




Men's soccer heads to playoffs after battle against Kalamazoo on Saturday. See page 8.



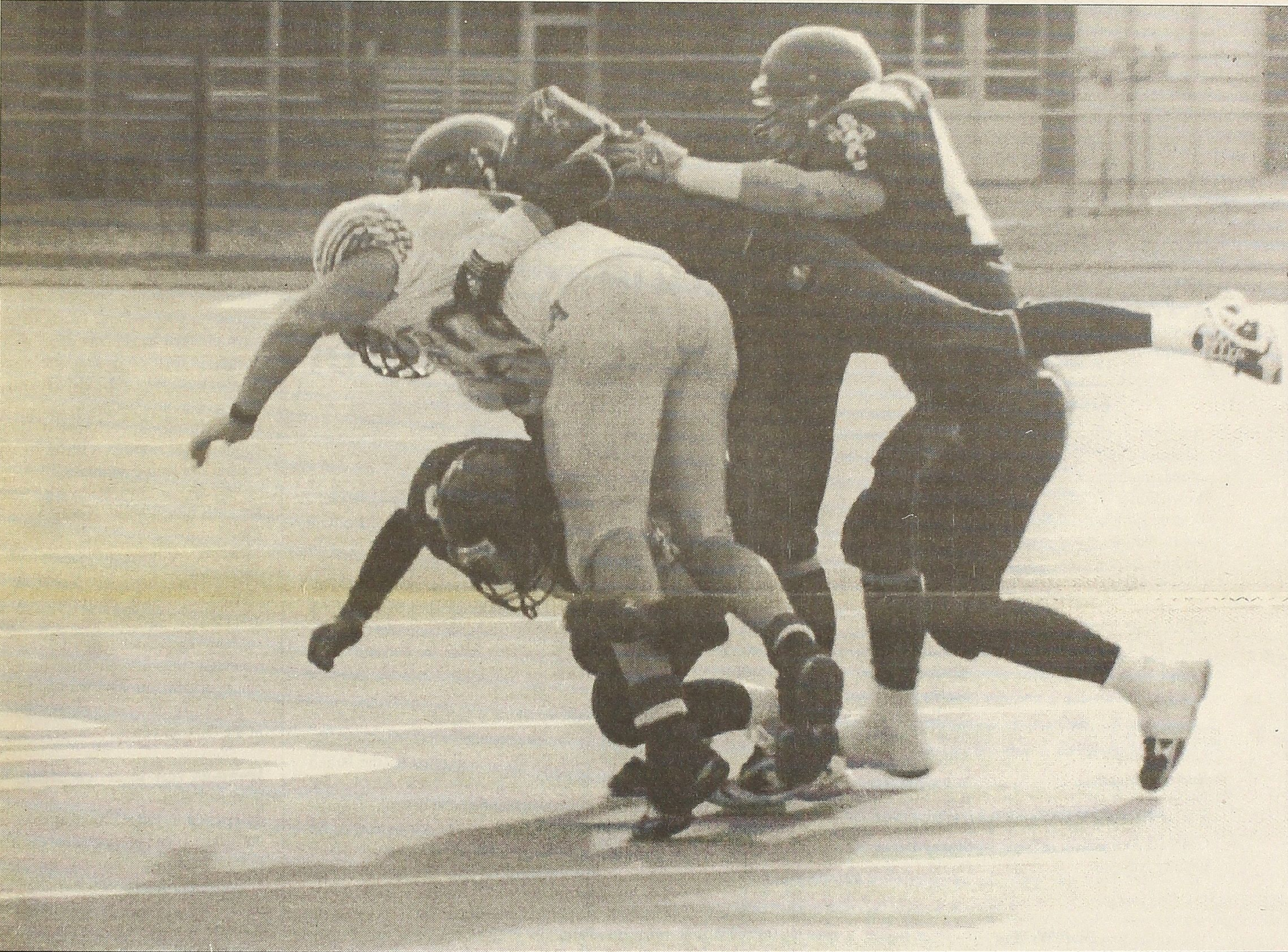
Derby Days succeeds in raising over \$4000 for charities. See page 3.

Thursday's Weather



Mostly Cloudy
High: 51°
Low: 27°

The Almanian



Agressive Alma defensemen team up to take down Albion's ball carrier. Steve Nadeau

SCOTS MAKE PLAYOFFS!

By AMY NOVAK
Online Editor

Tight defense by the Scots with just 20 seconds remaining in the game led Alma to a share of the MIAA conference title and a spot in the NCAA Division III playoffs. The Scots beat the visiting Albion Britons 20-17, marking their second victory over the Brits in three years. This completes the Scots' regular season record at 8-1 and marks the first time Alma will compete in the playoffs.

The Scot football team was led by their seniors in what was maybe their last game at Bahlke Stadium. Offensively, Alma outgained Albion 454 -401 in the matchup. Senior quarterback Josh Wakefield completed 25 of 41 passes to throw for a total of 286 yards and one interception. Senior running back Greg Bowden led all rushers, running for 161 yards on 21 carries for a touchdown. For the receivers, junior Brian Pierce had nine receptions for 115 yards and senior Leonard Warren had 94 yards on seven receptions.

The Scot defense was led by senior co-captain Dustin Armstrong with 16 tackles. Senior co-captain Tim Webb added 13, and senior Brian Roberts had 12 tackles to finish the game. Senior Justin Harris, who also scored a touchdown, had two sacks for the Scots and senior Zack Workman had an interception.

"This win is very exciting," said Workman. "Everyone is happy and excited for the

future. The way we won was amazing. Albion was really moving the ball in the second half, all they needed was two more yards."

The Britons scored first in the game, kicking a field goal in the middle of the first quarter. The Scots then proceeded to score 17 unanswered points to lead 17-3 at the half. Alma's first points of the game were obtained when Bowden ran in from the six to finish a 67 yard drive by the Scots. After Workman's interception, Harris scored on a one yard dive for his first carry and touchdown of the year. This put the Scots ahead 14-3. The Scots finished their first half scoring late in the second when first-year kicker Matt Piccirilli booted a 31 yard field goal, his first ever.

MIAA Championship Scores	
Men s Soccer	2-1
Football	20-17

See FOOTBALL on 9

Recent shooting fuels gun control debate

BY RACHEL KUHLM
Staff Writer

Occurring within days of each other, two workplace shootings have further fueled the fire in the debate for stricter gun laws and raised new questions about workplace safety. In Honolulu, Hawaii, a disgruntled Xerox Corporation employee allegedly entered his office of employment and opened fire on his co-workers. It was thought that the co-workers may have been meeting to discuss firing the employee. The gunfire resulted in the death of seven people, and triggered a massive police

manhunt for the gunman. The alleged attacker was later taken into police custody after a stand-off lasting for nearly an hour at a park in the area.

In Seattle a similar crime was committed, although the motive and identity of the gunman are unknown. The crime took place at the Northlake Shipyard, where the unknown gunman entered the building, walked directly to a back office and opened fire on its occupants. Two men were slain and two were critically injured in the attack. Police are still actively seeking the gunman and looking for factors that may have contributed to the motive for the crime.

When asked to reflect on the recent shootings, President Clinton stated, "I don't think we understand fully just how much more violent the U.S. is compared to other countries."

In response to the recent violence, Vice President Al Gore is pushing for the Democratic party to take a stronger stand on the gun control issues currently facing Congress. With an opposing solution, well-known NRA member Charlton Heston made a statement to the Republican party encouraging stricter enforcement of current gun laws, as opposed to passing new legislation.

News

'At a glance'

AOL accused of discrimination against disabled

The National Federation of the Blind filed suit against America Online Inc. on Thursday, accusing AOL of violating the Americans with Disabilities Act. This organization, which has more than 50,000 members nationwide, hopes to increase accessibility for Web sites and other online offerings which are currently impossible for blind people to access.

Sports teams support economic recovery

NEW JERSEY - In response to President Clinton's "New Markets" initiative, professional sports teams have pledged to support grass-roots groups in their cities and hire more minorities. The "New Markets" initiative is an attempt to raise \$15 billion in new investment in poor communities through a series of tax credits and loan guarantees.

Seventh grade essay results in jail time

TEXAS - A thirteen year old was arrested last week after writing a Halloween essay about shooting classmates and his teacher. The student's essay mentioned a shotgun, a handgun and different kinds of drug paraphernalia, after he was asked to write a story about being home alone in the dark and hearing noises.

Iranians vow to renew struggle against US.

TEHRAN - American flags were burned by Iranians outside the former US. embassy on Thursday, the 20th anniversary of the hostage crisis. The demonstrators vowed to renew the struggle against the "Great Satan," as they chanted "Death to America" and "Death to Israel."

US. government sues seven companies

WASHINGTON - The government sued seven giant electric companies in the midwest and the south on Wednesday for the defiance of antipollution regulations and illegally contaminating the air. The companies are being accused of modernizing their generating plants and ignoring the pollution controls under the Clean Air Act. The suits are seeking fines against the companies and a decision to force the companies to install modern antipollution equipment.

Chechnya border open for refugees

RUSSIA - Russia opened the border of Chechnya and Ingushetia on Thursday, allowing 500 civilians an hour to cross. About 3,500 people were allowed to pass, fleeing Russian troops who insist that Chechnya is still a part of Russia even after Chechnya won de facto independence after the 1994-96 war.

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.

Stone visits college in Israel

By GINGER DAVIS
Staff Writer

Alma college president, Dr. Alan Stone, just returned from an October 21-25 trip to Israel to visit Mars Elias College in Galilee. He was there not only - as student David Fancher (01) commented - because "It's good to expand our view of differing cultures..." but also as a resource for Mars Elias. It is a private college that offers a K-12 program and two-year technical degrees. Dr. Stone was there to help them with ideas for expanding the college into a four-year university, and help them with ideas for fundraising.

The president of Mars Elias, Abuana Schakor, is bestselling author of *Blood Brothers*. Schakor penned this autobiography, relating the story of how his family was evicted by the Israeli army from land that had been in the family for five hundred years.

Stone stayed with Schakor and his family, and described him as intelligent and kind. Schakor has many plans for the college. He wants it to be religiously diverse—no easy feat in a place where people are identified by their religious beliefs. The school is well on its way toward this goal.

Ideas on fundraising are particularly important to the college because it is a private institution. The government gives them operational money based on the number of students, but money for new buildings and buying more land for the school must come from private donations.

Stone did not have much time for sight-seeing on this short trip, but he did visit the remains of a crusader city in Akko and the Sea of Galilee. Visiting the Sea of Galilee was especially meaningful from a Christian perspective because Stone walked in some of the places where the Bible reported that Jesus had been. He did not have a chance to see another place that interested him—the richly historical city of Jerusalem.

Dr. Stone is arranging for President Schakor to visit Alma College. If all goes according to plan, he will be on campus March 20-21. This will be a wonderful opportunity for Alma students to experience diversity and hear of a new culture.

