

Scots ended their season with a 42-19 loss to Wittenberg College in Ohio. See page 7.



Women's basketball lost season opener to Indiana Wesleyan. See page 9.

Wednesday's Weather
Partly Cloudy
High: 48°
Low: 45°

The Almanian

Issue 9

Serving Alma College since 1907

November 23, 1999

Kuhl wins Greek God competition

By AMY TAYLOR
Staff Writer

The sisters of Phi Sigma Sigma hosted the 1999 Greek God Competition Thursday, November 18 in the Chapel. The contest consisted of nine men, representing their respected fraternities, competing in toga, talent, evening wear and an interview. This year's Greek God title went to James Kuhl from Theta Chi and the first runner up was Jason Paetz from Sigma Chi.

In its 2nd annual showing, the Greek God competition was held to raise money for the national Phi Sigma Sigma foundation which benefits the National Kidney Foundation. Thursday evening the group raised \$380 for the foundation.

Representing the fraternities were Matt Culver (02) and Dylan Mandeville (02) from Tau Kappa Epsilon; Nicholas O'Neill (00) and Ryan Webb (00) from Sigma Alpha Epsilon; Ben Bowers (01) and Justin Fritz (02) from Zeta Sigma; Jason Paetz (99) and Chris Rowland (00) from Sigma Chi and finally, James Kuhl (01) from Theta Chi.

"I'm happy. My high point was my talent section when I stuck the can of Pepsi in my chest," said Kuhl.

There were several celebrity appearances with the talent performances of Milli Vanilli by Paetz and Rowland, Culver showed up as Ricky Martin and Mandeville had the audience rolling in their seats with a Chris Farley impersonation. The contestants stepped on the stage with other talents such as a David Letterman stupid human trick, singing and mind reading.

Chris Rowland said, "I had fun just getting up there and acting like a crazy fool."

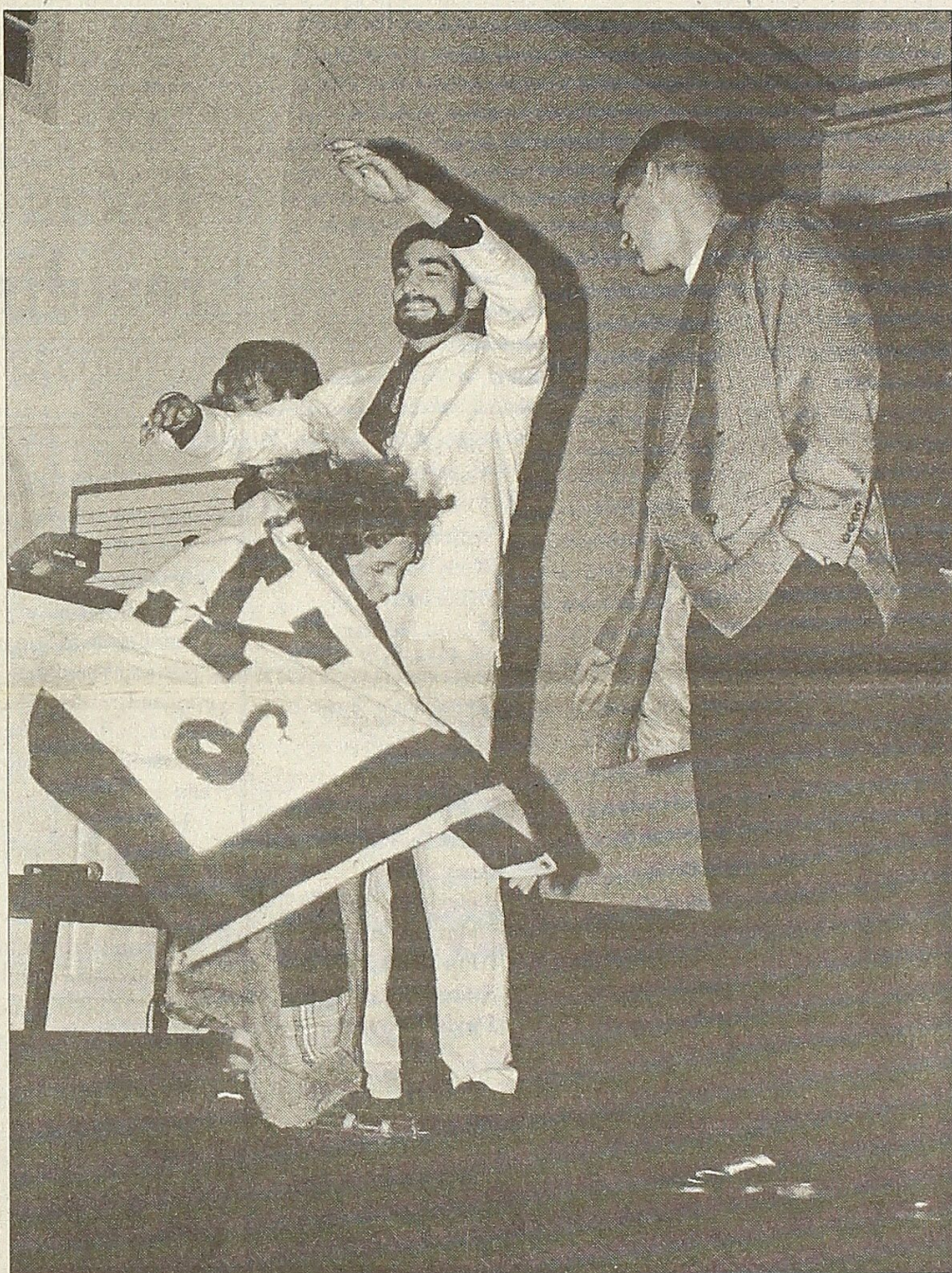
After the evening wear segment of the competition, the contestants were narrowed down to the final four: Culver, Paetz, Kuhl and Rowland. At this time, they were asked one question by the judges and after each contestant answered, the judges tallied up their scores.

Judges consisted of one representative from each sorority on campus. The criteria consisted of three scores for each section of the contest. On a scale from one to ten, contestants were given points for charisma and creativity for togas, confidence and creativity for talent, poise and style for evening wear and thoughtfulness and confidence for the interview. In each section they were also scored on an overall impression so the contestants could receive a total score of thirty in each section.

Assistant Dean of Students, Martin Stack said, "I thought it was great that all the fraternities were represented. There were only a few last year. It was great that Phi Sig put this all together and the whole greek system participated."

Various sponsors around the community such as tanning salons, restaurants, On Cue, Ashcrafts and many more donated prizes to be handed out to the audience. The first place winner won two free movie passes, two free dinners at Peppermill, a shirt from Stacy's Mens Shop and a free game of bowling. The first runner up received two free video rentals, tanning passes and a gift certificate to Pizza Sams.

Music was provided by Alma College Union Board (ACUB) and emcees were Stephanie Lehnert (00) and Colleen Petterson (01) of Phi Sigma Sigma.



James Kuhl (01) celebrates after being named this year's Greek God at Phi Sigma Sigma's competition on Thursday.

Scots sneak past Trinity into final four

By CARA BONINE
Staff Writer

Alma has become the first-ever Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association men's soccer team to advance to the national semi-finals.

The Alma Scots (16-4-2) defeated Trinity University 2-1 in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III men's soccer championships Sunday in San Antonio, Texas. The win against the Tigers advances the Scots to the semifinals against top-ranked and undefeated St. Lawrence University (NY) on Friday.

"We showed that we wanted to win more than [Trinity]," said Ryan Webb (00), "We fought hard on their home field in front of 800 fans."

Paul Aceto (01) scored in the fourth minute when Trinity turned the ball over to the Scots on their side of the field. Aceto took advantage of the breakaway opportunity and booted his 19th goal of the season, putting the Scots up 1-0. In the 32nd minute of the game, Jeff Hosler (02) headed a throw-in from Chris Alexander (00) to give the Scots a two-point lead before the half. Alma continued to have good chances for goals off throw-ins throughout the game.

"We are playing the best soccer now,"

stated Aceto, "and we are peaking at the right times."

Trinity tallied the score in the 77th minute, however was unable to score again due to Alma's very effective defense. The Scots' defense was able to hold the Tigers 21 attempts on goal and 16 corner kicks. Jon Cullen (00), keeper, was a major contributor to the Scots defense, making eight saves in the match.

"[Cullen] had to come up big for us a couple of times," stated Coach Scott Frey, "The whole back-five just played great."

The Scots now move to the Final Four as the only unranked team. St. Lawrence (NY) is first, Wheaton (Ill.) is third and Richard

Stockton (NJ) is 13th in the latest poll by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America poll.

"At this point, it is just a matter of resting after such an emotional game," said Frey, when asked about team improvements before the semifinal game.

"We have been the underdog the whole time," stated Aceto, "We are just having a lot of fun now."

The Scots have proven to be a very determined and talented team whose road to glory now leads them to their toughest game of the season on Friday against St. Lawrence in Wheaton, Ill. Four phenomenal teams left, however the best is still to be determined.

Latest battle in war on terrorism

By CHRIS MACHNACKI
Freelance Writer

In an effort to secure the capture of wanted terrorist leader Osama bin Laden, the United Nations recently levied sanctions against Afghanistan's government. The sanctions, which include the freezing of Afghan financial resources and a ban on air travel into the country, went into effect on November 14.

Bin Laden is wanted in connection with the 1998 bombings of the United States embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, which resulted in the deaths of 224 people and injured

hundreds more. Bin Laden was thought to have planned and financed the operation from afar. Following the attacks, bin Laden fled to terrorist camps in Afghanistan.

