual member. When asked how the women perceive each other, one senses plenty of unity.

"My sisters have become my family away from home. It is comforting to have women accept you for who you are and be there for you through your endeavors," said McGee.

Theresa Miller (04) agrees. "Knowing that you have 60 women you share something with that you don't share with anyone else is an amazing feeling," Miller said.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon celebrates the legend of Paddy Murphy

Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

The Alma College chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon recently held its annual Paddy Murphy celebration, continuing its traditional excellence. Paddy Murphy was an Irish gangster who was killed during the Prohibition. SAE, as a national body, celebrates his legacy every year.

Campus events to celebrate Murphy kicked off October 31 with a speakeasy for all non-Greek males to come spend time at the SAE house. The brothers dressed in gangster gear, played cards and smoked cigars.

That Friday in Hamilton Commons, the brothers reenacted Paddy Murphy's last night. The juniors and seniors played rival gangs in a turf war and staged a fight, only to see Paddy eventually shot dead. This year **Chris Naylor (04)** played the part of Paddy. He was carried out of the building to Jones Auditorium, where the brothers and their guests then held a wake for their departed hero.

On Saturday night there was a party to honor Paddy, remember his legacy and have a good time. **Ryan Lueker (03)** notes that the point of the whole celebration was "just to get together and have a good time."

Paddy Murphy celebrations are held in almost all of the SAE chapters nationwide. Murphy was an actual figure in history, a member of Al Capone's gang who was shot for betraying Capone. There is even a song about him which includes the lyrics, "That's how they showed their respect for Paddy Murphy. That's how they showed their honor and pride."

The brothers of SAE show their respect, honor and pride by holding this event every year.

This Week In Alma

November 11, 1980

- Dr. Oscar Eugene Remick was officially installed as Alma's 10th president.
- Ronald Reagan became new president elect.
- The elevator in the Swanson Academic Center became inaccessible to students without a key.
- The Alma College Women's Awareness Organization was created.
- A nationwide draft became a possibility due to the turmoil in the Persian Gulf.
- The school sponsored a van that drove students to the CMU library every Monday and Thursday.
- Alma College was preparing for Martin Luther King Sr.'s visit.
- Students performed "Twelfth Night " in the Dow Auditorium.
- Alma football players Brad Boyer and Bob Long were selected for all league honors.
- The Career Information Center extended its hours.
- Grilled liver with onions and bacon, Harvard beets, and chili Fritos were on the menu at SAGA.

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November 11, 1985

- Alma College "Alcohol Awareness Week" sees moderate success.
- Betty Williams, Nobel Peace Laureate, speaks at Alma against violence.
- Van Dusen rental fund begins.
- Cross country teams came in fourth and second at the MIAA conference meet.
- The best prints in Michigan are showcased at Clack.
- A medium pizza with two colas is only \$4.99 at Domino's.
- Hot dog chili tostada, Canadian cheese soup, and beef ala bun are served at Saga.

FEATURE

Dance Company looks sharp; puts on fun show

Performances range from classical to contemporary

Ryan Cannon
Staff Writer

The Alma College Dance Company dazzled audiences this weekend with its first performance of the 2001-2002 season. Creative choreography and help from the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble kept the audience attentive and satisfied for the majority of the performance, but some acts left the observer, who usually does not know much about dance, blinking in confusion at what was going on.

The first dance, "Les Sylphides," was a beautiful showcase of pointe ballet—it was the first ballet ever written that was not meant to tell any story. The featured dancers, Edward Klonowski (05), Lynsay Masters (04), Emilia Smith (02), and Emily Testani (02), were amazingly graceful and well-timed, executing leaps and twirls with hardly a sound from their feet. The corps de ballet, on the other hand, did very little during the dance, forming a "human frame" around the featured dancers while freezing into numerous poses. It was hard to tell whether the limited movement and dance time was a waste or showcase of the group's talent. However, when they did dance as

an ensemble, they managed to make some difficult maneuvers look very simple. While the music and costumes were not as flashy or eye-grabbing as the rest of the show, dancing on pointe is an amazing feat of skill and dexterity, and should not be missed.

