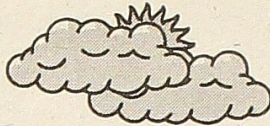


Homecoming king and queen stand together after being crowned at Saturday's game. For more on homecoming, see pp. 6-7.



Players from opposing teams battle for the ball in the women's soccer game on Saturday. See p. 7

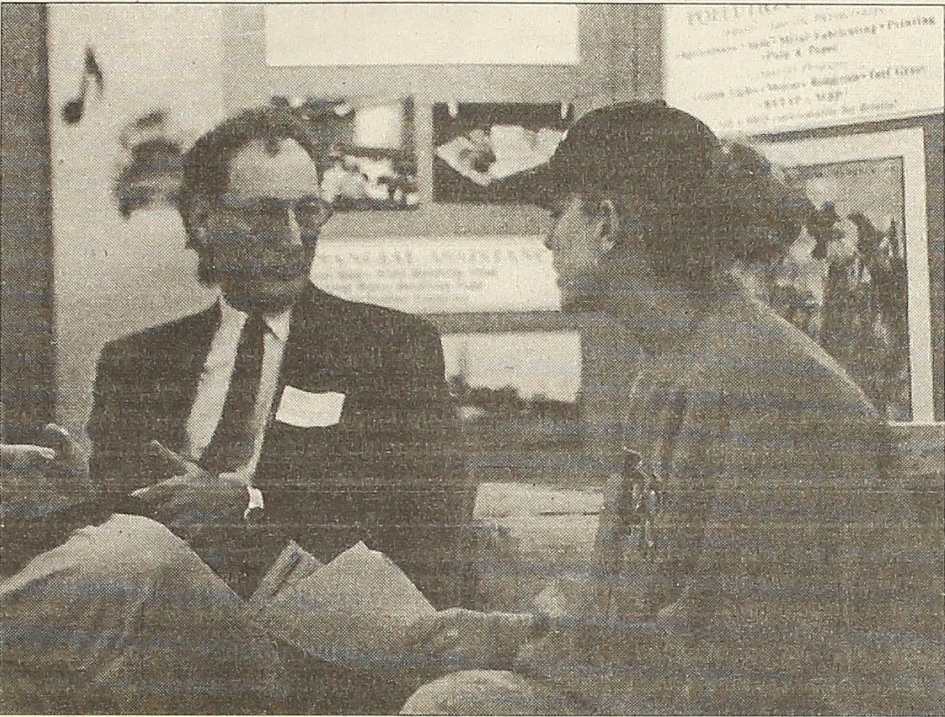
Thursday's Weather



Mostly Cloudy
High: 61°
Low: 34°

The Almanian

Returning alumni steer students toward future



Students had the opportunity to speak with alumni at the Career Explo on Friday.

By NIKOLE CANUTE
Staff Reporter

Students looking for advice about their future were given the opportunity to interact with several Alma College alumni at a career fair on Friday, October 1.

Career Explo '99 encompassed both an alumni panel discussion, covering such topics as networking skills, job search strategies, and internships, and a career fair, which gave students the opportunity to interact with the alumni in their interest area.

Melinda Sargent, associate dean of student development, said, "We've always had a good group of alumni come back, but this group has a real good mix." Sargent said the purpose of the event was to allow students "to take what they've learned and see if you can use it."

"I came here looking for ideas, and I've received some good information from alumni," said Ryan Jambeau (00).

Brian Wood is an alumni who came to the fair representing the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District. When asked why he participated, Wood said, "Somewhere after I left Alma, it really hit home that a lot of people did a lot of stuff to allow me to come here, and I felt like I

should do the same. Secondly, it's handy, and I like to get back here to meet these students on behalf of the seven local school districts in Montcalm county."

Polly Vedder is also a graduate of Alma. Currently she works as Associate Editor of The Gale Group, which is a conglomerate of publishers.

Vedder said, "When I was an English major, I had no idea what I could do with it, and I'd like to give English majors a better idea of some of the different options other than teaching."

"I like to interact with the students, and give them perspective on how to get where they want to go and how to know where they want to go," said Jennifer Thebo, alumnus. Thebo currently works as a research scientist for the Cleveland Clinic Foundation.

When asked whether Alma College prepared her for graduate school, Thebo said, "I think they prepared me better than the bigger universities did...I would come back here and teach if I could."

"This event provided a great opportunity for students to talk to professionals that give advice not available otherwise towards their prospective careers," said Bill Lott (01).

Kevin Stanley (00) said, "It's encouraging to realize the resources that are provided by Alma College alumni."

Alma Red Cross forced to merge due to low donor turnout

By CARA BONINE
Staff Reporter

On Tuesday, October 5, the second annual blood drive for the American Red Cross was held in the rotunda of the Tyler-Van Dusen Campus Center. The Interfraternity and the Panhellenic Councils on campus hosted the blood drive and volunteered as assistants for the technicians and nurses.

"There were quite a few people from the community at the drive," reported Renae Judd (00) a volunteer at the blood drive, "That is always really nice to see."

"I am so nervous," said Jaclyn Bernard (03), a first time donor, "I 'm scared of needles, but my friend told me I should [donate]."

Third time donor, Jenesha Penn (03) keeps coming back to give blood, "because it is a good cause." The American Red Cross is

the nation's largest supplier of blood, plasma, and tissue products in the United States. It supplies almost half of the country's blood by working with more than 4.5 million donors every year.

Through the devoted volunteers and staff, the organization is able to save millions of lives every year. Jene Glowewski, a retiree and American Red Cross volunteer along with his wife decided to become a volunteer three years ago.

"My kids, wife and I have had such wonderful luck in our lives, I thought I should give back a little," stated Glowewski. He now volunteers up to two time a week, as captain of various blood drives. He sets up the drives, trains workers and assists the technicians and nurses with patients.

Recently, the Lansing unit of the American Red Cross and the unit based in Alma have merged in an attempt to increase the flow of donors and to lower the cost to the Red Cross for hosting the blood drives. Since donors are only able to give blood every 56 days, blood drives are frequently left with a low turnout of donors. The merging of the two units will create fewer blood drives, and thus will cut down the costs by employing fewer Red Cross nurses and technicians.

However, decreasing the number of blood drives will force donors to travel farther. The Lansing and Alma Red Cross units were hoping that this inconveniency will not discourage potential donors from giving blood.

The next area blood drive is scheduled for Nov. 22 at the United Methodist Church in Alma between 12:00 noon and 5:45 p.m.

Celebration of the Decades



Homecoming 1999

- See pages 6 & 7 for details on the following homecoming events:
- Homecoming Parade
Scots vs. Saints
King and Queen
Women's Soccer
Alumni Choir Concert

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Opinion	10-12

Russia continues bombing; air raids kill 300

By KRISTIN STATON
Freelance Reporter

Civil unrest in eastern Europe continued this week as Russia stepped up its air attacks on breakaway republic Chechnya, bringing the unofficial death toll to over three hundred. New tactics began the tenth consecutive day of bombing after 15 air raids on Monday night, reports the Interfax news agency.

After sealing the Chechen border, the Russian forces have been concentrating their bombing campaign on oil refineries, energy substations, and, most recently, the neighborhoods surrounding Chechen President, Aslan Maskhadov's home. Grozny, the Chechen capital, has been heavily attacked, forcing nearly 60,000 refugees to flee to Ingushetia, a neighboring republic. Ruslan Aushev, President of Ingushetia, asked for help from the international community saying, "We urgently need aid — temporary housing, warm clothes and blankets — because we are on the doorstep of winter."

The Russian government has decided to expand its attacks after a report showed that the Chechen government is assisting its Islamic militants in preparing for another attack on Russian territory Dagestan. The most recent Russian attacks were retaliation for the murders of three hundred civilians during Chechen militant bombings on three cities in Russia.

After a 1994-96 civil war, the Chechen republic won its independence with only a small guerilla force. Fearful of a similar humanitarian catastrophe with thousands of civilian deaths, Russia is adopting NATO air raid tactics, similar to those used in the Yugoslavian civil war earlier this year. Sergei Kazeynov, an analyst with the Independent Institute for National Security Problems in Moscow said in the September 28 edition of *The Christian Science Monitor*, "[Russian] politicians are suddenly all for the harshest measures against Chechnya."

The newest attacks have galvanized the previously uninspired Russian military. Despite its financial despondence, Russian soldiers are experiencing a renewed sense of nationalism and patriotism, and Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Defense Minister Igor Sergeyev have been discussing funding to aid the slowly recovering armed forces.

In spite of recent air attacks on Chechnya, Russian military officials have not ruled out the possibility of a ground strike. Russian Colonel-General Anatol Sitnov dispelled rumors of military weakness and stagnation due to inexperience and low funding, saying to a recent press conference, "[We] are more than sufficient and are fully equipped to launch a ground operation in Chechnya."

News

'At a glance'

Psychiatrist to pay for breaking privilege for use in stock trading
WASHINGTON - A Maryland psychiatrist was charged with improperly using information from a patient to engage in and benefit from insider stock trading. Dr. Alan Broody agreed to pay \$87,558 to settle the federal regulators' allegations, though he has not admitted to nor denied the charges.

Future presidents' salary doubled
WASHINGTON - On Wednesday, President Clinton signed legislation that will double the salaries of future presidents to \$400,000 as well as grant members of Congress a pay increase of \$4,600 bringing it to \$141,300, their second increase in two years. These increases will take effect in January 20, 2001, after Clinton has already left office.

CIA increases technology
PALO ALTO - In an attempt to guarantee that the Central Intelligence Agency has the latest information technology in the fast paced Internet age, the nation's spies have turned to Silicon Valley for technological assistance. This program is being financed by the Congress at \$28 million as part of the CIA's budget, which is classified.

Death causes concern over gene therapy
PENNSYLVANIA - An 18-year old patient died during a gene therapy trial at the University of Pennsylvania four days after being injected with a high dose of a genetically engineered virus, adenovirus, to correct a condition which impaired his body's ability to process ammonia. The cause of death has not yet been discovered, but since it occurred so close to the injection, the treatment is under suspicion.

Rising oil prices cause high profits for Iraq
IRAQ - With continuously rising oil prices, Iraq may earn nearly \$7.2 billion in sales by November 20, over a period that lasted only six months. This is \$2 billion more than the Security Council initially authorized, but the Council is unlikely to intervene because of concerns about hardships in Iraq.

