

The Almanian

serving Alma College since 1907

Vivian authors book of essays

Ryan Cannon
Staff Writer

Robert Vivian, assistant professor of English, recently published "Cold Snap as Yearning," a collection of creative non-fiction essays put out as part of a series by the University of Nebraska Press.

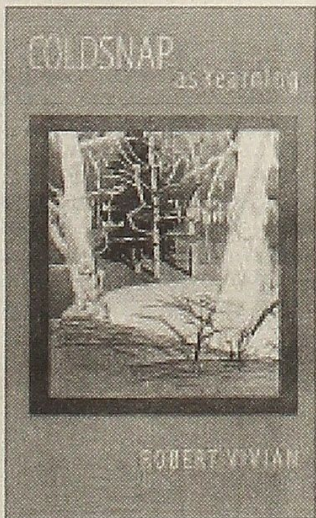
The book is "a strange little bird," according to Vivian. "It's a lot of meditations, speculations, and a lot of quirky things I've noticed for whatever reason." The subjects also range from eccentric people to crows, lost shopping carts to men obsessed with bus schedules, and a woman who collects garbage. According to Vivian, the book presents "an everyday brand of mysticism" where he looks at the ordinary and finds the extraordinary.

Writers go through a long process to become published. The journey involves sending their manuscripts to publishers and facing rejections. In Vivian's case, after reading some of his essays published in journals, an editor approached him to see if he had enough material for a book. Vivian considers becoming published in this way "a gift in every sense." He considers it very much luck and good timing that the book came out how it did.

Like most of the reading that he assigns for his classes, Vivian considers this book risky in that it pushes boundaries of style and content. His goal in writing is "noticing everything...inquiring into everything around—the little things."

In 1999, Vivian won the Nebraska Arts Council Individual artist Fellowship in Playwriting, and has had several of his plays performed off-Broadway and in community theaters. His reliance on drama "is changing," he said, "it is a natural evolution." This book is not so much a place to rest his laurels, but instead a starting-point for his prose career. At the insistence of his agent he is currently working on a novel as well, a longer, more ambitious project, with which he is "up and running."

As a work published by a university press, Vivian's book will not be for sale at most local bookstores; however, it is listed at Amazon.com with a customer review rating of five stars. For student's interested in creative non-fiction, Vivian's first spring-term at Alma, listed as ENG 190: Intro to Creative Writing, will be a seminar on creative non-fiction.



Varsity athletics may receive court time at Rec Center

Kari Joy Johnson
Staff Writer

Students will be able to utilize the Alan J. Stone Recreation Center during all of its operating hours despite usage by organized athletic teams, including varsity sports, in the upcoming semester, according to a proposed schedule likely to be approved within the next two weeks.

Strongly based upon information and statistics taken by Rec Center Director Amy Blackburn in regards to its overall usage, the proposal allows athletic teams, student-athletes and community members to use the facility leisurely.

"What our usage is telling us is that Tuesday and Thursday nights seem to be a bigger night for intramurals, so that's taken into account in the schedule," said James Kridler, dean of students.

According to the proposal, the only time in which all four athletic courts will be fully occupied is during the six a.m. to eight a.m. time period. However, "If we [the Executive Council] get a demand from people who want to come in at seven a.m. when the athletic teams are here, we will ask the athletic department to cut back because our philosophy in this building is that even when athletics or an outside group comes in, we will always have one space reserved, usually the MAC court," said Blackburn.

Despite the integration of organized athletic teams within the Stone building, the subject of availability remains an issue that does not appear to be problematic for other student-athletes.

"The teams [of organized athletics] will not be utilizing the fitness room; the only

real area that the athletic teams will be using are the activity courts," said Kridler.

According to the proposal, out of the Center's 18 full operating hours during a weekday, only two hours will see all four courts as reserved for organized athletics. Furthermore, throughout the majority of any weekday and on every Saturday, the Mac court remains open and available for usage by students, student-athletes and community members.

"We want to be sure sports teams aren't taking away prime time," said President Sandra Tracy.

The proposed schedule itself has not yet been irrevocably set in stone. According to Tracy, "[the schedule] has been approved in concept, but not in detail." Until all athletic team coaches decide when and on what day their specific teams will practice within the Center and "budget problems" are resolved, nothing final will be established. Added Tracy, "The proposal needs a budget to go with it," thanks to the student workers needed to staff the building.

While some students seem upset and disgruntled with organized athletic teams using the Rec Center for practices, Kridler strongly urges "students to remember that from the very beginning, [the Rec Center] was intended to allow teams to use it during this inclement weather period." Also, he emphasized the meaning behind



Students utilize Rec Center courts by shooting hoops.

the 'inclement weather period' as one that would only last from "early January until the middle of March."

"The idea is that once the middle of March rolls around, all the time will revert back to open rec and intramurals," added Kridler.

Another change, which will occur within the Stone building once organized athletics begin practicing within the Center, in-

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Rickard co-authors mathematics teaching resource

Ryan Cannon
Staff Writer

Anthony Rickard, associate professor of education, co-authored "Mathematics: A Clarification of the Mathematics Benchmarks," a CD-ROM resource for K-12 mathematics instruction that will help strengthen the implementation of the Michigan Educational Framework.

"The charge was to come up with exemplary lessons, MEAP items, and assessment items for every specific learning objective in the Mathematics Michigan Framework for grades K-12," said Rickard. A group of experienced K-12 mathematics educators, college-level math and teacher educators and members of the department of education authored the work, which was divided into three sections: elementary, middle school, and high school levels. Rickard co-wrote the middle school section and co-edited the entire resource.

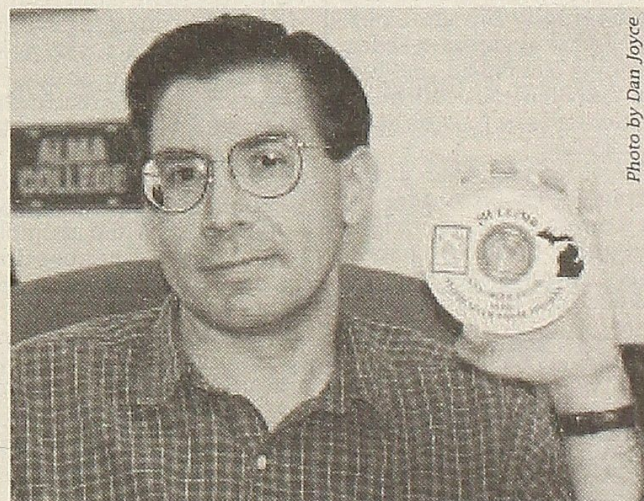
A project in the works for two years, the Michigan Clarification of the Mathematics Benchmarks (MI CLIMB) program envisioned the resource, and it was coordinated jointly by the Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Department of Teachers of Mathematics and Macomb Intermediate School District, and funded by the Goals 2000 grant.

The Michigan Mathematics Framework encompasses several strands—ideas like shape, measurement, algebra, and probability—that are considered important for students to learn in elementary, middle, and high school. Within each of these three sections, there are set standards, or educational goals, that should be met before a student progresses to the next level.

Each standard is broken into benchmarks, which are more detailed goals, small enough for a lesson or a unit of instruction. "Mathematics" contains one or two lessons, examples, and assessment items for every benchmark within every standard within every strand.

The complete work, in paper form, would have encompassed somewhere between 800-1000 pages, and its bulk is the main reason the work was released on CD. Rickard said, "We wanted to make it detailed enough to be helpful...but beginning the project, we

knew that this would result in a hard copy that would be prohibitively long, so we decided to have it published in CD format which would be much less expensive."



Dr. Rickard recently co-authored a CD-ROM aiming to teach K-12 students mathematics.

The distribution of the resource is also huge, 100,000 copies are soon to be circulated across Michigan, and to some locations nation-wide.

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NEWS

CEO offers tips to students, faculty and community members

Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

Last Friday marked the beginning of the Ford Motor Company Business Lecture Series as businessman Peter Secchia talked to students. The event was sponsored by the economics department and the campus group Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE).

Professor Michael Trebesh of the business department invited Secchia to speak after reading an article in *The Detroit News* about him. The lecture was very well attended as the 250-seat room was nearly full. Secchia gave an hour-long presentation followed by a short period for questions.

Secchia is the chairman of Universal Forest Products, the world's largest producer of engineered components for the home. He has also been the U.S. Ambassador to Italy and the Vice Chairman of the Republican National Committee. He currently sits on the Board of Trustees at John Cabot University, an international school in Rome.

Following the introduction Secchia proceeded to detail requirements of becoming a successful businessman. He noted that to be successful one must "have the empathy of a caring person with technical knowledge." You also need business

smarts, he noted. "You have to understand what people want and how they want it."

Secchia continued with the mechanics of business and capitalism. He described the necessity of profit and the role of busi-

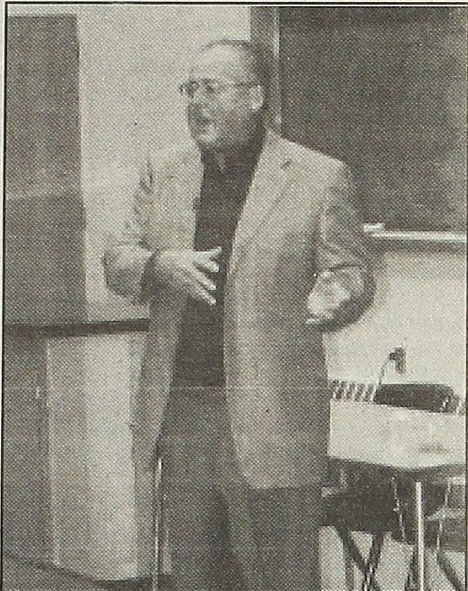


Photo by Dan Joyce
Peter Secchia, chairman of Universal Forest Products, spoke Friday.

ness in the community. He stressed the need for successful individuals to share with others around them.

He went on to describe the modern economy as a global economy, stating, "Global economy is the competition for capital and ideas." He sees the need for modern businesses to be as efficient as possible.

From there Secchia gave students advice and encouragement for their own business careers. He stressed the need for a good education, as "ideas and creative thinking are the way of the future." He also noted "there's an opportunity for every one of you, but you'll have to earn it."

Throughout the speech Secchia stressed work ethic and values, both in the workplace and in everyday life. He also accentuated the need for young people to become involved in politics, as "without a healthy political system, we can't have a healthy economic system."

Trebesh was satisfied with the presentation and its attendance. He was glad that Secchia stressed "the need to remember your grassroots."

Trebesh also noted that another business speaker will soon be headed to campus. He is hoping to have the chief economist with Bank One come to speak sometime next semester.



Judge voids school desegregation orders

MICHIGAN --

U.S. District Judge Douglas Hillman signed three orders on Tuesday that dismissed the Coloma, Eau Claire and Berrien County Intermediate school districts from a desegregation order imposed twenty years ago. Hillman had imposed the 1981 order as an effort to end racial inequality in the Benton Harbor school district. Under the order, the schools were required to institute cross-district student busing in order to achieve racial balance. Additionally, the schools operated under court supervision. Freeing the school districts from the order leaves only the Benton Harbor school system and the State of Michigan as the only remaining defendants in the 1967 case. They have both submitted requests to be dismissed from the orders and expect Hillman to respond by the end of the year.

Harry Potter movie breaks records at the box office

LOS ANGELES, CA --

"Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" drummed up a record \$93.5 million in its first three days at the North American box office. The movie, based upon a series of fantasy books by J.K. Rowling focused around a young English wizard, broke the previous record of \$72.1 million held by "The Lost World: Jurassic Park." On Friday "Harry Potter" opened in 3,672 theaters throughout the United States, Canada, and Britain. Profits averaged \$25,467 per theater. Production and marketing costs for the movie were reported as \$125 million and \$40 million respectively.