Anna Long (04) started off the hilarity in the second dance when she portrayed a girl imagining two suitors, Gabriel Purrenhage (03) and Andrew Evans (05), coming into her room after an evening at a ball. Running around, pouting, and being carried around against her will, Long brought new life to a musical piece written over a hundred years ago.

Elke Betz (02) and Klonowski strapped on their lederhosen for the performance of "Flower Festival of Gezano," a flirtatious duet that depicted part of the story of two real-life 19th century lovers.

Other moments during the performance left the audience wondering what was taking place. With "Glimpse," choreographed by associate professor Carol Fike, chair of the Theater/Dance Department, the performance switched gears after intermission from the classical to the modern. Klonowski, David Smith (02), and Meagan Tripp (02) ran

around stage in gold-fabric costumes ala Star Trek to futuristic music and made seemingly random, awkward motions. The music would stop, the lights would darken, and a spotlight would illuminate Klonowski, Smith, and Tripp in awkward, almost grotesque poses. Then the spotlight would darken, the three would rush to the other side of the stage and repeat the process with a new pose—each depicting emotion and tension that let the viewers come away with their own reactions. The audience, insisting on clapping at every possible, and often inappropriate, moment spoiled the poignant end of the piece, where the spotlight returned, empty.

The final part of the Dance Company's performance, "Motown in Motion," was the culmination of a two-week residency by the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble. A series of interpretations of Motown hits, its choreography was silly and fun. From Ericka Olgaard (02) slinking around stage in a slit-legged envelope costume to "Please Mister Postman" to the dancers exiting the stage by running through the aisles of the Presbyterian Hall to "Dancing in the Streets", the EDE residency proved its worth in its credibility, originality, and spirit of fun.

Monday

6:00 PM

IAP

Arrua Keerl

7:00 PM

Artist Showcase

Brian Priehs

8:00 PM

Phishin Time

Andrew Pomerville

9:00 PM

Most eclectic Show Ever

Jordan Brehm

Scott Sawyer

10:00 PM

12 Gauge

Drew Fox

Scott Sawyer

11:00 PM

Outpatient Clinic

Matt Friar

Tuesday

6:00 PM

Magical Mystery Tour

Heather White

7:00 PM

New World Music Show

Carrie Adamsx

8:00 PM

Quack Yack

Erin Gildersleeve

Drew Fox

9:00 PM

Boys and Girls

Michelle Monosur

Jon Behring

10:00 PM

Deep Cuts

Ross Alexander

Ryan Healy

11:00 PM

Drum Circle

Ethan Disbrow

Reese Gall

Wednesday

6:00 PM

Trash Pop Show

Scott Timmreck

Andrew Oleszkowicz

8:00 PM

Road Trip

Whitney Hopkins

9:00 PM

Classic Rock

Chad Merricle

10:00 PM

The Repo Lot

Matt Franko

Matt Friar

Thursday

6:00 PM

Boys and Girls

Michelle Monosur

Jon Behring

7:00 PM

Captain of the Pine

Jason Manke

Scott Baker

8:00 PM

Bop and Beyond

Dr. John Ottenhoff

10:00 PM

Urban Jam Zone

Delvard Newhouse

Friday

7:00 PM

ethereal air

Adam Blair

9:00 PM

House of Trance-ill-vania

Ethan Disbrow

90.9 FM

FEATURE

Monsters Inc. doesn't work the Pixar magic

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

Good news for Star Wars fans: there is no need to go see *Monsters, Inc.* solely for the Episode Two preview. This is also good news for the casual movie goer; it means that there is finally a good film showing at theatres.

Monsters, Inc., is the latest creation of Pixar, the mastermind behind *Toy Story* and *A Bug's Life*. Though *Monsters, Inc.* may not be quite on the same level as *Toy Story* was, it is nonetheless an extremely entertaining film.

The main concept behind the movie deals with a metropolis of monsters, who come in a variety of shapes and have names such as James Sullivan, Randall, and Mike Wazowski. The city's main power source can only be acquired through collecting the screams of children, so it is the duty of Monsters, Inc. employees to sneak in through closets and scare kids. However, the children of today's society are proving difficult to stir, and coupled with the monsters' belief that kids are toxic, makes scaring both an important and dangerous job.