Bin Laden is an ultra-rich Saudi Arabian millionaire who has been an extremely vocal critic of the United States in general and US foreign policy in particular. Bin Laden has demanded that the US withdraw its troops from Saudi Arabia, claiming that it is wrong for American troops to be near the Muslim holy city of Mecca.

Following the embassy bombings, the United States fired cruise missiles at suspected terrorist

camps in Afghanistan and at a pharmaceuticals factory in Sudan that was allegedly being used by bin Laden to produce chemical weapons. The cruise missiles in Afghanistan missed bin Laden by about half an hour, and evidence now suggests that the pharmaceuticals factory really was making pharmaceuticals.

The UN is levying these sanctions in the hope that the military government of Afghanistan, controlled by a group known as the Taliban, will hand bin Laden over for prosecution. The Taliban are a group of extreme Islamic fundamentalists who have been heavily criticized in the world for their

harsh treatment of women, which they claim is in line with the teachings of the Muslim holy book, the Koran.

The ban on air travel can be particularly damaging to Afghanistan, given the mountainous regions surrounding the country. Air shipment is a crucial source of mail and other contact with the outside world. Many poor Afghan families depend on financial contributions from relatives abroad, which will cease with the new restrictions.

The sanctions are also a serious blow to the Afghan government. The Taliban have been attempting

See **TERRORISM** on 3

News

'At a glance'

IRA to open disarmament negotiations
BELFAST - On Wednesday the Irish Republican Army (IRA) declared that it intends to open negotiations with Northern Ireland's disarmament commission as soon as a joint Protestant-Catholic administration for Northern Ireland is appointed.

Rev. arrested for protesting expulsion of high school students
ILLINOIS - Reverend Jesse Jackson was arrested Tuesday while leading a made-for-TV demonstration that was protesting the expulsion of six high school students for a brawl at a football game. Jackson had promised to force his own arrest to dramatize the student's cause; he was charged with mob action, solicitation to commit a crime, and contribution to the delinquency of a minor.

EGYPTAIR 990 investigation shifts
RHODE ISLAND - Before the autopilot was turned off in the crash of EGYPTAIR 990, a crew member alone in the cockpit said "I made my decision now. I put my faith in God's hands." The investigation has shifted its focus to the backup copilot since he was at the controls just before the plane crashed, although it is too early to say whether the crew played any role in the crash.

Microsoft monopoly
A class-action suit was to be filed against Microsoft on Monday on behalf of millions of Californians who are accusing Microsoft of using its monopoly in operating systems software to overcharge buyers of Windows 95 and Windows 98. The complaint may seek triple damages if the suit leads to an eventual finding of financial harm to Windows users.

Decline in teen drug use
NEW YORK - The 12th survey of US. teens, which was released on Monday, found that 40 percent of teens have not used drugs, an increase of 5 percent from last year. The national survey was conducted by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, questioning 6,529 teens aged 13-18.

Crash of four busses, two casualties
PENNSYLVANIA - Two people were killed and 106 injured on Sunday after four buses carrying Penn State University students on a New York shopping trip crashed on Pennsylvania highway after hitting a thick wall of fog. A bus driver and student were killed.

CORRECTION: Vote of 66-9 in favor of students and faculty remaining on the board was a faculty vote, not a vote of the Board of Trustees.

The Almanian

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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 unpublished; (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 thought provoking 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.

Texas A&M tradition results in 11 deaths

By NIKOLE CANUTE
Staff Writer

Eleven students were killed, and nearly thirty others were injured when a 40-foot-high stack of logs collapsed at Texas A&M University early Thursday morning.

The log structure was to have been the focus of a 90-year-old Texas A&M tradition, in which students erect a massive pile of logs, which are then doused in jet fuel and lit on fire the night before the annual football showdown between Texas A&M and the University of Texas.

Officials said that 11 students were treated for relatively minor injuries and released from the College Station Medical Center, and two others, suffering fractures, were admitted to the hospital in serious condition. St. Joseph Hospital had three victims listed in critical condition, and one in serious condition.

The cause of the collapse has not yet been determined, but investigators are speculating that one of the center poles may have snapped.

A field northeast of the campus in College Station, 90 miles northwest of Houston, is where the accident occurred.

Officials are estimating that 50 to 70 students were on or near the structure when it collapsed. According to university officials, approximately 5,000 students put in 125,000 hours of work to attend training classes before being allowed to participate in the construction of the log tower.

The collapse occurred at 2:30 a.m., during an all-night construction marathon by students. The week before the bonfire is known as Push, referring to the race to complete the job, and students were participating in round-the-clock shifts.

This year's structure was to have been 55-feet-high, with a base more than 100 feet across. At the time of the collapse, students were working on the fourth stage of the seven-stage procedure, and had used around 4,000 of the 7,000 logs needed to complete the structure. The logs were bound in groups of three, each being 10 to 12 feet long. The structure is designed to twist inward and collapse on itself while burning.

1909 was the year of the first Texas A&M bonfire, and the tradition has only been interrupted once, following the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in 1963. In 1994, the structure collapsed but no one was injured in that incident.

According to the New York Times, Dr. Kem Bennett, director of a statewide emergency rescue unit, Texas Task Force, said, "This is far worse than a building collapse in that the structure twisted as it collapsed, and all of the pieces are tangled together."

Jacob Swidorski, sophomore, said, "I don't think they should end the tradition. Maybe they should just get smarter about it."

A memorial service, attended by an estimated 14,000 people, was held in the school's basketball arena. The service was joined by former President George Bush, whose presidential library is on the campus.

According to the Detroit Free Press, University President Ray Bowen has affirmed that this year's bonfire will be canceled, but did not say whether that would be permanent. Bowen said, "It's a very important tradition to us, but those decisions must be made at a calmer time."

"As long as they're careful, they should continue their tradition. They probably learned their lesson this time," said Laura Nelson, junior.

Tom Danosky, junior, said, "The incident was a tragedy, but it's a great college football tradition, and should not be discontinued because of this incident."

TERRORISM from 3

to improve their standing abroad and gain international legitimacy for their government. Being sanctioned by the UN tends to have a negative effect on the perception of a country.

Privately, however, many officials at both the UN and the State Department are pessimistic about the ability of the sanctions to work. The Afghans have a long cultural tradition of shielding those that they consider their guests, which makes it difficult to hand over bin Laden. Some officials argue that offering things like monetary aid and other incentives will work better.

Professor of political science, Derek Hulme, agrees that sanctions will most likely be ineffective, commenting, "I would not have high expectations for the effectiveness of sanctions, given the high degree of domestic turmoil in the country."

The sanctions have been the subject of outrage of many in the Muslim world, who see them as an attempt to bully a small, very poor country. This has resulted in missile attacks against US and UN buildings in neighboring Pakistan, which caused little damage but sent a clear message.

The issue of Afghanistan does not seem to resonate clearly with Alma College students. When asked for an opinion, sophomore Andrew Oleszkowicz said, "The United States will not stand for this. The Sepoy Revolt must be punished!"

ΓΦΒ hosts a mystery

By NIKOLE CANUTE, Staff Writer
And DONNA PAPPAS, News Editor

Murder in Alma? To many, that concept may seem improbable, but last Friday the Gamma Phi Beta sorority created some crime of their own.

"Murder Mystery Tavern" focused around a three-course meal. During that dinner, each table of eight was given their own murder mystery, and each person at the table was given a character name and a character manual, so they could then act out their given parts.

Characters ranged from mobsters to flappers, as the dinner was set in Chicago during the 1920's.

Senior Rene Judd said, "We had a good turnout from the campus. The murder mystery was a lot of fun. Everyone solved the mystery at their tables and then we held the dance."

Around eighty people attended the dinner, and the proceeds will be given to Camp SCHELT, which is a camp for abused girls.

Each year, Gamma Phi Beta holds a tavern, but the "murder mystery" theme was something new for the sorority. Whether or not the theme will be repeated will be determined by next year's "tavern chair," who will succeed this year's chair, senior Heidi Grantham.

"Murder mystery used to be an annual event with Alpha Theta, which was our local chapter before we became national. We are hoping that it will become an annual event," said junior Katrina DiNallo.

"We had a pretty good turnout considering a lot of sports teams and the dance recital were happening at the same time," said DiNallo

Grantham said, "I wish to thank everyone who attended in support of this event because it went to a good cause."

Chess club not a "stalemate"

By GINGER DAVIS
Staff Writer

Alma College has had a chess club, but for years it has been dormant. Now senior Paul Krueger, the club president, and the club advisor, Myles McNally, professor of mathematics and computer science and longtime chess player, are trying to revive the club.

Several Alma students had contacted McNally, expressing interest in having an active chess club in Alma. McNally then talked with Krueger, who has played chess since the fifth grade, and convinced him to be president of the club. Since then the club has had two meetings. The first meeting showed promise with a turnout of fifteen people who spent two hours playing chess. The second meeting had a dramatic drop in attendance. This may have been due to schedule conflicts instead of lack of interest. Unfortunately, if interest in the club continues to diminish, the club will dissipate.

The club is not, contrary to popular belief, the Alma College Chess Club. According to Krueger, "It's actually the Alma Area Chess Club."

Currently, all the people attending the meetings have been Alma students, but Krueger hopes to change this. He plans to advertise in the college and the community in general, and bring in members from the community as a whole. This should help increase membership as well as enrich the group.

The club is very informal. Its main purpose is, as Krueger said, "To get a group of people who know each other pretty well who play chess. It's really easy to be sitting at your dorm and you only know one person who plays, but there are lots of people around campus [that play chess]." This club will be an opportunity for chess players to congregate, play and meet other players.

The club does not compete, or have tournaments, although Krueger said, "So far, no competitions, but I think if we had enough interest, we could."