Baggage screeners converted from private to federal employees

WASHINGTON, D.C. --

Legislation signed Monday by President Bush put airport baggage screeners on the federal payroll. The legislation was written and passed as an attempt to increase safety in the skies. Previous measures instituted include the assignment of a greater number of air marshals to flights, the strengthening of cockpit doors, and the patrolling of many airports by members of the National Guard. Expanded inspections of checked baggage is a requirement of the measure and systems to detect explosives are to be in place by the end of 2002. Additionally, the Transportation Department is contemplating allowing pilots to carry weapons in their cockpits. A fee of \$2.50 will be charged to each passenger whenever they board a plane to finance the security improvements.

Journalists ambushed and killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan --

Four journalists originating from Australia, Afghanistan, Spain, and Italy were killed when gunmen forced them from their vehicles 90 kilometers east of Kabul. After marching them into surrounding hills, the gunmen shot the journalists when they turned to look at them. Seven journalists have been killed reporting on the war in Afghanistan.

Logan security license revoked

Linda Boulden
The Daily Free Press
(Boston U.)

(U-WIRE) BOSTON --

Argenbright Security, which handles security for several airlines at Boston's Logan International Airport and other facilities, insisted its employees attend work as usual Friday, despite having its license to operate in Massachusetts revoked.

Col. John DiFava, Logan's interim head of security, issued a cease-and-desist order Thursday to Argenbright. The order came in part as a response to the company's recent perceived security lapses at Logan, including leaving an exit door at a Delta Airlines concourse unattended for four minutes on Tuesday.

The order also comes after a barrage of legal troubles for the company. Argenbright pled guilty to felony charges for hiring convicted criminals, and was then brought back to court for not complying with the agreement to conduct background checks on all employees, according to a news release from the Massachusetts Port Authority.

Islamic association presents alternative perspective of U.S. policy in the Middle East

Brendan Guilford
Staff Writer

Michigan State University's Muslim Student Association executive board visited Alma College on Monday night to conduct an informational panel and discussion related to the events of the previous two months.

The group has been traveling around Michigan schools to help non-Muslim students better understand Islam and express the views of many moderate Muslims on the Sept. 11 tragedy and the resulting bombing campaign in Afghanistan.

While the students spent relatively little time relating their views on being Muslim college students, the panel talked at length about the events in Afghanistan and other areas of religious conflict in the world. Additionally, one female panel member spoke to the audience about the role of women in Islam and attempted to clear up misconceptions involving Islamic women's rights.

Questions pertaining to the continuing violence in Israel and Kashmir were also raised. The panel, which included

American-born members and those who had lived the majority of their lives in the Middle East, agreed that both the Israeli and Indian governments have spent years persecuting Muslims in both regions.

The panel was also asked for their feelings about American intervention in the Middle East. "While the U.S. may be protecting Arab lives in stopping Saddam Hussein, it's main goal in Operation Desert Storm, and its continuing goal is the protection of crude oil," said Jameel Aftab, president of the MSU Muslim Student Association. He continued, "One cannot discount the fact that hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqi children have starved to death due to U.N. imposed sanctions backed by the U.S. and for what? Saddam Hussein's reign continues."

A significant portion of the panel's opening remarks surrounded the topic of women's roles and rights within Islam. The panel attempted to make clear to the audience that unlike how western media has portrayed Muslim women, they in fact do possess just as equal rights as men. They claimed instead that the Taliban, an extremist

group, has enforced these harsh restrictions on women.

The panel also attempted to explain the basis and reasoning of Islam by reciting and exploring the five Pillars of Islam and the six Articles of Faith, both of which are sets of guidelines by which a Muslim must guide themselves. Aftab and the rest of the panel made it clear, however, that the moderate Muslim community as a whole realizes that without U.S. intervention, the world would not be as safe a place for any religion. Their main arguments against the current situation in Afghanistan lay solely in the damage and deaths it has caused to innocent civilians.

Finally, the Muslim Student Association wished to explain the difference between moderate Muslims and extremists. "The Taliban is to Islam as the Klu Klux Klan is to Christianity, so please try to distinguish between the two," said Ferra Slatari, the group's secretary.

If you wish to learn more about the Muslim Student Association, which is open to any person, Muslim or non-Muslim, you can contact the group through the Internet at <http://www.MSU.edu/~MSA/>

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The reason for the release of the CD is that, although the Michigan Framework has been around for years, there have been problems in implementing it. Because some teachers may or may not have other resources to use as a basis to teach the benchmarks, "Mathematics" will be a free starting-point for teachers of all grades and levels. "We definitely hope that, rather than using the lessons verbatim, [teachers] will make some modifications to meet the needs for their specific students," Rickard added, "We

wouldn't characterize this as a curriculum or replacement, because it's not."

In fact, Rickard admitted that teachers simply using it as a curriculum is one of the dangers of publishing this type of resource. Where parts of the middle school section of this resource may be ideal for 6th graders, those same examples would probably not be challenging to 8th graders. It is for this reason that Rickard classifies the resource as "a comprehensive set of ideas." Using the examples in "Mathematics," teachers can craft lessons

that better reach their students.

The CD is a free resource that will be mass-mailed to schools across Michigan in January; however, copies are currently available for use in the Monteith Library and in the education laboratories on campus. Although the mathematics CD came out first, similar resources are in the works for the disciplines of social studies, language arts, and sciences.

NEWS

“No means no” week spotlights abuse

Events held throughout the week focused on abuses against women and offered advice for how to prevent future violations

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

Last week, the Women's Issues Advisory Board (WIAB) in conjunction with the MacCurdy Women's Research House, held “No Means No” week on campus. The week was designed to encourage awareness about violence against women on campus. Through several events, students were given the opportunity to learn about sexual violence and ways that they may improve the current situation.

On Monday, women were encouraged to make t-shirts at the MacCurdy House that portrayed different violent acts against women. This was a personal and private activity that sought to help victims and relations of victims deal with sexual assault and battery. Women were given a choice of shirt colors, each of which signified different trespasses against women.

White shirts signified women who have died as a result of violence. Yellow or beige signified women who were battered or assaulted, emotionally or physically, when they were adults or children. Red, pink, or orange shirts signified women who were raped or sexually assaulted.

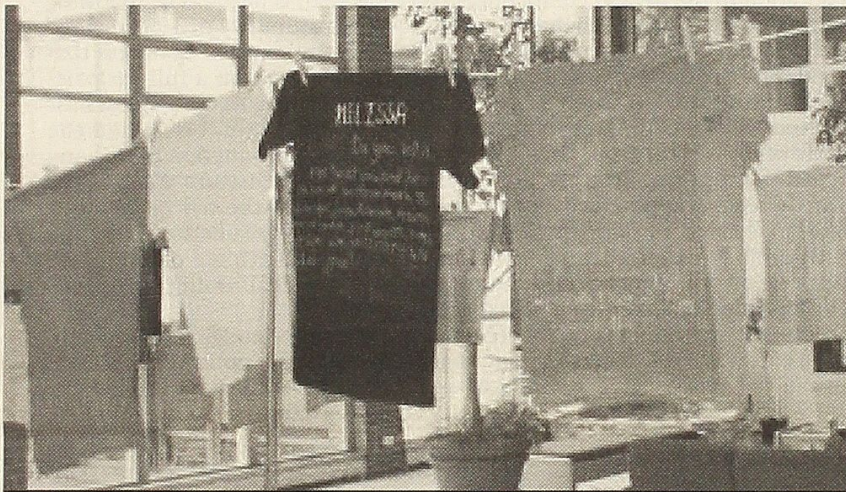


Photo by Dan Joyce

The “Clothesline Project” was displayed last Wednesday and Thursday in the Dow Lobby. Different colored t-shirts represented different trespasses against women.

Blue or green shirts signified incest survivors or women who were sexually abused as children. Purple or lavender shirts signified women who were attacked because of their sexual orientation. Black shirts signified people who know of a victim.

Tuesday night in the multi-purpose room of the Alan J. Stone Recreation Center, students were given information on self-defense strategies. Robert Helcher, a first-degree black belt of six years, led the demonstration. He was standing in for David Halfmman, a second-degree black belt of twenty years, who had recently injured himself and could not perform. Ethan Disbrow (03), Audrey Williams, physical plant office associate, and Jessica Williams (00), alumni, joined them.

The self-defense demonstration taught different techniques in Tae Kwon Do that may aid a person who is being physically threatened by an assailant. At the end of the session, many students stayed to talk with Halfmman and Helcher to further their understanding of the techniques.

The self-defense demonstration idea came from the WIAB. Williams was asked to organize the event because of her affiliation with the Alma Tae Kwon Do school.

Williams said, “I am passionate about people. It is exciting when I can do something to help people.”

During the day on Wednesday, the Clothesline Project

was displayed from 10a.m. to 7p.m. in the Dow Lobby. At 7p.m., the movie “She Cried No” was shown. The movie follows a typical rape that may occur on college campuses across the nation. The film depicts the events leading up to the rape, the rape, and the young woman's thoughts and behaviors after the fact, as well as people's reactions to her story. The film was followed by a group discussion.

On Thursday, the Clothesline Project was once again available to be viewed in the Dow Lobby from 9a.m.-4p.m. During that time, Gayle Passaretti, associate dean of student development, showed a video entitled, “Our Stories.” This video showed the stories of survivors of sexual abuse on college campuses, as told by the survivors themselves. The video also gave advice on how to reduce the chances of becoming a victim. After the viewing, Passaretti facilitated group discussion among those who chose to watch.

Passaretti has previously worked on women's issues on campus. In the past, she has organized workshops, training for Resident Assistants, assertiveness training, and she brought in Central Michigan University's “One in Four” men's peer education group last year. She also encourages awareness about date rape or club drugs, which are growing in popularity on college campuses. Yet, she wants to be careful when labeling such drugs.

“When you call it acquaintance or date rape drugs,” Passaretti said, “you qualify that it is someone you know and it may or may not be someone you know.”

Passaretti points out that often such drugs are slipped into punch at parties, or simply placed in an unattended drink. She also emphasizes that the manufacturing of such drugs is illegal and should be reported to the police if such a violation occurs.

Passaretti notes that it is most important for a victim to remember, “. . . that there is help and it is a crime.” She says that any victim of rape or sexual assault should immediately go to a medical official, without showering beforehand. Whether or not a victim chooses to press charges can be determined later, but if that decision is made, evidence can be gathered directly after the battery. Furthermore, she emphasizes that victims need to be checked for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), pregnancy, and a myriad of other physical problems.

The United States Department of Health reports that one in four college women are raped and that women are more vulnerable their first year in college.

Passaretti said, “The Federal Bureau of Investigation statistics show that less than one-percent of sexual assaults are false.”

Health officials say that it is rare that a woman would lie about being sexual abused, which makes it all the more



Photo by Dan Joyce

Robert Helcher demonstrates Tae Kwon Do self-defense techniques as an event during “No means no” week.

important for people close to the victim to be supportive and try to get that person help. Counseling is critical in the weeks and months following the incident.

The WIAB also encourages students to get involved in this cause. They suggest that students should demand that sexual assault and domestic violence issues are covered. It is believed that the social norm will change, as more people get involved with awareness programs.

Anna Stanley (02), MacCurdy House manager, said, “It is imperative to have a program like this at a college campus like Alma's because there is little interaction with the outside community and beyond. We have to generate our own awareness on campus.”

The WIAB meets every two weeks on Fridays at the MacCurdy House. The next meeting is at 3p.m. on November 30. All students are welcome to attend. More information about sexual assault, rape drugs, and medical help is available from Gayle Passaretti in the Student

It is imperative to have a program like this at a college campus like Alma's because there is little interaction with the outside community and beyond. We have to generate our own awareness on campus

~Anna Stanley (02)

Development Office below Hamilton Commons or at the Wilcox Medical Center.