Here we introduce Sully, employee of the month at Monsters Inc. for the past year (the big blue one). He and his best friend Mike (the cycloptic green one) are the leading team in collecting energy for the city; their top rival is a chameleonic creature with a decidedly sadistic nature. However, Sully is in the lead, Mike has a girlfriend, and everything is going fine for the heroes, until one night when an adorable toddler girl escapes from one of the doors and

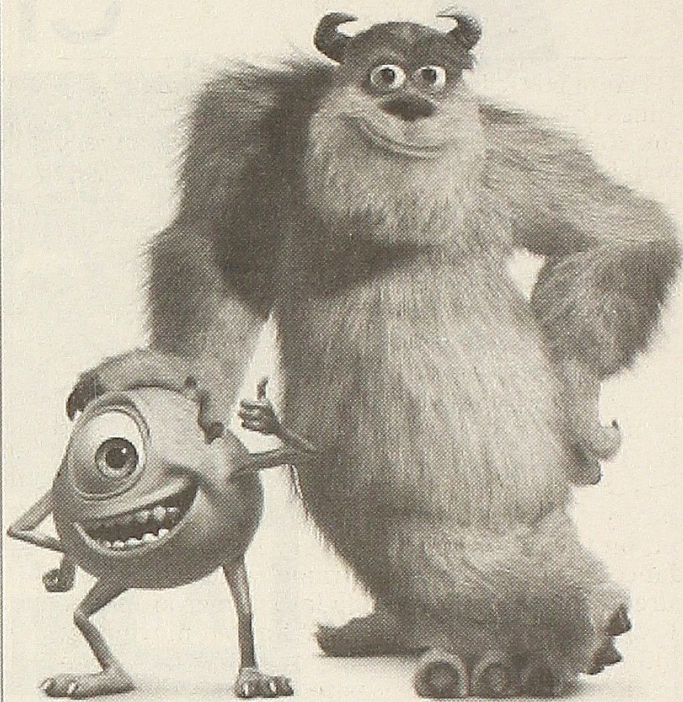
Sully, after his initial fear, adopts her.

The entire city is frantic trying to find the girl, who Sully affectionately dubs "Boo." The evil Randall has unpleasant plans for the child should he find her. The situation becomes quite dire before it is remedied, but there are some decidedly amusing situations along the way.

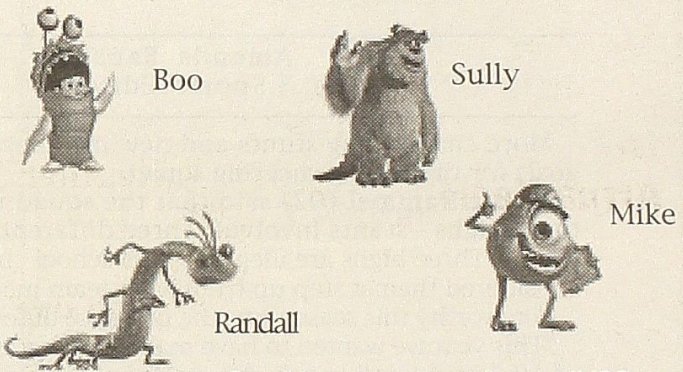
Though Sully (John Goodman) isn't one of the most interesting characters in Pixar history, he is nonetheless likable, and his overall goodness is made up for by Mike (Billy Crystal), his self-centered and obnoxious sidekick. Boo is one of the most adorable characters in animated film without being nauseating, which is quite an accomplishment. The other characters range from Celia, the valley girl-esque receptionist, the optimistic and snow-cone adoring Abominable Snowman, to the cranky old Dispatch Manager Roz.

The plot of the movie, as with most of Pixar's concepts, is creative, fun and original. The characters are overall amusing and well-voiced, and as usual the animation is exceptional. It is suitable for younger children, yet at the same time can hold adult attention.