Mexico quake kills twelve
MEXICO - An earthquake hit the Pacific coast of Mexico on Thursday, just 280 miles south of Mexico City, damaging hundreds of buildings and killing at least twelve people. The quake measured 7.5 on the Richter scale.

The Almanian

Serving Alma College since 1907

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Statement of Purpose:

The Almanian is a student publication of Alma College and strives to fulfill several objectives: (1) to provide timely, unbiased coverage; (2) to inform students of events and policies otherwise unpublicized; (3) to voice concern over campus and world events through well-researched, unsigned editorials representing the majority opinion of the editorial board; (4) to allow individuals to express concern through signed opinion articles while reserving all editing rights; and (5) to provide interesting, informative and thoughtprovoking articles on non-timely subjects.

Staff Editorial Policy:

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

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.

Michigan passes new drinking and driving laws

By DONNA PAPPAS
News Editor

The state of Michigan expanded its laws against drinking and driving on Friday in an attempt to make it more difficult for those convicted of this offense to get back behind the wheel.

"It's good to know that the Michigan legislation has passed something that will have a positive impact on the people," said senior Brandon MacKenzie.

Thirty-two new drunk driving and suspended license laws have been enacted. These laws include new consequences for first, second and third time offenders.

The vehicle driven by first time offenders may be immobilized for up to six months. Their license would be automatically suspended for 30 days and restricted for five months.

After a second offense, the metal license plate from the car will be confiscated upon arrest, and a

temporary paper license plate will be issued. The car will be immobilized for three to six months, and the driver's license will be revoked for one year.

Upon a third offense, the car will be immobilized for one to three years, and the license will be revoked for five years.

Other laws state that if a driver has been convicted of two alcohol offenses and, after a year of revocation, regains their driving privileges, they will be required to have an ignition interlock device that requires the driver to blow into a machine to demonstrate they have not been drinking before the car will start. Another law makes it a crime to knowingly allow a suspended driver who causes injury or death to drive.

Several new felony laws have also been created, including driving while suspended causing injury, which results in a five-year felony charge, and driving while suspended causing death, a 15-year felony. *Continued on p. 3...*

Drinking and driving consequences:

First offense

- the vehicle you were driving may be immobilized for up to six months
- your licensee will be automatically suspended for 30 days and restricted for five months

Second offense

- the metal license plate from your car will be confiscated upon arrest
- a temporary paper license plate will be issued
- your car will be immobilized for three to six months
- your driver's license will be revoked for one year

Third offense

- your car will be immobilized for one to three years
- your license will be revoked for five years

Michigan continued from p. 3...

In addition, any zero-tolerance conviction of a driver under twenty-one will be classified as an alcohol-related offense.

"They're tough laws, but that's a good thing because a lot of people drink and drive. Hopefully these laws will crack down on drinking and driving," said sophomore Sara Seiler.

The new law is expected to cause a financial burden on cities and townships across Michigan. With their own misdemeanor ordinances, they were able to keep the fines and court costs incurred by the defendants because the drunken driving cases were prosecuted under local ordinances, not state law.

It is estimated that last year Michigan district courts collected \$37 million in fines and court costs from more than 57,000 convicted defendants, according to *The Detroit News*. Police and prosecutors are expecting the new law to lead to a decrease in the number of people killed in drunken driving accidents. Michigan statistics show that 525 people were killed on state roads last year by drunken drivers, which represents about 38% of all traffic fatalities.

Administration lifts social probations

By NIKOLE CANUTE
Staff Reporter

Social probation is over for the Kappa Iota (KI) sorority and the Sigma Alpha Epsilon (ΣAE) and Theta Chi (ΘX) fraternities.

Following a review session held September 27 between the Greek organizations, Alan Hill, vice president of enrollment and student affairs, James Kridler, dean of students, and Martin Stack, assistant dean of students, the restrictions placed on social privileges of the organizations were lifted.

ΣAE president Matt Terry (00) said, "We're excited to be off probation, but what we're most happy about is that the lines of communication are open between the administration and us. We hope to continue to work together in the future."

The restrictions were implemented due to the condition of the fraternity houses following the 1998-99 school year. The review session was initially supposed to be held at the end of the term, but was moved up "because of progress

and the way the groups were responding," said Martin Stack. "I'm pretty optimistic that the groups are going to be able to follow through with what they say they're going to do."

There were three conditions the Greek organizations had to fulfill before regaining social privileges. Those conditions were:

"We were hoping that rather than get our social privileges back we could get our house back."

•Jeremy Terbush (00)
TKE President

cleaning the houses during the summer, maintaining that cleanliness, and creating a

presenting a plan on how to include all the members in house maintenance. Stack said, "It's up to them to now implement those plans."

Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) is the only fraternity house remaining on social probation. TKE did not participate in the review session on Monday because they wanted to discuss the closure of their house first.

Jeremy Terbush (00), president of TKE, said,

"We were hoping that rather than get our social privileges back, we could get our house back."

TKE held a meeting with president Alan Stone on September 28. The purpose of that meeting was to discuss the conditions surrounding the suspension of TKE housing privileges.

Currently, the TKE house is slated to remain closed until the end of the term. Administration, however, has decided to allow TKE to use their house for three pre-rush functions, monthly chapter meetings, and a previously scheduled alumni reunion. The house was also open for a homecoming reception for alumni.

Terbush said, "We're looking forward to getting our house back in the winter and having a good term."

Stone said, "I think the probation served its purpose and got everyone's attention. Certainly, the fraternities and sororities responded very well...I really appreciate the Greek community on this campus."

Regarding TKE, Stone said, "I suspect they'll work their way out of this in grand style, and that's what we're looking forward to."

Students satisfied with Alma

By DONNA PAPPAS
News Editor

On September 22, the Department of Student Affairs held a follow-up to a national survey on campus climate that was distributed in May. Eighteen students were invited together to further assist in the comprehension of the results.

"This national survey was used to get feedback on how students feel about campus climate compared to other institutions like Alma," said James Kridler, dean of students.

In May, these questionnaires were distributed to all students who lived in residence halls; 360 were returned completed. A smaller group of 68 students was then randomly selected and invited to a pizza party for a further discussion. Eighteen of those students attended, along with Bob Perkins, dean of student development; Kridler; and hall directors Marty Stack, Ken Smith, and Tim Krabill, who were asked to help with group facilitation.

In one section of the national survey, satisfaction with all aspects of this college were measured. Alma's averages were then compared to the national averages. On a scale of 1-5, 5 being the most satisfied, one of the top five aspects of Alma that students were most happy with was class size relative to the type of course.

The other four aspects that recieved the highest scores were out-of-class availability of your instructors, attitude of the faculty toward students, availability of advisor, and instruction in major field. The five aspects that students were least satisfied with were the campus bookstore, the student

union, purposes for which student activity fees are used, student voice in college politics, and availability of the courses.

However, each of these categories, save the campus bookstore (2.73), received scores slightly above 3, which is average on the satisfaction scale.

With the exception of the campus bookstore and the student union, Alma students tended to rate this institution higher than the national average.

The overall response rate was not high, but this is believed to be caused by the time frame in which the surveys were handed out, it being so close to finals week.

Those that did respond consisted of 48% first-year students, 29% sophomores, 15% juniors, and 8% seniors. This is very disproportionate from the national average, which was 28% first-year students, 18% sophomores, 19% juniors, and 24% seniors. Also, nationally, 36% of respondents were male, 64% female. Alma respondents consisted of 20% male, 80% female.

"Satisfaction ratings are not very accurate since 80% of the respondents were first-year students and sophomores, and haven't yet had experience with what they were asked to comment on, such as the student union," said Bob Perkins. "In the future we just have to work harder at getting a random sample to complete the survey."

Hill will present the results of the national survey and the follow-up session at the next Student Affairs meeting. It is expected that this survey will be distributed over the next couple of years to see if student perceptions change.

Help available for writing papers

By NIKOLE CANUTE
Staff Reporter

People having trouble with a very crucial element of college, writing papers, now have someplace to go. The writing center, which is designed to assist students in revising their papers, is available to all Alma students.

Tutors are juniors and seniors that have excelled in writing courses throughout college, and that have been recommended by professors.

"I think that it is a good resource for students at every level because our job is to help them make their work better," said Kirstin Porter (01), writing center tutor.

Molly Jarczynski (01), also a writing center tutor, said, "I think that it's a good idea. It helps students, especially freshmen, get help with their papers."

Students can receive help Monday through Thursday from 2-4 p.m. and 7-10 p.m. The center is currently located in the basement of the chapel, but there are plans to move into the library basement within the next few months. A new area has been built in the library that will include computers as well as stations for students to work with tutors.

The idea for a writing center at Alma began with Jill Johnson, a former Alma College

student. After Johnson wrote a thesis on the concept, she coordinated with Dr. Carol Bender to develop the current program.

Dr. William Palmer is the current advisor to the program. Palmer said, "We would like more students across the curriculum, all grades from freshmen to seniors, that have problems with papers and feel the need for help to go to the writing center."

Palmer also feels the need for professors to become more involved in the revising process. "If a professor gives students the opportunity to revise, than the quality of writing would improve."

Michael Murphy, coordinator of the writing center, recently sent a memo to professors to encourage them to promote the center in the classroom.

The center has also created a "referral" form that professors can use if they feel a student's paper needs revision. Professors would give the student the form, and they would be required to obtain a signature from a tutor once help has been received from the center.

Palmer said, "If enough professors do that, it should increase the quality of writing at Alma College... Ideally, we would like more participation from all faculty to find ways to help their students to revise their papers at least once, and if this happens, the writing center is the place to go."

Top Ten Movies

1. "Double Jeopardy"
2. "Blue Streak"
3. "Sixth Sense"
4. "For Love of the Game"
5. "American Beauty"
6. "Stigmata"
7. "Stir of Echoes"
8. "Jakob the Liar"
9. "Mumford"
10. "Runaway Bride"

Top Ten Albums

1. Eve *Let There Be*
2. Backstreet Boys *Millenium*
3. Christina Aguilera *Christina Aguilera*
4. Dixie Chicks *Fly*
5. Santana *Supernatural*
6. Kid Rock *Devil Without a Cause*
7. Limp Bizkit *Significant Other*
8. Britney Spears *Baby One More Time*
9. Lou Bega *A Little Bit*
10. Ol' Dirty Bastard *Nigga'*

Congratulations to Gelston Hall for their outstanding participation at the Volunteer Fair!

Thanks for setting the example, now Get Involved!