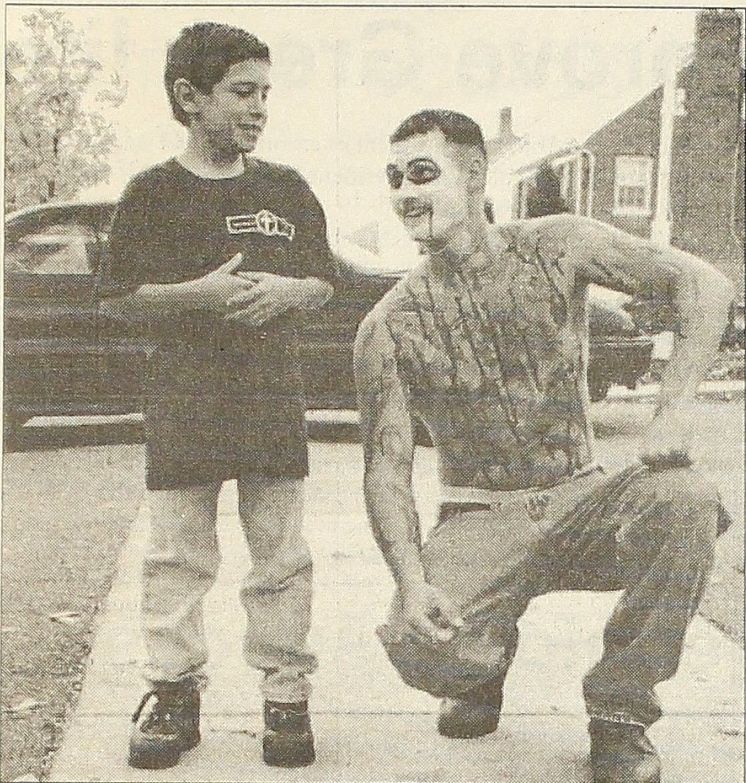
Students, such as Anna Longoria (02) commented on President Schakor's visit as a way to make Alma a global community. Longoria said, "I think it's a very good idea because it gives the people at Alma a variety of cultures and backgrounds and it helps keep and open mind for people to learn about other cultures."

Danielle Johnson (01) agreed, saying, "I think it will be a good thing because it helps out with Alma's attempt to diversify the college."

Check out the new

Almanian Online

cicero.com.alma.edu/almanian



Submitted Photo

Jason Paetz (99) poses in his creative costume for the haunted house.

Derby Days

raises \$4,500 for charity

By DONNA PAPPAS
News Editor

The Sigma Chi (ΣΧ) fraternity went above and beyond this year, raising over \$4,500 for charity during Derby Days, definitely "nacho ordinary Derby Days."

Derby Days is a week long series of events with ΣΧ and the sororities designed to raise money for charities. This was their most successful year yet. ΣΧ will donate half of the money they raised to Community Cafe; the other half was given to the Alpha Xi Delta (ΑΞΔ) sorority to donate to a charity of their choice.

"We had a phenomenal time this year with Derby Days. I am very proud with how hard the sororities worked this year; it was very competitive and fun at the same time," said junior Chris Porco.

The fraternity held two competitions, one to determine the ΣΧ sweetheart, the sorority representative who raises the most money, and the other for an overall sorority winner. Sweetheart candidates were senior Liz Anderlick (Kappa Iota), junior DeDe Frey (Phi Sigma Sigma), sophomore Elke Betz (Gamma Phi Beta), junior Jill Goetzinger (Alpha Gamma Delta), and junior Sarah Brockdorf (ΑΞΔ).

Betz won the title of ΣΧ sweetheart, raising over \$1,100 by collecting cans from dorms, the neighborhoods, faculty, and the ΣΧ chapter at Central Michigan. She also wore a sign outside of SAGA and SAC, urging support for the Community Cafe.

"I felt really good regardless of the turnout because when I was going door-to-door in the community, it was great to see that they knew how important the church and the Community Cafe are," said Betz.

The events of the week began with the brother auction on Tuesday ΑΞΔ won points for spending the most money. Senior Jason Paetz sold for \$180, the highest bid of the auction.

"I wouldn't care if I sold for a plum nickel. I'm just glad that it is going to a good cause," said Paetz.

ΑΞΔ also won points for Make a Brother Smile Day, collecting the highest amount of derbies from the ΣΧ brothers.

ΑΓΔ won the sumo-wrestling competition, ΑΓΔ won points for their room in the ΣΧ haunted house, ΠΣΣ was the winner of the banner competition, and ΚΙ took points for the penny war.

ΑΞΔ's earned the most points throughout the week. They donated one-thousand dollars to the Community Cafe, five-hundred to Choose Children, and the remaining money was divided up to adopted families and the Foundation for Aging.

"Although the ΑΞΔ's and Elke were the winners of the events, the real winners are Community Cafe and the other charities supported by ΑΞΔ," Porco said.

"Derby Days is a lot of hard work, but in the end it paid off because we all had a lot of fun and raised a lot of money for a great cause," said junior Ryan Gall.

Anyone interested in providing further support for the Community Cafe can contact Beth Walker at 463-2474.

High flying entertainment at the Heritage Center

By SCOTT BAKER
Freelance Writer

What do Alma College, thirteen Chinese Acrobats, and a bicycle have in common? Well, on Tuesday, October 19 the Shangrila Chinese Acrobats came to the Heritage Center. Shangrila put on a number of breathtaking stunts—one of which involved all thirteen acrobats riding on one bicycle! When the night was finished they had completed twenty-two near impossible stunts, varying from men dangling upside down thirty feet above the Heritage Center stage to a girl that could manipulate her body into positions that would make even Gumby jealous.

Sophomore Heather Svejcara, when asked what she thought of their performance said, "It was a fun-filled night of many death-defying acts. The Heritage Center has never been so alive!"

The theater was packed full of students and community members: Paul Kirshman, a Central Michigan University student, had this to say after watching the performance, "Wow! That was a white-knuckle thrill ride, I can't even count the number of times that I was on the edge of my seat in anticipation. You can't get that kind of entertainment at CMU!"

Their performance was preceded by a panel discussion headed up by faculty, staff, and students involved with China. The purpose of the discussion was to answer questions about Chinese culture and lifestyle. The panelists included Chris Musick, director of international studies; David Wang, director of computer and media services; junior Alexis Bankowski, Michael Trebesh, professor of business, Mary Jo Trebesh, wife of Michael Trebesh, and Liping Bu, professor of history.

Sophomore Jorie Creevy asked the panelists how the Chinese felt about US Involvement in human rights. The panel responded that there are two different perspectives. The Chinese are not accustomed to the United States' way of life, therefore they view our involvement as more of an intrusion than assistance.

Following the discussion, Creevy said her reasoning behind the question was, "I am involved with *Alma College Students Against Sweatshops* and I was curious to see how the Chinese felt about our help. I was shocked and surprised to hear their response. I guess it makes sense though; how can we expect them to be upset about their human rights if all their lives they have never known what it was like to be treated fairly?"

If anyone has any questions about China or possibly interested in traveling to China for spring term, contact Professor Trebesh. If anyone is interested in joining *Alma College Students Against Sweatshops*, the group meets every Tuesday at 7:00 PM in SAC 113.

NCA reviews Alma

By SCOTT TIMMRECK
Staff Writer

Is Alma a good school? That was the question that the North Central Association Visiting Team (NCA) was attempting to answer as it traversed the campus last week, reviewing the College for reaccreditation, a process that occurs every ten years and gives Alma nationwide credibility.

The team, consisting of four faculty members from schools scattered about the Midwest, met with various administrative and student groups to find out what the state of affairs at Alma is like, as well as find out the general feelings toward the school.

Alexander Smith, the vice-president for student life and dean of students at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, said that accreditation is not really an issue because Alma has already established itself as an outstanding liberal arts school, but that, "the issue is finding out if Alma is doing what it says it is doing."

Smith also said that the team is trying to find "what works well" at Alma, as well as see if there is truth in Alma's advertising and truth in the mission statement of the College. "Alma is a good school, and we are just trying to find out what suggestions we can give to the administration," Smith added.

The team will pool its findings after it leaves Alma, and the results of the visit will be put into a report that will come back to President Alan Stone in a month. Stone will decide whether the report will be made public. No members of the team could comment on what will be contained in the report, because a preemptive and not-agreed-on statement from a single individual without consent from the rest of the team could damage his or her credibility.

One of the team's main resources was a 159-page self-study report put together by various members of faculty and administration, including provost Leslie Brown and dean of students James Kridler. The report contains a vast panoply of statistics on every subject from employment at Alma to cost of facilities (such as the cost of the Heritage Center: \$7,165,000) to minority enrollment, but was criticized by the NCA as well as students. The team agreed that the report was "not the essence of what we were looking for," and there was "little discussion of campus" in the pages of tables and craftily-worded statements. Senior class president Steve Crider said, "I was disappointed with the self-study report. There was only one paragraph about student clubs and organizations." A copy of this report can be obtained for free from the Provost's office.

A key feature of the team's visit was the student panel that was held on Monday, in which students were asked questions about their general feelings toward Alma. Issues discussed included residence halls, administrative communication, various student groups, Greek life, reasons why students chose to attend Alma and the quality and comfort that various offices bring to campus. Complaints were voiced, notes were taken, and the panel served as, in the words of student congress president Kevin Main, "an outlet for students. I'm glad that the NCA met with students to find out what they thought." In addition, Main noted that if you have a complaint or a concern, "if you go to the right people, they will listen."

Results from the NCA's visit will not be available for about a month, but Smith did say that "Alma is a good school with good endowment," and that the report will be taken seriously by administration.

Administration looks to improve Greek life

By NIKOLE CANUTE
Staff Writer

Ways to improve Greek life on campus will be the focus of the Greek task force that is currently being assembled by the administration.

The group will be made up of a variety of administrative and faculty members, as well as six students. All of the members of the task force will be Greek affiliated, which encompasses having participated in the Greek system in the past or currently advising an organization in the Greek system. The students will be the president and vice-president of the Interfraternity Council, the president and vice-president of the Panhellenic Council, and two students selected from the Order of Omega Greek honorary.

Eugene Deci, professor of physics, has agreed to chair the group.

The task force will be separated into a fraternity subcommittee and a sorority subcommittee, and the issues to be focused on will then be determined by the members of those committees. Martin Stack, assistant dean of students, said, "The bottom line is to improve and enhance Greek life."

James Kridler, dean of students and originator of the task force idea, felt that there were many Greek issues that could be discussed. Those include: determining what each group stands for and how they are achieving their goals, examining the ESCROW process and determining whether there are ways to utilize that money to strengthen the Greek community, and ways that the groups themselves can promote a better image.

Kridler said the task force is "by no stretch of the imagination an effort to eliminate Greek life on campus." President

Alan Stone, also emphasized this point when he said, "The fraternities and sororities make a great contribution to this campus."

Stack said the presence of the task force "is a pretty strong statement that the college feels that Greek life adds to the campus and is something the college supports."