Currently, The Alma Area Chess Club is simply a chance for chess players to meet and enjoy the game, but if enough of its members were interested in competition, the possibility does exist.

The club is still looking for more new members. Anyone interested in joining can attend meetings which occur Monday evenings, from 8:00 until 10:00 p.m. in Van Dusen. No knowledge of the game is necessary to join.

Pre-term overhaul possible

By SCOTT TIMMRECK
Staff Writer

Pre-heat? Something can only be heated or unheated. Pre-record? No, you cannot record something after it has happened. Prefix? Yes, that makes sense. Pre-term? Enter Alma College.

A plan to overhaul the week known as Pre-term, designed to orient first-year students to the academic and social rigors of college life, has been introduced and may be put into action pending further discussion by the Pre-term committee.

Currently, Pre-term has students enrolled in one class, which they attend sessions for at various times between the Saturday they arrive and the Sunday before school begins. The week also includes numerous activities for the first-year students, ranging from the serious ("Quality Ethos") to the absurdly funny ("A to Z"), as well as sessions about how to use the library and the computers in the various labs around campus.

"I thought it was excellent — a nice way to kick off college," said first-year student Joe Bush.

"It gets you started," added Daniel Arner (03).

Under the new plan, a minimum of 27 faculty members would present a prepared discussion, laboratory or lecture numerous times to different groups of students. Each participating faculty member would act as a seminar leader to a fixed group of no more than 15 students, of whom as many possible would be his or her advisees. These "seminar leaders" would meet with their group three times during the

course of the week: first, to establish a tone and generalize expectations; second, to check progress; and third, to assist students with their notes in writing what would be the final project of Pre-term: a five-page reflective paper on the Alma College experience thus far. The "seminar leader" would be responsible for assessing the paper, which, along with any notes or other reflections, would make up a portfolio of the Pre-term week. The portfolio would be given a grade of pass or fail. Currently, professors who participate in Pre-term are paid \$750 for that week; it is unclear whether that would change because of the change in responsibility.

Students would be required to attend the three aforementioned meetings with their seminar leader, as well as seven content sessions to be given by participating professors. In addition, sessions on library resources and research methods would have mandatory attendance.

Students would have to select a minimum of one content session that falls under the categories "discussion," "laboratory" or "lecture," and a minimum of two sessions in each of the following divisions: "Humanities," "Natural Sciences," and "Social Sciences."

The report states that students will use 20 hours of their time during the week attending sessions and approximately two hours each day reflecting upon the sessions they attended.

Dr. Walser, professor of religion, doesn't really see a need for an overhaul. "I feel good that [students] can handle the academic curriculum."

Walser believes that the focus of Pre-term, under the new plan, would be changing from academics to social life. "I still like the academic model," he added.

Ecuador visitors enlighten students

By GINGER DAVIS
Staff Writer

Tuesday, November 16, 1999, Alma College had the privilege of welcoming two visitors from Ecuador. Diego del Corral, director of the Ecuador program, and Alberto Chávez, Enforex-Ecuador, spent two days on campus talking with students who plan to travel to Ecuador, and presented a slide presentation. While at Alma, both men met with the foreign language department and the professors planning the spring term in Ecuador (Dr. James Mueller, chair/associate professor of economics; Dr. Sandy López-Isnardi; assistant professor of art and design; and Dr. Margarita Krakusin, assistant professor of Spanish). They also met and had dinner with the students of the Spanish House.

After dinner, Corral and Chávez presented a slide show to spring term students and Spanish students. Chávez, who is an ecologist, presented the slide show and former Galapagos tour guide. The slide show exhibited a shot of Quito, the nation's capital, where the spring term students will spend one month. Most of the slide show focused on the Galapagos Islands, and its animal inhabitants. The spring term students will have the option of spending an additional week in Latin America to visit these islands. The Galapagos Islands are rich in many forms of animals and wildlife that are not found anywhere else on the globe.

Corral and Chávez spent Wednesday in meetings. They met with Chris Musick, director of the department of international education; Dr. Leslie Brown, Provost; Lopez-Isnardi; Dr. Arnold, chair of foreign language department; Dr. Dougherty, assistant professor of foreign language; and Krakusin.

The presentation was a way for Alma students to learn about Ecuador, and for the spring term students to catch a glimpse of the area they will visit in May.

"I want to experience some of the cultural differences and experience some of the traditions and culture of the indigenous people," said Jamie Rowe (01), who plans taking the photography spring term. "I'd like to photograph the children, and the wildlife in Galapagos, and the rainforest."

Spring terms abroad are a useful way for students to experience other cultures firsthand, and burst the "Alma bubble." As Arnold said, "It's a question of giving students every opportunity possible."

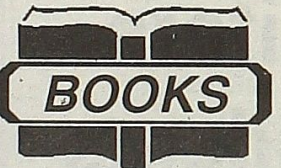
The visit of Corral and Chávez was a glimpse at the opportunity to spend a month in Ecuador.



1. "Pokemon the First Movie: Mewtwo Strikes Back"
2. "The Bone Collector"
3. "Dogma"
4. "The Messenger: The Story of Joan of Arc"
5. "Anywhere But Here"
6. "The Insider"
7. "The Bachelor"
8. "House on Haunted Hill"
9. "Double Jeopardy"
10. "The Sixth Sense"



1. Faith Hill *Breathe*
2. Mariah Carey *Rainbow*
3. Santana *Supernatural*
4. Rage Against the Machine *The Battle of Los Angeles*
5. Backstreet Boys *Millennium*
6. Savage Garden *Affirmation*
7. Britney Spears *Baby One More Time*
8. Pokemon the Movie *Soundtrack*
9. Lou Bega *A Little Bit of Mambo*
10. Lil' Wayne *Tha Block*



1. *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* by J.K. Rowling
2. *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* by J.K. Rowling
3. *Pop Goes the Weasel* by James Patterson
4. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling
5. *A Walk to Remember* by Nicholas Sparks
6. "O" is for *Outlaw* by Sue Grafton
7. *Personal Injuries* by Scott Turow
8. *Tara Road* by Maeve Bindry
9. *Hearts in Atlantis* by Stephen King
10. *Second Wind* by Dick Francis

obtained from snap.com

Musically Inclined by Scott Timmreck

Marilyn Manson is a clown



When Stephen King published his masterpiece *It* back in 1986, he turned the fear of clowns into a characteristic of popular culture, and all of a sudden, the white makeup, the oddly-colored eyes and the giant shoes were not funny anymore; they were characteristics of a thing, of a creature, that was frightening.

As popular music goes, that clown is the paradoxical Marilyn Manson, a human being that has created more controversy over his form of expression than Quentin Tarantino could ever make with 9 million different versions of *Pulp Fiction*. Wrongly associated with such events as the Columbine shooting, some of Manson's better expressions of drugs and hate and antireligious messages have been combined and thrown together onto a live album, ironically, just in time for the Christ-

mas season. The album contains what Manson fans consider some of his better music, like *The Beautiful People* and *Sweet Dreams*, the squeaky and darkly rhythmic cover of the 80s Eurythmics' hit that brought the clown and his gang onto the scene and no doubt into the minds of many troubled teenagers looking for a path of rebellion back in 1996.

They found it, but maybe for the wrong reasons. A self-proclaimed member of the Church of Satan, Manson has been banned from arenas all over the country for what conservative politicians trying to win the votes of concerned parents call "his bad influence." Bad influence — maybe. But on what? The man does indeed have a picture of a burning cross on the front of his record, but that does not necessarily mean anything...

Titled *The Last Tour On Earth*, Manson's fifth full-length major-label release is kind of like some-

thing that a lesser version of Big Brother would make humanity listen to if he was not very knowledgeable about the concept of control. The music attempts to take you into Manson's demented head and make you see things his way, but as it turns out, that just does not happen. Usually, on tracks such as *I Don't Like The Drugs* and *The Reflecting God*, you can just laugh at the stupidly loud yells and the boring and heavily industrial guitar that flaunts itself everywhere, but always sounds the same. And as far as Manson himself goes, well, once you get past that fear of clowns, can you just laugh at him too?

Credit does go to *Get Your Gunn* and *The Dope Show*, and although not exactly fun, both songs do enough to garner attention. *Get Your Gunn* tries hard to find a melody behind its volume, and actually does, and *The Dope Show* is and always has been catchy

enough to enjoy for the four or so minutes that it exists for. Unfortunately for fans of live material, the songs sound grossly similar to album versions and are, in some cases, shorter than their cousins. The vital elements of a live album are all but gone: crowd involvement during the songs (see Billy Joel); ad-libs (see Pearl Jam); guitar solos that will never again be replicated (see Van Halen); and the universally existent trait of a live record: fun. The Last Tour On Earth is not enjoyable. It lacks heart, it lacks emotion, it lacks depth, and it lacks anything that would make it substantially good.

Grade: C-

Recommended tracks: The Dope Show, Get Your Gunn

Get it if: Um, you want pictures of the band members—they are everywhere inside the insert. And I suppose if you are a huge Manson fan, go for it.