**- Student Volunteer Services
- Service Learning Dept.**

Music Review by Scott Timmreck

Canada's best rock quartet is back



Of the Pearl Jam variety, Our Lady Peace is a rock band that surfaced in 1994, new and nimble enough to survive against grunge's fall that came right around the time of Green Day and good enough to gain steady fan support around North America. Now finished with their third full-length studio record, Our Lady Peace may be the best band to sell over ten million records in Canada but never get into your ears.

Appropriately titled *Happiness...Is Not A Fish That You Can Catch*, the newest record from the Toronto quartet is straight-up rock and roll, but not so straight up that it is annoying. Raine Madaia takes his voice to places that even Bono of U2 is afraid to go, and he throws it to places too far to see but then flies to where it went and miraculously catches it, all the while taking the listener for an amazing ride. Somewhere between an angry pilot and a caring father, Madaia passionately sings about an individual

in the trenches of war on the first single, *One Man Army*, and then turns 180 degrees without so much as a flinch and in *Blister*, exposes his fear of waiting for something that is never going to come.

Occasionally sounding like he has a train bearing down on him, Madaia floats and screams through tracks like *Is Anybody Home?* and *Lying Awake* seemingly without effort, and then parachutes into the next tune and treats it gentle enough to be a Shakespearian sonnet.

But all the credit cannot be given to Madaia. Mike Turner's catchy power chords and ridiculously warped hooks combine with the vocals from another universe for an effect unheard of anywhere except for on Smashing Pumpkins records. Arnold Lanni, the producer, and smartly dubbed "the fifth member" in the bio, has allowed the band, named after a poem by Mark Van Doren, to grow artistically but only to the point where it doesn't make anyone angry. Elvin Jones, the drummer responsible for John Coltrane's sound in the 50s, makes an

appearance on *Stealing Babies*, the only track on the 43-minute record that exceeds five minutes.

The result of Madaia and Turner's passions and the band's search for what happens to the world after they die is a wonderfully crafted record, worthy of the Pink Floyd-esque artwork and photos it so purposefully sports between shots on the band, one of them a group shot of the four members looking like an army ready to slide into your ears and make you appreciate the sunshine outside while Madaia successfully imports sounds from somewhere most people probably don't even have in them.

Score: three and a half stars

Recommended tracks: *Blister*, *Is Anybody Home?*, *One Man Army*, *Thief*, *Annie*

Our Lady Peace will be touring with Creed before embarking on a UK circuit with the Stereophonics, and will then head back to do a full-length North American tour sometime around New Year's. They will be at the Palace of Auburn Hills on October 15.

www.WHAT?!

www.hersheys.com

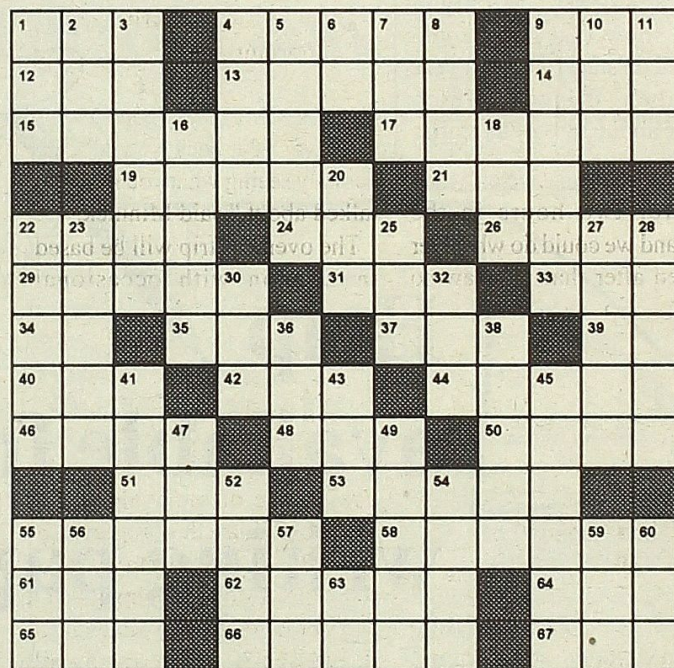
Love chocolate? If you do, then this website is for you. Hersheys.com offers lots of great features, such as a gift shop full of Hershey's candy, collectibles, and gifts for special occasions, like birthdays and Halloween, that you can order online. They also feature yummy recipes for chocolate desserts and ice cream sundaes, and you can even take a tour and see how their candy is made. This site is a must see for the true chocaholic (and you know who you are)!

www.adiamondisforever.com

Ladies, if you've been watching Friends lately, chances are you have the urge for an engagement ring. So guys, listen up. Adiamondisforever.com, the DeBeers website, offers guests several options in the way of engagement rings. It lets you browse popular styles, and even lets you create your own ring by choosing stone shape, band type, sidestones, and more. You can even email a picture of your created ring to your significant other (listen up here guys).

www.cowsonparade.net

Mooooo over websites, cowsonparade.net is the ultimate site for the true cow lover. It features cow art (a must for any real dorm room), photos from the site's very own virtual herd, and even cow screensavers, for those of you who ache for the sound of mooing from your computer. They even let you order gifts online, which is convenient for those of us who have family and friends who collect cows. In any case, it's an interesting site.



ACROSS

- 1 Flaw
- 4 Plebe
- 9 Cap
- 12 Metal
- 13 Odor
- 14 S.E. state (abbr.)
- 15 Household (Literary)
- 17 Beetle
- 19 Happening
- 21 ___ Carson
- 22 Wise
- 24 Help
- 26 Tableland
- 29 Utilizers
- 31 The Raven (Poet)
- 33 Green
- 34 Indefinite pronoun
- 35 Price
- 37 Tree
- 39 Eastern state (abbr.)
- 40 Number
- 42 Water barrier
- 44 Pro
- 46 Great lake
- 48 Rove
- 50 Concern
- 51 Against
- 53 Jury
- 55 Beautiful view
- 58 Medicine for cuts
- 61 Var. of -al (suf.)
- 62 Hanging rope
- 64 Watch
- 65 Pig pen
- 66 Angi-knock fluid
- 67 Auricle

DOWN

- 1 Mother (slang)
- 2 Form of be
- 3 Back out
- 4 Close in
- 5 Stadium
- 6 Perform
- 7 Uncle (Prov. Eng.)
- 8 State
- 9 Former
- 10 Indicating ileum (comb. form)
- 11 Daughters of the American Revolution (abbr.)
- 16 Veer
- 18 Goal
- 20 Edge
- 22 Group of rooms
- 23 Flower
- 25 Male deer
- 27 Flavor
- 28 Knowledgeable
- 30 Unhappy
- 32 Fairy
- 36 Sack
- 38 Clubbed
- 41 Pleasantly
- 43 Chart
- 45 Luggage
- 47 Age
- 49 Flower
- 52 Number
- 54 Carol
- 55 Relative (slang)
- 56 Feline
- 57 Bed
- 59 Edu. Group (abbr.)
- 60 Ever (Poetic)
- 63 Exclamation

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England Spring Term visits medieval sites

By AMY TAYLOR
Staff Reporter

This spring, English course 183/383 will travel to England in search of medieval literature sites. Ute Stargardt, professor of English, will be heading the trip for the second time. Stargardt first taught the course in 1998 and took 19 students along with her.

"I try to choose literature with a given location in England to talk about the works in a different light," said Stargardt.

In 1998, the students studied Chaucer's short stories in Cambridge and during their trip visited the university and several churches. After that students got the evenings to do whatever they wish.

Julie Minnick (01), who was a part of the 1998 group, said, "I really liked it because we only had classes for two hours in the morning and we could do whatever we wanted after that. We saw so

much stuff that you only hear about such as the Crown Jewels."

Other medieval literary characters that will be studied include King Arthur, King Edward I, William the Conqueror, Robin Hood and Maid Marion, Margery Kemp, Bede and more.

"We will visit some new sights this time around, but by and large we will keep to the same format as last time," said Stargardt.

According to Stargardt, an overnight trip is planned for York and Edinburgh. This year the group will spend more time in Edinburgh.

Bede, who is a historical Anglo-Saxon, will be studied in Durn where he is buried in a cathedral along with another writer. Visits to important sites such as the Castle of Wales and the Battle of Hastings will be included.

"It was neat because you were actually seeing what you read and talked about," said Minnick.

The overseas trip will be based in London with occasional

journeys. Students will stay in townhouses which have available cooking facilities. Stargardt stated that having these facilities will cut down on the cost of eating meals out all the time.

Currently, 18 students have already signed up for the course. There are still spots open and the deadline for the application is October 8. However, students are not enrolled into the class until they pay a non-refundable deposit of \$200 made by October 22. The first informational meeting will be October 15.

The total cost for the trip is \$2300. Scholarships are available through the financial aid office on a first come first serve basis. If interested, students should turn in applications as soon as possible in order to make the appropriate arrangements. Stargardt has applications and more details. The course also fills a S distributive.

"There is a lot of entertainment where we are going and there is time off on the weekends," said Stargardt.

Saferide initiated for student safety

By MANDY LONG
Feature Editor

Big white vans shuttling students to various destinations in Alma is becoming a regular sight on Thursday nights thanks to a new program called Saferide.

"We had Saferide at a previous institution I worked at, and with three fraternities on probation, more students are going to local bars. Drinking and driving then becomes a problem, and Saferide is an answer to that," said Alan Hill, vice president of enrollment and student affairs. "Students came to me about starting a program like this at Alma, and I have no problem working with students to do that."

Saferide is a free program for students that is currently running on Thursday nights. Using Alma College vans, student drivers start at the Gelston/Newberry parking lot, go to South Complex, along W. Center St. where many of the fraternities are located, downtown to Pizza Sam's, then to 7-11, and finally, the Highlander. The van makes this route every half hour, beginning at 10:30 p.m. and ending at 2:30 a.m.

"Right now we're still working out some of the kinks," said Steve

Crider, one of the students who helped to initiate this program. "By Fall Break we'll have a set schedule of stops and times. At the end of the semester we'll evaluate it and see if it's a worthwhile program."

The idea of Saferide was first introduced by the Senior class officers, but the secretaries and treasurers of other classes are also

"Basically, students are out there drinking, and we want to look out for their safety. Being proactive is the step I've chosen to take."

• **Alan Hill**
Vice president of enrollment and student affairs

getting involved.

"We want to include class officers from the other classes so that this program will be carried on if it is worthwhile," said Crider.