The idea to form the task force stemmed from the many assessments, including the accreditation assessment and the Weary report, that have taken place on campus throughout the last year, as well as the change in the college mission statement last year. Kridler said, "We really didn't look at Greek life, and we haven't done that for around twelve years."

The last examination of Greek life on campus resulted in many changes, including the move to closed parties. Stack said, "For years Alma has been progressive."

The findings and recommendations of the task force would be reported back to the Interfraternity Council, the Panhellenic Council, the Presidential Advisory Council, and the executive staff. Ultimately, all recommendations would have to be approved by the executive staff, which is comprised of Stone, Jerry Scoby, vice president of finance,

Alan Hill, vice president of enrollment and student affairs, Carol Hyble, vice president of development, and Leslie Brown, provost.

Meetings of the task force could begin at the end of this semester, and would last for an undetermined amount of time. Administration estimates that the process could take around one year.

Stone said, "It is my hope that out of this that we can come up with some plans to improve Greek life in campus."

"Basically, it comes down to having the groups tell us who they are, what they stand for, and how they put that into practice, and looking at ways the administration could improve the Greek system," said Kridler.

TKE reunion a success



By NIKOLE CANUTE
Staff Writer

While the majority of students were on fall break, the Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) fraternity brought past brothers to campus for their "Great Reunion."

The reunion began on Friday, October 22, with a lunch at the local country club. Thirty-seven people attended the lunch, and thirty-four of those people remained there to play golf for the afternoon.

Dinner followed the activities, and much reminiscing took place as alumni recognized the yearbook photographs that were present on each name tag.

Highlights of the night included an activity called "TKE Legends," in which those present each introduced themselves and related a story from their time at Alma, and the presentation of the "TKE Triangle Performance Program."

Mike Mulligan, class of 1962, outlined the mentoring program, in which a number of alumni would take successive turns working with TKE undergraduates.

Following the presentation, those present practiced singing the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," and the "TKE Sweetheart Song."

Saturday morning began with a breakfast, in which Alan Hill, vice president of enrollment and student affairs, greeted the group, and went on to discussions about what goals the members would like for the fraternity.

Gene Pattison, TKE advisor, said, "It's nice to see where they [active members] can take the fraternity."

Following lunch, TKE alumni and TKE active members placed signs in a flower bed that the fraternity has adopted. A few TKE members and Gene Pattison had planted ap-

proximately five hundred flower bulbs in the flower bed.

Following the ceremony, the reunion attendees supported the football team in the Alma-Kalamazoo game. After half-time, the TKE house was opened to allow alumni to walk through and view composites and visit with each other.

After that night's dinner, members of TKE delivered their red carnation centerpieces to sororities, faculty and administrative offices, and to the local hospital as gifts, and speeches were given regarding experiences with Pattison. The undergraduates presented Pattison with an inscribed clock, and the alumni are in the process of purchasing him a fraternity ring.

Pattison said, "Personally, I've known about 75% of the men who were TKE's at Alma College. It never seemed possible I would get to know that many."

In all, around 15 active TKE members and over 80 alumni attended the reunion.

"The alumni connections we made are promising to the future of our fraternity. I hope the plans to make this an annual event are successful," said junior Justin Bamford, TKE president.

Ryan Jezdimir, senior TKE member, said, "The TKE reunion was one of the best weekends I've had all year. While it was fun exchanging stories with alumni, the weekend also gave the current members an opportunity to communicate our current situation between the fraternity and Alma College. Alumni were able to ask questions, raise concerns, and give advice towards making the TKE fraternity a positive and active member of the campus and community of Alma. The TKE fraternity came away from the weekend stronger and closer than ever."

New crash information complicates investigation

By ANNE MABBITT
Freelance Writer

In the early morning of October 31, 1999 Egypt Air Flight 990 plummeted into the Atlantic killing all of its 217 passengers. Of the 217 passengers, 54 Americans were aboard for a tour called "Ancient Egypt and the Nile."

The flight, originating in Los Angeles, left the Kennedy International Airport heading for Cairo at 1:19 a.m. At 1:43 a.m. the Kennedy tower received a routine call. However, only 36 seconds later the plane began to drop. Radar technician, Jim Hall, watched the plane drop until it left the radar screen at 1:52 a.m.

New information on the events of the crash are the most boggling. The plane began to dive from 33,000 feet for 40 seconds reaching 16,700 feet. At 16,000 feet the plane made a right turn and climbed back to 24,000 feet, before making its final descent.

At 10,000 feet the plane drifted slowly moving with the wind for the next 2 minutes and 40 seconds before actually crashing into the Atlantic. It is thought that at 10,000 feet the plane may have broken into hundreds of pieces. Investigators are still looking for the flight recorder boxes and new recorder equipment to draw a picture of the final moments of the flight.

Early in the investigation, the *Washington Post* noted, "President Clinton and other officials said there was no indication of foul play in the crash. . ."

Jill Goetzinger, junior, said, "Terrorism

always is an option, it's up to the officials to figure it out."

However, the FBI was beginning to investigate the passengers and the cargo on the plane. It was stated that this crash would be the most complicated and longest investigation in history. The wreckage is 250-270 feet below the Atlantic and two days after the crash there were virtually no clues, such as seats, clothing, or emergency radio contact.

Relatives of the victims were informed and efforts were made to accommodate those who wished to come to the scene. All were taken to the Ramada Plaza Hotel, where they received news that no complete bodies were likely to be found. Ambulances were called to receive relatives who collapsed after hearing this news.

Tim Wolff, junior, said, "The relatives were not treated well. From the standpoint of Americans they were treated poorly, but in other cultures they may not have been."

The Aviation Disaster Family Assistance Act of 1996 and The Air Carrier Support Act of 1997 were implemented which provide assistance plans in events of disaster, transportation to crash site for relatives, toll free information numbers, and mental health counselors for relatives.

Lyndsey Jambeau, sophomore, said, "I would still take a flight to Egypt, because you can't really tell what's going to happen with any flight. It's kind of luck of the draw; I don't really think it was terrorism."

Musically Inclined by Scott Timmreck

Two new records from two old bands

You have to wonder exactly when the Stone Temple Pilots had time to make a new record. Between Scott Weiland being in rehab and/or jail for his obsession with heroin (he claims that he's clean now) and the ridiculously different musical landscape that has emerged since 1996's *Tiny*

Music...Songs From The Vatican Gift Shop, you also have to wonder where the ambition for a new record came from.

Nonetheless, one of the early 1990s' most popular bands has released its fourth record, simply titled *No. 4*, a rock-pop collection of pieces that combines the edgy rock from the band's first album (1992's *Core*) and the quieter and more melodic material that came off the second album (1994's *Purple*). The guitar loops and licks of Dean DeLeo slide around the vocals of Weiland to create a sound that isn't exactly something new but isn't anything we're really familiar with. Thanks to the varied vocals of Weiland, the music has the ability to make the listener either angry or sad. However, just because it has the ability to doesn't mean that it has the power to. In a negative light, thanks to Weiland's

battle with the forces of drugs, the record comes off like some kind of desperate comeback attempt, something that we'd be happy to enjoy and can, but with an isolation thanks to Weiland's antics. Indeed, the music refuses to be dark, and even Weiland manages to sound happy once in a while, but we can't be happy for him.

Instead of anger as the main theme coloring the music, as on *Core*, in teenage anthems *Wicked Garden* and *Sex Type Thing, No. 4* has an aura of resentment, as if STP is giving up. *No Way Out* speaks of not being able to escape suffocation, and the first single *Down*, finds Weiland whining about, well, going down. Highlights come from *Heaven and Hot Rods*, a very smart song that steals a little bit from *Core* and sounds remarkably like *Crackerman* (remember that one?). *MC5* stands out as the best song on the record, for the simple reason that it almost sounds like something STP hasn't given the listener before.

Score: B-
Recommended tracks: *Sex and Violence, Heaven and Hot Rods, MC5, Pruno*

Get it if: You really, really, really like the Stone Temple Pilots or you want to have what probably will be the band's final record before

VH1 does a special Website:
www.stonetemplepilots.com

While you're wondering about Stone Temple Pilots and Scott Weiland, you might as well wonder about Bush and Gavin Rossdale. What to wonder? Well, first, think about another attempt at a sort of comeback. Secondly, think about how a band's record can sound so much like the first two. Thirdly, think about that again, and then think about how Bush was so popular back in the band's prime, back in the days of *Machinehead* and *Everything Zen* and *Comedown* and *Little Things*. Now think about why these songs were so hot, and go "Why?"

That was 1995. Four years later, facing the same changing musical spectrum full of heartbreakers and mambo that any rock band is facing, Bush has released its third album, *The Science of Things*, and it sounds remarkably like anything else Bush has put out. Gavin Rossdale might as well have sung

Machinehead again and put it on this record, and Nigel Pulsford's guitar licks

are remarkably like any you've heard from him before. The first single, *The Chemicals Between Us*, does admittedly have a little techno influence, and that sound is sprinkled on other tracks, but not enough to make the listener think that what Bush has created is remarkably new.

The sound is not bad (it helped Bush to go multiplatinum). It's good enough to catch on the fly as you're driving or getting dressed, but even the best songs, *Warm Machine* and *Altered States* are not exactly anything that you'd sit down and analyze, as Rossdale moves through them like he's done a million times already on Bush's first two records.

Score: C
Recommended tracks: *Warm Machine, The Chemicals Between Us, Altered States*

Get it if: You want to relive the days of *Sixteen Stone*, the band's first record.

Internet site: www.bushnet.com

I've changed my scoring from stars to letter grades—they provide more room for interpretation.

Top Ten Movies

1. "House on Haunted Hill"
2. "The Best Man"
3. "Double Jeopardy"
4. "American Beauty"
5. "Music of the Heart"
6. "Bringing Out the Dead"
7. "Fight Club"
8. "The Sixth Sense"
9. "The Story of Us"
10. "Three Kings"

Top Ten Albums

1. Santana *Supernatural*
2. Master P *Only God...*
3. Lou Bega *A Little Bit*
4. Backstreet Boys *Millennium*
5. Britney Spears *Baby One More Time*
6. Stone Temple Pilots *No. 4*
7. Creed *Human Clay*
8. LeAnn Rimes *LeAnn Rimes*
9. Alan Jackson *Under the Influence*
10. Limp Bizkit *Significant Other*

Pienta brings music, imagery to campus

By MANDY LONG
Feature Editor

This is the third part in a three-part series about music therapy. The lecture series was sponsored by Sigma Alpha Iota, the Alma College women's music fraternity, and Sigma Alpha Iota Philanthropies, Inc.

The students close their eyes and take a deep breath, relaxing their bodies and listening to a soft soothing voice. The voice leads them into a meadow with a fruit tree, where they pick a lemon, feel the texture of the skin, and walk back through the meadow, into their home. There, they roll the lemon on a cutting board, softening it, and then cut it, bringing it to their mouths and tasting the juices. The same soothing voice that led them to the meadow brings them back from their journey to a classroom at Alma College.

The voice belongs to Dottie Pienta.