The ending may not come as much of a surprise, but it is nonetheless touching and efficient. In general the movie is well worth seeing, for any audience. After all, it's almost a foregone conclusion that this will be one of this year's prime candidates for the "Best Animated Film" award at the Oscars. Grade: B



Characters
to watch out for



Graphics courtesy of www.IMDB.com

Top 30

Spot	Artist	Album
1	Sugarcult	Start Static
2	The Cure	Greatest Hits
3	Ozma	Rock & Roll Part 3
4	Better Than Ezra	Closer
5	System of a Down	Toxicity
6	Something Corporate	Audio Boxer (EP)
7	Avalanches	Since I Left You
8	Minibar	Road Movies
9	Red	Let's Not And Say We Did
10	Trembling Blue Stars	Alive To Every Smile
11	Park	No Signal
12	Garbage	Beautiful Garbage
13	Apex Theory	The Apex Theory
14	Onesidezero	Is This Room Getting Smaller
15	Alkaline Trio	From Here To Infirmary
16	Dredg	Leitmotif
17	Aphex Twin	Drukgs
18	Zouk	Good Days
19	Charltans UK	Wonderland
20	Ben Folds	Rockin' the Sububs
21	Emiliana Torrini	Rarities
22	Deep Blue Something	Deep Blue Something
23	Fu Manchu	Separate Kingdom
24	New Order	Get Ready
25	Mercury Rev	All Is Dream
26	311	I'll Be Here Awhile
27	Rival Schools	United By Fate
28	Lookout! Freakout	Various Artists
29	Dr. John	Oreole Moon
30	Barcelona	Transhuman Revolution

The Top Ten
Websites That Every
Alma College
Student Should
Know

10. aol.com or msn.com: Go here to get instant messenger so you can chat with your best friend you haven't seen in over 10 minutes.

9. Games at yahoo.com: Instead of writing that paper, you can play anything from euchre to checkers, and hey, maybe even gamble a little.

8. musiccity.com: Who needs Napster when you can download Morpheus?

7. hotornot.com: Spend your free time looking at random people and giving them scores on how attractive you find them. You can even submit your own picture!

6. emode.com: Interested in learning more about yourself? These quizzes will tell you what dog you are most like, how pure you are, and other important self-assessments.

5. bluemountain.com: These greeting cards are perfect to send at the last minute, saving you from the guilt of forgetting your brother's birthday.

4. efollett.com: Buy your new and used textbooks here, if for some strange reason you want them ahead of time.

3. snood.com: If you haven't noticed yet, over half of Alma's students have been locked in their rooms playing this addicting game.

2. sparknotes.com: The Cliffnotes of the 21st century.

1. alma.edu: Keeping up to date with school news should be every Alma student's priority.

SPORTS

Team Profile Cheerleading



Laura Matthews
Julia Skok
Jamie Hammel
Katie Sikkelee
Amy Beth Place
Delvard Newhouse
Tiffany Moon
Sara Rosenthal
Adam Stack



Photo by Scott Timmreck

Joe Utash
Jon Behring
Cathy Culver
Heidi Ventline
Julie Jeppesen
Monica Kapp
Jen Koch
Ashley Seppala
Bree Brownlee
Amber Milliken

Amanda Baushke
Sports Editor

More challenging stunts and new members were the primary goals for the 2001's cheering squad.

Jamie Hammel (02) said that the squad wanted to do more three highs - stunts involving three different levels of people in the air. Three highs are illegal in high school cheering, but Hammel considered them a step up from what team members were used to.

Noteworthy this season was the presence of four male cheerleaders.

"This year we wanted to have male cheerleaders and have a squad of 19," said head coach Debra Moon. "We wanted to be able to have more difficult stunts...that is what the males brought to the team." The last time males took on cheering responsibilities at Alma was 1986.

"The fact that we have males this year has made it different and unique," said Moon. "It was a great opportunity for the women to have the ability to work with the men. It was challenging for the

entire team, not just me."

This year's squad was a very unique group of individuals.

"Our team is very resilient," said Hammel. "We have a great deal of energy, and we always have fun. We have very strong personalities on our team, but everyone has clicked."

Cathy Culver (05) also believes this year's team has unique aspects. "Everyone is pretty close and works hard. We're trying to build up the cheer program and make it stronger. We are trying to make cheering as recognizable here as it is in other schools."