Students who are interested in driving have their driving records checked, and are paid thirty dollars a night. Currently, because of availability of the van, Saferide only runs on Thursday nights. However, Saferide may be used on Friday and Saturday nights as well in the future.

"We have two student drivers

every night we run Saferide, one drives, and the other is there for safety reasons. They make sure students aren't bringing any alcohol or weapons on the van, and they make sure that they're only carrying the legal amount of passengers they can have," said Hill. Thus far the reaction to Saferide from students and the community has been positive.

"The local establishments are in favor of this," said Hill. "It's an issue where people debate over whether or not we're encouraging underage drinking. That's isn't our purpose; our emphasis is on preventing drinking and driving. We just ask that the local establishments follow the law, that they don't serve minors, and that they watch how much students are drinking."

"Some faculty do disapprove," said Crider, "but Thursday night is when students leave campus...On the first night we had about twenty students that got home safely, and just as importantly, kept the community safe by not drinking and driving."

"Basically, students are out there drinking," said Hill, "and we want to look out for their safety. Being proactive is the step I've chosen to take."

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1999 Homecoming: Cele



Bryan Waugh



Bryan Waugh

By JENNIFER KLAISS
Managing Editor

Drummers drumming, pipers piping... these were the sounds that began the annual homecoming parade at 11 a.m. Saturday morning. Students, alumni, and members of the community huddled outside in the brisk fall air to watch.

"It's cool to see all the students, alumni and staff watching the parade together," said Tiffany Smith (02). Because of the poor weather, the turnout was smaller than usual, but enthusiastic.

As the parade made its way closer to campus, Mike Murphy (01) and Amy Sandberg (00) announced the participants. Cheers erupted from the spectators as the Alma College Kiltie Band came into view. Also represented in the parade was the homecoming court, fraternities, sororities, WQAC, Pizza Sam's, the Alma High School Marching Band as well as other groups and organizations from the college and community.

The theme, *Celebration of the Decades*, was displayed throughout the parade. Gelston Hall won third place. Gamma Phi Beta won second place with their disco dancers of the '70's theme. First place went to the United Coalition of Students with their civil rights movement float.

Of course, with the multitude of floats, there was bound to be a lot of candy thrown into the crowd. "I anticipated the candy... lots and lots of candy," said Holly Townsend (01).

Aside from being a fun event, the homecoming parade is an important tradition. It introduces the homecoming court to the alumni and community. "It sets the stage for the rest of the day," stated Townsend.

By KATIE BEAM
Freelance Writer

The Homecoming Festivities ended on Saturday night with a dance in Van Dusen. The winners of the various activities during Homecoming Week are as follows:

Homecoming Court

King: Kevin Stanley
Queen: Betsie Keeler

Homecoming Float

First place, \$200: United Coalition of Students commemorated the "Civil Rights Decade"

Second place, \$150: Gamma Phi Beta sorority celebrated the "Disco Era of the '70s"

Third place, \$50: Gelston Hall honored the "Age of Movies"

Most Spirited: Cheerleaders

Most Creative: Alpha Gamma Delta sorority with a tribute to "Early 90s Rock Concerts"

Best Theme: Girls Softball and Bob Moore Flowers

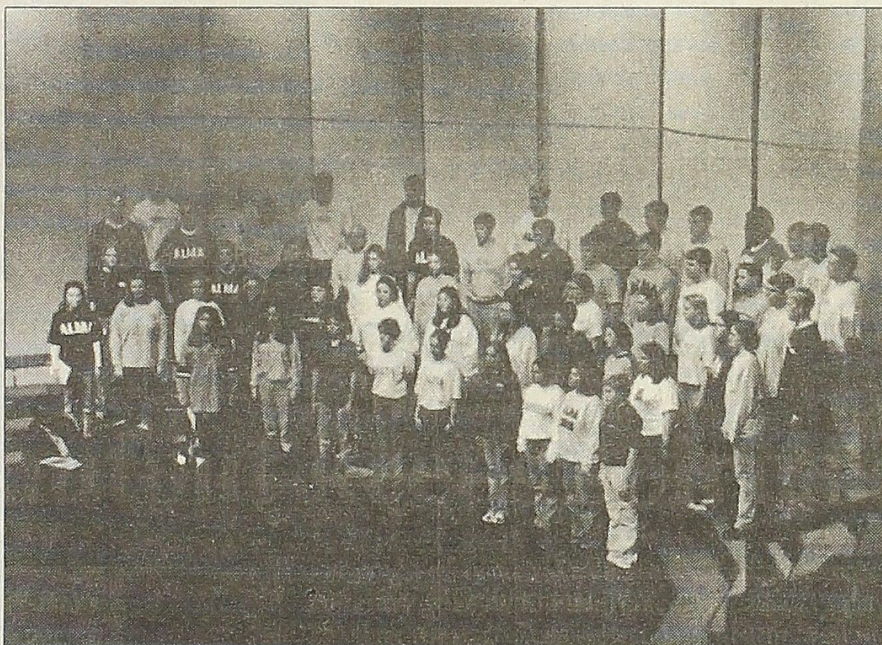
Banner Contest

First place, \$50: Phi Sigma Sigma sorority with a "Phi Sigadelic" logo

Second place, \$30: Gamma Phi Beta sorority sporting a "Groovin' Gammis" motif

Third place, \$20: Alpha Xi Delta sorority with a "Totally 80's" theme

Pool Tournament Winners, Bennigan's Gift certificates: Brian Toy (00) and Jon McMillan (01)



Bryan Waugh



Bryan Waugh

ratulations to all the winners!

eration of the Decades

Scots stomp Saints

By AMY NOVAK
Online Editor

The Alma Scots football team completed their fourth win of the season with a 35-7 victory over Thomas Moore College (KY) in last Saturday's Homecoming matchup. Defense was the key in this game as the Scot defense held the Saints to just 189 yards rushing.

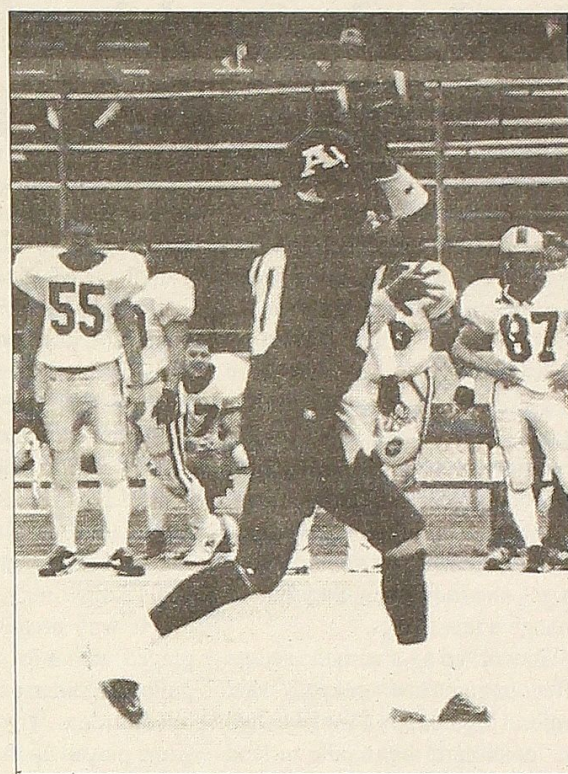
The Alma offense had a total of 390 yards, 268 yards short of their average. Senior quarterback Josh Wakefield was 22 of 40 for 254 yards and two touchdowns, he also threw one interception. Junior Brian Pierce led the Scot receivers with eight catches for 63 yards. Senior Greg Bowden had 12 carries for 117 yards and two touchdowns.

The Scot offense scored on the first drive of the game for the fourth week in a row when Bowden capped off a 6 play, 73 yard drive with a five yard run for the score. Bowden scored again late in the first on a two yard run to leave the score 13-0 at the end of the first quarter. In the second,

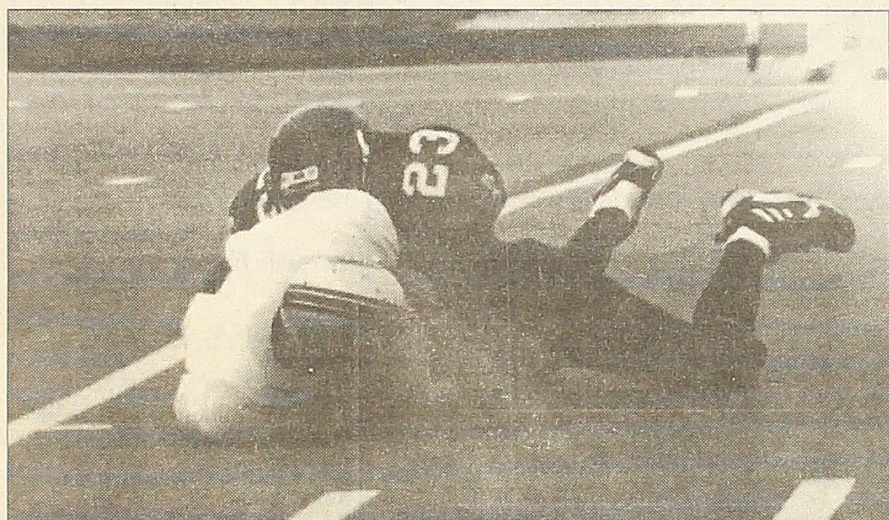
Wakefield threw a 24 yard pass to sophomore Brian Burgtorf for the touchdown. Bowden then ran into the endzone for the two point conversion allowing the Scots to leave the field ahead 21-0 at the half.

At the end of the third, Wakefield hooked up with senior Leonard Warren on a 19 yard pass for the score. Thomas Moore scored their first points of the game midway through the fourth making the score 28-7. The Scot offense scored a final time with 41 seconds remaining in the fourth on a 9 yard run by first year student Dan MacGregor. Sophomore Carlo Fuciarelli added the extra point leaving the final 35-7.

Defensively, the Scots were led by junior Justin Harris with five sacks for 28 yards and 11 tackles, seven for losses. The Scot defense tallied a total of three interceptions, one each by senior co-captain Tim Webb, senior Dustin Armstrong, and junior Dan Sweetman. The Saint offense crossed the 50 yard line just once, which led to their only score of the game.



Bryan Waugh



Bryan Waugh



Bryan Waugh

Shutout keeps spirits alive

By DAN JOYCE
Staff Reporter

After another week of season play, the Alma College women's soccer team tallied another loss, but more importantly, a shutout win. In traveling to Calvin College on Tuesday and playing at home on Saturday, the young ladies found they could still use some improvement. They also proved that they have what it takes to win a soccer game.