Pienta, a music therapist, is giving students a small glimpse into the world of music therapy and imagery, a subject that she works with on a professional and personal level everyday.

"You don't have to buy it, you can create it yourself," Pienta said, "It's a connection between your mind and body."

Imagery refers to the natural thought process with sensory qualities. There are many different kinds of imagery which can be used with different situations for unique

patients. Some, such as correct biology imagery, are used with cancer patients during chemotherapy.

"There is such a strong connection between your mind and your body or immune system," said Pienta, "Thinking positively using positive imagery really can improve your health."

There are four different methods of imagery: therapeutic, guided imagery, hypnosis, and interactive guided imagery. All four methods of imagery require special training to help patients deal with the emotions and images that may arise.

"Music is most often used with guided imagery," said Pienta, "We take people to a place with music and then bring them back, letting them use their own images."

Once again the students close their eyes, breathing deeply, and this time music starts. Pienta instructs them to let everything bad leave with the music, and then says nothing, letting the students guide themselves as the music plays. What seems like just a few moments is really minutes as the music comes to an end.

One by one the students share their images, each very different, each representing something about the person. Pienta questions them, urging them to share their feelings and thoughts about their images.

"Each time I have a sessions I hear about new and unique images," said Pienta, "This is what I love about imagery."

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THE WORLD

Picking Trash Roadside By Laird Christensen

Laird Christensen, visiting professor of English, writes about his experiences in the Oregon Cascades. In this excerpt, Christensen writes about the effects of logging on the ecological and political consequences of these actions.

Each pace, each bow
and measured breath
a sour pleasure.

The Oregon Cascades, 1996

Nicotine filters
mostly, bottlecaps
and brown receipts.

I am pleased to be
deceived by paper
birch ribbons.

Deerflies rummage,
frantic, through sudden
shifts of hair,

recalling me
to the moment.

This work

spent too long snarled
in shadows flung
by anger

that flamed to life
in pitchy wakes
of clearcuts. Now,

gentle and thorough as
great apes grooming,
the land and I

pluck from one another
the careless signs of my
kind's
reckless surge.

This path is not yours
unless you find yourself
on it.

The crimson leaves of vine maples flare against a cloudless sky, and the October sun is plenty strong at 4,500 feet. It highlights the variety of greens in the conifers gathered on the slopes of Bunchgrass Ridge, here in the Willamette National Forest—the ubiquitous Douglas fir, western hemlock, mountain hemlock, red cedar, grand fir, and silver fir. The understory is thick with sprawls of western azalea and the sinuous red limbs of madrone. Draining this long ridge is a series of nine parallel streams on their way to Salt Creek, which joins the Middle Fork of the Willamette just above the logging town of Oakridge, ten miles west. The nearest of these streams, here on the western edge of the ridge, is called Warner Creek. Standing above its valley and looking east from the shoulder of Forest Service road 2408, I recite the names of snowcaps that punctuate this volcanic spine: Mt. Jefferson, Three-Fingered Jack, Mt. Washington, the Three Sisters, Broken Top, Diamond Peak, Mt. Thielsen. They shine so bright against the plush blue of autumn sky that the scene would not look out of place on a calendar—if not for the carnage in the foreground. Without turning my head I count forty-two clearcuts, oddly geometric wounds torn from the rolling flanks of green life.

Like most of the roads in our National Forests, 2408 is a logging road, for the Forest Service is in the business of selling public timber—at a loss—to private corporations. Over the last twenty-five years, scientists and citizens have sought government protection for what little remains of the world's greatest temperate forests, and Congress has grudgingly responded by passing such legislation as the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Forest Management Act. Bunchgrass Ridge is protected under the Endangered Species Act as prime nesting habitat for the Spotted Owl, but as a result of the salvage timber rider (tacked onto an unrelated spending bill in July 1995) it is expected to be logged in the Spring. The rider evades all environmental laws by allowing salvage operations to take place in protected areas; and by defining "salvage" timber as trees that are even susceptible to insect or fire damage—in other words, all trees.

After eight miles, road 2408's resemblance to the thousands of logging roads that crisscross public land suddenly ceases at a makeshift blockade draped with a banner welcoming visitors to "Cascadia Free State." A wall of vertical logs, fifteen feet high, spans the road just beyond an eight-foot-deep dry moat over which a drawbridge is lowered. Past the wall and the tepees that house the Cascadian defenders is an inspired array of roadblocks, ranging from larger trenches to lockdown barrels—fifty-five gallon drums placed over the Forest Service gateposts and filled with concrete (except for a horizontal sleeve through which defenders may reach in and lock the carabiners they wear on their wrists to the posts). Work on the road continues day and night: while some take pick and shovel to the yawning trenches, others take prybars to the ledges above and dislodge oven-sized boulders, which tumble through the dust of tiny landslides and thud onto the road where a half-dozen waiting men and women inch them toward walls that appear overnight. There is a general spirit of defiant exuberance among the defenders, both residents and visitors, but darker strains are also in evidence—despair, anger, paranoia. Government surveillance is taken for granted; late-night visits from armed and sometimes drunken locals

are expected.

So much of my experience, in fact, is between people who love this land in its social and economic: most of those who do not have easy access to ways of seeing the web of external factors—foreign policies, corporate colonialism, mechanized and other political power games—that impose frightening change on their lives. Are they likely to accept the evidence that business as usual is not sustainable? At the same time, environmentalists too often see sweeping realignments of policy, no matter how well justified, force people out of patterns of behavior that are comfortingly familiar. And it thrives in the space between their expectations and its spirit haunts this patchwork landscape.

The perspective that I carried from New England home to these Cascadian mountains—that humans are one part of a community of processes—shapes the way I understand conflict. It is painfully clear that current practices do much more harm than good to life in these forests, and so I find that I am at ease here, for I am witness to a community that I have seen more than I care to recognize. Sightedness, and grief and anger tan the landscape. In New England I am refreshed by my time in the forest. The forests there have been growing, they graciously cover the tracks of human activity. The smooth gray trunks of beech grove have gone wild, and I love to see it run.

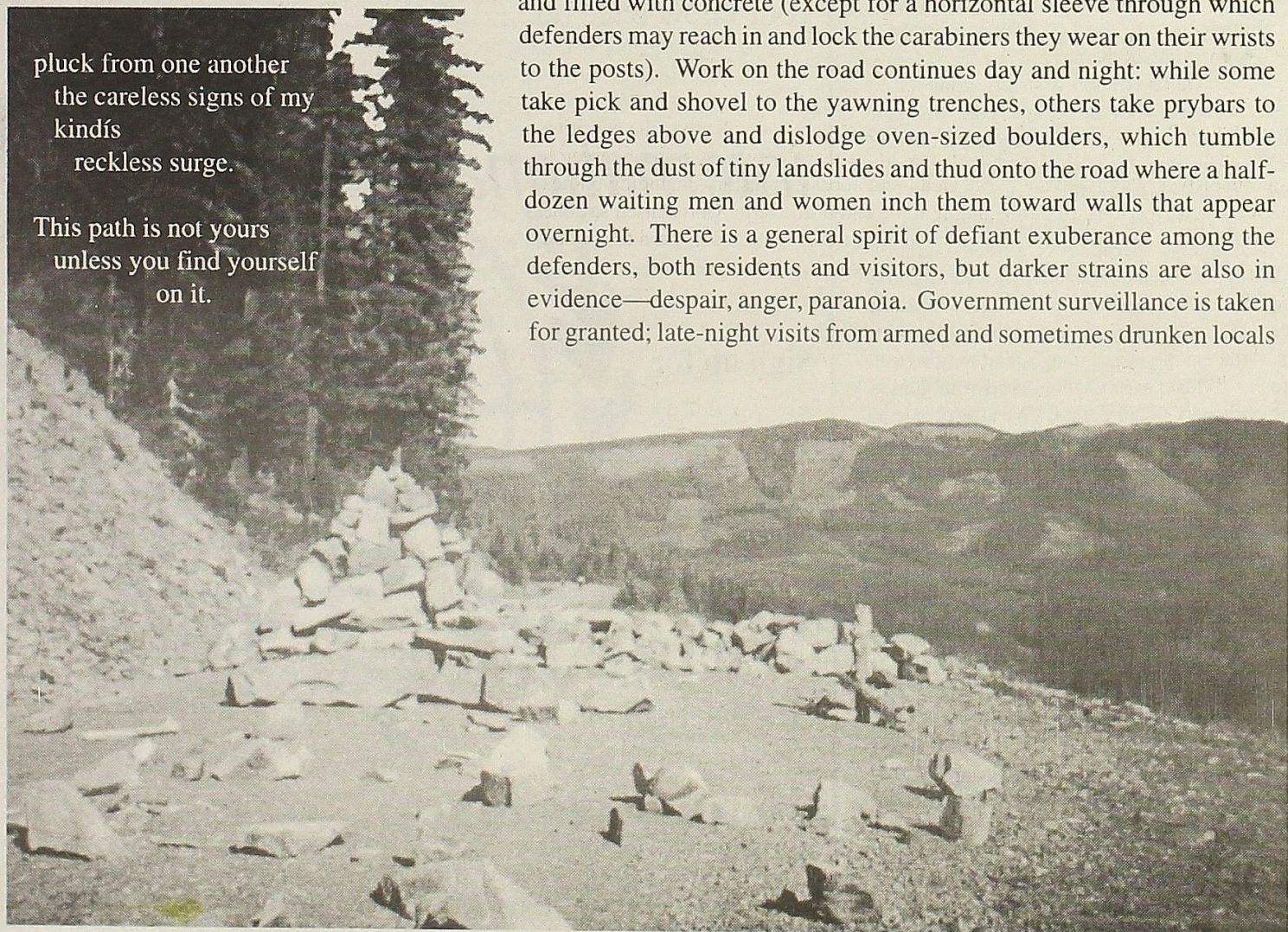
An Oregon

By EVA HECHT
Copy Editor

The room sparked with excitement and the open seat in the already crowded L4 lecture hall was the beginning of what promised to be a fascinating evening. The room drew quiet and after an introduction, Christensen took the stand to share with the campus. On Thursday, October 28, Students United invited Christensen to share some of his environmental poetry at the University of Oregon campus. The title of the evening was "Cascadia: Ecological Identity." The evening passed with readings interspersed with stories of his personal life centered around Oregon and New Hampshire. Christensen has a BA in English at Keene State College and a PhD from the University of Oregon. Also having grown up in the Sandy and Columbia Rivers.

He is now working on poems about Alameda County. He has been published multiple times in *Environmental Studies* and *Ecotone: The Journal of Environmental Studies* and always has works in progress. His first book, *Poetry in the Age of Ecology*, is currently being published by the University of Georgia Press. Christensen sees the connection our culture has to the ecosystem and how it fits into the natural world around us.

"My hero? The poet Mary Oliver, largely because of the natural world that I aspire to. She teaches me a feeling of amazement and wonder," said Christensen. Christensen has accepted a position at Alameda County.