As a senior Hammel is happy that she was on the team.

"It has been so much fun, and I can't imagine not having done it," she said. "Some of my closest friendships have stemmed from this team. I love the camaraderie."

"Our greatest strengths would be flexibility and versatility," Hammel added. "We can use every person on the team anywhere, and we can throw up any kind of stunt."

She also said that the cheerleaders never have a dull moment, that they can always make up new chants, and that this season was creative and fulfilling.

Swim teams visit Hope

Olga Wrobel
Feature Editor

On Saturday the swimming and diving teams competed at Hope College, resulting in a loss for the team, but many individual triumphs. Hope won with a score of 126-112 on the women's side, and 127-82 in the men's competition.

Coach Greg Baadte was pleased with the results, and said "We had some technique goals to accomplish, and I was pleased that we did."

First place finishes for the women included **Brianne Hauser** (04) in the 100 yard butterfly with a time of 1:06.86, and the 200 yard freestyle relay team of **Meredith Henry** (03), **Stephanie Druskins** (05), **Kristin DeGraaf** (05) and **Becky Emerson** (03), which finished with a 1:48.72. Henry also won the 500 yard freestyle with a lifetime best time of 5:38.67. **Morgan Hansen** (05) won both the one-meter and the three-meter events in the diving competition.

Second place finishes **Lyndsey Carr** (05) in the three-meter diving event with a score of 190.70,

Elizabeth Smith (04) in the 400 yard individual medley with a time of 5:06.12, **Druskins** in the 50 and 100 freestyle, **Kate Kohler** (05) in the 100 backstroke, and **Jill Johnston** (04) in the 100 breaststroke.

On the men's side, **Jon Davenport** (05) won both the one and three meter diving events with scores of 206.55 and 199.85. **Keith Hansen** (04) won the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:06.02, and the 200 freestyle relay team of **Mike Porter** (03), **Joe Harris** (02), **Will Heyd** (05), and **Justin Fournier** (02) came in first with a time of 1:31.98.

Fournier took second in the 200 freestyle, and Heyd finished second in the 50 free. **Andrew Schade** (02) finished second in the 400 individual medley with a time of 4:37.93. Harris also ended up in second place in two events, the 500 and 1,000-yard freestyle.

When asked about the meet overall, Baadte said, "We were extremely pleased with what we saw." The Scots will swim again this Saturday at a three way meet hosted by Hiram College in Ohio.

Hoops teams anticipate productive seasons

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

Get ready for the new look Alma College men's basketball team this season after an off-season that has seen the Scots hire new coach and former University of Texas assistant Ed Kohtala.

Kohtala will begin his first year at Alma trying to revamp a program that finished with three wins in the MIAA last season.

"My impression is that we have a group of players that seem very anxious to be coached and want to compete," said Kohtala.

The Scots understand that the changes will be gradual and will not happen overnight. "When you have receptiveness and a positive attitude, it becomes very evident to the people watching that the program is under new direction," added Kohtala.

For the seniors on the team, it will be their last chance at a winning season and maybe even a conference championship. But the Scots must first incorporate a new philosophy into their game in order to have a competitive season, which includes

morning practices starting a 6:30 a.m.

The MIAA remains one of the toughest D-III conferences in the nation, and coach Kohtala would not want it any other way. "The league is well respected on a national level, with Calvin winning the national championship two years ago," said Kohtala, "and to me that made the conference a very attractive place to coach." In his first season at Texas, coach Kohtala helped guide the Longhorns to a conference championship. Although it may be a rare occurrence, the Scots will keep the league championship in mind as they forge ahead with the 2001-2002 campaign.