The Calvin Knights (6-2, 2-0 MIAA), who are ranked regionally, proved to be a very tough opponent on their home field. They were able to score three goals in the first half of action. In the final 15 minutes of the game, Calvin was allowed to score five additional goals. Four of these goals occurred within the final five minutes of the game. Alma goal keeper, Susan Fisher (03) was able to stop 16 of the Knights' shot attempts, but the final score stood at 8-0 proving to the Alma team that they still had some improving to do.

On Homecoming day, the Lady Scots showed some improvement

in almost every area of their game against MIAA foe Defiance College (OH). Their shot selection seemed to be well refined, their teamwork was phenomenal, and their defense seemed to be just waiting for a chance to prove themselves.

The defense may have been a tad bit disappointed with their contribution to the win against the Yellowjackets. The defense did not see a very large amount of action. The Alma midfielders seldom allowed the ball to stray across midfield in the direction of the Scots' goal.

"The ladies took some time getting started, but once they did, they controlled the tempo of the game," said second-year head coach, Chi Ly.

Junior team captain, Kristy Hopper, expressed some surprise at the incredible 28-4 spread for shots on goal.

"The difference in number of shots is larger than what I expected, but we did play very well as a team. It was very nice to end our scoring drought with a complete shutout. The team seems to be working together a little better each game."

All four goals were scored in the first half of play. Hopper was the first to break down the Defiance defense placing a shot perfectly past the Yellowjacket's goal keeper. She later assisted Paula Schwarz (02) in her nicely placed header for the third Alma goal.

The second goal of the game bounced off the high post and in with all of the credit due to Jessica Roberts (03) who took many shots throughout the game. The final Scots' goal was scored late in the first half by midfielder Anne Fortino (01).

Every one of the Alma players was given quality time on the field. Coach Ly later said, "We still made many small mistakes but Defiance was unable to capitalize on them. We need to work on many parts of our game, especially on sharpening our passes. Our team has definitely showed a high level of teamwork, which is very important. We have been improving greatly since the start of the season."

The Lady Scots hope to better their 3-8, 1-2 MIAA record when they face Hope College at home today at 4 p.m and Adrian College at Adrian on Saturday at noon.



Bryan Waugh

Lady Scots shine in first MIAA win of season

By **STEPHENIE GOODELL**
Staff Reporter

The Alma College varsity volleyball team charged the home court yet again as they faced Kalamazoo College Wednesday, September 29. They picked up their first MIAA win of the season in a strong 3-1 win over the Hornets.

After a disappointing loss to Saint Mary's College in Notre Dame, Indiana last weekend the team was hungry for a triumph and to get one they knew they had to change a few things.

"We worked a lot with the setters after our game last weekend," said junior Alissa Pasch, "We switched the location of the middle set and it worked really well. It was very exciting."

"Our game picked up a lot and we played really well. Our passing also improved during this game," said junior Jaime Lippert.

The reworking of the team's positions only created part of their advantage in the game. They were also on home turf with their home crowd urging them on for the win. "We really had a great crowd help-

ing to cheer us on through the whole game," said Lippert.

With the great passing and the enthusiastic crowd the Scots trounced Kalamazoo in all but one match with individual scores of 15-11, 15-11, 13-15, 15-8.

Junior Andrea Horton kept the team motivated with a team-high of 19 digs and she also contributed 10 kills. Horton's fellow junior Meghann Devlin added nine digs, 19 kills and six blocks. Sophomore Jaime Lippert had 48 assists for the Scots while first year student Megan Cook contributed 17 kills and 12 digs.

"It was great fun, everyone played with a lot of intensity, we pulled together and we were just on that day. It was definitely a game played up to our level," said Horton.

There was an overall feeling that the team was really on their game on Wednesday.

"We came in with positive attitudes that lasted throughout the game," said Lippert, "Our heads were really in it and we did great."

The Scots now stand 7-7, 1-2 in the MIAA as they prepare to battle Calvin College on Wednesday, Oct 6, at 6:30 in another MIAA match.



Bryan Waugh

Passing improvements contribute to Scots first win in league.

Hosler, Sobczak lift Alma over Hope and Calvin

By **KELLY McDONALD**
Sports Editor

The men's soccer team rallied in two overtime games last week to up their record to 3-1 in the league and a tie for first place with Kalamazoo. The Scots took on two tough MIAA opponents on the road at Hope on Wednesday and Calvin last Saturday.

The Scots were still sour from their loss to Olivet two weeks ago and went into the Hope game with something to prove. Hope is ranked eighth in Great Lakes Region and is one of the favorites for the MIAA crown. But Alma was not to be denied. They want the chance to go the NCAA Championships with an automatic bid as the MIAA champions.

It was a defensive struggle against the Flying Dutchmen at Hope's home field. Head coach Scott Fry praised the play of his two outstanding goaltenders, Jon Cullen (00) and Sean Byram (01). They combined for the shutout with Cullen manning the net in the first half and Byram taking over for the second half and both overtimes. The score was knotted at 0-0 at the end of regulation. The second overtime session belonged to the Scots.

Jeff Hosler (02) and Chris Alexander (00) teamed up as the heroes in this one. After surviving the first overtime period with no goals, Hosler pounded home the winner in the 109th minute of play. Chris Alexander's long throw-in resulted in a loose ball in front of

the Hope goalie. Enter Hosler. The Scot midfielder beat the Hope goalie for the Alma victory.

There was no time to celebrate, though, as the Scots packed their bags for Calvin (7-3, 2-2) just three days later. Alma controlled the entire first half of play against the Knights as Scots leading scorer, Paul Aceto (01), scored to make it 1-0 in favor of Alma. He drilled a shot to the upper-left corner of the goal and beat the Calvin goaltender cleanly. Aceto's goal was assisted by Jim Allen (00).

The momentum changed in the second half as the Knights took control of the ground game. They scored in the 65th minute to tie the game a one goal apiece. Once again, the game would go to overtime. The Scots showed no sign of fatigue, though, as they dominated both overtime periods.

Hosler, again was almost the hero, but he was denied when he had a clear break-away on the Calvin goal in the first overtime. Alma would not give up though as they continued to control the field Adam Sobczak (02) appeared as the hero in this one when he pounced on a loose ball in front of the Calvin net. The Scots found the weakness of the Knight goalie as Sobczak booted a kick to the same corner as Aceto did earlier in the game. Sobczaks' goal from 25 yards out hit the post and deflected into the goal for the game winner.

Alma (6-3, 3-1) continues their tear to the MIAA championship on Saturday when they travel to Defiance (OH) for a 2 p.m. match-up.

Weekend football scores

MIAA

Alma	35	Thomas Moore	7
Albion	35	Defiance	21

Big Ten

Michigan	38	Purdue	12
Michigan State	49	Iowa	3
Wisconsin	42	Ohio State	17
Minnesota	33	Northwestern	14
Indiana	34	Illinois	31

Alma College week-long scores

Men's soccer

Alma 1	Hope 0 (2OT)
Alma 2	Calvin 1 (2OT)

Men's golf

7th of 8 at MIAA jamboree

Women's soccer

Alma 0	Calvin 8
Alma 4	Defiance 0

Volleyball

Alma 3	Kalamazoo 1
15-11, 15-11, 13-15, 15-8	

Women's golf

Alma 2nd of 9 at MIAA jamboree

Scot Superstar of the Week

MEGHANN DEVLIN

Junior, Volleyball

Devlin, a native of Holt, helped the women's volleyball team to their first league victory of the season. On Wednesday, Devlin tallied 19 kills, nine digs and six block for the Scots as they won three games to one over Kalamazoo, 15-11, 15-11, 13-15, 15-8. Devlin, a 1997 graduate of Holt High School, is a bio-chemistry major. She plans on attending graduate school after her years at Alma. *The Almanian* got the inside stuff on this outstanding student athlete...

Favorite athlete: Gabriel Reece

Favorite sport other than volleyball: Hockey

Favorite hobby: Boating

Favorite T.V. show: ER

Favorite movie: The Matrix

Favorite car: 71 mustang mock 1

Favorite music group/song: 311

Favorite food: Superman ice cream

Non sports hero: Mom

If you had a million dollars you would: Make myself happy with a yacht and donate the rest

If you could tell other athletes one thing about Alma College, what would it be: Your teammates can become your best friends

The Scots Superstar of the Week is something new for the sports section this year. Each week the *Almanian* will select an Alma College athlete who has excelled, improved or overcome odds in their respective sport. Coaches, players and fans are welcome to nominate their favorite Scot by emailing the sports editor at 00kmmcd@alma.edu. Be sure to include why you think the athlete should be Superstar of the Week and your name, otherwise your vote will not be considered. We are currently accepting nominations for next week's Superstar of the Week so get your votes in early.

Sports Review by Scott Timmreck

Tiger Stadium is gone, memories last forever

The emerald grass sparkled and the sky was blue as the ball went onto the roof in right field. People screamed and clapped and some even cried. Robert Fick, a completely unknown player recently brought up to play for the Detroit Tigers, had hit a grand slam, capping off 104 years of baseball at the corner of Michigan and Trumbull, the famous site of the place that Tiger great Al Kaline called a “battleship” the first time he saw it: Tiger Stadium, on Monday, September 27.

As approximately 46,000 fans watched the Tigers beat the Kansas City Roals 8-2 in a game meaningless for both teams in terms of statistics, Tiger Stadium, the crown jewel in Detroit’s history, watched as her field was played on for the last time, felt her dank yet pleasurable corridors get trampled on for the last time, smiled as her bleachers were abused by rowdy fans for the last time, and laughed as she remembered the memories she helped create.

1984—when Chet Lemon, Darrell Evans, Alan Trammell, Lou Whitaker, Lance

Parrish, Jack Morris, and of course, Kirk Gibson, and his home run that caused exhibition one of the most emotional moments in the history of baseball, won the World Series and brought joy to Detroit. 1968—when Norm Cash and Al Kaline, and perhaps one of the greatest baseball teams of all time won the third World Series in Tigers’ history. Ernie Harwell and his voice, one of the most recognizable voices ever, calling endless games as we sat on the back porch at age nine sipping lemonade and talking about the players of the time, whether they were Milt Wilcox, Mickey Lolich, Frank Tanana, Cecil Fielder or Brad Ausmus. There was your presence at the games, where you brought your mitt just hoping for that foul ball, or where you brought a sign with something witty written on it so you could make some people laugh and maybe get on television. And of course, that first game—eating a hot dog and drinking a pop as your elder rattled off meaningless facts, you were not really sure what was going on but under-

standing that a ball hit out of the stadium was good.