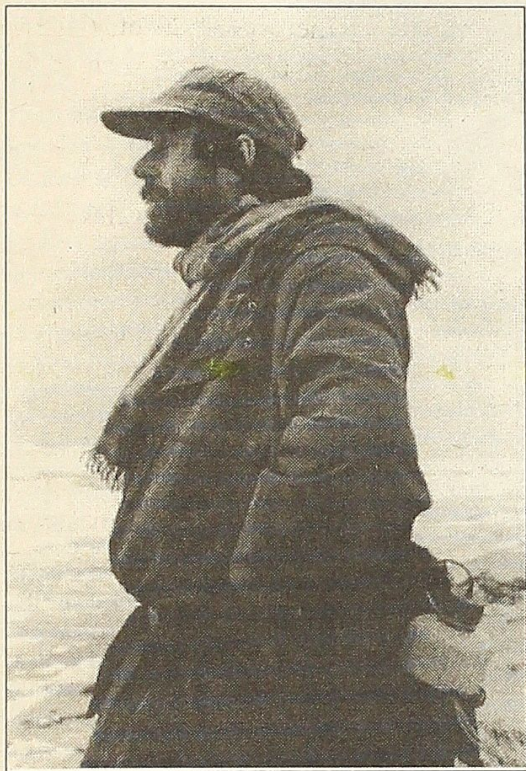
AROUND US

on Cascades in 1996 in
the terrain, including the

Oregon forests has been stained by conflict
in such different ways. The divisions are both
to work at resource extraction live much closer
together—than the predominantly urban and highly
developed to see wilderness less as “home” or “local

terpoint to
s. Many
Oakridge
recognizing
sign trade
organization,
it threatens
lives; nor
suggesting
ie. At the
forget that
matter how
patterns of
war and the
antagonism
experiences,
battlefield.
from my
n forests—
unity of life
stand this
in logging
wood to the
am seldom

community under siege. At each clearcut slope—
recall—I am forced to admit my kind's short-
sight, high in my chest. The contrast is sharp: in
time in the woods, for they tell a comforting
story going back for more than a century now, and
human abuses. Each stone wall I find threading
the web is the frayed collar on a once-tamed dog



n-style cascade of poetic beauty

those coming in the door searched to find an
entrance hall. Everyone waited anxiously for the
diverging from the average seminar.
on, Dr. Laird Christensen, visiting professor,
his vision; a vision of nature.

Students United for Nature (SUN) invited Christensen to
share his writings to raise nature awareness on
campus against Disconnection: Poetry and
Prose. He quickly with various poetry and prose
from past endeavors as an activist. Most poems
were written where Christensen spent time earning
his PhD in literature and environment at the
University of Oregon, a great deal of childhood
poems find their home in the forests near

Alma and his experiences here. Christensen has
written environmental and literary journals such as
Diaries, Northwest Magazine, and Wild Earth,
his first book, “Spirit Astir in the World: Sacred
Landscapes” being considered for publication by the
University of Oregon. The goal of his work is to help reveal
the system and how our health and welfare tie

together because she models a relationship with
the land that teaches us how to love this world with a sustained
connection, Christensen.

Alma for the next two years. His class this

...And the S.U.N.

comes up

By EVA HECHT
Copy Editor

Students United for Nature (SUN), the sponsors of the seminar by Dr.
Laird Christensen, are not just any group on the Alma campus. Twice voted
the most influential group on campus, they are working hard this year
to make it a three-peat.

SUN meets every Monday evening at 8:30 in Dow 234, the classroom
of Murray Borrello, their advisor. Meetings are led by president Sarah
Conley, and discussion ranges from t-shirt logos to tree planting. At the
last meeting, a number of events were planned for the coming year.

In just the past week, SUN has planted trees, visited the bog, and
participated in Science Blowout, helping kids to make grass people (a
cup with a face and grass growing as the hair). Events coming up in the
near future include a possible debate about overpopulation, more
speakers, and a table at the organization fair on November 20.

SUN's goal on campus is to “promote awareness of environment here
on campus and put together activities where students can get together
and enjoy the outdoors,” said Conley.

Enjoyable activities in the outdoors are not hard to find, and SUN
plans a number of them each year. Earlier this fall they took a trip to
Uncle John's Cider Mill. In past years, they have gone whitewater rafting,
skiing, camping, and taken local hikes. They have not set dates for this
year, but the events are in the planning process.

A hot topic of discussion on the local and campus level has been the
Velsicol Chemical Corporation Superfund Site in St. Louis, an area of
extreme pollution. SUN has been working hard and researching the St.
Louis area problem and the refinery as well. With the information under
their belts, they plan to take an active role in making sure the area is
cleaned up and done properly.

SUN was founded in 1992 by Mike Arnold (93), with the help of
Borrello, and a group of 10-12 other students interested in environmental
issues. They began by raising money and making donations to groups
such as the Rainforest Network and the Sierra Club. Over time, the
club evolved, bringing in speakers and then progressing to community
outreach with activities like the Pine River Cleanup. Recently, the group
has blossomed into an outing group, taking day trips and local hikes to
observe the nature around Alma.

Borrello, a professor of geology, has been instrumental in the operation
of the club. He gets students involved in the environmental issues
through class discussions.

This winter term is a course in “Environmental Narratives” and will study the narrative
strategies of classic texts of natural history. Students will use these skills to research
the Pine River watershed and write an all-encompassing history, including photos
as well, with the hope of publishing it at the end of the term. Christensen says he
hopes that the course will introduce students to a bioregion that is hard to see and
remind people that we are part of a natural ecological community. The class will
count for environmental studies or English credit.

Christensen's life has been full of nature from the beginning. “Growing up where
I did, it was hard not to be exposed to spectacular nature all the time. Mt. Hood to
the East and Mt. St. Helens, going either way you were in the woods. My father
built me a treehouse and I used to pretend to be a ranger. It is hard to remember a
time when it wasn't a part of my life,” Christensen said.

He went on to realize this vision, becoming the Managing Ranger of
Rhododendron State Park from 1993-1998. During this time, Christensen returned
to the West Coast to work on his PhD and became active with Earth First! and the
Cascadia Forest Defenders, working to preserve ancient forests. During the seminar,
he shared many stories of those activist days. He enlightened the crowd on new
methods of peaceful protest, such as tree sitting, where one lives in a tree
for months to prevent the death of a valuable resource. Others chain
themselves to fences by placing a barrel over the fencepost and
inserting a pvc pipe in before filling the barrel with cement. Once
hardened, a person can insert their hands into the pipe and chain
themselves to the post, effectively preventing law enforcement
from cutting the chains with bolt cutters. These were just a few
of the stories that filled the

evening.
Christensen has kept his life connected to nature in all that he
does and will continue to do so in his time at Alma. “My life
goal is to spend as much time in the woods as possible, write
poetry as much as I can, and find joy in every day.”

Deer Creek Warm Springs: Autumn Equinox

By Laird Christensen

From the ring of river
rocksóblack gleam and
pocked russet matteó
through feathered sweep

of mineral steam
that eddies past this
fern-fringed arch
of alcove, I peer between

the yellowing curtains
of vine maple, across
the current to where
the summer-worn sun

crawls free from the huddle
of spindly dogwood, alder,
and Mackenzie willow,
inching up a rare furrow

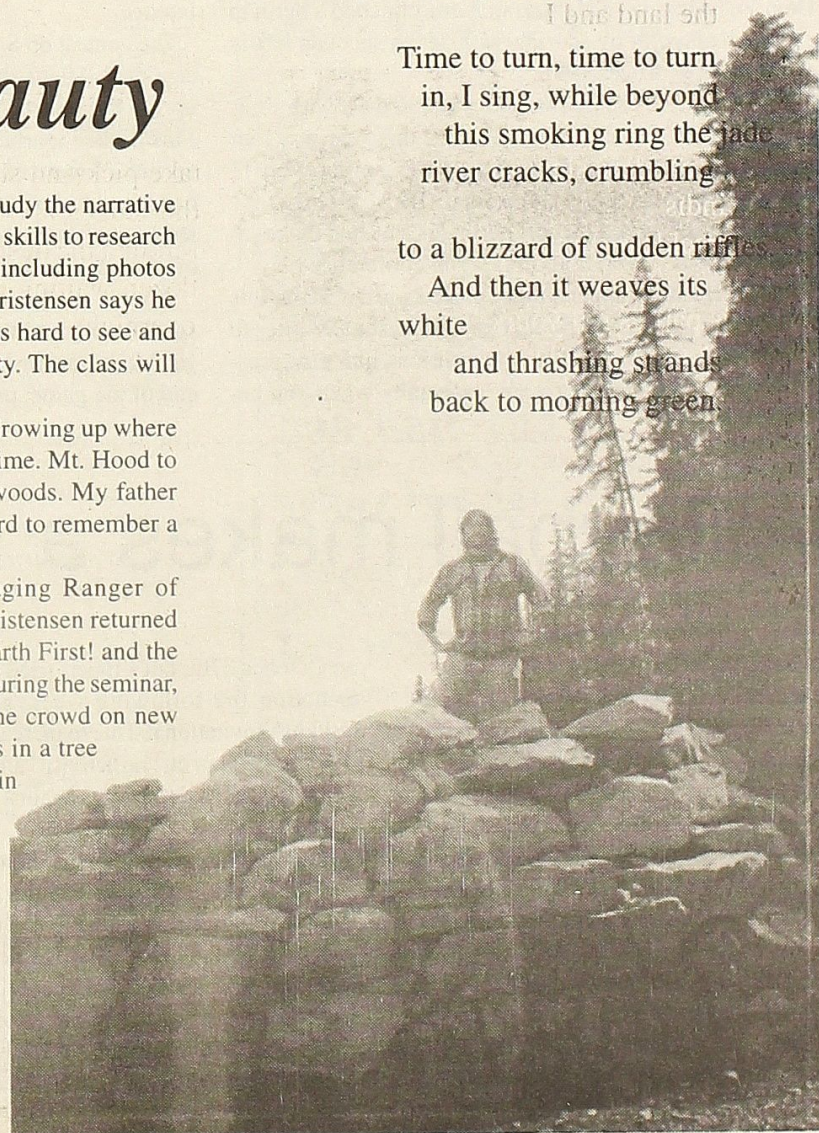
in the palisade of cedar
and ancient Douglas fir.
This is the most sun
that I will see until

the adolescent leaves of
March
shag this thrumming gorge,
and the knowledge of
slipping,
day by day, beneath

another year's shadow
kneels like a wide-eyed
penitent
in the deep eaves
of my ribbing.

Time to turn, time to turn
in, I sing, while beyond
this smoking ring the jade
river cracks, crumbling

to a blizzard of sudden ripples
And then it weaves its
white
and thrashing strands
back to morning green.



Carrying on tradition



Jake Olson (01) concentrates on the ball in Saturday's victory over Kalamazoo.

Tammy Acker

By **CHRIS HARRINGTON**
Staff Writer

Deja Vu? Alma vs. Kalamazoo. Alma clinched a berth in the NCAA playoffs by scoring with seven seconds left in the game, the year was 1998.