WWW. WHAT?!

www.explormag.com

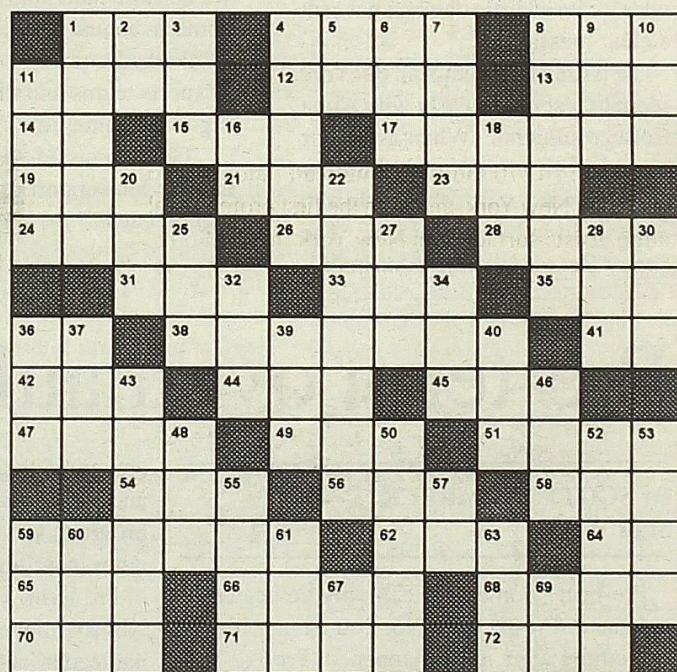
For those of you interested in extreme sports, exploremag.com offers a lot of everything you will need to get geared up, play and recover. This site covers everything from white water rafting in Nepal to hiking in Acadia National Park. For the extreme athlete it offers news, weather, snow forecasts for different areas of the world, travel and gear info, places, events and faces that all have to do with extreme sports. Read a feature about a mountain climber, share your stories about your favorite extreme sport and shop for the best gear tested by experts, all on one site. For those of you with a bit of adventure that needs unleashing, a visit to exploremag.com is a must.

www.pigeons.net

As the end of the semester approaches, some of you may be missing that favorite dog or goldfish left at home with mom and dad. Pigeons.net offers a great solution with screensavers, wallpaper, desktop themes, plug-ins and more. With everything from butterflies to kittens, dogs to pigeons, it has the best pictures to liven up your computer screen.

acweb2.cc.alma.edu/studentinfo/pigbook

In order to quench our thirst for pig books, the yearbook staff has kindly put together this...interesting on-line pig book. With the ability to search by first and last names, as well as phone numbers, searching through the pig book for that guy or girl has been made lots easier. The downfall? Need I mention the gigantic saga pictures? For a good laugh at all of your classmates, visit acweb2cc.alma.edu/studentinfo/pigbook.



ACROSS

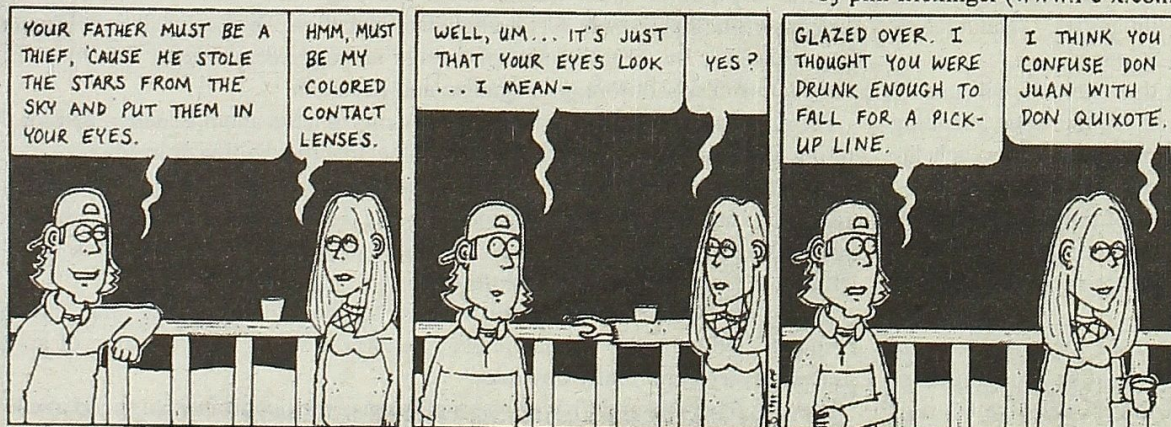
- 1 Alternate (abbr.)
- 4 Instance
- 8 Sleeveless garment of goat's hair
- 11 ___ Horne
- 12 First man
- 13 Recreational vehicle
- 14 Atop
- 15 Fish with snout
- 17 Alter
- 19 Tree
- 21 Also
- 23 Pave
- 24 Act; deed
- 26 Route
- 28 Absolute monarch
- 31 Earth (Gr. comb. form)
- 33 Beverage
- 35 Self
- 36 Elevated railroad
- 38 Stomp
- 41 Hypothetical force
- 42 Soak flax
- 44 Before (poetic)
- 45 Emmet
- 47 Shower
- 49 Knock
- 51 College official
- 54 Rest
- 56 Drag
- 58 Two
- 59 Abase
- 62 Tin
- 64 Take action
- 65 Time period
- 66 Not any
- 68 Chief Norse God
- 70 Pale
- 71 Jug
- 72 Rodent

DOWN

- 1 Feel
- 2 Coalition of nations (abbr.)
- 3 Sack
- 4 Ricochet
- 5 Public notice
- 6 Unhappy
- 7 Give off
- 8 Loath
- 9 Ban
- 10 Small bug
- 11 Idle
- 16 Near
- 18 Tub
- 20 Crone
- 22 Breakfast cereal
- 25 Vietnamese offensive
- 27 Energy
- 29 Gone by
- 30 Staff
- 32 Metal
- 34 ___ mode
- 36 Mistake
- 37 Meadow
- 39 Craft
- 40 Goal
- 43 Oz character
- 46 Mow grass
- 48 No (Scot.)
- 50 Lead car
- 52 Scan
- 53 Midday
- 55 Window
- 57 Southern state (abbr.)
- 59 Morning moisture
- 60 Age
- 61 At once
- 63 Neither
- 67 Direction (abbr.)
- 69 Prosecuting lawyer (abbr.)

LEX

by phil flickinger (www.l-e-x.com)



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FEATURE

5

BODY

*A new twist
on an old
style...*

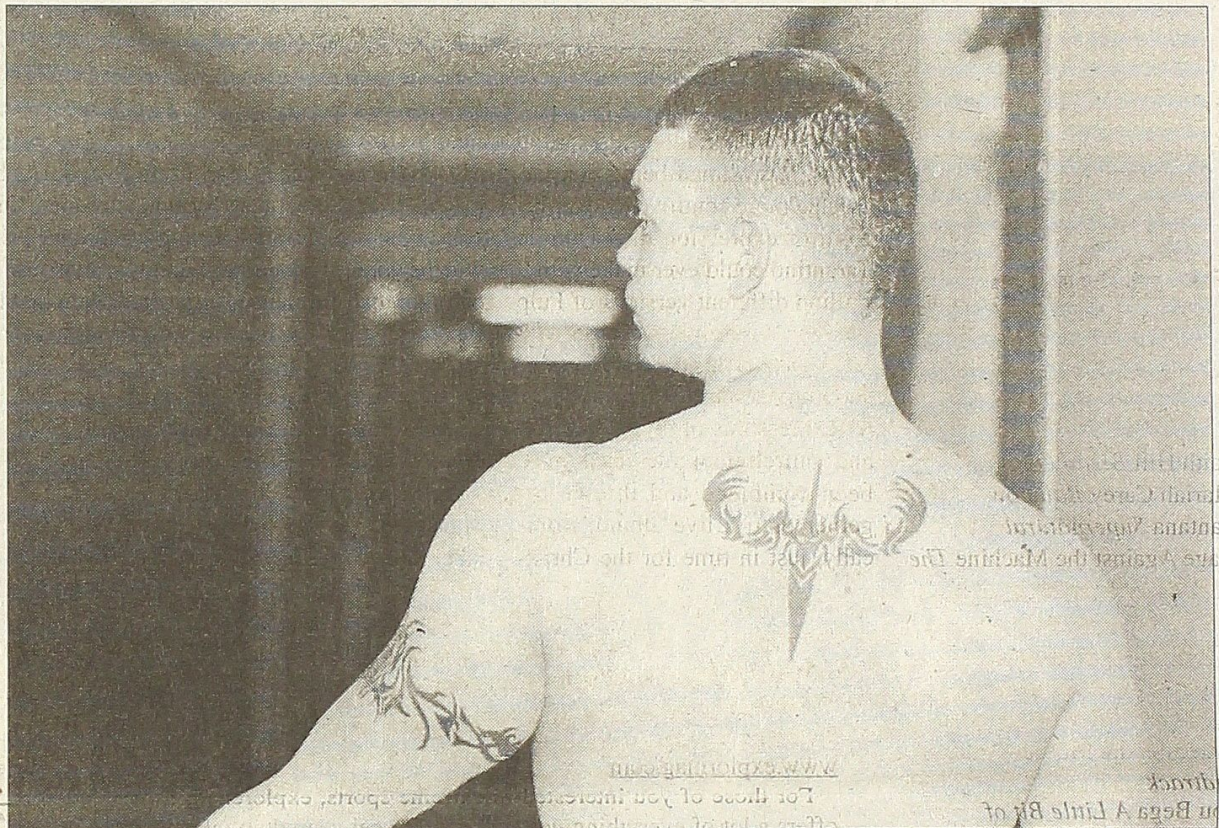
By MANDY LONG
Feature Editor

We have all seen it—real and fake, silver and gold, all over someone's body or discreetly hidden. While some might think it is trashy, others find it hip. Body art is a form of personal expression for some and rebellion to others. Nonetheless, body art is a part of society, and a part of college life.

While tattoos and piercings seem to go in and out of style, both have been around for thousands of years. Tattooing has been found on Egyptian mummies that date back to 2000 BC and even on a frozen body found in a glacier that dated back more than 5000 years. While it was originally used in primitive cultures for everything from religious associations, to status markers, to camouflage for hunters, tattooing has stayed alive in modern society.