And so those memories, surrounded by a gigantic blue and white structure with the longest centerfield in baseball and an overhang in right field that made home runs that much easier, will no longer create the memories that those of us who grew up around Detroit most likely got from going to a night game against the Orioles with Cal Ripken Jr., or a Sunday afternoon game against the Seattle Mariners, wondering whether Ken Griffey Jr. was going to hit one into the stratosphere. No more wondering in this place—as Tigers past and present appeared out of centerfield during the post-game ceremonies and took their respective places on the field—Wille Horton in left field, Dan Petry on the mound, Dave Bergman at first base, and even Dick Tracewski in the coaching box, everyone knew it was over. As Todd Jones struck out Carlos Beltran amidst hundreds of popping flashbulbs for the final out in the ninth inning, Tiger Stadium was no longer Tiger Stadium. People

remembered 1984, and they laughed. People remembered the crack of the bat and the baseball in the blue sky, always special on this diamond, and they smiled. People remembered themselves, and they cried.

Yes—there would be the post-game festivities, such as the digging up of home plate to be later planted in the Tigers’ new home, Comerica Park, less than a mile away, but the final pitch by a Detroit Tiger on the same mound that Denny McLain and Mike Henneman stood on had been thrown.

The flagpole in centerfield will be moved to Comerica Park, the “440” on the wall in centerfield is on its way to the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, and the fate of the fortress at The Corner is yet to be determined. The Detroit Tigers, for the first time since 1985, will not report to that corner for work, and will not be surrounded by histories and stories of past legends and memories and thoughts of what The Corner has held. Tiger Stadium—rest in peace.

Women’s Golf holds solid second in MIAA

By KELLY McDONALD
Sports Editor

The women’s golf team is still second best in the MIAA as they traveled to Olivet last Saturday. Head coach Charlie Goffnet, in his ninth year of women’s golf, is looking for the fourth MIAA title of his career. The Scots have remained strong throughout the season holding a solid second place in the cumulative team scores.

At Olivet, the Scots place their usual second with a score of 372. Albion took the top spot again shooting a 353. The league overall standings after four MIAA meets are: Albion 1394, Alma 1435, St. Mary’s 1452, Hope 1468, Defiance 1582, Olivet 1610, Kalamazoo 1665, Adrian 1699 and

Calvin 1754.

Alma got a nice round of golf from sophomore Linday Carpenter at the Olivet meet. Carpenter, a native of Clio, shot an 87. Her total was good for a third place tie. Jodi Taylor, a senior also from Clio, improved her average for the year with an 89. Taylor was tied for sixth place. Also scoring for the Scots was senior Jen Peters and first-year student Caroline Olsson. Peters shot a disappointing 92, while Olsson tallied 104.

The ladies traveled to Kalamazoo yesterday, but the results were not available at press time. Next Monday, the Scots will travel to Calvin. On October 16, they will pack their bags for the long trip to Defiance for the last hurrah of the season.

Men’s Golf plays through rough weather in Holland

By ADAM SOBCZAK
Staff Reporter

The men’s golf team struggled through the weather on Tuesday, September 28 at an MIAA jamboree. Alma headed to Holland to face the host Flying Dutchmen along with the rest of the MIAA, but got an unpleasant visit from Mother Nature. Rain and wind meant rough conditions for a round of golf.

Through British Open-like conditions at Clearwater Country Club, Alma finished seventh as a team with a score of 430. The host team, Hope, won the tournament recording a 393. Olivet, Calvin, Albion and Kalamazoo rounded out the top five finishers.

The Scots were led by Jon Chapel’s score of 82. Chapel,

a senior, who is currently averaging 80, has been “a consistent and dependable golfer for our team this year,” said coach Mark Starkweather.

Also shooting well for the Scots through the rough conditions were Jerry Hanks(01), who shot 84, and Jacob Garza (03) with an 85. Korey Kohle (02) shot an 89, while Drew Rummel (02) had a 90 and Buckley Geno (02) scored a 95.

The Scots are looking to improve as a team in their next three conference matches before returning to the friendly confines of Pine River Country Club to host the Alma Jamboree on Oct. 9.

“It should be good to get back to Pine River and play our final match there, and hopefully improve as a team,” said Jacob Garza.

Tomorrow the team travels to Kalamazoo for a 1 p.m. match with the whole MIAA.

Super Scots

Football

The Alma football team continues to rack up recognition from the MIAA. For the fourth straight week, a football player wearing maroon has taken home the MIAA player of the week honor. This time, it was two different Scots who received the award. Justin Harris (01) was named the defensive player of the week, while teammate Shawn Grant (00) received the special teams award. The two were an integral part in the Scots 35-7 win over Thomas Moore College (KY) on Saturday.

Harris, a 1997 graduate of Port Huron High School, led the defensive attack for Alma. He was a demon for the Thomas Moore quarterback, constantly breaking through the line to get to the gunner. He recorded five sacks on the day. His 11 tackles led the team, seven of those being for lost yardage. The defense of the Scots, led by Harris’s strong play on the line, held Thomas Moore to 189 yards total offense and caused five turnovers. Grant, a senior punter from Allen Park, had a career day for the Scots. He punted the ball seven times in the game for 215 yards, an average of 30 yards a punt. Three of his boots pinned the opposition inside the ten-yard line, while still another, was inside the 20-yard line.

Men’s Soccer

Senior Chris Alexander of Midland led the Scots soccer team to a pair of double overtime victories last week to earn him the MIAA player of the week honors. Alexander, a four-year letter winner for the Scots, led the defense to a shutout against highly contended MIAA foe Hope and 2-1 victory over Calvin. His efforts in front of the Alma net have helped the Scots goals against average to an impressive 0.85. The wins also put Alma into a tie for first place in the league with Kalamazoo. Alma (6-3-0) is now ranked eighth in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Great Lake Region poll.

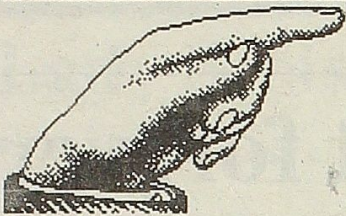
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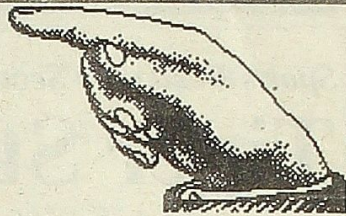
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Point/Counterpoint: Is gun control the answer?



Gun control a necessity for safe environment

By CARA BONINE
Staff Reporter

The *New York Times* in a recent publication reported that the semi-automatic pistol that Buford Furrow allegedly used to kill a postal worker after shooting five people in a Californian Jewish community center was bought from a private dealer.

The report states that the pistol was originally the property of a police department in Washington. The dealer obtained the pistol by a private trade with another gun dealer and then sold the weapon to Furrow.

Private gun sales are not regulated under the existing gun control laws. Had Furrow been required to pass a background check, he would not have been allowed to purchase the weapon because of his existing criminal record.

This is one of the many cases where stiffer gun control legislation would have possibly prevented this tragic occurrence. Back-

ground checks are a necessity in order to prevent these types of tragedies in our society.

With this type of preventable slaughter, it is difficult to understand any reasons not to implement stricter gun control. The possibility that Furrow would have still been able to obtain a weapon does exist. However, the possibility also exists that he would have been denied the purchase of the gun.

Because of this possibility, background checks must be provided before any exchange of weapons can take place. This type of regulation will not affect the average gun buyer. It would only target those that have had questionable pasts and "red flag" them for further inquiry.

In a recent lawsuit, the court held one gun manufacturer responsible for a shooting in California. The company, Navegar, manufactured the TEC-DC9.

Federal statistics showed that this was the "weapon of

choice" for many criminals. It was the weapon used in the Columbine High School shooting last April. The company reported in one ad that the surface was resistant to fingerprints. A brochure to the company's distributors said that a court allowed a gun manufacturer to be sued for a criminal shooting. Navegar appealed, however, but the courts reinstated the case.

This type of advertising directly targets those mentally disturbed individuals. It promotes ideas of killing and misuses of weapons. This type of advertising is generally viewed to be extremely troubling and disgusting. Gun control is to protect our families and ourselves. We must insist that our laws provide a safe environment to live in. Through the use of background checks and insisting that gun manufacturers be partly responsible, this can be accomplished.

Gun control not necessary to end hate crimes

By AMY TAYLOR
Staff Reporter

As soon as incidents such as the one at Columbine High School occurred people started crying out gun control. Is gun control the best option for solving these dilemmas?

If the answer to this question is yes, then gun control should have been implemented before these events even happened. Furthermore, gun control is only a small piece of the puzzle in the causes of uncovering these hateful crimes.

Officials all provide different reasons to why events like these take place. Some suggest it is the family life, television, movies or video games that cause individuals to make the choices they do.

Studies and research are still trying to figure out the real reasons. So all of these skimpy rationales including gun control

for why kids are killing other kids or their own families are just not conclusive enough to impose make-shift solutions on them.

Legislation and projects already exist to assist in controlling the use of guns or tightening the punishment on those who commit these crimes. For those who are for new gun control legislation, would it not be more logical to assess, revamp or implement those which already exist?

There is one program in Richmond, Virginia—one of the five cities with the worst per capita murder rates in the nation—that has worked successfully. According to the *New York Times*, "Project Exile" calls for stiffer bond rules and sentencing guidelines in federal courts. Felons with guns, gun and drug cases, and gun/domestic violence cases in Richmond are federally prosecuted.

In court, criminals already obtain a mandatory minimum sentence. The project

is quick, efficient and successful in prosecuting an already large number of gun crimes and has a significant impact on criminal behavior. All of this research was done in late 1998. One major plus of the project is the education of low tolerance policy on criminals and the coalition of the community to make this program very successful.

There are similar success stories in other large cities such as Boston, Massachusetts; Jacksonville, Florida and Salinas, California in which officials are cracking down on crimes especially associated with guns. Take notice that none of these stories include anything about gun control in their programs.

Receiving guns illegally is how most kids are able to obtain them. Gun control is only going to increase the number of those receiving them illegally.

The United States does not need gun control; it just needs common sense.