One year later, the same two teams squared off with similar implications at hand. The difference this year was four seconds. Yes, Alma clinched its spot by scoring with 11 seconds remaining this time around. By so doing, they earned a well-deserved playoff berth and finished the regular season 14-4-1 overall and 11-2-1 in conference play.

There were high expectations placed on the Scots this year from the get go. The Scots were preseason favorites to win the MIAA this year. With expectations like this, pressure can stack up against a team, especially when you be-

come the bulls eye of your opponents at the very beginning of the season. The strength of Alma was proven as they dominated for the second straight year by winning the conference.

The contest on Saturday resulted in nothing less than exceptional. After a scoreless first half, the scoring was opened up by Kalamazoo at the start of the second half. Senior Matt Keller sparked Alma's comeback by tying the game up with 25 minutes left. Victory was tasted when Paul Aceto happened to be in the right place at the right time. His go ahead goal came from a shot by Jeff Hosler that ricocheted off the post finalizing the score at 2-1.

Alma's stingy defense and stellar goaltending deserves special congratulations after holding Kalamazoo to just one goal. The starting lineup was marred by injuries toward the end of the game, proving not only the fact that Alma has a

very deep bench, but also they know how to play with their hearts. Sophomore Jeff Hosler said "this is a real deep team, the deepest and strongest soccer team I have ever played on. People are always ready to step up."

The tense finish should mentally prepare the Scots for the tough challenges they will soon face in the post season. These kind of games build the character of a team because they realize how well they can perform under pressure, something that has faced them all year. Junior Paul Aceto said "There was some pressure on us this year, but once we step on the field all our concentration goes on winning the game."

The playoffs should prove challenging for the Scots. Aceto also said "if we can get by this first round, we have a good chance to reach the quarterfinals."

Good luck Scots!

Volleyball makes a run in the MIAA tourney

By **KATIE BEAM**
Staff Writer

The Alma College volleyball team ended their season last week after a brief run in the MIAA tournament. Seeded fifth, the Lady Scots faced the Albion Britons last Tuesday in first round action.

Jamie Lippert (02), the Scots starting setter was on the bench with a severely sprained ankle that she sustained in the October 23rd loss to Albion. Coach Penny Allen-Cook invited last year's starting setter, Sarah Anderson (01) to return and set for the Scots. Anderson played in the win against Adrian

on October 27th, but Lippert tried to return to action the following weekend in the Oshkosh Invitational. Due to increased pain, she was then put on "no activity" afterwards, and Anderson led the Scots against the Britons.

It was a close match. Alma won the first game but relaxed a little too much in the next two games, allowing the Britons to jump ahead 2-1. But Alma came roaring back, winning the last two games 15-4 and 15-8. Andrea Horton (01) led the team with 12 kills and 4 aces, while Anderson dished out 45 assists. Megan Cook (03) had 11 kills and 19 digs. Meghann Devlin (01) led the

team with 8 blocks and added 11 kills.

Coach Cook was pleased with Anderson's play since she had only been able to practice with the team once before Tuesday. The Scots were now headed to Calvin on Friday night to play in the second round. Calvin had beat Alma twice already and was seeded first in the tournament. Coach Cook emphasized that the key to beating the Knights was to "pass well" and "keep the momentum," both of which had been somewhat of a challenge this year for the Scots.

Unfortunately, luck was not with the Scots on Friday night as they lost 15-7, 16-14, 15-9 at Calvin. The win propelled the Knights

to the MIAA tournament finals against Hope College. Horton again led the team with 14 kills and 18 digs. Erin Adams (03) had six blocks, while Anderson pumped out 24 assists.

Coach Cook stated that the "team played fairly well" and was most impressed with the team's MIAA standing (4th) which was three positions higher than the previous year. She is looking forward to next year when youth will give way to experience and greater confidence, two things that are needed for the Scots to be consistent. The Lady Scots ended the season with a 16-17 overall record.

FOOTBALL from 1

The second half opened up with a 49 yard run by Bowden that ended with a fumble on the Briton 22 and Albion recovering. But the Alma defense held, and the Scots were once again on the offensive. Consecutive fumbles inside the Albion 10 forced Alma into attempting a field goal. Piccirilli kicked wide right, and the score remained 17-3.

The Britons then proceeded to score 14 unanswered points to tie the game early in the fourth quarter. On their next possession, the Scots went inside the Briton 20 before the Albion defense posted it's first interception of the game. The Alma defense held tight and did not allow the Britons to score. Once again on offense, Wakefield completed a 46 yard pass to Pierce, putting the Scots into field goal range with a little over 4 minutes left in the game. Piccirilli nailed his second ever collegiate field goal, a 22 yarder, that put the Scots ahead 20-17.

With 4:26 remaining in the game, Albion moved 66 yards in eight plays and was at first and goal from the Alma three yard line. The Scot defense held, allowing only one yard in three downs. The Britons then lined up in a field goal attempt. A bad snap or a bobble by Albion holder Kirk DeFrenn forced him to try to run the ball in. All Albion playoff hopes were dashed when Roberts and Webb tackled DeFrenn and secured the 20-17 win for the Scots.

"It was a good hard fought game," said senior lineman Shawn Priem. "Albion is a respectable team, but we are glad that we beat them."

Roberts agreed, "This was our plan, we had no doubt in our mind that we wanted this win."

With the defeat of the Britons, the Scots will now share the conference crown with Albion and perhaps Hope College if the Flying Dutchmen win over Kalamazoo next week.

For the first time ever, Alma has secured a bid to the NCAA-Division III playoffs which will begin on November 20. The opponent and site will be announced next Sunday during the NCAA press conference.

"For the seniors, this win was four years of hard work that finally amounted to something," said Priem. "Now all we need to do is carry on in the playoffs and show them what we are made of."



Josh Wakefield (00) and Jake Golden (01) embrace in the emotional victory moment.

Weekend football scores from around the MIAA			
Alma 20		Albion 17	
Hope 30		Olivet 6	
Defiance 20		Thiel 13	
Kalamazoo 23		Adrian 20	

Alma College Weekend Scores			
Men's Soccer		Volleyball	
		MIAA tournament-1st round	
Alma 6	Defiance 0	Alma 3	Albion 2
		15-5, 12-15, 11-15, 15-4, 15-8	
		MIAA tournament-2nd round	
Alma 2	Kalamazoo 1	Alma 0	Calvin 3
		15-7, 16-14, 15-9	

Burning bus questions answered

By Steve Nadeau
Editor-in-Chief

The question on how the college would handle the loss of personal belongings the men's soccer team suffered in the bus fire has been answered. On October 22, a letter explaining the college's course of action was sent out to the parents of the 25 members involved in the incident.

"The college policy is clear from a Student Handbook perspective—that student's belongings are the responsibility of the student and not of the college," said Jerry Scoby, Vice President for Finance and Administration. "In this case, we desire to help the students and the families. It's a pretty unique situation. It's not a very common oc-

currence that this kind of set of facts would occur."

The letter asked the parents to submit documentation of their sons' losses to their individual homeowner's insurance policies for coverage. It explained that whatever is not covered by the insurance policy, such as the deductible, the college will cover out of its funds.

It went on to state arrangements the administration had made with the Scot Shop Bookstore so those involved could charge textbooks to replace those they had lost.

"We wanted students to have a book in their hand so that they could get back to class and be about their academic pursuits," said Scoby.

Some members of the team were not exactly sure what the school

would do before receiving the letter, having only the policy stated in the Student Handbook. When asked how he felt after receiving the letter, Sean Byram (01) said, "My parents and I were happy."

"It really showed some true colors for me," said Brian Toy (00).

Scott Frey, coach of the men's soccer team said, "I think everybody—players, parents, and myself—were all very pleased. . . I don't think you could ask for anything more."

When asked to reflect back to October 9 when the incident occurred, Frey said, "It's an experience that you don't anticipate that day as you start your day. I think we were all shocked and also very relieved that the only thing we did lose was possessions."

Scot Superstars of the Week

Seniors Football

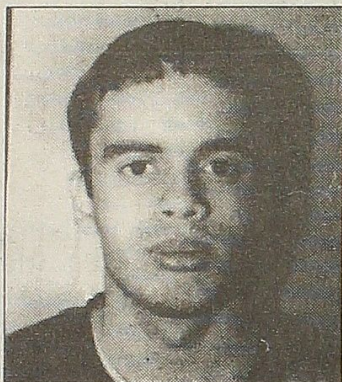
This week *The Almanian* is dedicating the Superstar of the Week to the 19 seniors on the football team. The Scots ended the regular season 8-1 with a share of the MIAA championship. The class of 2000 has established themselves as one of the most successful groups in Alma history. On Saturday, the Scots beat rival Albion 20-17 in one of the most exciting games of the year. The win over Albion clinched a playoff berth for the first time ever. The seniors led the Scots to a great season...

- Dustin Armstrong (DB)
Sand Lake EHS
- Greg Bowden (RB)
Otisville Education/Mathematics
- George Clark (RB)
Merritt Business Administration
- Todd Francis (DL)
Clawson EHS
- Shawn Grant (P)
Allen Park EHS
- Adam Kern (WR)
Frakenmuth Economics
- Chad Klopff (OL)
Saginaw EHS
- Gavin McMacken (DL)
St. Louis English
- Les Newhouse (LB)
Kingsford EHS
- Shawn Priem (OL)
Bay City Business Administration
- Bryan Roberts (DL)
Alger Political Science
- Tom Rossler (OL)
Iron Mountain Political Science/Economics
- Josh Wakefield (QB)
Saginaw Business Administration
- Kenny Warner (OL)
Houghton Lake Chemistry
- Leonard Warren (WR)
Birch Run Chemistry
- Tim Webb (LB)
Whittemore Education
- Mike Wenzel (DL)
Utica Business Administration
- Aaron White (DL)
Saginaw Business Administration
- Zack Workman (DB)
Saginaw Education

Campus Views

By DAN JOYCE
Staff Writer

Do you think that cementing the rock was a good or justifiable action or not?



"It defaced the spirit rock. It broke the whole tradition. It may give more space to apply paint, but it wasn't the original idea behind the rock."

Karli Lopez (02)



"It's sad when people have to display their anger in ways like that. There are other ways to display anger than to deface a tradition."

Eric Davis, Chef

Spirit Rock surgery

BY AMY TAYLOR
Staff Reporter

Unknown individuals expressed their school spirit differently from other campus groups by boxing in the spirit rock and covering it with cement sometime around fall break. These individuals have remained anonymous, however the buzz around campus places the blame on the fraternity Theta Chi.

"I can assure it was not us who did it," said President of Theta Chi, Michael Slater (00).

Slater stated that traditionally the group has never painted on the rock but claims whoever did it added a different degree of creativity and expression.

Five members from Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia including Joey Martin (99), Keith Suppes (99), Andy Tallman (00), Randy Beutel (02) and Mike Petterson (00) cleaned up the rock on Halloween trying to restore it back to its original form. They chipped off the cement and lava rock and removed the wooden casing.