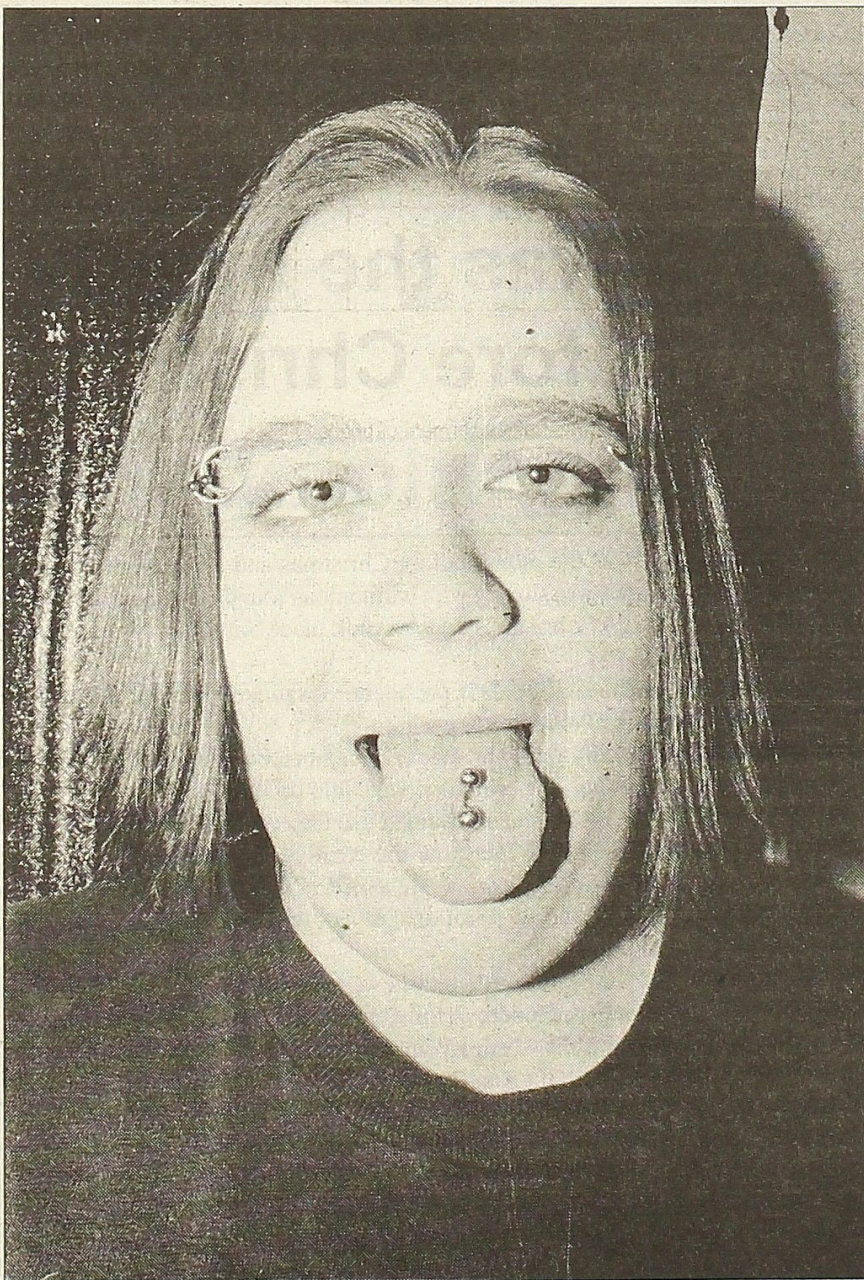
The earliest records of American tattooing occurred on Naval ships in the 1840's. Sailors were the first Americans to adopt the trend after visiting other countries in which tattooing was a common practice. In 1870 the first American tattoo studio opened in New York, and with the first professional tattoo artists surfacing in New York in the 1960's, tattooing became an American phenomenon.

While piercing has also been considered a taboo



First-year student Caleb Hyder proudly displays his tattoos.

Bryan Waugh



Bryan Waugh

outsider activity in the minds of many, it has slowly become an accepted mainstream practice. No longer are punk rockers the only ones with pierced body parts. Today large numbers of Americans have body parts besides ears pierced—and no one does a double take.

Body art is on the upswing, much as it has been in the past. In Victorian times the English elite were the bearers of tattoos, including royalty. Tattoos were seen in other cultures as power for warriors and status symbols. However, they have also been seen as criminal and deviant, and more recently, as a fad.

What is this new American obsession with body art? Books and documentaries are appearing as quickly as nose piercings are, and college students are the fastest growing group taking advantage of it. For students it is both a form of rebellion and personal expression, as well as an accessory. Piercings are appearing in noses, eyebrows, tongues, lips, and other places not to be discussed. Tattoos are also appearing, as suns, flowers, and other more unique symbols adorn the bodies of Alma College students.

Body art is no longer the permanent statement it was for our parents and grandparents. Piercings grow shut, tattoos are removable by laser techniques and henna fades in a few weeks. Despite this, careful thought is often put into the decision to be tattooed or pierced. Ask anyone about their tattoo, and a story is sure to come from it.

The future of body art is uncertain. Surely henna, tongue piercing, and flower tattoos will fade into a memory for many as they graduate and enter the work force. However, fad or not, tattoos and piercings are no longer only for bikers and sailors. They are exactly what their name suggests—art.

Mindi Ketchel (03) shows off her tongue and eyebrow rings as a statement of body art.

Alma College Dance Company



Tammy Acker



Tammy Acker

The Alma College Dance Company held their first production of the 1999-2000 season on November 19-21. Directed by Carol Fike, associate professor of dance, ACDC performed six unique numbers: *The Skaters*, *Java Jive*, *Crossings*, *Liaisons*, *The Waiting Room*, and *Weigh*. Collaborating with ACDC in the concert were WELLSRING, Cori Terry, and dancers from the Kalamazoo area.

What's cookin'?

Hamilton adds a veggie option

By KATIE BEAM
Staff Writer

"What's for dinner?" is a frequently-asked question regarding dinner at Hamilton Commons. Last year, Marriott Food Services circulated a survey and asked what new food service students would like to see. A vegetarian bar received the most votes, so this year Marriott has created "Nature's Sauté."

For those of you who have experimented with the new food service, you have met Janice Smith, the full-time Sauté cook. She said she "absolutely loves" her new job. She also enjoys working with the students, who she said are patient and friendly. It does take a few minutes to prepare a dish so it allows time to strike up a conversation.

Marriott has received feedback from the students in the form of the ever-popular comment cards. Most are happy with the new service, but a common question asks, "when will there be meat to add to the meal?" Supervisor Charyl Turner pointed out that the Nature Sauté has grilled chicken caesar salad available every

Saturday night but she was unsure whether there will ever be meat available because the food bar is specifically for vegetarians.

However, Janice is known to cater to special requests if the line is short. For example, she may add some chicken that a student has brought up himself from the hot line or the grill. Rest assured vegetarians—she uses a separate pan!

Nature Sauté offers a choice of pasta, rice or tortilla shells served with your choice of veggies and sauces/spices. Available vegetables include carrots, broccoli, cucumbers, pea pods and baby corn. There is a huge variety of sauces and spices ready to be mixed to satisfy your tastebuds: teriyaki, sweet-n-sour, soy, oyster, hoisin sauces and cajun, nutmeg, basil, and tarragon spices—just to name a few. Chinese noodles and sunflower seeds are also available.

A contest is now going to see who has the "Most Unique Recipe." Three winners will be chosen who will each receive a free two-topping pizza from Joe's. The drawing is not until finals week, so enter your recipe the next time you visit the Nature Sauté.

'Twas the month before Christmas

By RACHEL KUHL
Staff Writer

'Twas the month before Christmas and all through the grounds, the campus was stirring with harmonious sounds. The annual ΦMA Sinfonia and ΣAI Christmas concert took place Saturday, November 6, 1999 at 8:00 PM.

According to ΣAI president, Susanne Cook, the early concert date was unavoidable.

"Usually we try to do it in December, but there were a lot of conflicts... so this was the only time we could do it."

Concert organizers decided that they could tie in the pre-season concert date by giving the show the creative theme "Twas the Month Before Christmas". The show presented a wide range of Christmas favorites including some traditional songs and some more contemporary and humorous.

"There was a little bit of everything", said Cook.

Songs included; "Holly, Jolly, Christmas", "What Child Is This", "Jingle Bells", "All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth", and "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer", along with many others. The evenings festivities culminated with a finale of "Twas the Night Before Christmas", performed by members of both ΦMA and ΣAI. There were also a number of friends of ΦMA and ΣAI adding their vocal and instrumental talents to the concert.

Approximately seventy-five guests were in attendance of the performance, with visions of sugar plums dancing in their heads thanks to the efforts of all those who contributed to the show.

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Scots end season with loss to Wittenberg

By AMY NOVAK
Online Editor

The Alma Scots suffered their second loss of the season, falling to fourth-ranked Wittenberg University 42-19 last Saturday in the NCAA Semifinals. The loss ended the Scots' season at 8-2, but posted record numbers for many of the Scots.

Wittenberg took the lead in the first half, with the Scots leaving the field trailing 21-0 at the half. Alma then returned in the third and began a rally, closing the gap 21-19, before the Tigers sealed their victory.

The Scot scoring however, began early in the third when senior running back Greg Bowden ran in five yards for the score, cutting the Wittenberg lead to 21-6 after the blocked PAT.

The Tigers were forced to punt on their next possession, and the Scots ran a six play, 82 yard drive that ended with junior receiver Brian Pierce catching a 17 yard pass from senior quarterback Josh Wakefield to bring the score to 21-13.