Youth is the name of the game for the Alma College women's basketball team this season, and the Scots have plenty of it. After having lost three key players to graduation, the Scots will not be returning any seniors this season. This will mark the first time in head coach Charles Goffnett's 15-year tenor at Alma that he will not have any senior players returning to his squad. The Scots will be led by a team made up of mostly sophomores

see BASKETBALL on page 12

SPORTS

Team Profile Football

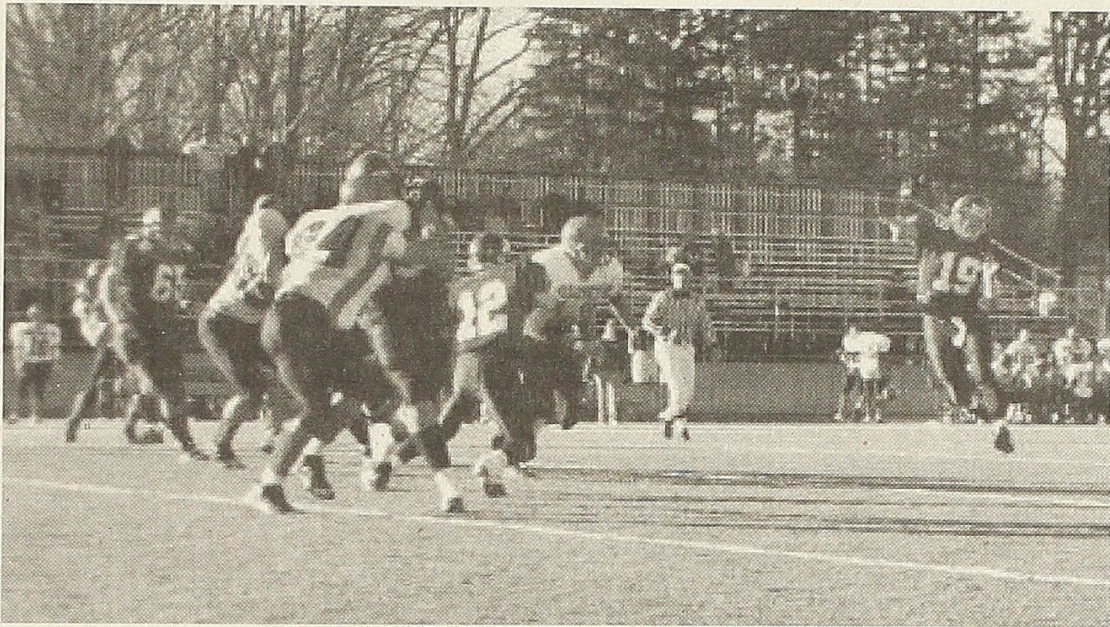


Photo by Scott Timmreck

Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

The football season is over and once again the Scots enjoyed a successful year. The team this year featured the high powered "Scot-gun" offense and a "lumberjack" defense.

The team was led on the offensive side of the ball by quarterback **Steve Slowke** (03) and a deep core of receivers including **Brian Pierce** (02), **Brian Burgtorf** (02), **Kris Ernst** (02) and **Mark Boehms** (03). Running backs **Jeremy Droptiny** (04) and **Laurence Trumble** (03) definitely appreciated the blocking up front by the Scots offensive line. The defense featured two pleasant surprises in **John Loveland** (04) and **Domenic Wlodyka** (03), two players head coach Jim Cole thought stepped up very well for the Scots.

Coach Cole noted that while the team didn't reach its goals of winning the league and going to the national tournament "it wasn't for lack of great effort or great work ethic." He was disappointed by the close losses the Scots suffered to Hope and Gannon. He was happy with Slowke's continuing improvement, becoming one of the leading passers in the nation as a junior. He also noted that Droptiny

contributed a lot as a young player.

Highlights for the Scots included their win over Wittenberg, a team ranked third in the nation at the time. The Scots beat the Tigers 26-24 in front of a large crowd at Bahlke Field to end Wittenberg's 33-game regular season unbeaten streak.

Another highlight was the Scots Homecoming win over Hanover. Alma handed the Panthers, a perennial power in Division III, their worst loss since 1965, 56-14. Slowke accounted for 459 yards of total offense in a huge day for the team.

The Scots are already looking forward to next year. Coach Cole doesn't want to put pressure on the team, but he thinks next year's team will be "one of the finest in the school's history." It very well could be as the Scots only lose 9 seniors from a good team this year. Alma will again feature its passing oriented offense, as Cole noted "That's what we recruit for." He believes enough people can step up into the gaps left by seniors, including three out of the four top receivers.