Martin said, "The spirit rock was a way groups could show their pride." He added, "Whoever did it thought their expression was not important enough."

Spirit set in stone

... or cement?

By DAN JOYCE
Staff Writer

Although there are many rumors going around about who is to blame for cementing the spirit rock, there is one definite consensus: It sucked! Who wants to walk down the sidewalk and look down (or over as the case may be) and see an enormous rock half covered in cement? The base of the rock was cemented into a cube, but the top half was still the normal old rock. Well, as normal as the spirit rock can be. But, when covered only to the midsection and without smoothing the top edge of the cement, one student said it looked terrible.

If the idea behind placing the cement around our beloved rock was out of good intentions; all the better. Lack of foresight has been a factor in many great inventions. Not this one. This ended up outright ugly. I cannot imagine how anyone could have possibly thought cement would be a great facelift for our rock. Though, there are those who believe the group at fault's intentions were pure.

One possible explanation given in the culprits' defense is that they may have been trying to make a cube. A cube would allow for more paint to be applied to the rock (or what is left of the rock) and the text or artwork applied would also be easier to read. Hey, good idea! So, make a cube; place it at another well traveled plot on campus; and allow paint to be applied to it along with the spirit rock. What good does it do to cover the rock?

Maybe the intentions of the group at fault were not so kind-hearted. I would hope that students at Alma have more decency than to simply cover an icon of student pride just to be mean. That sounds more like the bully in elementary school who used to steal my papers that had already been graded. They would not do him any good, but he did it just to prove he could.

One group, before my time here at Alma, decided that the massive rock that was partially buried was worth spending both time and effort to dig up. How would those people feel to see that someone, only a few years later, had decided to display whatever creative (or uncreative) abilities they possess upon a project that took both time and effort to accomplish.

Applying paint, or any other easily covered substance to the rock to show someone's pride in his or her group or school has always been the reason for having a spirit rock. To apply a semipermanent substance, in this case cement, to our rock destroys its integrity. The group in charge had to have known that this great transgression would cause controversy, even if done with the good of the college in mind. The group could have done some research (simple questioning) to find out what other students' responses would have been.

Let us all just believe that those involved thoroughly think over what they have done. I am not implying that they broke any laws or committed some great crime. Hopefully no group or person will ever again have to spend time restoring the original beauty of any symbol of pride on campus.

By MYLENE WOOD
Staff Writer

The Spirit Rock, is an awful piece of dirt which sits just off McIntyre Mall. Yes, I said it is awful. Sure, the theory behind it is decent. Different students from different groups on campus painting their own definitions of the word spirit on the rock. But why do these groups need a rock to spray on to show how much spirit they have?

However, it is not the rock itself that I have a problem with. My problem is with the people that thought burying the Spirit Rock in cement and the people who do a pathetic job of painting it. That makes the rock look even worse.

It was underground for years, for probably a very good reason. Maybe it was just a good prank; none of us can be positive on what the truth really is. But what we do know is that it was dug up last year and someone else tried to bury it in a cube of cement over Fall Break.

This was almost a good idea, although I do have trouble figuring out how a cube of concrete would look better than the rock. Getting rid of the rock altogether or reburying it would have been the optimal choice. Though either may have taken more work, it would have been better for campus overall.

I suppose that if people still wanted to show their spirit in some form of graffiti like form, they could have painted on the "Spirit Cube." However, this is also a bad idea.

Not only is the rock ugly, it has the potential to cause serious inter-student rivalry.

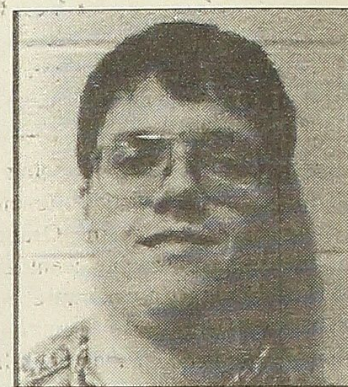
The rock does not stay painted the same way for very long. Burying the rock in cement would limit the rivalry. Unless, of course, students had the above idea and started painting what would soon become the "Spirit Cube." Thus, the rivalry would once again begin, causing tension amongst our peaceful student body.

Basically, what I really want to say is that it was really too bad that they ran out of cement when they were not even half way done. The ambition was there, but the means were not. It really is too bad.

—Letters—
to the Editor

To the Editors:

It has come to my attention that there was an attempt to cover the treasured spirit rock in cement. This is unfortunately consistent with spreading dissidence on campus. It seems that many students have forgotten the meaning of school spirit. One has to ask oneself, what is more appropriate; a modest display of personal pride, or reckless tomfoolery. Lately, people have failed to give the due respect to the few hallowed social heirlooms we have here at Alma. We urge all students to bring these miscreants to light, and have them punished accordingly. Perhaps the perpetrators will show some moral fortitude and come forward.

David Schumm (01)
David Young (02)

"There was no point to it, it detracts from it."

Thomas Walsh (02)



"It defaced the rock. It looked awful."

Megan Freeland (02)



"Now not only do they get to paint the spirit rock, they also get to chip away cement first."

Taryn Kellom (02)

To the Editors:

Upon returning from midterm break, I was informed that there had been an attempt to bury the "Pride Rock" in cement. Personally, I wish I could have been present to help these "conspirators" accomplish their goal. Originally, the Pride Rock was a terrible eyesore, now it has become only slightly worse. The fact of the matter is that it is by far the ugliest part of the campus and is a horrible thing to look at on a daily basis.

I have long been plotting to find an end to the rock, and I must say that it is good to see others who were committed to the same ideas. Plain and simple it is ugly. There is no way around it.

Pride is not something that is shown on the rock. Pride is shown in actions. I see no pride in the fact that people destroy the beauty of our campus by vandalizing this rock. To me it seems that the "perpetrators of this evil" have a little more pride than the average student. They went out of their way in order to get the Pride Rock removed, thereby beautifying the campus so that we may once again have Pride in the beauty of this school. Thank you, whoever did it.

Bill Dever (02)

Total Plant contributes to unemployment, per\$onal fund\$

By **CHRIS HARRINGTON**
Staff Writer

The next few weeks are going to prove to be very difficult for numerous families in the Gratiot County area due to the recent lay-off of nearly 250 workers at the Total Petroleum Refinery.

City assistant manager Philip Moore estimated between 200-250 jobs have been lost up to this point with plans to close the plant down.

These situations most often occur because companies may be losing too much money and the easiest way to eliminate these costs is to cut employees. The plant here in Alma is only one of two oil refineries in the state of Michigan. There has been a recent trend of smaller refineries closing throughout the country according to Moore.

There are various forms of unemployment from an economic standpoint. In this case, we have an example of frictional unemployment which includes a product of short term movement of workers between jobs. Basically, this is unemployment that accounts for workers in between jobs.

There are many problems that can stem from unemployment if proper attention is not given. Families

may have to move to a new community to find a job that satisfies its needs. This further leads to lower school enrollment, less workers resulting in an inefficient economy and with people moving out of the area, economic growth is greatly slowed.

James Mueller, the head of the economics department at Alma College, said that the job cuts are a "big blow to the community, but if it was going to happen, now would be the most opportune time." Mueller's reasoning is based on the current high demand of labor throughout Michigan. Economists refer to a labor market with high demand as a tight labor market.

The city assistant manager mentioned that Total tries to follow up on these people who lose their jobs to make sure they are not left out to fend for themselves. These jobs at the refinery are rather specialized. With only one other petroleum refinery in the State of Michigan, it is not very practical for all of these workers to transfer to the other plant. One main reason is the demand may not be so high for over 250 new employees.

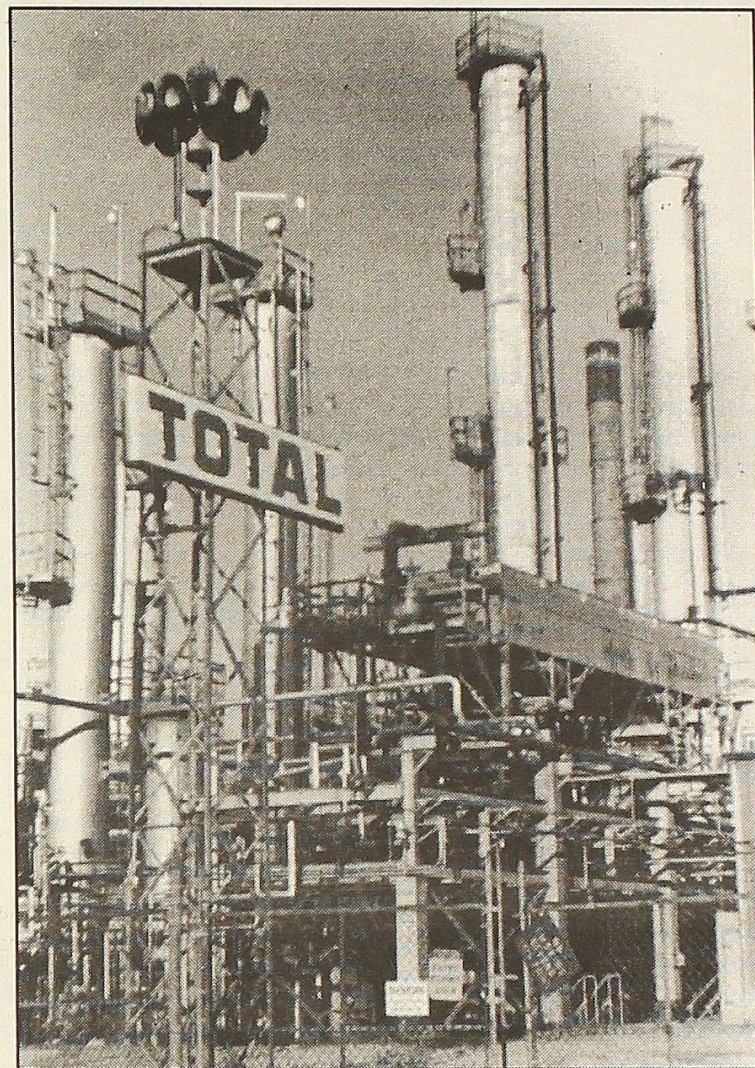
When workers are specialized in a certain area and have nowhere to apply these skills, they start to settle for less. These laborers who

at one time had a steady job with a decent wage start to settle for lesser jobs to squeak by and survive with the bare minimum by accepting dead end jobs for the minimum wage.

Hopefully, these problems can be solved. Educational institutions like Alma and Central Michigan University offer opportunity for those without jobs to further educate themselves so they can re-enter skilled positions. Establishments such as the Soaring Eagle Casino bring money into the community providing economic growth.

Mt. Pleasant is a city that is doing very well economically where there is excellent commercial and business activity. Alma on the other hand is very small town with no major commercial establishment or business attraction to put it on the map, especially now that plans are in to close the refinery.