On the Tigers next possession, during a punt return, junior Steve Alley forced a fumble and the Scots recovered on the Wittenberg 16. Wakefield completed a 10 yard pass to first year student Mark Boehms, leaving the score at 21-19.

But the Scots could not continue their rally, and allowed the Tigers to score on their next two possessions. Wittenberg scored again late in the third, to close out the scoring for the game, leaving the final at 42-19.

Wakefield completed 18 of 38 passes for 246 yards and three interceptions. Pierce once again, led all receivers with seven catches for 130 yards. Bowden finished the game with 73 yards in 16 carries.

Defensively, the Scots were led by senior co-captains Dustin Armstrong and Tim Webb with 11 tackles each. Al-



Steve Alley (01), #31 and Tem Webb (00), #49 take down a member of Wittenberg's offense at Saturday's game.

though the Alma defense forced one turnover, the offense allowed for five.

This season marks record breaking finishes for many of the Scots. Pierce is the first receiver in Alma college history to finish a season with over 1,000 yards receiving. He finished the year with 69 catches for 1,044 yards. Wakefield also set a new school record with 3,260 yards of total offense in a season.

Although this loss marks the end of the Scots season, the entire squad is to be commended for their winning season. Six Scots were named to the All-MIAA First Team for football, and eight others made the second team or received honorable mentions.

The Scot offense named three players to the All-MIAA team. Pierce was named to the squad after before last week-

end when he broke the school record to complete the season with 69 catches for 1,044 yards. Previous to the playoff game, he had 62 catches for 914 yards.

Bowden was also named to the team, leading the Scots scoring with 86 points in the regular season. Prior to last weekend, he ran for 875 yards on 130 carries, averaging 6.7 yards per carry average.

Senior offensive lineman Shawn Priem also made the team.

For the second season, Alma defense has proved strong, also naming three players to the All-MIAA team. The first of these being Armstrong who finished the season with 76 tackles, eight for losses, three sacks, and three interceptions. He broke up 11 passes and recovered two fumbles, one which he returned for a touchdown.

Also named from the Scot defense was junior Justin Harris. Harris finished the season with 42 tackles, 22 for losses, and broke a school record by posting 17 sacks.

Webb was named to the All-MIAA team for the first time, finishing the season with 51 tackles, seven for losses, and three interceptions.

Scots named to the second team included Wakefield, who finished the regular season with 2,618 yards passing and 2,990 yards of offense. He completed 191 of 350 attempts, for 19 touchdowns and three interceptions. Junior offensive lineman Craig Calkins made the team in his first year starting for the Scots. Defensively, senior Zack Workman was named to the second team, finishing the regular season with seven interceptions, 32 tackles, and 16 pass break-ups.

Scots who received honorable mentions were sophomore receiver Brian Burgtorf, senior punter Shawn Grant, senior linebacker Les Newhouse, junior safety Dan Sweetman, and senior defensive lineman Mike Wenzel.

College plans to resurface artificial turf

By DAN JOYCE
Staff Writer

After 14 years, Alma College will replace the worn out surface of the football field. That's right! The exact date of the resurfacing is still in the works, but the field will be resurfaced by next football season.

The existing turf surfaces has been in use for six years past the warranty.

"It was patched a few years ago, but the surface is just plain worn out," Alma College Dean of Students, James Kridler commented.

The new surface will, once again, be artificial. As of now it will be synthetic grass, not Astroturf.

"We feel that [synthetic grass] is a lot better for the athletes," said Kridler.

The cost for the 75,600 square foot renovation will be around \$650,000 depending on the date of replacement and whether or not the pad underneath the existing surface is still usable.

Artificial fields are placed in layers. The first layer is for drainage. Just above the drainage grid is a layer of gravel. Above that, a pad that covers the full length and width of the field. This is made of a rubber composite which is somewhat forgiving, causing a real grass feeling. Next is the carpet of synthetic grass. This is much like indoor carpeting. The fibers are about two and one-half inches long. Finally, a layer of either sand or rubber composite grain is placed into the carpet fibers to cover about half of the fibers. The final

layer holds the fibers upright.

Replacing the surface with natural grass is really not an option. It was decided that grass would, in the long run, cause more problems and be more costly than artificial grass. By replacing the existing field with grass, the drainage system would have to be altered. A grass field, which costs over \$300,000, would have to be groomed and kept up by the Physical Plant staff, causing the addition of another employee to the plant. Also, to keep the field in game quality condition, another field would have to be added for practices. The cost of satisfying all the demands of converting to a natural surface would mean a larger portion of money than that of replacement by synthetic grass. In reality, a synthetic surface demands much less maintenance than that of grass.

A natural field must be constantly repainted, can only be used once or twice a week and is subject to gaining holes and hills. This would mean that Alma College would be unable to host such events as its yearly Highland Festival and cheerleading conferences. The extra events would simply overwork the field.

On the other hand, a synthetic facing would need only the small hashes that are unattached between each yard line. All other lines and marks on the field will be made of a different color carpet. These marks are to be hand sewn into the field. The field is to be lined for soccer along with football, just as the existing surface.

Those in charge of having the field resurfaced have not decided on an exact date for the renovation. At this time they are looking at the end of March or the beginning of April. These months are not peak times for the companies who install the fields. By having the

See TURF on 9

Playing days over, life just beginning

By KATIE BEAM
Staff Writer

Holly Caraway (00), will graduate this spring after four years as a member as the Alma College women's soccer team. She is majoring in psychology and minoring in sociology and religion. Her future plans at this point are to go on to graduate school for further education.

Caraway has played soccer since fourth grade. She loves the actual game but most likes the physical challenge it gives her. During her four years on the soccer team, she has played defense, midfield and forward. She has had three different coaches in her four years of playing and said she is happy about coach Chi Ly's commitment to the team.

Coach Ly and his wife, Michelle, were very focused on team-building this year. They participated in several team-building activities that brought them together. Caraway said she was impressed with the team's efforts and felt that she was closer to her fellow team members than ever before. She said, "Unfortunately, this [team-building and closeness] wasn't reflected in our win-loss record but we got through it because we were so close."

Her best memories of soccer here at Alma were the preseason camps that took place each year two weeks before classes started.

She enjoyed the challenge of three practices each day and the developing relationships with the teammates that arose during those intense two weeks.

Along with soccer, Caraway is involved with the Gratiot County Chapter of the American Red Cross. She volunteers there regularly and she is currently the Volunteer Coordinator. She is in charge of organizing all the volunteer files in preparation for the merger with the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross. In the past, she has worked in the Youth Program, placing those youths who needed community service with the opportunity.

On campus, Caraway is a member of Gamma Phi Beta and has served on the Panhellenic Council. She is also working on a project for psychology researching self-esteem. When

the project is finished, Caraway hopes to see the developed program implemented in middle and high schools in the Alma area.

She said most of all, she learned perseverance and the importance of working with others to achieve a common goal.



Tammy Acker

Holly Caraway's soccer years that began in fourth grade will come to an end after this year's season.

Scot Superstar of the Week

Chris Alexander
Senior, Soccer

Alexander has had a successful four years playing Alma soccer and was recently named MIAA Most Valuable Player, marking only the third time in school history that an Alma player has earned this honor. He is hoping that success will continue as the Scots continue in their pursuit of a national championship. In his four years of varsity soccer, Alexander played in 75 games and started all but six. He was the catalyst in a tough Alma defense that allowed only 14 goals in 19 games this season. He tallied two assist this year, giving him 26 career points. Alexander, of Midland, is a business and communication double major at Alma. On the heels of the last weekend's Regional Tournament victory, *The Almanian* caught up with Alma's defensive sweeper, this week's Scot Superstar of the Week...

Favorite Athlete: Grant Hill
Favorite sport other than soccer: Basketball, which he played for Alma his freshman year

Favorite Professional Sports Team: Red Wings

Hobbies: Listening to music, playing cards, playing sports

Favorite TV Show: ESPN Sportscenter

Favorite Movie: "Good Will Hunting"

Favorite Book: "Without Remorse" by Tom Clancey

Favorite Group: A Tribe Called Quest

Favorite Song: "Uptown Anthem" by Naughty by Nature

Dream Car: "A big ol' truck", or a Mercedes S500

Most impressive person you have ever met: Randy Johnson

Biggest influence on your sports career: my dad

Favorite Alma Professor: "Blajea"

Best Sports Moment: "Winning the Regional Tournament this year... It was the first regional win for Alma soccer ever. It was huge!"

Greatest Accomplishment: "Having four successful years here at Alma both in sports and academics."

Youngsters prove themselves in season opener

By AMY NOVAK
Online Editor

The Alma Scots men's basketball team opened the 99-00 season with a 91-77 victory over Messiah College in the Mount St. Joseph tournament last Friday. The Scots advanced to the finals on Saturday, where they lost 82-67 to host Mount St. Joseph.

The Scots pulled off a victory in their season opener against Messiah College even though they were down by 10 at the half. The Scots began their rally in the third and shot ahead to seal their victory. Junior Sean Dick led the Scots with 31 points and nine rebounds in his first time playing for Alma. Senior Seth Stapleton scored 19 points, and had five rebounds and four steals. Sophomore Aaron Kanitz also scored 18 points for the Scots, recording only 16 minutes of play.

The Scot defense forced 19 turnovers compared to the 14 they gave up and their bench outscored that of the Falcons 57-8.

"Coming back to win in the second half was exciting," said Dick. "But other than that half, we didn't play very well over the weekend. We played alright, but it wasn't that great."

With their victory over the Falcons, the Scots advanced to the finals where they lost to nationally ranked Mount St. Joseph.