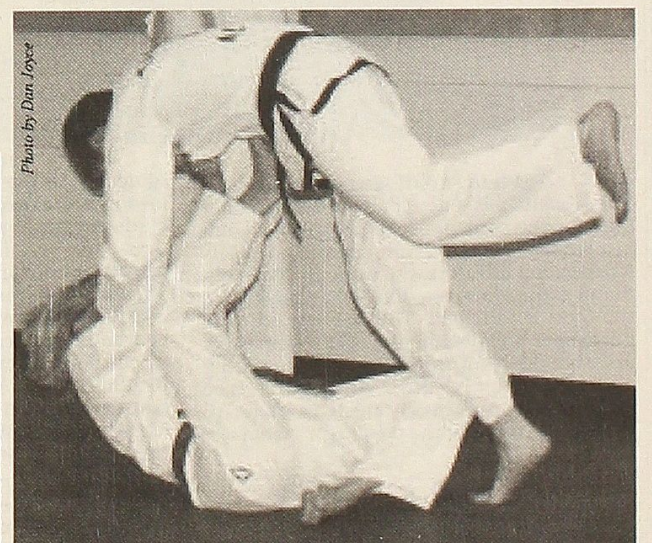


Photo by Dan Joyce

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cludes the lack of opportunity to reserve spots for student usage.

“As of now, people are used to making reservations for the facility; however, when athletics are going on, we will not be able to have open reservation because we want to keep our philosophy of open rec going,” said Blackburn.

In recognition of the unfavorable response and apprehension from students, Kridler notes that it is important to consider the fact that, “Students were involved in the planning process; they were involved in the design of the building; they all knew that the concept behind the building was fully intended that athletics would also use the building.”

In comparison to the time schedule reserved for intramural sports last year, which began oftentimes at or around midnight, the new proposal allows for some evenings when intramural teams can begin play as early as 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Although usage within the Rec Center will now include time periods reserved for organized athletic teams within the upcoming semester, the proposal clearly considers and identifies with other individuals who also choose to use the building.

“We're going to be able to meet the needs of students, student-athletes, the other members of the campus and even community members, all those people,” said Kridler.

OPINION

Staff Editorial

We're safe

In light of "No Means No" week on Alma College's campus last week, we would like to focus (again) on the issue of campus safety. Here's the catch; Alma's campus may not be so unsafe after all.

According to the Alma College crime statistics, the last recorded year (99-00) there were 112 crimes recorded on our campus. Subtract two drug abuse cases and 97 liquor law arrests/judicial cases. Subtract another 12 larceny/theft, auto vandalism and vandalism crimes. What do you have left? One record of physical harm done to a student: an aggravated assault case.

While thefts and liquor violations are considered crimes, they aren't the kind that most students worry about when they're walking across campus alone at night. Aggravated assault and sex offense crimes pose the most threat for bodily harm and are the main source of worry for students. According to the statistics, there don't seem to be very many of these sorts of crimes. What is everyone worried about?

It's understandable that many students are unsettled by Alma's campus at night. There are some poorly lit areas, and one security phone doesn't give us much to turn to in case of an emergency. Everyone knows a trek at night from the non-preferred parking lot by the softball field to the dorms isn't exactly relaxing. Regardless of the shivers we get from these safety inadequacies that the College seems to ignore, there have still been only two instances of sexual or aggravated assault recorded in the past four years.

Other colleges similar in size to Alma prove to be slightly more dangerous. In the past three years Adrian College recorded 11 sex offenses and 11 aggravated assaults. Albion College recorded five sex offenses and eight aggravated assaults. A student at Kalamazoo College was murdered two years ago. Compared to these numbers Alma College seems to have a pretty good track record.

It's also been said that Alma College doesn't correctly report all crimes, or that it tries to cover crimes up so it doesn't receive bad press. While it's true that the College doesn't want bad press and may slide around issues at times, it has a lot to lose by misreporting crime facts.

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, originally known as the Campus Security Act, requires colleges and universities across the U.S. to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. Violators can be fined up to \$25,000 by the U.S. Department of Education. While reporting a few sex offenses or assaults may not be great for Alma College, a \$25,000 fine for violating a federal law would be much worse.

All in all Alma's campus seems relatively safe. Even if it gives us the creepy-crawlies to walk across campus at night, apparently we are in little danger. Of course there are rumors flying about that Joe Schmoe's friend was assaulted walking back from a parking lot, and someone slipped Suzy-Q the date rape drug and took advantage of her at a party last Saturday. Most of the time no one knows if these rumors are true, and if they are indeed true no one knows why they weren't included in the crime statistics. Maybe we shouldn't be asking the College why more steps can't be taken to improve campus safety. Perhaps we should instead focus on why the issue of campus safety is so fuzzy. No one seems to know the truth about the whos, whats, wheres, whens whys and hows of campus crime, and it's time we found out. Until then let's be glad that there is little crime on campus that involves bodily harm. Alma always was and still is a safe place to be.

Letter to the Editor

Dear editors,

This summer, incoming freshman athletes on five sports teams were informed that if they wished to play sports at Alma College they would not be allowed to pledge fraternities. Apparently, coaches feel that the pledging process and fraternity life are derogatory to an athlete's performance both on the field and in the classroom. In extensive discussions with administrators, I have learned that the coaches' main concerns boil down to retention rates and hazing. I would like to use this letter to display the facts about Greek life and why it is such a boon to those who choose to experience it.

First, let us deal with the retention issue. Presumably, the coaches feel that athletes' GPAs will drop if they pledge fraternities. Nothing could be further from the truth! The Greek male GPA of 2.97 was about .1 grade points higher than the all-male GPA of 2.88. According to the Registrar, the college doesn't even track pledge GPA statistics or all-athlete grade point averages, yet the coaches claim their athletes' GPAs drop when pledging. This is a subcategory of two categories that are not tracked! Fraternities are even required by the bylaws of the Interfraternity Council (IFC), which fraternities make for their own good, to sponsor three hours of uninterrupted study time five nights a week that pledges must attend. How many students really study fifteen hours a week?

The second issue is hazing. IFC and the college have established specific rules regarding hazing and have a judicial process to enforce those rules. According to Greek Advisor Marty Stack, no Greek organization has been found guilty of hazing since 1998. Additionally, it was the soccer team that was found guilty of the last hazing incident at Alma College. Yet the soccer team supports the pledge ban because its members don't want their athletes to be subjected to hazing!

In addition to the invalid complaints, the pledge ban is illegal. The following is a direct quote from the Higher Education Act Amendments of 1998, signed into law by Bill Clinton on October 7, 1998: "It is the sense of Congress that no student attending an institution of higher education on a full- or part-time basis should, on the basis of participation in protected speech or protected association, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination or official sanction under any education program, activity, or division of the institution directly or indirectly receiving financial assistance under this act, whether or not such program, activity, or division is sponsored or officially sanctioned by the institution." In essence, this means that stripping an athlete of eligibility because he or she joined a student organization is illegal. Doing so violates our basic American right of association.

If there are any athletes out there who would like to pledge, and I'm sure there are quite a few, then tell your coach you want the policy changed. In addition, tell Provost Avery that you want the policy changed. Also, tell a friend you've made who is in a fraternity that you want the policy changed.

Todd Swinehart (02)

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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.

Staff Editorial Policy

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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.

Shooting each other at a topless Thanksgiving

By Danielle Hegsted
The Utah Statesman
(Utah State U.)

(U-WIRE) LOGAN, Utah - On Sunday, my roommates and I had this great idea to have Thanksgiving dinner together before we went our separate ways for the holidays.

While eating our pumpkin pie, which may I add was delicious, my roommate told this story:

When she was in New Jersey, a bunch of young single adults decided to have Thanksgiving together. And she was very excited to make pumpkin pie. She made one fatal error. She put crust on top of the pie and put the whole thing in the oven to bake.

Well, the middle did not cook.

As she was explaining this to us, I exclaimed, "Well, I like my pies topless."

Not the smartest choice of words.

Needless to say, it made the quote board in our apartment.

With Thanksgiving coming up so quickly, I was telling a friend how excited I was to go home. And we got talking about family traditions.

She was almost appalled at me when I blurted out, "After Thanksgiving dinner, we shoot each other."

Once again, my mouth got ahead of my brain.

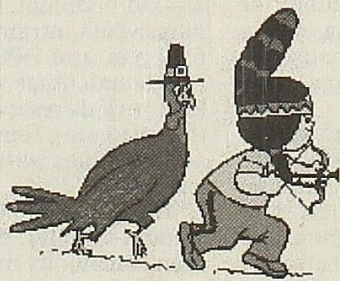
So, I had to explain. For a number of years, my extended family has gone and played laser tag Thanksgiving night.

Things get pretty competitive, especially with my uncles the mighty hunters, and my little cousins who are the same height as the sensors we wear on our front and back. You can't see these little kids because they are short but they are deadly.

Everyone wants to be the one to come out on top and we employ every method we can think of, including backing up against a wall and covering the front sensor so no one can get ya.

What a great family bonding moment. I am sure most people have funny, weird traditions like this as well, ok maybe not.

So, after all this, I would like to wish everyone a happy, topless Thanksgiving with plenty of random shootings.



OPINION

Left is
Torture is
ridiculous

Polling data from the November 14 Christian Science Monitor suggests that up to a third of the American people would support the use of torture to gain information from suspected terrorists. Torture is a cruel and inhumane weapon best left in the Spanish Inquisition; it has no place in our national debates now.

The international community has long since recognized the true nature of torture: a barbaric practice with no place in the modern era. Virtually all democratic governments—except Israel—have abandoned the use of torture in law enforcement or any other capacity.

This realization is reflected in current international legal practice regarding torture. The 1984 United Nations Convention Against Torture has been signed into law in most of the world's countries. The treaty embraces a "try or extradite" standard, meaning that countries must either try people suspected of using torture or extradite them to another country. Torture is also prohibited under the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which the US is a party to and often uses to put pressure on countries which do not meet its standards.

Because of these documents and the



Chris Machnacki

universal condemnation that torture inspires, it has become what is known as a peremptory norm of international law—something so outrageous that it is never acceptable under any circumstances. Summary executions and the aggressive use of force are other examples of peremptory norms.

The US, while not a party to the 1984 UN convention, has passed the Torture Victims Protection Act of 1991. This act opened the US federal court system to torture victims from other countries seeking legal action against their torturers. Many people have taken advantage of this law, including victims of ethnic cleansing and torture from the war in Bosnia.

The administration has given no indication that it is prepared to use torture on captured al-Qaeda operatives or anyone else. However, the administration gave no indication that it planned on using closed military courts without juries to try non-US citizens accused of terrorism, either.

Torture does more than break the will of people undergoing it; it corrupts the torturers and the society that condones it. If we begin by giving the green light to torture foreigners accused of terrorism—just to protect public safety and national security—we may very well see the day when Americans are tortured when they are accused of terrorism—just to protect public safety and national security—and then see the day when Americans are tortured for a variety of reasons—because it has become OK.

To reiterate, there has been no indication that any government official has thought seriously about using torture. However, torture has been discussed, sometimes favorably, in a variety of fora, including Newsweek and Fox News. President Bush needs to state unequivocally that his government will never authorize the use of torture, period. If bin Laden can force us to use disgusting measures, if he can force us to break international law, if he can dictate which of our civil liberties we can maintain, then he has already won and there is no point in dropping any more bombs on Afghanistan.

Critical thinking skills are in
critical condition



As students at a liberal arts college, we Almanians are always having the importance of critical thinking pounded into our heads. We hear repeatedly that the goal of education is not to learn facts, but to learn how to sort, analyze,

Tim Slade

and act upon the torrent of information that is directed

towards us on a daily basis from our senses, our peers, and our media. To a degree, we have learned how to truly understand and react to the information we receive, but our facility with said practices varies along a spectrum. If the stimulus is arising from a professor in a science or math class, we tend to observe, challenge, argue, and eventually settle upon what we regard as a reasonable conclusion to the matter. I am afraid, however, that when the font from which new data is flowing is the media, we lose many of these positive critical-thinking skills.