Rumors, scandals consume Republican presidential candidates

By CARA BONINE
Staff Reporter

Washington is in the usual whirlwind this week as Republican presidential candidates are busy with rumors, accusations, and political games.

Patrick Buchanan threatened to leave the Republican Party and join the Reform Party after his book, "*A Republic, Not an Empire*", was released. The book suggests that the United States was wrong to become involved in both world wars and other unorthodox ideas on foreign policies. The transfer of parties would allow Buchanan to seek the reform Party's presidential nomination instead of the Republican's nomination.

Republican leaders are urging Buchanan to stay with the GOP. Buchanan would be expected to take ten percent of the national vote if he did run on the Reform Party ticket.

Also this week, Gary L. Bauer held a press conference to deny rumors that he had an affair with a member of his campaign staff. He has accused Steve Forbes's campaign organization as the source of the rumors.

Texas governor George W. Bush was reported to be in "excellent" condition, according to his last medical report released this week. The report shined some light on the drug question that has plagued him recently. Apparently Bush has never been treated for drug addiction; however, there was no references to whether Bush had ever used drugs in the past.

From sex scandals to drug addiction, the last week was anything but favorable for the Republican Party. The goal for candidates seeking the Republican nomination should be to avoid being a news headline as much as possible. The news has only served to degrade and discredit these candidates.

When these scandalous news stories break, the public tends to

concentrate on these stories instead of the important issues of the candidacy. The quiet candidate is the one with the most credibility and character.

What candidate is quietly standing in the background of all the party's commotion? Elizabeth Dole. She is dealing with the issues that are of significance to the country.

Dole spent this week in Congress urging them to reject President Clinton's pleas for a global ban on nuclear test explosions. She called the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty "ill-conceived" and a threat to our nation's national security.

This is the type of seriousness that our country needs in a president. The other Republican candidates need to use Dole as a model of a successful presidential candidate. She is able to work past the rumors and insignificant talk in Washington and concentrate on the real issues concerning our nation.

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the fraternity system at Alma College, the Interfraternal Council would like to respond to the actions taken by the college against some Greek chapters over this past summer.

An inspection of these chapters' houses was conducted early last summer. After inspecting these houses, it was the opinion of the executive staff that three of the fraternity houses and one of the sorority houses were put on social probation for this fall term, at the end of which they would be reviewed and the sanctions lifted if they meet certain requirements. The fraternities sanctioned

(Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Tau Kappa Epsilon, and Theta Chi) agree with the fact that their houses were left in unacceptable conditions and understand the need to maintain a cleaner living environment.

This has been a wake up call and improvements on each house are underway; actions as simple as setting up cleaning schedules to larger undertakings such as installing new carpeting or painting have begun. However, we believe the issues here involve more than the cleanliness of the houses. We feel the key problem is a lack of communication between the Greek sys-

tem and the school administration. Items such as letters being sent to the wrong people or lack of sufficient warning to resolve the issues are examples of this absence of clear communication. We plan on upholding our end of the agreement and hope to work closely with the college administration so that situations like these can be avoided in the future. We have no qualms with working with the school. In order to accomplish our common goals, the administration needs to better communicate their needs to the Greek system.

Interfraternal Council

Are students sardines? Get them out of the can

BY MYLENE WOOD
Staff Reporter

Each year more students than ever are being enrolled in public schools causing overcrowded classrooms and an apparent lack of teachers. This all leads to the distraction of learning time for each student packed sardine-like into classrooms that are too small. Special needs students do not receive the attention they require and advanced students are overlooked by teachers that cannot take the time to recognize the talent before their eyes.

As reported in the *Detroit Free Press*, there are 180,000 students enrolled in the Detroit Public Schools district. Many of these classrooms are overflowing and schools are forced to either purchase portable classrooms to park outside or put makeshift classrooms in hallways and basements which may not be suitable for children to be in.

Teachers in the Detroit Public Schools district feel that having smaller classes would better benefit both themselves and the students because more time could be spent on teaching and learning each independent students' needs and giving them extra help. The contract that Detroit teachers ratified on Friday, September 24 includes a provision from the district that cuts class sizes to 17 students from kindergarten to third grade. This will begin in 44 elementary schools in

the 2000-2001 school year. However, the contracts that the teachers have allowed for elementary classes to reach 30 students and secondary classes up to 35 students. Unfortunately, classrooms with 39 or more students are not uncommon.

This only solves the problem throughout the third grade. Junior high and high school classes are overcrowded as well. These students can be even harder to control than elementary school age students. Teachers need to watch these classes more closely than ever before due to the outrageous increase in student-to-student violence.

To begin to deal with the problem of overcrowded classrooms, the Detroit School Board last year bought the former Our Savior Lutheran Church and renamed it Elmdale Conservatory for the Visual and Fine Arts, in hopes to relieve some of the tension. The school opened in March with 325 students enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade. Now Elmdale is also overcrowded. Planned renovations never happened causing the newly added sixth grade classes to be held in the so-called auditorium, the former sanctuary of the church. As the new school year began, four 25 to 29 student classes each use the auditorium at the same time.

Learning cannot be expected to happen in a situation like this. With over 100 students packed into a small space, students would not even be paying attention to their own teacher. It also cannot be expected that a teacher would be able to teach in this situation due to the fact that he or she could very well be distracted by another teacher's lesson across the room. Students would likely be trying to catch the eye of a friend in another class three seats over from them, instead of taking notes on their lap. Desks are an improbability also due to the lack of space.

Students that are fast learners become bored quickly when a teacher is trying to catch the rest of the class up to a normal level. It's the "smarter" students that tend to cause the problems in cases like this. Control is even harder to maintain since the mainstream way of teaching now is through group discussion and learning from what other students have done.

Teachers are noticing that more prevalent drug abuse by parents, for example, has resulted in children who have more learning problems or lack skills. Little adult supervision at home leads to students that do not

accept direction from teachers as well, also causing disruption to the classrooms.

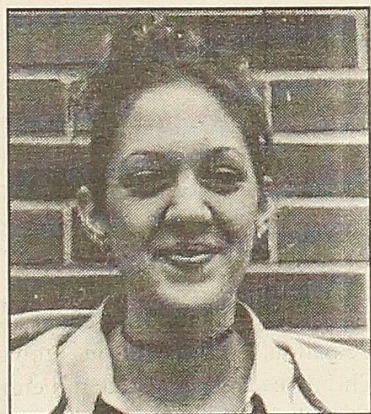
Larger classes also cut down on time that teachers have away from work. Many times, work has to go home with them, decreasing family time or leisure time. While it is understood that teachers will have outside work to do, teachers with too many students in their classrooms have to put in much more time outside of the classroom. Grading 10 extra papers each night adds up.

There is also the apparent lack of teachers. Many of the teachers in schools now are of retirement age. With all of these teachers leaving the profession, there are more holes to fill than there are people to fill them. School districts are digging to find teachers to the point where some may even be forced into hiring someone without proper certification, just to fill a much needed position. This only hurts the students. The "teacher" may seem qualified for the position, but without proper teaching skills, the students lose out on many chances for a good education. Also, to solve some problems, teachers are being coerced into teaching courses they are not certified to teach. Math teachers are teaching history and English teachers are teaching science. Again, this detracts from the students' learning experience.

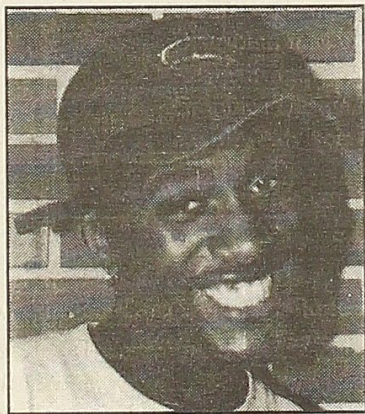
Something needs to be done about this prevalent problem in today's schools. If children are the future, then why is barely anything being done about it?

School districts are digging to find teachers to the point where some may even be forced into hiring someone without proper certification, just to fill a much needed position.

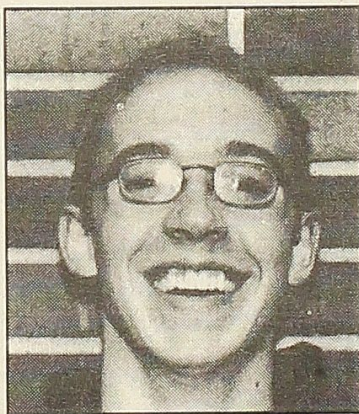
What surprised you in your first month at Alma?



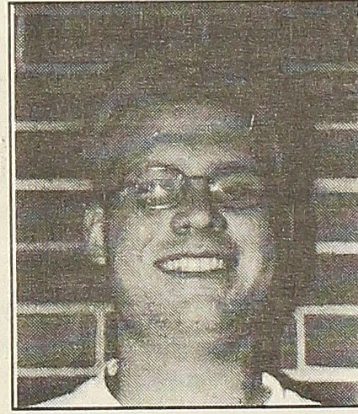
"Everyone says 'hi' when you pass by them on campus."
-Jessica Kotas (02)



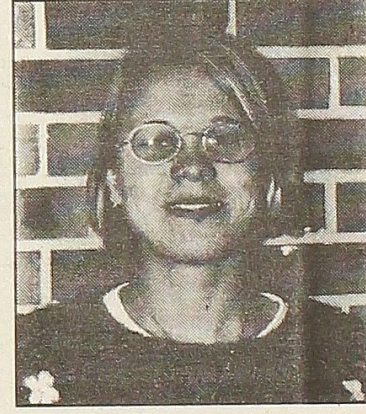
"Everyone can leave doors open and nothing gets stolen."
-Jacquese Smart (02)



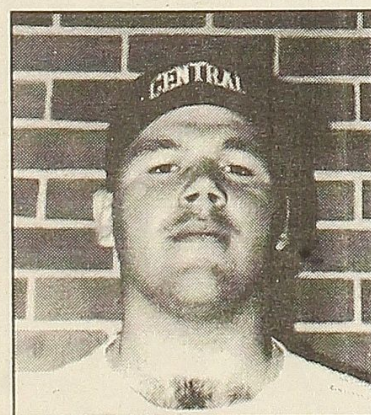
"The size and number of squirrels on campus."
-Jason Pappas (02)