In this game, the Scots were led by Kanitz who came off the bench and finished the game with 14 points and seven rebounds. Senior Jeremy Hyler had 11 points and two rebounds, and Dick came off the bench again to help out the Scots with seven points and seven rebounds. Stapleton added 10 to the Scot point total and had five rebounds.

"We didn't play particularly well this weekend," said Hyler. "We played a half of a game of basketball, not two games. The results of this weekend are a sure sign that we have a lot to work on."

The Scots loss can be attributed to the 19 turnovers and shooting only 38 percent in the second half of the game. Despite their loss in the finals, both Dick and Stapleton were named to the all tournament team for their weekend efforts. Dick finished the tournament coming off the bench in both games to score a total of 38 points and record 16 rebounds for the weekend. Stapleton started both games had a combined total of 29 points and 10 rebounds.

"I think that one of the biggest things we need to improve on is our defense," said Hyler. "Even though we only shot 38 percent in the second half, the shots were there, we were open. We need to just knock them down, we need the confidence to make our shots."

"We definitely need to improve on defense," Dick agreed. "We need to work on our team defense as a whole."

The Scots next game will be at home on November 30, where they will take on Cornerstone College at 8 p.m.

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Hoopsters split in annual Scottie Classic

By KELLY McDONALD
Sports Editor

When a team starts the season with eight new faces, it's going to have ups and downs. The women's basketball team experienced both this past weekend as the host of the annual Scottie Classic.

After the first game jitters subsided and the new players started to feel comfortable with the "old" players, things began to come together. The Scots lost their season opener to Indiana Wesleyan 75-67, but responded the next night against a tough Urbana College (OH) squad, winning 94-77.

On Friday night, head coach Charlie Goffnet saw his team deal with a bout of unforced turnovers against Indiana Wesleyan, a team that had already played three games this year. Eight Alma players suited up for their first ever collegiate basketball game, two in the starting line-up.

With ten minutes to go in the game, and Alma down by 13 points, the Scots needed a spark. Enter first-year student Kristie Gehrs. Gehrs brought the crowd to its feet with a behind-the-back move at the free-throw line to stun her defender and help the Scots to within 11 points.

A quick time-out by Indiana ended the Alma rally until Mary Barnhart (00) took the ball to the hole with four minutes to go. Barnhart was fouled on the play and made her free-throw for an important 3-point play for the Scots. After an Indiana turnover, Joy Horton (01) fed Shelly Ulfig (03) on a designed inside-out play. Ulfig made the bucket and was fouled. She converted the free-

throw to help Alma to within seven, 60-53.

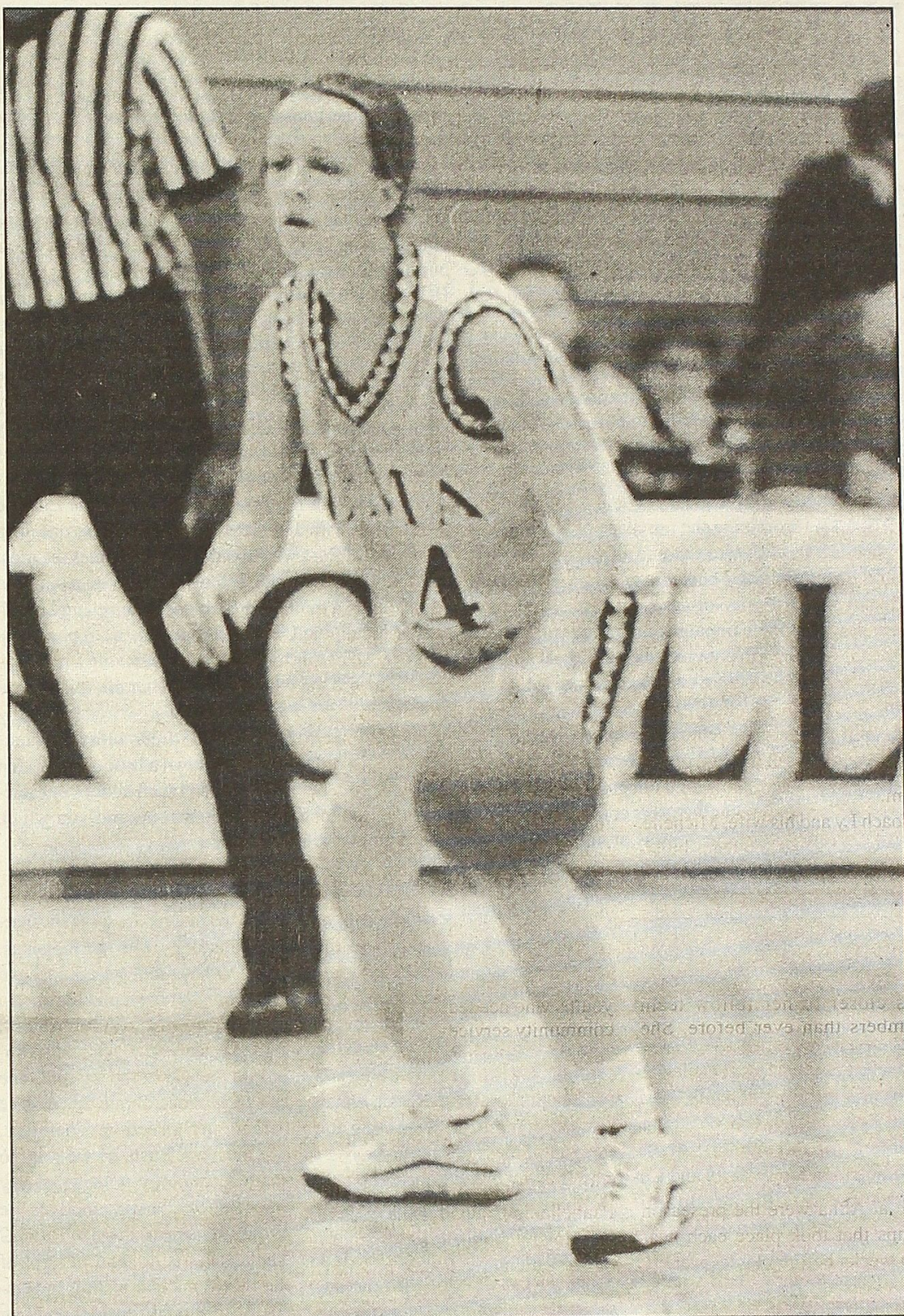
Indiana's senior point guard, Kristy Bistodeau silenced the Alma crowd with back-to-back three pointers. But the Scots would not go away. Shannon Gross (00) came back to hit a three of her own, making it 66-57. After trading baskets, another three by Gross and one by Horton closed the gap to six, 71-65.

The Scots would get no closer as they could not muster any more offense. Indiana would go on to win, 75-67. Leading the way for the Scots was Gross with 16 points, while Ulfig tallied 11 points. First-year student Sarah Kruttlin grabbed 10 rebounds.

On Saturday, the Scots came ready to play and responded to their opening day loss. Alma's offense exploded early and the Scots never looked back. With 14 minutes to go in the game, the Scots had a comfortable 71-51 lead. Unselfish play by guards Rebekah Barker (01) and Horton, with three and six assists respectively, helped the team to an impressive victory over a talented Urbana team that went 15-3 last year.

The Scots posted four players in double figures with Gross again leading the way with 22 points. But the story of this game was the play of the two heralded freshmen. Both Gehrs and Ulfig starred for the Scots. Gehrs tallied 18 points, while Ulfig had 16 points and 14 rebounds. Julie Whitmore (01) contributed 16 points, eight rebounds and five assists, as Barker tallied seven points.

The Scots are back in action tonight at 7:30 when they take on Spring Arbor College at Cappaert Gymnasium.



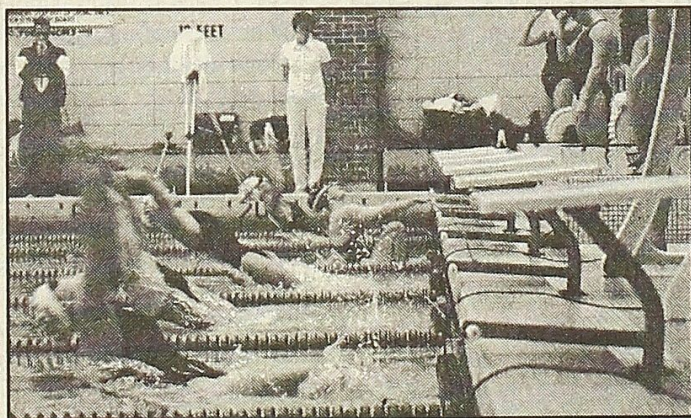
Kristie Gehrs (03) controls the offense against Urbana College.

Tough test for Scots against Calvin and Hope

By KELLY McDONALD
Sports Editor

The league season started tough for the men's and women's swimming and diving teams as they lost to perennial league powers Calvin and Hope. Easily two of their toughest opponents in the league, the Scots men and women hosted Calvin on Wednesday and then traveled to Hope on Saturday for a league showdown.

On the men's side, against Calvin the only bright spots were Justin Fournier (02) and Joey Mead (00). Fournier recorded a first place in the 100 backstroke with a time of :57.63 and finished second in the 50 freestyle in :23.09. Team captain, Mead, led the diving attack with first place in the three meter and a second place in the one meter. Sophomore Dan Schroeder swam the 100 breaststroke in 1:05.83, good for a second place.



The backstrokers bounce off the wall to add to the excitement of the first home meet against Calvin.

The Scots lost to Calvin, 154-79.