This spring I was fortunate enough to participate in Dr. Julie Arnold's 'Paris in May' class, and I spent four weeks in the northeast corner of Paris living with a French family. After a while, even my love for the French language was not enough to overcome the loneliness and frustration occasioned by needing to eat, sleep, drink, breathe, and think in a foreign language nearly 24/7, and I sought solace in the evening broadcasts provided by the BBC. While I did in fact grow up overseas, and hence know that the U.S. is far from universally loved, the BBC reports really threw me for a loop. The news was not U.S.-friendly, and in fact had a great deal of implied criticism for the American way of doing things. Do not get the impression, however, that the BBC was 'bashing' the U.S. – rather, their perspective was one in which the news did not need to be altered or tweaked in order to please, shelter, or stroke the egos of U.S. watchers. As such, the news was more nakedly delivered, and things were presented much differently. My eyes were really opened, and I had a new idea of 'truth' in the media (and the American lack or skewing thereof), which was only supported by the French news and newspapers as well; I finally saw how often the wool is pulled over our eyes as American media consumers.

The aforementioned experience was recently brought to mind when I read over a news article outlining the U.S.' imminent and righteous victory over the Taliban in Afghanistan. I found myself sincerely questioning how accurate the accounts of our successes in the Middle East happened to be, figuring that much of the article was in fact spun more towards propaganda than truth. Had I not had the experience of last spring, I surely would have swallowed the story, hook, line and sinker. As it is, most of us are set-up to do so by the environment in which we place ourselves, and I am no exception.

I, like many others, am a user of Hotmail's e-mail services, and I check my mail on a daily basis. Relatively recently, MSN (the parent company of Hotmail) updated its homepage and inserted little snippets of news-briefs, article headlines, etc. in a more prominent place on the page.

The expected result is to get the surfer to be interested, open the link, and thus provide an opportunity to be exposed to more of the advertisements that are the lifeblood of no-cost services like MSN and Hotmail. In all fairness, my cynicism may be misguided; perhaps the site developers really think it is a good idea to expose their users to current news in order to have a better-informed and thus more capable populace. At any rate, if that is the case, they are slightly missing the mark. How so? Quite simply, by using American media sources to pass on the information.

It is natural for the big cheeses at MSN to use NBC as their information source and their medium for posting information on MSN websites; after all, they are closely affiliated with NBC, and it does not make financial sense to pay another company for information and services that can be provided from 'within the family'. Naturally, the vast majority of news services available on the television, even for those who have cable, are American-based; only the students who shell out exorbitant amounts of money get access to Canadian news stations or the BBC (and even then it isn't all the BBC channels). Unfortunately, most students are not curious or motivated enough to seek out other news sources and compare or contrast their reports. As a result, most students here at the college (and most Americans nationwide) will see only what is served up to them on a silver platter, and will swallow it without thinking twice.

In order to become the thoughtful, educated citizens of the world that our professors are grooming us to become, we need to start taking steps to remove the blinders from our eyes. I am not advocating completely ignoring American media, but rather taking a healthy dose of international news along with it. This can be done quite easily by setting www.bbc.co.uk as a site on your Internet Explorer taskbar and giving it at least a cursory once-over every time you sit down to check your mail. The news is updated every minute, and the sources are not biased toward sheltering the American ego. If you choose to look up news in a foreign language, www.lemonde.fr and www.faz.com are the websites of two of the main French and German newspapers, respectively. If you don't read French or German, it is possible to use Google to translate them for you or to find English-language versions of the papers.

With a minimum of effort, it is possible to expose yourself to a number of totally different worldviews as relating to the same important subject; it is time for us to start integrating the views of the global community into our own.

Dear Scottie . . .

Dear Scottie,

I'm at my wit's end. My friend and I were sitting in my room at 10:01 p.m. the other night, whispering to each other. It was completely silent—you couldn't hear anything outside of the room. Then, all of the sudden an R.A. comes in, gives me a dirty look, and slams my door! Dorm rooms are small enough, and when the door is shut I can barely breathe. This happens all the time, is there anything I can do?

Claude Straphobic

Dear Claude,

Raunchy R.A.s bother everyone, and since they have the write-ups in their hands they hold the power. The best thing to do is run around the halls screaming (stop around midnight when they do their rounds). They'll hear you and come running, but by the time they get there you should be in your room with the door shut and lights off. Wait until they leave and then repeat. Eventually they'll get too worn out to come running at every sound. Another solution is to simply open the door back up as soon as they leave.

The Bell Curve



HEY JOE, LET'S GO GET SOME CHINESE.

THE ALMANIAN STAFF
WISHES EVERYONE A
SAFE AND FUN
THANKSGIVING
BREAK

OPINION

Controversy burns over proposed Rec Center schedule

If you're planning on getting a few games of hoops in at the Rec Center between 3:30



Reannon Broekema

and 8:30 p.m., you'd better hustle to beat the crowd; according to a proposed Rec Center schedule, you will only have one court to play on due to varsity athletic practices.

Baseball, softball, tennis and track teams all received daily practice time in the proposal for Rec Center usage. While the 6:00-8:00 a.m. and 10:30 p.m.-midnight practice times probably won't affect most students' workout schedules (our hearts go out to those athletes who do have to practice at those hours), the solid block of three to five hour practices will affect workouts.

According to the proposed schedule every Monday, Wednesday and Friday three of the four Rec Center courts will be occupied by baseball, softball and tennis teams between the hours of 3:30 and 8:30 p.m. Each Tuesday and Thursday between 3 and 6 p.m. the track and tennis teams will take up three courts. Perhaps the 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday baseball and softball practices won't be so bad; students will just have to either get up earlier or wait until later to get their weekend workout in.

Granted, this schedule is only a proposal, and it may or may not go into effect. The College's effort to please everyone is commendable, but I'm not so sure it came up with the correct solution. According to Rec Center personnel, the Center's peak hours are between 4 p.m. and 11 p.m. If the new proposal goes into effect, three of the four courts will be used by varsity athletics during the first three to five hours of heavy use, then IM sports take over for the remainder of the night. In other words, two or three of the four

courts will be used from approximately 3:30 p.m. until closing.

The devotion of large blocks of time to varsity athletics, especially during peak use hours, unsettles me. I know I don't feel comfortable using the facility when a sports team is using it, and I think many others feel the same way. Yes, we can try to work around the scheduled practice times, but we are all busy people and there are many days when we only have a small window of time to work out. With winter bearing down on us more people will need to exercise indoors—where will we go if we don't have a time or a place where we feel comfortable exercising?

Perhaps I am way off on my evaluation of the proposed schedule. Apparently people use the Rec Center less than expected, which validates the allotment of large blocks of varsity practice time. If the Center isn't being used anyways, why not give athletics practice time? Someone might as well use it. If this is the case, then shame on everyone for not using the Center more; if you are upset about varsity Rec Center use, you most likely have no

one to blame but yourself.

But those of us who do use the Rec Center on a regular basis have every right to be upset. It's one thing to have to modify your workout for one day because of an occasional varsity sports practice; it's entirely different to have to revamp your whole weekly schedule because there is no room in the facility or you don't feel comfortable working out with a sports team.

I offer two suggestions. One: For all those involved in Rec Center scheduling—think twice about allowing so much varsity practice time. Some time is acceptable and necessary, but be careful of overdoing it. It could be detrimental to enrollment, retention of students and college and community satisfaction. Two: For all those who are eligible to use the Rec Center—take advantage of it! Don't blame the College for scheduling varsity practice time when you don't even use the facility that much. Show the College you need that time for recreation. If everyone contributes I'm sure the College can come up with an acceptable solution.

Join the Lions Club

Brendan Guilford
Staff Writer

I've never really been one for Thanksgiving; maybe it's the timing of the whole affair. I love the Christmas season, and I always have enjoyed Halloween; Thanksgiving is inconveniently crowded between the two. Like the holiday or not, it has recently come to my attention that an institution, dare I say a pillar of American society, relating to Thanksgiving has come under most grievous assault. Immediately all learned persons recognize the 'institution' I am referring to: the Detroit Lions playing football on Thanksgiving Day against some other NFC team.

For the last few seasons, some dastardly hooligans at the NFL head office have wanted to strip us of our constitutional right to watch the Lions play a bad game of football, while stuffing our gills with turkey and potatoes! Instead of their normal viewing treat, millions upon millions of rabid Detroit Lions fans across the nation will be subjected to the tyranny of watching some other bumbling, slipshod band of grid-iron warriors mangle the game of football. We're safe for now, but every few years the debate over whether or not the Lions should play on Thanksgiving rises up again.

Will we stand for this? I say no, we cannot afford to as red-blooded, patriotic Americans. Today it's stooping to watch some other terrible team on Thanksgiving, but tomorrow it could be wiretaps in our phones and Big Brother telling us what to think! Can you picture the great eagle that is our national symbol in chains and shackles? Can you imagine evil NFL officials stealing sweet candies from the clutched palms of innocent babes? Give them an inch and they'll take our favorite game of the year too!

What can we do to prevent this calamity from occurring? Write letters to the NFL commissioner proclaiming your undying, unquenchable lust for Detroit Lions football, and declare solemnly: "If you should ever decide to schedule another team for Thanksgiving, I shall give up on football and glee forever more." Hold Lion-Lovers thanksgiving parties where you sign petitions asking that the team will play on the last Thursday of November for the next 100 years, with an option for resigning in 2101. Form grass-root underground community action committees to preserve this awesome national symbol; I belong to one called "Viva La Lions."

Viva La Lions was formed in 1957, the last year that the Lions won a national football championship. Since then, its mission has been the protection and proliferation of every Lion-related tradition. The V.L.L.'s charter members include some little-known football aficionados such as Che Guevara, Winston Churchill, and Golda Mier. All of these bright, intelligent people knew long ago that without the Lions playing football on Thanksgiving, the very fabric of American culture and society would begin to tear irreparably. It hasn't always been an easy job, as anyone who has watched the Lions play this year knows very well.

Eat up and rage, rage against the dying of the baby-blue light my friends, if you love freedom, turkey and the American way.

'Chaser' drug claims to prevent hangovers

By Kenny Vogelpohl
Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, Ill. - When most people think of a "chaser," they think of a drink that removes the taste of an alcoholic drink. However, a drug company in Michigan is trying to market a different type of chaser.

The Living Essentials company has developed a new drug called "chaser" that they say helps alleviate the effects caused by a more pressing problem of alcohol consumption — hangovers.

According to the Living Essentials Web site, hangovers are caused by congeners, byproducts of the fermentation process. The body releases cytokines to attempt to remove the toxin, and this release of cytokines is what causes a hangover. Chaser works by trapping and removing these congeners before they enter the bloodstream, avoiding the need for cytokines.

According to a study by Dr. Jeffery G. Wiese, published on the WebMD Web site, drinks such as scotch and red wine contain more congeners, which can make these hangovers more frequent and powerful.

However, some medical professionals disagree with Living Essentials' reasoning.

Kathy, a nurse from Christie Clinic, said she had never heard of congeners.

Both Kathy and Lisa Berry, a nurse practitioner from Provena Covenant Medical Center, agreed that the primary cause of hangovers is dehydration.

"The best remedy is number one: don't drink," Berry

said. "But if you drink, space drinks out with other drinks. Carbonated beverages will help."

The active ingredients in the chaser drug are calcium carbonate, or chalk, and vegetable carbon. Because these ingredients are classified in the category "Generally Regarded as Safe" by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and the drug is classified as a "dietary supplement." No independent clinical tests were required to put the product on the market.

Even so, a spokesman for Living Essentials said that chaser has medical studies to back up its claim that its product works, whereas most home-grown remedies do not.

"One (reason) is clinical testing, the other is that it is all-natural. All others contain things like caffeine and acetomenophene," said a spokesman for Living Essentials. However, he said the studies aren't available on the Web yet.

Chaser has been offered in the Detroit area, but is not yet offered in Illinois. The spokesman said the drug will soon go on sale in Chicago, but students in Champaign-Urbana can now order it on the Web site.

The chemical nature of the pill worries some potential users.

Aaron Hughes, sophomore in FAA, said that he heard the pill advertised on the radio but doubts he would use it.

"I think it's a good idea. I don't think I'd ever try it, though. Who knows what the hell's in it?" Hughes said. "I think I'll stick to my water."