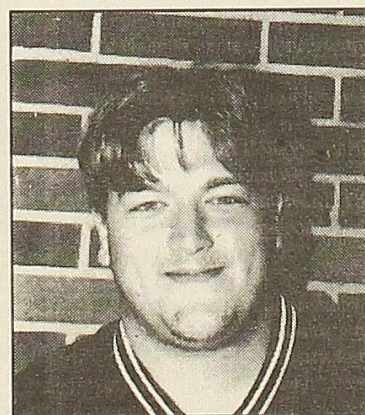
"The amount of alcohol people drink."
-Seth Emerson (02)



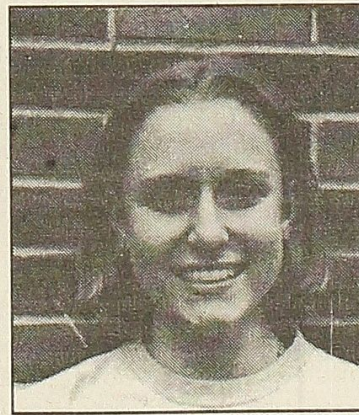
"Everyone was so friendly."
-Svetlana Komorotskaya (00)



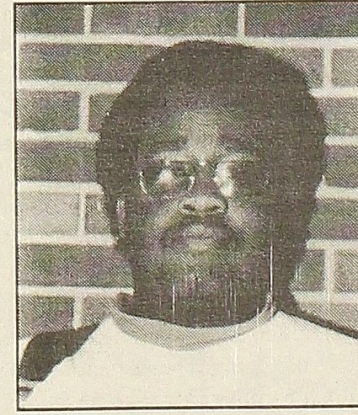
"Everybody knew my name and where I came from."
-Ray Cochenour III (99)



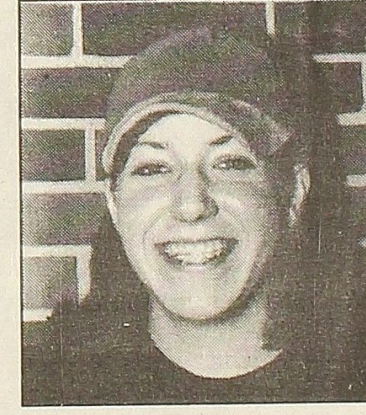
"How many young women already have boyfriends."
-Aaron Rycroft (03)



"How many boys have girlfriends."
-Abby Rourke (03)



"Cars actually stop for me at a crosswalk."
-Darnel Williams (02)



"How short the shower walls are in Bruske, a real problem if you're tall."
-Erin Hasty (03)

Staff Editorial

U.S. Army accused of killing civilians

Superpower...greatest military in the world...defenders of the weak... liberators of the oppressed...saviors to many small countries; all of these terms could in some way or another be used to describe the United States in terms of military capabilities and actions. But exactly where does one draw the line between killing for the defense of a country and killing just to kill?

The United States government and military owe it to the South Korean people to complete a full investigation concerning the alleged 'Civilian Killings' at No Gun Ri during the Korean War. With the release of the accusations last Wednesday, the Army stated that their investigations had been concluded, and that there was not enough evidence to

prove that the massacre truly did occur.

Ironically, now that this alleged incident is under public scrutiny, the Pentagon and the South Korean governments have ordered investigations as to what events actually took place more than 50 years ago at No Gun Ri. This is the least the American Government and Army can do as a response to the questions of the families and survivors concerning the incident at No Gun Ri.

The Army is accused of killing somewhere between 100 and 400 civilians at the No Gun Ri bridge during the beginning of the Korean War. Although the Army argues that there are conflicting stories between interviews with ex-GIs and South Korean survivors, they should still be willing to re-investigate the situation. The government should not have to do it for

them or even order them to do it; the Army should take the initiative themselves.

It is understandable that a military cannot make investigations concerning every alleged unethical incident, but the killing of hundreds of civilians definitely warrants more than just a "Nope, it never happened." The United States Army is often regarded as respectable and honorable in their defenses of not only the United States, but also in their defense of those who cannot defend themselves. If the ex-GIs have acted in illegal and immoral ways concerning the event at No Gun Ri, the United States Army should take the initiative to reinvestigate this situation. This would have been the respectable and honorable thing to do.

Sports Track by Michael Murphy

The putt heard 'round the world

It was ridiculous seeing the Europeans whine about the amazing American comeback victory on September 26 in the Ryder Cup played at The Country Club in Brookline, Massachusetts. Constantly crying about how American players and fans acted during the final round of the golf tournament pitting an American team against a European team will not get the Europeans their trophy.

Whining like a baby will not replace the final round that will go down as one of the biggest debacles in golf history. The American team, led by Tom Lehman, Davis Love III and Justin Leonard went on an amazing charge to beat the Euro's who had a commanding lead and knew it. They thought victory was theirs. Too bad for them. Victory was for the Americans.

The Europeans have been complaining vociferously all week about the celebration following Leonard's 45-foot birdie putt. Indeed, the celebration may have been rather long. It may have even been raucous. However, it is a show of emotion that at times seems to be lacking in the golf world. Seeing the American team leap in celebration after the putt will certainly go down in the annals of not only golf, but sports' history as well. Celebrations are bound to happen after sinking near-impossible putts.

The Americans have apologized to the Europeans. They have done so because they are truly class-acts. They did not have to apologize. Most Americans believe that they were in the right while showing enthusiasm for their play, their teammates and their countrymen.

Ironically, the European team did distracting things as well that could have been cited as disrespecting the game of golf. They danced after making putts. Did the Americans complain? Of course not.

And they should not have complained. Just like the Europeans should not have complained after the Americans fairly beat them in the game itself.

Once again, the Europeans are shaking their heads at the fact that the only sport that they are better than Americans at is soccer. Unfortunately for them, that will be different in a short matter of time.

A ballpark's twilightLast week saw two baseball stadiums close down. One, as we all know, was majestic Tiger Stadium. The other was 3Com Park, more commonly known as Candlestick Park. The 'Stick will no longer be home to the San Francisco Giants, as they will be moving to brand-new Pacific Bell Park in downtown 'Frisco.

Candlestick indeed has history. It has been the home of many great ballplayers. Hall of Famers Willy

Mays, Willie McCovey, and Juan Marichal have all left hallowed tracks on Candlestick's dirt.

It has even survived earthquakes, including the one on October 17, 1989 which postponed the World Series against Oakland for 10 days.

So why haven't we heard the same hoopla about its closing as we heard with Tiger Stadium? We already know about Tiger Stadium's tradition. I can write forever on it. Instead, I will look at why Candlestick has been one of the least liked baseball stadiums for years.

It is cold there. How cold? Damn cold. You have the wonderful cold currents coming in off of the Pacific Ocean that bring huge gusts of wind which have negated many a homerun.

It is very big. It is not cozy. It is one of those ballparks designed when engineering preceded architectural integrity, and when saving money meant most. It was a time when combining football with baseball was tops on the priority list. It was the time of civic stadiums such as Philadelphia's Veteran Stadium, Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium, and Cincinnati's Cynergy Field.

This is why no one will miss 3Com. A crappy name for a crummy stadium.

That is why Tiger Stadium was so special. It was baseball. 3Com was never worthy of baseball.

Spring Term travelling: Just do it !

By MICHAEL MURPHY
Opinion Editor

Visit medieval sites you read about. Sing in ancient cathedrals. Look at diverse business techniques. Find out the real stories behind the art. Learn and travel!

These are the philosophies behind the studying abroad Spring Term courses offered here at Alma College.

As a first year student two years ago, I had the opportunity to travel along with approximately twenty other students to London, England, with Dr. Ute Stargardt, professor of English. While there, we immersed ourselves in an intense course on medieval literature. We did not merely read the literature. Rather, we traveled to the locations that we read about. We lived the literature.

I was overawed by the amount of information that I learned from studying in London with Dr. Stargardt in just three weeks.

The medieval literature course returns again to the Alma College Spring Term course list, and Dr. Stargardt will be taking students to Great Britain once again.

This is not the only other Spring Term travel course. Other travel courses include studying art history in Rome, traveling to China for a business course and singing in Scotland. Many others are in the process of being created.

These courses exist to give students a new dimension to learning. It was amazing stepping onto the field where the Battle of Hastings took place. I was dumbfounded by the majestic beauty of the countless cathedrals that we visited. I was awestruck by traveling the same paths as numerous pilgrims traveled on their way to Canter-

bury Cathedral. I was able to see what I read because of the Spring Term course. Seeing what I read made the text come to life.

Students: I implore each and every one of you to seriously consider taking a Spring Term course in which you travel to a foreign country. You will learn so many diverse things about culture, history and yourself.

Alma does not invent these travel courses to make a profit. Instead, they make them so that Alma students may learn more than they ever could while studying in Alma itself. It is critical that students take the opportunity to travel abroad during Spring Term (or any other academic terms) so that we understand more about this world and ourselves.

Do not let chances like these Spring Term travel courses pass you by. They have benefited almost every single person that has taken hold of the opportunity. Many students have traveled during past Spring Terms. Take a few minutes to ask them about their experiences.

Professors have labored hard to get their travel itineraries ready so that they can help their students learn as much as possible. They want students to travel with them so that they can experience a whole new dimension in learning.

Indeed, travel courses are very expensive. However, the financial aid office has worked extremely hard to provide traveling students with money.

Without a doubt, the Spring Term travel course has been and will be the most memorable course that I have taken at Alma. Once again, do not let this chance pass you by. You may just end up regretting it when your career at Alma is over.



The Almanian Judgment Calls



Thumbs up to cold weather, leaves changing color, and a smell of autumn in the air.

Thumbs down to not realizing that autumn is here when you get up in the morning and put on shorts and a t-shirt and find out that it is really cold out.

Thumbs up to getting your various forms of entertainment to work!

Thumbs down to getting too entertained by the form of entertainment and blowing off much needed studying.

Thumbs up to thunderstorms, again.

Thumbs down to being awakened at 4am by extremely loud claps of thunder.

Thumbs up to clean clothes.

Thumbs down to running out of quarters in the middle of laundry day, dryers that take forever to dry your clothes and people who forget about their clean clothes for a few days.

Thumbs up to relaxing after a big test.

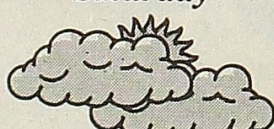
Thumbs down to getting your test back because you did not have time to study due to the fact that you finally got your Nintendo to work.

Friday



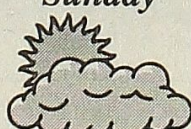
Partly Cloudy
High: 61°
Low: 47°

Saturday



Mostly Cloudy
High: 60°
Low: 47°

Sunday



Partly Cloudy
High: 64°
Low: 38°