In order for Alma to grow and thrive economically, it is imperative that new plans be brought about. Alma must promote economic growth by investing in bigger commercial establishments. This will not only put Alma back on the map, but it will also put those unemployed Americans back where they belong—in the labor force.



Bryan Waugh

The Total plant will soon loom in the dark shadows of closure.

Non-certified teachers a menace to society

By **MICHAEL MURPHY**
Opinion Editor

The following is part 1 of a 4 article series involving critical issues in the education of today's youth.

The use of non-certified teachers in U.S. schools must stop immediately if this nation wants to

properly educate its youth.

An alarming recent trend has shown that states such as California are wishing to lower classroom sizes by hiring teachers that are not certified, and therefore not qualified, to teach their students.

Some of these teachers have had only minimal experience in the classroom and have not been given the proper instruction needed for teacher certification.

These "teachers" have only subject background and not teaching background. If one thinks that teachers do not need any teaching instruction, they are gravely wrong. Teachers going into school districts without proper certification are a menace to our society. They do not have the proper knowledge required to help nurture and develop this country's youth.

They may know their subject area very well. The fact remains, however, that they cannot comprehend the entire sphere of education because they have not taken classes that develop teachers.

Alma's education department, due to state requirements, prides itself on having strict guidelines for students wanting to become teachers to follow. Elementary school teachers, with certification between kindergarten and eighth grade, have to major in education, while secondary teachers have to take at least 26 education credits to become certified.

Students in the Teaching Education Program here are required to observe classrooms and students almost immediately after enrolling in the program.

Despite knowing that teacher education is critical, states still have begun hiring non-certified teachers. There are many reasons for this. First, many teachers are retiring. Second, new teachers soon become dissatisfied with the low pay and leave for higher paying jobs. Finally, schools are be-

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ing flooded with thousands of kids forcing classrooms to reach beyond capacity.

They still cannot be used as excuses by states to hire unqualified teachers, as they are putting today's youth's education in great jeopardy.

What can states do to stop the hiring of non-certified teachers? Teacher pay has to be increased for it to remain a competitive field of work in today's economic boom. Engineering, computer programming, accounting and hundreds of other careers offer higher starting

salaries than education does. In order to attract certified teachers, the pay has to be raised.

If not, the amount of certified teachers will decline forcing schools to hire non-certified teachers who do not fully understand how to properly educate students.

Who do you want teaching your children—a highly qualified teacher understanding the intricate details of teaching, or a person looking for a job who does not have any idea of the education field?

Staff Editorial

Elizabeth out-Doled because of cash

It appears that if one wants to go anywhere in the political arena, one must be a millionaire. Too many times candidates have had to drop out of races, not because of lack of support, but lack of funds. This is a signal to all that campaign reform is needed.

The latest victim of lack of funding was Elizabeth Dole, who resigned from the presidential race on October 20. Dole was a candidate for the GOP in the 2000 election. She was also one of the most experienced candidates of the GOP. She was the transportation secretary for President Ronald Reagan as well as the labor secretary for President George Bush. Dole also was the president of the Red Cross for eight years, only resigning her position to run for the Presidency of the United States. Additionally, Dole worked on her husband's campaign in the 1996 presidential election. This more than qualified her as an experienced candidate even though she had no experience running for an elected position. Until her resignation, she was ranked third in the polls. However,

according to CNN, Dole said that her lack of funds made it "nearly impossible to sustain an effective campaign." She could not afford to travel or hire staffers in the key states. Therefore, she could not spread her ideas and policy issues to the public.

As it is, there is a maximum limit on how much any donor can give—\$1,000 for a single donor and \$5,000 for any group. However, there is not a set limit on how much you spend on your campaign. For example, according to CNN, George W. Bush has raised over 37 million dollars—by far the largest amount of money fundraised in presidential campaign history. This enables him to campaign freely with little to no concern for money. Whereas Dole was only able to raise about one million dollars. With this kind of cash disadvantage, it is no wonder Dole had to drop out of the race for the presidency. Unfortunately, I don't think she had much choice but to drop out. Those she was running against like Forbes have a seemingly limitless amount of money. If you're not a billionaire

or have a billionaire supporting you, you can not get your ideas out to the public. You have to keep up with others in the campaign," said Tammy Godfrey (01).

Junior Susanne Cook said, "I don't believe it is possible to run a campaign without a substantial amount of money. When you add in the fact that there are people out there like Ross Perot who have the money to spend millions of dollars on their campaigns and you don't, it makes it very hard to compete."

In order for the public to assess the candidates fairly, there should be a set limit on how much each candidate is able to spend on his or her campaign. This would enable all candidates to have a fair and equal chance at voicing their platforms. There would no longer be the issue of politics being just for the rich man or woman. Theoretically, anyone would have the chance to win an election, because the campaigns would truly be focused on the candidates' ideas and policies. Candidates would have to focus their time and energy on their platforms because they would not have the money to waste on negative campaign advertisements.

Letter
to the Editor

To the Editors:

In response to Nikole Canute's article "Greeks move towards Alcohol-free residences," I would like to say a few things. First, I would like to dissuade the use of an all-encompassing term like "Greeks." When that term is used, it refers to all the members of the Greek Community on this campus, which is false advertisement by *The Almanian*. I did not see any mention of Sigma Chi, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Zeta Sigma or Phi Sigma Sigma mentioned anywhere within the article. Those five Greek organizations encompass exactly half of the social fraternities/sororities on campus. In fact, the fraternity I belong to, Sigma Chi, has made it clear that our National Fraternity will not force chartered brothers to go alcohol-free, though we will wholeheartedly support the choice to go alcohol free. To imply that all "Greeks" are moving to alcohol-free residences is irresponsible and inaccurate.

"The administration has said a number of times that when the first national goes that way [alcohol-free], the college will require all of them to go dry." That was a comment made by Martin Stack, the Greek advisor for the school. That is a surprisingly bold statement to make, considering the many things that Greek Organizations do for this school, both the individual members and the groups as a whole. Everywhere you look, Greek members lead the way in many of the Organizations throughout campus. I would like hazard a guess that there are Greek members in all Alma College Organizations, but I am sure someone could disprove me somewhere. Not to mention that Greek Organizations donate time and money to Community service, which can only look good for Alma College (Zeta Sigma's Food Drive, Sigma Chi's Derby Days, Alpha Xi Delta's Golf Open, Alpha Gamma Delta's VolleyFest, etc.). The point is, Greek Organizations cultivate and improve leadership talents, as well as bonds of friendship and brother / sisterhood, but you never hear about the many positives of Greek Life. No, all you hear about are the problems with alcohol and the Administration's attempts to penalize the Greek

Community.

Now the Administration has given us a subtle hint of what may be to come in the near future. Greek Organizations will not be allowed to have alcohol in their residences. I'm not saying that drinking is the way to go; that you can only have fun while imbibing the action-altering drug of alcohol. But I am saying it is one of the few activities that Alma offers on a consistent basis. Alma College tries to create a "Community" for which the students will live in and grow, becoming responsible adults and contributing alumni after graduation. Yet, what does Alma College, or the city of Alma, offer on a Friday night? Or a Saturday? We have limited access to the gym, once a year ACUB has an All-Nighter and I think there is a Homecoming Dance. We, as students, work extremely hard during the week because every professor pushes us to our limits. That is fine because that is why I pay \$20,000 a year for: to be pushed. But I cannot keep that pace up for 14 weeks in a row; nobody can. I need a release, I need to let go my frustrations and have a good time. Does Alma College provide us opportunities to do that? Plain and simply - No! Enter Alcohol.

I believe that Alcohol is not the problem of Alma College's campus; I would say it is a lack of alternatives. If the Administration attempts to restrict drinking at Greek residences, I would liken that to many gun laws in effect right now: useless. There comes a time when the Administration has to realize that when we make the decision to come to Alma College, we make the decision to begin a process that creates adults, that we are beginning to mature as people. To constantly watch over our shoulder and say, "Hey, you can't do that!" weakens the bond of trust and says that the Administration does not believe that we are ready to make our own decisions as young adults, up-and-coming leaders of society. Instead of taking the easy and ultimately destructive route of banning alcohol in Greek residences, I would challenge the Administration to instead discover alternatives to Alcohol. Until then, Friday night choices remain homework, cow-tipping or drinking — regardless of where drinking is done.

Mike Traywick (99)

Sports Track by Michael Murphy

Gonzo! Blockbuster trade for Tigers

In a blockbuster trade on Tuesday, November 2, the Detroit Tigers made a bold move to acquire big-time players to marquee the future lineup at brand new Comerica Park.

To acquire Texas Ranger outfielder Juan Gonzalez, the Tigers, who had been ingrained in the philosophy of patiently cultivating young talent, traded away some of their most prized prospects.

Justin Thompson, who the Tigers ranted and raved about for five-plus years is gone.

Gabe Kapler, the minor league player of the year in 1998 is gone.

Frank Catalanotto, a young player who could play any infield position is gone.

Francisco Cordero, a young relief pitcher who many baseball followers believe will be a great closer is gone.

And so is backup catcher Bill Hasselman and minor league pitching prospect Alan Webb. All of this young talent for basically one player (the Rangers also traded catcher Gregg Zaun and relief pitcher Danny Patterson) is pretty shocking coming from a club that has tried to cultivate young talent.

The key word here is tried. The young talent that was supposed to

lead the Tigers to battle for second place in the American League Central Division did not live up to the high expectations.

Thompson went 9-11 with a disappointing 5.11 ERA while Kapler, an outfielder, batted only .245, but did hit 18 home runs.

Are the Tigers giving up on their young talent so soon?

I do not think so. Bringing in the 2-time MVP Gonzalez will provide a major offensive threat. This threat is probably the first one since Cecil Fielder in the mid-90s. Gonzalez has hit 340 career home runs and has driven in 1075 runs. This is major offense here.

Gonzalez is just not a power hitter, however. Last year with the Rangers, he hit an impressive .326 and still bashed 39 homers and batted in 128 runs. He has shown throughout his career that he can hit for average, as he has posted a career .294 batting average.

The best part of it all is that Gonzalez is young. He is only 30 years old, which means he has plenty of production left. He will provide leadership and desperately needed experience to the Tigers' brand new locker room which will help all of the Tigers' young players. He will guide them and help

them develop.

Juan Encarnacion, the much heralded outfielder of the Tigers, will hopefully learn a great deal from Gonzalez. Both of them already have something in common, as both are Spanish-speaking players. Gonzalez will be able to effectively teach Encarnacion without worrying about any language barrier.

With last year's acquisition of third baseman Dean Palmer — who did just what the Tigers wanted him to do (play solid defense and be a consistent hitter) — the Tigers have shown to the rest of the league that they want to get into the playoff hunt. They are willing to part with some of the future to get high-caliber players.

Furthermore, it must be noted that the Tigers are probably not going to remain idle during the rest of the off-season. Expect more trades by the Tigers to trade more top-quality players to bring a very potent lineup to the new ballpark.

Next year, Comerica Park will not be the only new thing in town. The Tigers will be a whole new team. Expect the Summer of 2000 to be fun and exciting.

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