Refuse the refuse

Staff Editorial
Michigan Daily
(U. Michigan)

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. - Every day, approximately 180 truckloads of Canadian garbage arrive in Michigan.

This massive influx of trash rapidly fills the state's landfills, causes road overcrowding and leads to a precarious environmental situation. Especially troubling are the less restrictive standards for the classification of hazardous waste in Canada, possibly leading to the transport of dangerous materials to Michigan.

On Nov. 12, Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus sent a series of letters to the city of Toronto and Congress seeking the cessation of this garbage importation.

While a 1992 Supreme Court decision prevents states from refusing

waste due to interstate commerce regulations, the voluntary end of these practices will benefit both Michigan and Canada.

Michigan has long been a recipient of Canada's excess garbage due to its abundance of landfills and comparatively low prices for dumping. This has led to a number of consequences throughout the state, such as increased pollution from waste-hauling vehicles, strain and damage to road surfaces, a greater amount of time waiting at border crossings and the general ecological havoc associated with landfills and incinerators.

Batteries and other items that damage groundwater, while prohibited in Michigan's trash, can still end up in state landfills from Canada. In Michigan, yard waste is separated for composting, while Ontario does not have a similar policy. Further-

more, Canada has not advocated as intense of a recycling program as Michigan.

These disparities lead to an excessively high amount of waste and toxic items in Michigan's landfills.

The vast amounts of Canadian waste streaming into Michigan each day is an unnecessary environmental threat that, through careful Canadian planning or, more importantly, Michigan legislative action, can be averted.

The societal costs of placing dumps in economically impoverished areas is high and future generations of Michiganders should not have to pay the cost of maintaining Canada's waste.

If nothing is done, Michigan's landfills will become overfilled and prices will be driven up. This will hurt both Canada and Michigan. These reforms will soften garbage transportation's effect on the environment.

GREEK LIFE

ΣΣ ΑΓΔ ΘΧ ΑΕΔ ΣΧ ΓΦΒ ΣΑΕ ΚΙ ΤΚΕ ΦΣΣ

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Olga Wrobel
Feature Editor

Founded: The SAE national chapter was founded in 1856. Alma's chapter was founded in 1984.

Active Members: There are currently 24 brothers on campus; 10 live in the house.

President: Andrew Garrison (02)

Famous SAE Brothers: Famous brothers include NBA star Phil Jackson and actors Fred Savage, Sam Elliot, Richard Harris and David Spade.

Activities: SAE is known to have many fun parties, including Paddy Murphy and Marriage/Divorce. This brothers put on Paddy Murphy last month and paid homage legendary gangster. Every week the brothers work at the Community Café, a local soup kitchen, which is SAE's philanthropy. A book drive for the Alma Women's Shelter took place earlier this year as well. The brothers put

on the carnival for the Luce Road school, and they were involved with the Zeta Sigs when they held the can drive in September. Social activities for non-Greek brothers include Speak Easy during the week of Paddy Murphy.

How the Brothers View Themselves: The SAE brothers are known to be easy going and think of themselves as a well-mixed group. Garrison said, "We have a good blend of athletics, academics, and parties; there is an all around feel. We have guys here from everywhere, its amazing how diverse the group is." Ken Carver (02) feels that his brothers are a great group, and when asked about them he said, "Being an SAE is definitely the best and most worthwhile thing I have ever done. I would do anything for the guys in this group. Without all my brothers, I would not be where I am today." There is a strong sense of friendship. "I hang out with all my brothers on a daily basis," said Garrison.



U. Michigan greek houses attempt to curb underage drinking

By Tyler Boersen
Michigan Daily (U. Michigan)

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. - Following allegations by two female freshmen that they were raped at an unregistered Beta Theta Pi fraternity party last month, efforts by greek houses to curb underage drinking and improve the overall quality of greek life on campus have been greeted with greater urgency.

Still, members of the greek community maintain that despite any recent improprieties, discussion of such changes have been long underway, specifically as a result of the recent Greek Summit.

The University's chapter of Alpha Delta Phi is one of several fraternities to ban alcohol recently from common areas of the house and take steps to reform the way parties are conducted.

"Our house is planning to move to outside vendors and keep random people away from parties to keep more control over risk," Alpha Delta Phi President Amit Kapoor said.

These efforts are part of a plan to improve living conditions in fraternity houses. As a result, fraternity alumni are pledging new support to their houses while they used to shy away because of the negative stigmas houses have received in the past.

"A lot of (alumni) don't come back because of the constant bad image on the greek system. Now we are getting help from people we haven't heard from for a while," Kapoor said. "If we really improve living conditions and make it so things are maintained, the parties we do have will have alumni support."

"(Alumni) want to see that the undergraduates are going to respect the facilities," Interfraternity Council President Marc Hustvedt said. "In return, fraternity houses will see more alumni involvement."

Alpha Delta Phi's renewed alumni support has brought offers of help in finding third-party vendors for hosting parties, including the use of a boat on Lake Michigan, Kapoor said.

In the last few years several fraternities have made the pledge to go dry nationwide, including Theta Chi and Delta Sigma Phi. Both are required to be alcohol-free by the year 2003.

Sorority houses, which always have been alcohol-free, also have begun to seek third-party vendors after 13 of the 15 sororities on campus chose to ban co-sponsorship of parties that involve alcohol.

"National organizations have pushed sororities to hold events at third-party vendors where they have a liquor license and have the ability to make sure that only people over 21 are being served," Panhellenic Association President Stephanie Deal said.

Hustvedt said IFC already has been working to find vendors along with the sororities, adding the work will be no easy task.

"It's going to take a lot of groundwork talking to bars and getting a commitment from them, but they are the pros at checking IDs and distributing alcohol," Hustvedt said.

London: Learn some English, learn some art

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

Despite the myriad locations available to students for Spring Term, two professors have chosen the same country for theirs: England. This spring, Medieval English Literature (English 183/383) and World Ceramics (Art 280) will spend time in London.

The course fee is the same for both courses (\$2,400), and for several weeks in May, about 40 of Alma's students will descend on England's capital, and the groups will be share some time in the city. Beyond the city, the classes

World Ceramics, led by Dr. Carrie Parks-Kirby, has a small class size of twelve students, and will stay at moderate first class hotels during its two weeks in London; the class will spend its first week and last few days of the term on campus.

In comparison, the 20 students of Medieval English Literature, led by Dr. Ute Stargardt, will be living in Basewater flats in West Central London for the entirety of their month-long trip.

Classwork for the World Ceramics course will consist of lectures and trips, but especially individual research. Each student will have specific pot or ceramic work to study and research thoroughly, and their projects will be concluded when the group visits the actual objects in the British Museum and the Victoria & Albert, and do presentations on them for the rest of the class. They will also work on illustrated journals, making a record of the course and their experiences.

The Medieval English Literature class will also have a good share of course work. Students in this class will keep a journal, write reports and short analysis papers, and have a final exam to reckon with.

Travel will be an extremely important element of both London Spring Terms. Aside from local touring, the World Ceramics students will visit Stoke-on-Trent, where the Potteries Museum is located, along with the famous pottery factories of Wedgwood and Royal Doulton. The students will tour these factories,

and be able to see china being made, among other things.

For the Medieval English Literature course, traveling may very well become a way of life. From their London base, the group will make day trips to Durham, Battle, Canterbury, Reading, York, Winchester and Cambridge. They will also spend several days in Dublin, Ireland. The activities at these places will vary, but they all relate to the material the students will be reading at the time. They will visit the battlefield of the Battle of Hastings, they will study medieval drama and its performance, and they will pay visits to castles, universities and cathedrals.

The professors of these courses are also putting an emphasis on the students having free time to explore London on their own. Unlike in other classes, these students will still be in an English-speaking country for Spring Term. However, the culture is very different from America. The students are encouraged to try different aspects of the culture, and to visit places not specifically related to their studies. Even without class work, there are more than enough activities to keep people occupied in London.

Dr. Stargardt and Dr. Parks-Kirby are, as can be expected, very excited about the trips they have planned. Both have been to London before, and think it is an experience students ought to have. Dr. Stargardt showed her love of London's culture by commenting on an aspect of the subway ("tube") system: "The greatest loss is that the subway announcement has been changed to proper English," she said. "In any language, DO mind the gap."

This is good advice for students who will have to get used to the many forms of travel inside London (the accommodations for both classes are near subway stations). Dr. Parks-Kirby is also anxious for her students to be able to see the pottery they are studying first-hand. "It's a whole different thing, to get to go see the real thing instead of just looking at slides," she said.

World Ceramics and Medieval English Literature have each had at least one meeting with their students, and more will be scheduled for the start of next term. Whether they run into each other this May or not, the students of both classes are sure to work hard and absorb a good deal.

FEATURE

Songfest rocks the chapel

Tim Slade
Staff Writer

Dunning Memorial Chapel played host on Friday night to the latest version of ACUB's annual Songfest competition. Despite its running over three hours, the showcase of campus musical talent once again packed the Chapel beyond normal capacity, re-affirming the popularity of an event that has come to be the highlight of every Fall Term's student activity list.

With vocal performances in solo, small group (5 people or less), and large group categories, the evening provided students with an opportunity to demonstrate their musical gifts while attempting to get their hands on the \$200 first prize or \$100 second prize (the prizes were split up between the members of winning groups). To do so, the students needed to impress a panel of judges composed of Kate McNamee, the Mitchell hall director; Jodie Reeves, the administrative assistant in the Provost's office; Jennifer Richardson, the Gelston hall director; Jodi Roed, office associate in Student Affairs; and Aaron Brock, assistant football coach and recruiting coordinator (stepping in for the AWOL Elmer Crispin).

Taking a break from the tiresome job of winning, **Chris LaCroix (02)** served to emcee the show. Showing himself to be nearly as adept at directing the ceremonies as he has been at winning, LaCroix underwent several identity changes over the course of the evening. His shtick ran the gamut from a simple tuxedo and the "Let's get ready to rumble!" catchphrase that open all entertainment events of any worthy caliber to a horrifying impression of Janet Reno. The amusing transformations in between involved LaCroix dressing up as a conservative old churchlady, a Spartan cheerleader, a motivational speaker named Matt Foley and Opera Man, originally created by Adam Sandler of Saturday Night Live.

The evening's performances ranged from stellar to subpar, but all the candidates displayed admirable courage and determination by getting up in front of an at-times hostile crowd. Unsurprisingly boisterous, the crowd was largely supportive and uplifting for the performers, with the notable exception of certain members of the audience who displayed a concerted lack of class and civility while heckling some of the singers for their costumes and their performances. Regardless, the audience's attention was usually riveted by the activities onstage.

The opening performance came at the hands of second-place winner (solo) **Eric Fritts (02)**, who earned the appreciation of both the audience and the judges with his "Music for the ages", a compilation of hit songs ranging from as far back as the Chuck Berry classic "Johnny B. Goode" from 1958. His mixing of approximately a dozen different songs into a single tune and the smooth transitions therein may have impressed the judges, but probably not any more than his smooth voice and fabulous guitar playing. Four performers later, **Jen Gerwig** performed a fabulously accurate rendition of "Part of Your World" from "The Little Mermaid," justly winning the top prize in the solo category. Her powerful voice evoked even more memories of Ariel than her thematic costume, and the richness, warmth, and emotion of her singing set her up as the clear winner, silencing the uncivilized boos who insisted on talking and heckling her throughout her performance. Unfortunately, the lack of a third place prize meant that **Chris Andrus' (02)** performance of "High and Dry" went for naught other than showing off the excellent top end of his range.