Cole wanted to leave the seniors this year with good memories of football at Alma. This was accomplished as the Scots once again had a great year, adding to the football tradition here at the college.

FAST Stats

Football League Results

	W	L	PF	PA
Albion	5	0	176	92
Hope	4	1	141	88
Alma	3	2	177	91
Adrian	2	3	82	120
K-Zoo	1	4	133	144
Olivet	0	5	57	225

Men's Cross Country Final Standings

1. Calvin
2. Hope
3. Albion
4. Kalamazoo
5. Alma
6. Adrian
7. Olivet

Women's Cross Country Final Standings

1. Calvin
2. Kalamazoo
3. Hope
4. Alma
5. Adrian
6. Albion
7. St. Mary's
8. Olivet

Sports Track

Vote no on a Twin killing - take the D-Rays and those horrid Expos

Michael Murphy
Freelance Writer

The awful effects of continual expansion have finally taken their toll on Major League Baseball. Last week, baseball owners decided to eliminate two major league clubs from the League before the 2002 season begins.

Due to the fact that some teams are losing money because of poor markets when compared to markets such as New York City, it was decided that it was in the best interest of baseball to eradicate two teams.

Now the players have to vote on whether to accept the proposal or not. Rumors are flying as to which two teams will get the axe. Minnesota and Montreal are the teams that everyone

is throwing around as the ones that will have to say "hasta la vista" to baseball.

Other teams mentioned are the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and Florida Marlins.

Axing a team that has won two World Series and is poised to be a contender within the next few years will be a horrible decision. Minnesota is a team that has quite a bit of tradition. They were arguably the best team in baseball during the late eighties and early nineties.

Even some Hall of Famers have played for the Twins throughout the years, such as Kirby Puckett and Dave Winfield. Jack Morris also played with them and it is a definite possibility that he will enter the Hall within the next few years.

It is true that Minnesota may not be the best market for sports. But the Twins are a solid team having much tradition and strong following, unlike Tampa Bay or even Montreal, both of which have little tradition at all. Their players are either low-key or waning stars.

Tampa Bay is worthless. Their stadium is pitiful, and they have little fan base. Their commitment to winning is almost as sad as the Detroit Lions' commitment to winning.

The Expos can hardly draw anyone to their games. The experiment to bring baseball to Quebec has been failing for decades.

It is definitely time to remedy the problems created by expansion by contracting the league. Talent levels

are watered down, there are too many markets, good pitching now means anything at or below a 4.0 earned run average, and so on.

Smart contraction will help cure some of these problems.

Smart contraction means eliminating teams having no tradition with little fan support. Montreal rarely fills their stadium up. And how can a team like the Devil Rays - a team that has been around for about as long as the Backstreet Boys have been around for - have much tradition?

Baseball needs to act smartly in making this decision. Get rid of the Expos. Get rid of the Devil Rays.

Fine. We can deal without those teams.

But don't kill the Twins. Baseball won't be the same.

SPORTS

Football team defeats Olivet 64 - 7; finishes season 3-2

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

It was another record-breaking week for the Scots as they handed Olivet a punishing 64-7 loss in the season finale at Bahlke Field. **Brian Pierce (02)** broke the career receiving yardage record with 2,128 yards on 176 receptions on the season, surpassing the old mark formerly held by Stan Izykowski.

"It was a fun game to end a career on," said **Kris Ernst (02)**. "It was also a lot of fun seeing everyone getting to play."

Alma got on the board early in the first quarter as **Steve Slowke (03)** threw a nine-yard touchdown pass to **Jeremy Droptiny (03)** with 12:15 left in the first quarter. The Scots would score again minutes later as **Matt Piccirilli (03)** booted a 33-yard field goal. The Scots would score on their next two possessions as Slowke ran the ball in from five yards out and running back Droptiny did the same from the Olivet two-yard line. The Scots scored on their first four possessions of the game and led 24-0 going into the second quarter.