In the small group category, the band Surprise, made



Photo by Bryan Waugh

James Frey (02) performs with his fellow Orientation Committee members as the final act of Songfest. The group engaged the audience while the judges tallied the votes.

up by **Ross Kennerly (01)**, **Jeremy Olsen (04)** and **Fritts** won the second-place award for their rendition of The Monkees' "I'm Not Your Stepping Stone." Despite their strong performance, there was no chance for them to come out on top when facing Eleven Arms to Hold You's version of "Chicago", arranged by lead singer **Brett Rigby (04)**. Their acapella piece demonstrated the considerable singing talents of basses **Josh Vrooman (04)** and **Jonah Powell (02)** and tenors **Malcolm Cox (04)**, **Travis Crawford (04)** and the aforementioned Rigby. Taking turns singing the lead part, Crawford and Rigby brought to life the humorous aspect of the song, gaining nearly 100% audience participation with the choral response portion of the song by the end of the performance. Once again, the quality of the winners' performances unfortunately meant that crowd favorites like Crowded Quarters' punk-flavored version of the Alma Mater were left out in the cold.

The large group category was taken by Goodness and its versions of "Rockin' Robin" and "You Can Call Me Al", the runner-up being the women of Alpha Gamma Delta with "I Will Survive", choreographed by **Andrea Ballinger (03)**, **Meagan Tripp (02)** and organized by **Rebecca Monsour (04)**.

Overall, Songfest was extremely popular, although a few people like **Alieshia Mottern (04)** found that "Some of it was good, but some of it I could have done without." Additionally, the three-hour long running time left some folks restless and inattentive at the end, which is completely understandable but nevertheless a shame for the final performers. Many students identified with **Lee Owens (03)**, who said "It should have been shorter - they should split it into multiple nights." As it stands right now, corrective measures are being examined by **Jessica Greyerbiehl (03)**, the head of ACUB, and **Claire Brady**, the advisor. The current thought process is centering more on instituting a time limit on a piece in an attempt to forestall repeats of a couple eight-minute-plus performances from Friday, but nothing definite has been decided at this time.

Fanfare for the music fans

Sara Hemmingson
Staff Writer

The Alma Symphony Orchestra had its second fall concert this weekend. Though the concert consisted of only three separate pieces of music, it nonetheless lasted an hour and a half, counting intermission, and proved itself to be of high quality.

The concert opened with "Fanfare for the Common Man" by Aaron Copland. A small ensemble played this: three percussionists, three trumpets, four horns, three trumpets, and a tuba performed the short piece. It began rather dramatically with only percussion, which then halted, and the trumpets were the only instruments playing. Soon the percussion and horns chimed in, and this abruptly halted in favor of more percussion, after which the low brass section had its brief time in the spotlight. Finally, all the instruments united to change the tone of the piece from pensive and touching to dramatic, glorious, and brassy by the its conclusion. It is interesting to note that the program cited "Fanfare" as having always been popular, and as being played much more frequently across the world since September 11.

Following the conclusion of "Fanfare," the brass and percussion exited the stage, and the string orchestra, along with a few woodwinds, walked on to take their place. After briefly tuning, they began the second piece of the concert: "Symphony No. 101 in D Major 'The Clock,'" by Franz Josef Haydn. It began with an airy, mournful quality, then the piece acquired an underlying tension. This was the "Adagio," and on its heels came the "Presto," which had a feeling of royalty and excitement, interspersed with mellow, delicate, and dangerous sounding passages. After this there was a brief pause before the "Andante," which was pretty and happy, but with a sense and slowness to calm to it. Following this was the "Menuetto: Allegretto." It was generally grand-sounding, and festive, but became anxious and soft near the end before its proud, abrupt ending. Finally came the "Finale: Vivace." This portion of the piece began cautiously but quickly climbed to become very intense, then backed off for a bit, changing volume and style several times, and suddenly becoming loud and broad in tone as it worked its way toward the ending.

These two pieces alone took up the first 40 minutes of the concert, and were thus followed by an intermission. The only piece played during the second half lasted over half an hour by itself; this was Johannes Brahms' "Concerto for violin and cello, op. 102." It was another string orchestra piece, this time with several brass instruments and percussion in addition to the woodwinds. "Concerto" was lead by two soloists, **Wei Tsun Chang** (on violin) and **Stephen Framil** (on cello). It opened with a the full orchestra, which cut off in favor of a mournful cello solo, then was taken back over by the orchestra. The second time the orchestra halted, it was a violin solo which lead, and was then joined by the cello for a dark, sorrowful duet. The orchestra entered again, and at this point the mood of the piece changed slightly, becoming broad and pretty. It quickly changed again to create an ominous, almost frightening atmosphere. After several more alternating points of solos and full orchestra playing, the tune became very full and graceful as the pace picked up a bit, and then finished with three dark strokes. This alone lasted ten full minutes - and that was only the "Allegro."

Following the "Allegro" came the "Andante," which came across as tender, giving the impression of a mother, or night setting in. Cello and violin solos were dispersed throughout this portion of "Concerto" also, each seeming to carry their own train of thought throughout the movement.

The piece finished off with "Vivace non troppo," which started off with a fun, irregular melody lead by the cello and then was taken by the violin. As the orchestra provided backup, the violin and cello then switched to an elegant, slower, yet equally enjoyable mood. When the orchestra joined in, the music became louder and faster, but was soon calmed down by the return of the soloists. The "Vivace non troppo" was constantly changing in its quality and melody, creating many ranges of emotion and imagery for the audience, up until its dramatic conclusion.

The ASO concert was certainly an enjoyable one. The pieces were well chosen, offering both variety and beauty with the selection. The musicians, especially the soloists, were very capable at what they were doing, and brought the music to life. It is amazing how much one can experience in one afternoon through three pieces of music.



Photo by Bryan Waugh

Andrew Pomerville (02), **Chris Andrus (02)** and **Jonah Powell (02)** perform Brian Wilson's "Surfer Girl" during the talent competition.

FEATURE

Wizardly Harry is cheerfully magical

Brendan Guilford
Staff Writer

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone debuted on the big screen Friday afternoon to the wild cheers of anxious children across the nation. When I arrived at the movie theater Saturday evening, I had one point in mind that would make or break 'Harry Potter' as a movie. I went in search not of spectacular special effects (they were) nor marvelous casting (it was) but a storyline that followed the novel to the letter. Happily to Harry Potter fans everywhere, Warner Bros. efforts to stay true to the book should be applauded.

The key element of the Harry Potter series is J.K Rowling's ability to make every reader (or in this case viewer) feel like they are literally part of the story. Viewers do not merely watch from afar, but are drawn into the story much like a newly enrolled student of Hogwarts, watching Harry Potter work his magical powers in person.

The special effects for a movie marketed towards children 12 and under were spectacular. I couldn't believe how detailed the faces and bodies of the mystical creatures seemed, or the way magical objects shimmered and the wands magic leaped across the screen. A few times while viewing 'Potter' I wondered what parents in the audience thought about what was occurring on the screen. Was this movie too intense for a six-year old child? I doubt it; with



all the violence, coarse language, and sex on television these days, Harry

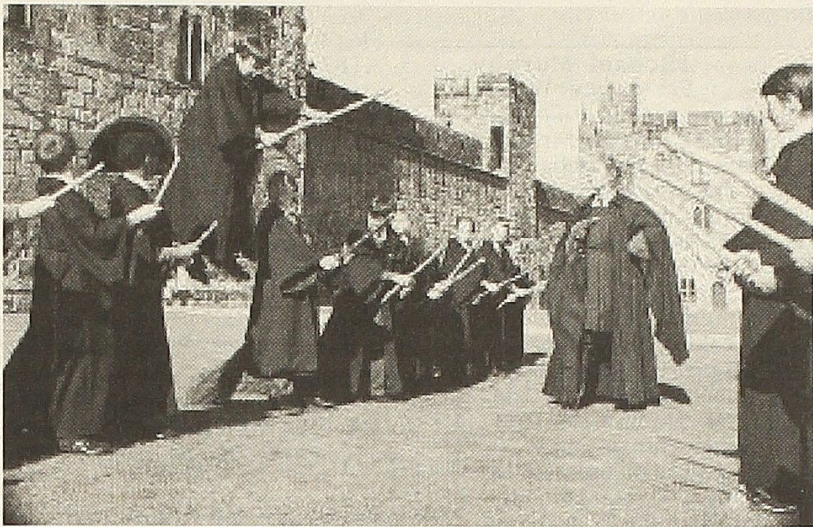


Photo courtesy of www.IMDB.com

Potter is most likely a breath of fresh air for parents with young children. I was also quite impressed with the casting of the young actors for the lead roles. The three young protagonists combating evil actually looked like what they "seemed" like when I was reading the books.

The movie, however, left out an important and subtle element that made the series of books so unique and enjoyable to readers of all ages. An undercurrent of darkness and indefinable fear runs throughout the book version of 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone' that the movie sometimes forgot to include. Watching the movie, there was no doubt in mind at any point that Harry would prevail against Lord Voldemort, at least temporarily. Conversely, there always exists a feeling of doubt within the written version that makes the magical battles and narrow escapes so much more exciting.

If you are the type that

doesn't mind becoming completely immersed in a great story for two and a half hours, being constantly bombarded by a slew of special effects and serenaded by decent soundtrack to keep the mood, I would recommend Harry Potter. Having said that, this movie is not for everyone. Some people might go and leave the theater feeling as if they'd paid for the privilege of watching Saturday morning cartoons for almost three hours.

It's a rare occasion that I truly enjoy viewing a movie marketed towards children. However, in the case of 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone' I was able to put down the "discerning taste" of a liberal arts college student,



and enjoy the magic. Whether it was the edge-of-my-seat excitement of the

Quidditch matches, or the curling of my lips every time Professor Snape came onto the screen, I caught myself not just watching, but also enjoying the movie.

Grade: A/B

consists of duplicating past successes, he is sorely mistaken. Furthermore, why even bother? He is an icon and a legend. The man who produced "Thriller" cannot be anything less. But, Jackson has made mistakes with his life; the best course of action may be to simply fade away.

On a similar note, the fact that Jackson is seemingly making an attempt to justify his actions is disturbing. He has messed up. Going from America's number one heartthrob to the butt of everyone's joke cannot be a fun ride. But, he has attempted to use music to change the public's opinion of him before. It didn't work that time and it won't work now.

Fortunately, for Jackson fans, he has produced yet another film which emphasizes his incredible talent to dance. He changes the choreography slightly - his motions are less rigid during the dance sequences - but leaves Jackson style choreography at the center. If this had changed, the entire thing would probably have been a bust. But, American's like to watch Jackson and his Broadway style dance sequences. "Ghost" gives us that - thankfully.

After all is said and done, Michael Jackson is still near and dear to thousands of people around the world. It's nice to see him around a little more. He should probably stick to his tried and true material, but who can blame him for doing what he loves. Next time hopefully we'll see the confidence and precision that we've come to expect from Michael Jackson.

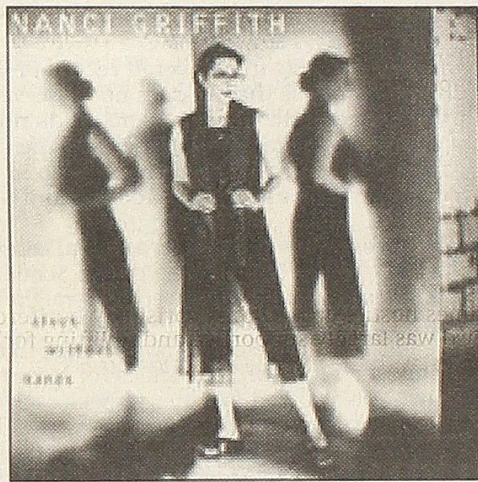
Bottom Line: B-

Griffith is soulfully soothing

Ron Suszek
Special to the Almanian

On her first collection of original material since 1994's "Flyer," Nanci Griffith explores on "Clock Without Hands", among other things, the fractured lives of Vietnam veterans "left displaced of time" in a habitually forgetful America. Griffith, always a master of the sentimental and often rambling line, writes from multiple perspectives: she recently traveled through Vietnam with members of the VVAF and was once married to fellow songwriter and Vietnam vet Eric Taylor. These experiences are illuminated most brilliantly in tracks like "Traveling Through This Part Of You," and "Roses On The Fourth Of July."

In the autobiographical "Traveling Through This Part Of You," Griffith traces the "in-country" experience of her ex-husband and of loving someone left damaged by the war: "You were an American boy/ Whose innocence was lost here in the war/ And I wear your scars/



While traveling through this part of you." The production here (the album was produced by Griffith and Ray Kennedy) is sparse and Griffith's voice is as ethereal as ever. The effect is eloquent yet giant: Griffith creates a conception of tenderness often overshadowed when approaching Vietnam.

"Roses On The Fourth of July" examines the sense of isolation left to those who fought and returned, aspiring to "normal" lives and marriages. It's the story of a woman attempting to understand the horror her husband witnessed ("he lost half his right leg whilst daydreaming of her") and ultimately conceding she will never fully comprehend nor know him. The reality could be dark (and indeed in some ways must be), but Griffith doesn't leave us here, she continues:

"Love is a mystery/ From birth 'till we die/ It's cross words of a morning/ By evening entwined/ It's all that we dream of, sometimes it's not right/ Love is white roses, and you never ask why."

Like most of her work, "Clock Without Hands" succeeds not only in terms of artistic substantiality but also in Griffith's transmission of her finely integrated social mission. Other songs on the collection like "Armstrong" and "Pearl's Eye View" are equally fine, making this one of the finest albums of the year.



Photo courtesy of www.nancigriffith.com

MJ isn't as cool as he once was

Anne Mabbitt
Staff Writer

Michael Jackson seems to be making the moves for a comeback. Recently, he released the video "You Rock My World," and appeared in a thirtieth anniversary concert with the Jackson 5, N'SYNC, and others. Most importantly, he released another video-movie - "Ghost."

"Ghost" came out around Halloween and made few waves in the music industry. In it, Jackson plays himself, a loner locked in a castle near "Normalville." He has apparently been performing black magic for the children of the town and the adults are not pleased with his actions. The people of the town come to his castle in an attempt to make the "freak" leave.

Jackson makes a deal with the front man, also played by Jackson in a fat-suit, that whoever is scared first will be the one to leave. Then Jackson begins his stint by calling the end-dead, who apparently live with him, out to dance for the townspeople. After much dancing and a strange sequence where Jackson actually mutilates himself, the townspeople agree that he's not such a bad guy, just different from them.

What is perhaps most bothersome about this film is that Jackson seems to be out of material. The images on screen are strikingly similar to "Thriller." Jackson should realize that such an accomplishment can never be duplicated and no one should try. He also litters the film with replicas of scenes from "Bad," "Smooth Criminal," "Moonwalker," and others.

If Jackson thinks that making a comeback

Top 30

- INCUBUS
- BEN FOLDS
- MY HOTEL YEAR
- GREEN DAY
- MOON THEORY
- BETTER THAN EZRA
- SOMETHING CORPORATE
- TREMBLING BLUE STARS
- DIVINE COMEDY
- MINIBAR
- SEVENDUST
- AVALANCHES
- DEEP BLUE SOMETHING
- NEW ORDER
- RED
- CHARLATANS UK
- PARK
- DREDG
- SUGARCULT
- MERCURY REV
- ROB GONZALEZ
- THE START
- HOPE SANDOVAL
- MY VITRIOL
- WOVEN
- LOOKOUT! FREAKOUT
- GARBAGE
- THE CURE
- 311
- ZOUX
- WQAC

SPORTS

Slowke finishes strong season

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

There are no chances for endorsements, no television commercials, and very few NFL counts actually pay attention to what happens through the course of a division III football season, but don't tell that to **Steve Slowke (03)**, the Scot quarterback that pulled off one of the greatest seasons in Alma College history.

Slowke set single season records for pass completions and attempts — connecting on 278 of 487 attempts — and finished the season with 3,108 yards passing, second all-time. Slowke was also the Scots leading rusher and ended the year with a single season school record of 3,630 yards in total offense. He threw 26 touchdown passes — just two short of the school record — and tied a single-game record with six touchdown passes in the season finale against Olivet. In the final conference statistics he led the league in passing and total offense, and entering the final weekend of the regular season was the NCAA Division III national leader in total offense. He was twice named the MIAA Offensive Player of the Week, and was selected as Offensive Player of the Week by Don Hansen's Football Gazette four times.

Slowke, along with five other Scots including Josh Peters, Aaron Wallace, Domenic Wlodyka, Joshua Funsch, and Gavin Fralick, were named MIAA first-team all conference as selected by the leagues coaches.

After finishing one of the most prolific seasons in Alma College history, you would think that Slowke would be happy with the various awards, "It really would not have mattered if I did not win anything this year because I feel that we should have won the league championship," said Slowke.

Slowke led the Scots to an overall record of 6-4, 3-2 in the MIAA, but feels that he does not deserve all the credit for the teams accomplishments, "I do not think we got the recognition that we deserved, the coaches only gave (Brian) Pierce second-team, when in fact all of our receivers should have made all-conference," added Slowke.

Josh Peters (04) and **Aaron Wallace (03)**, started at left tackle and center for the Scots. Peters earned first-team honors for the second straight season.

Domenic Wlodyka (03) started all 10 games at defensive tackle. He was second on the team in tackles, with 52, and tied for third in tackles for losses with 9 for 25 yards. He also had one quarterback sack, forced a fumble and recovered a fumble.

Joshua Funsch (03) played in all 10 games at linebacker. He led the team with 66 tackles, recorded 5 tackles for losses totaling 21 yards, had 2 quarterback sacks for 15 yards, forced a fumble and recovered a fumble.

Gavin Fralick (03) started and played in nine games this season at the cornerback spot. He led the team with 5 interceptions, and broke up a team-high 15 pass attempts. He recorded 31 total tackles including one tackle for a loss, and recovered a fumble. Fralick was a coaches' honorable mention selection last season.

Alma College Scots receiving second-team all-conference honors were Brian Pierce, **John Loveland (04)**, **Kevin Vermeersch (03)**, and **Justin McHugh (03)**.

Brian Pierce (02) set three receiving records during the season — the single season receptions record with 73, the career receptions record with 176 and the career receiving yards record with 2,128. His 73 receptions during the year went for 707 yards and 5 touchdowns. He started all 10 games for the Scots.

Loveland started all 10 games at defensive end. He finished the season with 38 tackles, and tied for the team high with 10 tackles for losses. He had six quarterback sacks and forced two fumbles.

Matt Piccirilli (03) was Alma's field goal and extra point kicker throughout the season. He converted 39 of 45 extra point attempts and made 9 of 13 field goal tries. He led the team in scoring with 62 points. Last season Piccirilli was a coaches' honorable mention selection.

Kevin Vermeersch was selected as the second-team punter. He finished the season with 34 punts for a 35.1 yard average, including a long punt of 75 yards. In league games only, he led the MIAA in punting with a 35.8 yard average, and was second in the league statistics for all games.

Justin McHugh was picked as the return specialist. He led the conference in punt return average for league games only with an 18.8 yard average and overall with a 16.3 average. He also led the team and was third in the conference in kickoff returns with a 23.6 yard average. He was named the MIAA's Special Teams Player of the Week for his play in the 64-7 win over Olivet.

Look out for the Scots next season as they are losing on 9 seniors this off-season. "I look for great things out of this team next season," added Slowke. Slowke will look to bring playoff football back to Alma College as he will go into next season as a candidate for division III pre-season all-American.

Sports Track

A run around the sports world

We'll miss Mark McGwire

Michael Murphy
Freelance Writer

Last week, Mark McGwire retired from baseball.

The man who helped resurrect baseball after the horrors of the 1994 season strike has stepped away from the game he loved.

He will be forever remembered for breaking Roger Maris's longtime single-season homerun record of 61 in 1998. He was the first player ever to smack 70 dingers in one season. In a sense, he paved the way for Barry Bonds, proving to the world that records could and should be broken.

But is this all that we should remember McGwire by?

Perhaps not.

Maybe the reason we should remember McGwire for is the fact that he retired from the St. Louis Cardinals because he felt that he could no longer help his baseball club win.

During a painful 2001 campaign in which he had just undergone surgery on his right

leg's tendons, McGwire hit only .187 and had 29 homeruns. He struck out almost four times per 10 at bats.

It was an awful season for one of the game's all-time greats.

In the next two years, McGwire was scheduled to make \$30-million. Due to his poor performance last year — mainly

help the Cardinals any more and sacrificed himself and a whole lot of money to improve their team.

To stand in front of an entire nation and admit that he has not performed well is an act of the utmost class.

Furthermore, he said that he did not want to continue being a player who is only playing to attain some goal. Next season, McGwire would have passed 600 homeruns and could have moved up in the career homerun list.

But this personal glorification did not appeal to McGwire. This is something that

rarely happens in professional sports.

Big Mac, as his loyal fans call him, is bigger than his name. He is bigger than all the records he has broken. He is bigger than his famous homerun swing.

He is bigger because of his classy actions.

Mr. McGwire: thank you.

It has been fun. And you will be missed.

But never forgotten.

He was the first player ever to smack 70 dingers in one season.

due to his injury — McGwire said that he was not worth the money to come back to the Cardinals.

He had so much respect for his ball club and his city that he did not want to waste their money on a poor product.

Instead, he pointed out that his retirement created an influx of money for the Cardinals to use in an attempt to woo big-name free agents such as Jason Giambi.

He realized that he could not

Swim teams compete at Hiram College

Matt Helmus
Staff Writer

The Alma College men's and women's swim teams finished second and third respectively at the Hiram College triangular meet on Saturday in Ohio. The men managed to defeat Baldwin-Wallace College but lost to host Hiram. The women lost to both opponents.

The men's team squeaked by Baldwin-Wallace 60-48 but came up short against Hiram, 63-49. Meanwhile, the women's team lost 61-52 to Baldwin-Wallace and 83-30 to Hiram.

Andrew Schade (02), who won the 200-meter individual medley, and **Justin Fournier (02)**, who won the 100-yard freestyle, led the men's team. The team also won the 200-meter freestyle relay and 200-meter medley relay.

William Heyd (05), **Joseph Harris (02)**, **Dan**

Linsell (02), **Andrew Shook**, and **Fournier** turned in second place finishes.

The women managed to take five events in the meet. The 200-meter medley relay came out on top with a time of 2:14.23. **Stephanie Druskonis (05)** won the 50-meter freestyle. **Julie Fantone (04)** and **Meredith Henry (03)** took first in the 800-meter freestyle and 200-meter freestyle races respectively. Liz Smith won the 200-meter individual medley.

The women also earned four second place finishes, one of which was the 200-yard freestyle relay. The others were **Kristen DeGraaf (05)** in the 100 freestyle, **Kate Kohler (05)** in the 100 backstroke and Henry in the 400 freestyle.

The Scot swimmers see their next action on November 30 at the DePauw Invitational. The divers will be headed to the Wabash Invitational on the same day. Both meets are held in Indiana.

FAST Stats

Men's Basketball

	Overall			
	W	L	Avg.	Opp.
Adrian	2	0	79.5	71.0
Albion	2	0	60.5	58.0
Alma	1	1	70.0	66.5
Calvin	2	0	77.5	53.5
Hope	1	1	83.0	72.5
Kalamazoo	1	0	68.0	49.0
Olivet	1	1	62.5	61.5

Men's Swimming

League Dual Meet Results

Hope 120, Calvin 110
Hope 195, Olivet 12
Calvin 213, Olivet 12
Kalamazoo 192, Olivet 17
Kalamazoo 176, Albion 64
Albion 49, Olivet 22
Hope 127, Alma 82

Women's Basketball

	Overall			
	W	L	Avg.	Opp.
Adrian	1	1	71.5	72.0
Albion	1	0	81.0	75.0
Alma	2	0	68.5	57.5
Calvin	1	1	70.0	57.5
Hope	2	0	70.5	46.5
Kalamazoo	2	0	67.0	58.5
Olivet	1	1	67.5	57.0
Saint Mary's	0	2	58.5	74.5

Women's Swimming

League Dual Meet Results

Calvin 139, Hope 101
Hope 184, Olivet 13
Calvin 202, Olivet 14
Kalamazoo 153, Olivet 13
Albion 140, Kalamazoo 94
Albion 47, Olivet 12
Hope 126, Alma 112

SPORTS

Eighth career shutout gives Tasch Michigan record

By Blake Fillion
Michigan Daily (U. Michigan)

(U-WIRE) KENT, Ohio - Some of the first words to exit Maryland field hockey coach Missy Mehorg's mouth at Sunday's press conference were, "Their goalie was outstanding."