Olivet would get on the board early in the second quarter as Mike Hanna scored the Comets' lone touchdown on a one-yard run with 13:07 remaining in the half. Alma would answer the Comets with Slowke's third touchdown pass of the day to junior wideout **Mark Boehms (03)** midway through the first half. The Scots would go up 36-7 with 2:43 left in the half as Slowke found **Tom DeVore (03)** open for the touchdown. The Scots defense stopped the Comets on the next drive, leaving a

window of opportunity that the Scots would capitalize on as wideout **Brian Burgtorf (02)** caught a 42-yard bomb from Slowke to give Alma a 43-7 advantage going into halftime.

The Scots would continue to dominate in the second half as Slowke hooked up with Burgtorf to put the Scots ahead 50-7. Alma scored again with 6:02 remaining in the third as Pierce caught a one-yard pass to give the Scots a 57-7 lead. Alma would eventually wrap up their scoring barrage when lineman **Wade Seals (03)** fell on the ball in the endzone to give the Scots a commanding 64-7 lead and the inevitable win. "It was too bad the game had to be such a blowout, because a lot of seniors had to spend the second half sitting and watching," said Burgtorf.

Alma's trademark "Scotgun" offense goes down in the record books as Pierce ends his 2001 campaign with 73 receptions for 707 yards and ends his collegiate career with 176 receptions for 2,128 yards, all Alma College records. Slowke led the Scots on the day, completing 25 of 42 passes for 395 yards and 6 touchdowns and his 278 pass completions and 487 attempts rank him number one in single season passing in Alma College history. He ends the season with 3,526 total offensive yards, leading the MIAA in total offense.

"It's been a great four years playing football and I am really glad I got to go out the such a great group of guys," said Kris Ernst.

The game marked the end of Alma's 2001 campaign and their fifth winning season in a row, ending with a 6-4 overall record, 3-2 in MIAA play. "This team has all the talent in the world and should be the favorites in the league next season," added Burgtorf.



Photo by Scott Timmreck

Brian Burgtorf (02) snags a pass from quarterback Steve Slowke (03) to help lead the Scots to a 64-7 wallop of Olivet College.

BASKETBALL from page 10

and freshman, while a couple of juniors will try to provide leadership for this young team.

The strength will be down in the post for the Scots with **Shelly Ulfig (03)** leading the way. Ulfig is coming off a phenomenal season that saw her finish as one of the top scorers and rebounders in the MIAA and was selected to the first team all-conference as a sophomore. The Scots will also be looking down low to **Michelle Dettling (05)**, **Karen Hall (04)** and **Anne Love (04)**, and **Janel Twietmeyer (03)**, who, along with Ulfig will provide an inside game

which could be the key to success for the Scots this season.

Kristi Gehrs (03), who could provide leadership to a relatively young group of guards, will lead the perimeter game. "Kristi will give us some leadership ability and experience," said Goffnett. "The thing that most people will notice this year is that we are going to be very young on the perimeter."

The Scots will be competing in a conference that is always tough year in and year out. "We think that we have a chance to be an upper level team that can really cause a lot of teams problems," said Goffnett. "I also think

we have a chance to be a very good team by the time January roles around.

It will take time for the Scots to gel this season, but by playing top-level competition in the preseason, the Scots should be ready for conference play in January. "It is an excellent conference and always represents itself well in the national tournaments," added Goffnett.

Even though Alma's team is a young group of players, the competition could be in for a big surprise this season as the Scots will be looking to build upon winning past traditions. "I think everybody has to take a piece of the ownership and be responsible for the leadership of the team."

Campus

Tuesday

World Kindness Day
8:00 P.M. Self Defense
Demonstration for
Women

Wednesday

Celebration of Diwali
Young Reader's Day

Thursday

Great American
Smokeout
America Recycles Day

Friday

7:00 P.M. Science Blowout
8:00 P.M. Songfest

Saturday

World Peace Day

3:00 P.M. Print Awards
Show Ceremony

8:00 P.M. Alma Symphony
Orchestra

Sunday

Games and Puzzles
Week

3:00 P.M. Alma
Symphony Orches-
tra
9:00 P.M. Chapel
Service

Monday

Start of National
Family Week

Classifieds

Make someone happy...advertise in the classifieds for only ten cents/word...wish a happy birthday, congratulate a good deed, sell something you don't need, ask for something you want done, or just share some words of wisdom...shoot an email to almanian@alma.edu with your advertisement...

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