Michigan goalie Maureen Tasch stopped 11 shots in Michigan's 2-0 victory over Maryland to help Michigan field hockey win its first national championship in school history. By shutting out the Terrapins, Tasch set a new Michigan record for shutouts in a season with eight.

"The game comes down to executing in the clutch and our goaltender did," Michigan coach Marcia Pankratz said.

With just 11:35 remaining in the second half, Michigan forward April Fronzoni was given a yellow card and was kicked off the field for at least five minutes. During this period, the Wolverines played one person short and Maryland increased its pressure. But Tasch and the Wolverines remained composed and denied the Terrapins on several corner opportunities.

Tasch's shutout marked just the fifth time that there has been a shutout in the history of the NCAA Tournament and the first since North Carolina shut out Princeton in the 1996 championship game.

"The last couple of weeks we've made accomplishments little by little and I've kept saying that nothing could be better," Tasch said. "I mean, obviously, nothing could be better than this."

The defensive unit, led by Tasch, was not facing a passive offense; rather, they were up against the nation's top-ranked offense, averaged 4.6 goals per game. Heading into the semifinals, Maryland had scored 13 goals versus Fairfield and Syracuse. The Terrapins' offensive tenacity was evident in their 3-2 victory over Wake Forest, one of the top defensive teams in the nation, in the national semifinals.

Maryland continued its aggressive play in the finals against the Wolverines. The Terrapins out-cornered the Wolverines 10-4 and controlled the tempo for the majority of the game, but because of Michigan's stellar defensive play and intensity, Maryland couldn't score.

"The last twenty minutes they really had us on our heels," forward Jessica Rose

said. "They were pressing hard and (Tasch) and Stephanie (Johnson) were great back there. Everyone stepped up."

"I think we play hard and well together, and our corner defense was just amazing today," Pankratz said.

In corner defense the Wolverines were able to break up several scoring chances with exceptional plays by Rose. When the ball successfully passed through Michigan's stingy defense, Tasch was always in position to make the sprawling save to keep the Terrapins scoreless and frustrated.

"I thought at this level, so late in the season, (shutouts) weren't going to happen anymore," Tasch said. "I thought I was done with those, but this was the ideal situation."

Big Ten sports want athletic expenses cut

By Eric Martin
Oregon Daily Emerald (U. Oregon)

(U-WIRE) EUGENE, Ore. - A Big Ten Conference committee passed a resolution earlier this month aimed at halting exorbitant athletic spending and curtailing the over-commercialization of college sports. The committee's decision follows in the footsteps of policymakers at eight Pacific-10 Conference schools who passed a similar resolution in the spring.

The resolutions, and the ideologies behind them, seem to be gaining momentum nationwide as legislative appropriations shrink. Schools in the Atlantic Coast Conference and the Western Athletic Conference are considering comparable proposals.

Backers of the resolutions, like University of Oregon English professor James Earl, are quick to point out they are not "just a bunch of nerds who don't like football." Rather, Earl said, they are interested in slowing the rapid growth of athletic programs because the programs are detracting from the educational mission of higher education.

"The path that we are now following... already has lead to a growing sense among members of the public — and even

members of the community — that athletic success is the main goal of too many institutions of higher learning," Myles Brand, Indiana University president, said in a speech to the National Press Club.

"We must get off that path. We must make certain that academic concerns are first and foremost. To do that, we don't have to turn off the game. We just have to turn down the volume."

One way to turn down the volume is to limit corporate exposure in college sports by reducing the number of pauses in games for commercials and by scaling back the number of logos displayed by athletes and coaches, resolution backers say.

But University of Oregon Athletic Director Bill Moos said reducing corporate revenue for college teams would trim funding that athletic departments depend on.

"Institutions have continued to lessen their degree of funding for intercollegiate athletics programs," Moos said. "That has forced us to be innovative in finding ways to fund our programs. (Corporate sponsorships) have become a major portion of the funding model for intercollegiate athletics."

Another demand of the resolution is for universities to rescind athletic subsidies in order to control the "arms race" of athletic facility building on college campuses

— and thereby force athletic departments to live within their means. The University of Oregon Senate recently agreed to such an arrangement with intercollegiate athletics.

"Faculty everywhere are of a single mind on this issue," said Earl, an original planner of the Pac-10 joint resolution. "The most important thing I'd like to make clear to the public — including students and fans — is that they understand faculty are not opposed to college athletics, per se. We just want to slow the growth in the future."

Earl said there is a growing dichotomy between athletics and academics that must be bridged, beginning with students and student athletes. The resolutions also suggest that academic support systems for athletes, such as tuition waivers and tutors, be integrated into school-wide efforts.

"I don't agree with that," Moos said. "Student-athletes have a lot more demands on their time than normal students. There are exceptions — there are students that work and non-traditional students — but with plans and practice time and other parts, a student athlete's life is different than that of the ordinary student."

Jon Sanders, a policy analyst for The Pope Center for Higher Education Policy

in Raleigh, N.C., said many groups — including "academic purists" and "feminists" — have pushed athletic reform ideas for years. But that probably doesn't mean much to athletic conferences near the southeastern corner of the country, he said.

"I think it would face an extraordinarily tough road," Sanders said. "There are so many people out there not involved in a university — alumni, supporters — who enjoy the games and don't care to be bothered with the issues behind them. That's not just to blame them. College athletics drives a lot of revenue for colleges, especially successful ones."

Pac-10 presidents examined the athletics resolution and have said that while they believe in the viability of the athletic system, they also said the problem of the "arms race" would be addressed.

Earl said reforming athletics policies will take a substantial amount of time, but after talking with University of Oregon President Dave Frohnmayer, he said the resolution is high on Frohnmayer's list of priorities.

"We're in the middle of a big campaign for a stadium and have a team on the way to one bowl or another," Earl said. "It's not the time for expressing these differences of opinion."

This Week in Alma Sports . . .



1980

- Marie Tuite was named the Women's Athletic Director.
- Hope was named number one in the All-Sports standings for men's sports.
- "The Charity Bowl," an IM football game between the Zeta Sigma's and the TKE's was canceled due to a combination of pressure from varsity coaches not a play, and a desire by varsity football players to be included in the game.

1984

- Alma had a synchronized swimming group titled the Alma Aqua Fins. This group had 20 members, and held a swim show once a year.
- Chris Cooper was named All-American for her 22nd place finish at the National Cross Country Meet.
- The swimming and diving season opened their season with the MIAA relays here at Alma in their home pool.
- 20 Alma athletes were recognized with All-MIAA honors for their successes during the fall season.

1990

- Cross country runner Sarah Braunreiter qualified to compete at the national level.
- The women's basketball team won their first game of the season by defeating Northwood Institute.
- The men's basketball team captured the First Annual Roundball classic Tournament title by defeating Oakland University, a Division II team.
- The swim team opened their season with a meet at Grand Valley and a new coach: Greg Baadte.

1992

- Senior volleyball player Christine Franssen was named All-MIAA, and also coached Alma's high school volleyball team.
- The women's basketball team entered their season with 10 returning players. During their previous season there were the 1992 MIAA champions and the 1992 Division III NCAA National Champions.

In Brief . . .

Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team traveled to the Arcade Travel Invitational Saturday, where the Scots began their season with two wins, beating both Webster College and Eureka College to become tournament champions.

The team is looking for progress this year, but is also considering the season as a rebuilding period. The team returns to the year with 3 juniors, 2 sophomores, and 6 freshmen.

- by Nicole Jones



SPORTS

Scots lose on road; record stands at 1-1

Kevin Goodwin
Staff Writer

The Scots basketball team began the season this past weekend when they traveled to Buffalo, New York to compete in the Coles Classic basketball tournament.

The Scots began play on Friday, taking on Nazareth College in the opening round of the weekend tournament. The contest against Nazareth marked the first game under new head coach Ed Kohtala.

The Scots hung around for most of the game against Nazareth but would eventually lose the season opener 81-72. Alma went into halftime with a positive attitude but was down 42-40.

The second half saw the Scots tie the score at 48-48 as Matt Johnson (03) scored on a lay-up with 15:18 left in the game. But the Golden Fryers would score six of the next eight points on their way to a 20-9 run and the inevitable victory 81-72.

Spencer Wideman (03) led the Scots with 18 points, while Ryan Knudsen (02) added 15 points and 4 rebounds. Jimmy Evans led the Golden Fryers attack with 28 points and 8 rebounds.

The Scots would continue play on Saturday in the consolation game of the tournament as they



Photo by Dan Joyce

The men's basketball team suffered a loss in Buffalo, New York Saturday.

took on Oberlin College. "We played a tough team on Friday, but instead of hanging our heads after the loss, we came out the next day and showed a lot of character against Oberlin," said Cory Heitsch (03).

The Scots led for much of the first 14 minutes of the game, but would find themselves down at the half 37-32.

Alma would come out firing in the second half as Knudsen helped the Scots take the lead on a three-pointer with 9:11 left in the game. The Scots would take the lead for good as Matt Johnson sank a pair of free

throws with 7:17 left in the second half. After the pair of free throws by Johnson, the Scots would go on a 20-0 run and eventually win the game 68-52.

The Scots start the season 1-1 under new head coach Ed Kohtala. "Playing on the road was a good opportunity for coach Kohtala to get to know what we are all about, and it was also a good opportunity for the players to get a better feel for what he expects from us," added Heitsch.

Alma, now 1-1 overall, returns to action on Friday, Nov. 23, with a first-round game against Allegheny College at the Dad's Holiday Classic in Meadville, Pa. Tip-off is scheduled for 8:00 p.m.

MIAA All-Sports Standings

The MIAA presents separate awards for the best cumulative finish in men's and women's sports as well as an award for the best cumulative finish in all league sports. The separate awards are known as the Men's All-Sports Award and the Women's All-Sports Award while the cumulative award is known as the Commissioner's Cup. The final standings for the all-sports awards will be determined on the basis of each college's standings in eight of nine sports for men and eight of nine sports for women. These point-totals will be added together to determine the winner of the Commissioner's Cup.

Men's All-Sports

1. Hope	42
2. Calvin	28
3. Albion	26
4. Alma	24
5. Kalamazoo	22
6. Olivet	14
7. Adrian	12

Women's All-Sports

1. Hope	42
2. Calvin	38
3. Kalamazoo	36
4. Albion	34
5. Alma	34
6. Adrian	16
6. Saint Mary's	15
7. Olivet	9

Commissioner's Cup

1. Hope	84
2. Calvin	66
3. Albion	60
4. Alma	58
5. Kalamazoo	58
6. Adrian	28
7. Olivet	23

Information courtesy of Tom Renner, Publicist of the MIAA

Campus

Calendar

Tuesday

A.M. Children's Day

8:00 P.M. Phi Mu Alpha Concert

Wednesday

World Hello Day

5:00 P.M. Thanksgiving Break Begins

8:00 P.M. Trinity Bible Fellowship in Jones

Thursday

Happy Thanksgiving

Friday

Biggest shopping day of the year!

Monday

Classes Resume

Tuesday

ACUB Coffee House

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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A Big Hello 2nd west, hope you all have a happy day!

MM Thanks for the shirt Friday, sorry it got so wet ~
The soaked senior

Hi mom!

M - Watch out for those dreaded screen doors.

M and C Popcorn, and building blocks and wine and cheese are the only way to go! p.s. don't forget your helmet ~ R

Hey Slimy B. - Don't worry; don't quit now - it only gets better.