For the women, Calvin swept all the first places in every event to outdo the Scots, 168-61. Junior swimmer Andrea Carlson led the way for Alma with two second place finishes. She swam in 11:49.88 in the 1,000 freestyle and 5:46.21 in the 500 freestyle. Senior team captain Katie Zellen also produced a second place finish in the 100 backstroke with a time of 1:03.91.

The Scots were able to capture three other second place finishes. Junior Jenni Troyer in the 200 IM, first-year student Meredith Henry in the 100 freestyle and Junior Christy Doyle in the 100 breaststroke. On Saturday, the team hoped for better results as they traveled to Hope College to take on the Dutchmen. Hope proved to be too much for both Alma squads as the women were defeated, 123-82 and the men lost, 119-91.

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project done around the proposed dates, as opposed to later in the year, a fairly large sum of money would be saved. Installation around the proposed dates would only interfere with the track season.

Buyers are asked to set aside about 75 days for the installation to be completed. A wooden bridge will have to be built above the track surface so that the large machines used in surface replacement will not tear up the track. During the months of March and April, this would interfere with the Scot's only home meet.

There are only a few solutions possible to solve this problem. One, clear the track of the bridge for the day, or two, run the meet at the Alma High School track. The largest problem will be finding a place for the Scots to practice. The exact date for the renovation will be set in the following months.

The money needed for the replacement is still being sought out. The field will be resurfaced though. There is simply not a fund set aside solely for field renovation.

Jerry Scoby, vice president of finance, admitted that setting up a budget for such projects on campus would be a good idea. If a budget were started, it would have to be created for the maintenance and replacement of many school items, such as the former Alma College bus.

Yet, to set up a budget for such items would take capital now, meaning sacrifices must be made to set aside funding. Scoby set it all into perspective, "What will we not do today to set up a fund for something many years down the road?"

No matter the means by which a new field is accomplished, Kridler was very assertive; "[The resurfacing] simply must be done this coming year."

Y2K- YRU Worried?

By DAN JOYCE
Staff Writer

The year 2000 A.D. Everyone has heard the spiel: computers will crash, credit cards will not work, banks will lose all of our money, blah, blah, blah. If all of this happened, losing power could follow. No working gas pumps would be next. How could we Americans possibly live in a dark, Nintendo-less world?

Any company that manufactures gas for electric generators knows that the Y2K bandwagon is riding pretty high right now. A nice generator would emit enough power to run a number of small appliances including your gaming console. This means you need plenty of gas to run your generator.

A smart petroleum company would also board the U.S.S. Y2K. Promoting the purchase of large stocks of gasoline right before the end of the millennium would be a very good business strategy. Better yet, why not raise the price of gas right at the same time these gas stocking campaigns are being run? These companies will try to convince us that a great amount of time will elapse before electrical power would return.

Even if power was eventually restored, would you have enough cash (that green paper and silver coins) to use if your Visa Card would not go through? Many stores and product manufacturers could use this scenario to promote large purchases of nonperishables.

Many companies could try to get a piece of this Y2K pie. Only the consumers stand in their way, or line their pockets.

So what if all of this did happen? Are we all so materialistic that we would be lost without our money and televisions? Believe it or not, lights in a house used to have to be lit manually — not by turning a switch, but by starting a small fire on top of a wax cylinder. Heat was not controlled by a small dial on the wall in the hallway. Heat was increased by going to the basement, finding a nice log that you chopped before the snow fell and placing it on the already lit fire in the fireplace.

Free time and recreational time was wholeheartedly enjoyed by the whole family. Ma would crochet in her rocking chair. Pa would clean his hunting rifle. Sis would play with her homemade dolls. Little Edward would play with Jake, the family dog. The one who had the most fun and relaxation (and, at times the most pain) would be you, pounding a bunch of nails (and occasionally a thumb) into a piece of scrap lumber left over after helping Uncle Ned build his front porch last summer. All of this took place while having a real conversation with the whole family. After all, this is family time.

Americans need to spend more times with their families. We all need to just slow down a little. Enjoy what is around you. Do not worry so much about your television and hamburger. Enjoy that around you which does not have a power cord.

Beating around the Bush: make educated news statements

By CARA BONINE
Staff Reporter

On the night before the European Summit November 17, Russia launched two-nuclear capable missiles at a testing site while President Boris Yeltsin was on a plane heading for the summit. At the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe summit (OSCE), the Russian navy said that the testing was routine and was not an attempt to show their strength and superiority.

"This launch was not unplanned or somehow sudden or unexpected," said a navy spokesman.

"So one should not view this as some kind of step linked to the meeting in Istanbul." Only a few hours before the nuclear testing in Russia, Presidential hopeful George W. Bush told reporters he would be willing to share antimissile technology with Russia if they would commit to preventing the spread of mass destruction.

"It is my broad hope to be able to share the technology as long as they agree not to proliferate weapons of mass destruction. It is a hope we can develop the relationship to the point where we can share technology with them," stated George Bush. It is unfortunate that Bush did not wait a few

hours to state his feelings on sharing technology with the Russians. If he had waited, he could have saved himself from making such a rash foreign policy statement. With Russia testing nuclear weapons on the eve of the summit, one has to wonder about the motive behind such an action. Therefore, one must ask Bush, do we want to share technology with a country whose nuclear testing motives are as questionable as those of Russia? The answer is no, and in light of the recent nuclear testing in Russia, Bush should consider revising his policy on foreign nuclear testing. We should in no way devote energy or information to a country

that is not behind the idea of nuclear weapons being eliminated from all arsenals. Testing weapons prior to the summit proved Russia's intentions may not all be for a "nuclear free society." This naive statement from Bush comes only a few weeks after another foreign policy blunder on his part. When asked by a television reporter, Bush was unable to name the leaders of four counties. Landing himself in another awkward spot with foreign policy is just the opposite of what Bush needs in order to move himself ahead in the political arena.

In order to convince the American public that he is knowledgeable about international affairs, Bush must begin to make educated statements to the media. Statements such as those about the sharing of nuclear technology with Russia are damaging to Bush's credibility and must be avoided at all costs.

Technology a necessity for kids of future

The following is part 3 of a 4 article series

involving critical issues in the education of today's society.

By MICHAEL MURPHY
Opinion Editor

Technology in schools has been a major topic in the discussion of education reform in the past few years of this computer age. President Bill Clinton's National Information Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIIAC) has been formed to demonstrate the necessity of placing technology into schools and classrooms along with investigating ways to ensure achievement of this important goal.

Clinton has highlighted four critical elements that he sees as necessary school elements. These "four pillars" are:

*Making sure that every school is connected to the Internet;

*Making sure that adequate hardware is found in classrooms so that instructional use will be improved;

*Making sure that there is proper content for teachers to place into their lessons and over all curricula;

*Making sure that teachers do in fact have the essential skills needed to incorporate the technology in their lessons.

Annual education and technical assessments are made to look into the progress of integrating technology into the classroom. Without a doubt, this plan to integrate technology in classrooms is necessary if the children of today are able to function in society. Technology has become such a prevalent factor in the world today that it seems only logical that technology become a major element in our school systems. If students have computers along with other forms of technology such as robotics and computer aided design networks, they will be given a whole new perspective on learning. First, computers will help make learning fun. The quick pace of computers will help stimulate students' minds so that they do not get bored when learning. They will want to come to school to learn because it will be enjoyable.

Secondly, computers make learning more interesting for people. They have the ability to captivate people. Students will surely be drawn in by the many

interesting educational programs that computers have to offer. Computers will help students learn more things on their own. They will not have to learn from some other person. Essentially, they will be able to learn from the various programs and information services on the computer. They will see that they do not have to learn by merely listening to someone. Rather, students will realize that they can take the initiative to learn by themselves by merely jumping onto the computer.

Computers will also make learning a foreign language easier by giving students various forms of exercises to work on. This will supplement their teachers' lectures, thus giving them more work with the foreign language. By being connected to the Internet, students will see more than the world surrounding them. They will be able to see places that they never new existed. Students can take "road trips" through various cities, states and countries by logging onto the Internet. Furthermore, students will be able to contact students all across the United States and the world through e-mail. They will develop relationships with people they never met, learning more about diverse cultures thereby furthering their overall knowledge.

Incorporating computers in the classroom will not only benefit students but teachers as well. Teachers will be able to have store databases, worksheets, questions, letters and professional-related documents on the computer. They will be able to incorporate PowerPoint presentations into their lectures, helping to visually stimulate their students. Colorful slide shows can also be produced on the computer, enhancing the quality of lecture.

There is no doubt that incorporating computers and technology in classrooms will help students. They will learn more. They will enjoy learning more. They will enjoy school more. Plus, they will be more prepared for careers because of the added technology.

Computers and technology in classrooms will help students build upon the core curriculum that they are normally taught. Students will prosper because of the computer age. Learning will never be the same. It will only be made better because of the computer.

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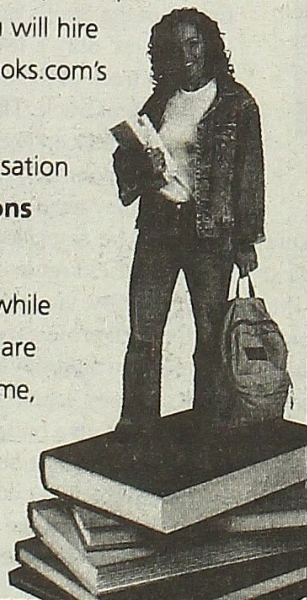
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Make room for Songfest!

BY AMY TAYLOR and
KATIE BEAM
Staff Writers

Songfest which was held Friday, November 12 in the Chapel was a time in which students could display their musical talents in a competition. The event was hosted by Alma College Union Board. Kevin Stanley (00) was the MC and the event proved to be a night of fun for those who attended and participated.

Even though the night was a success, Songfest still needed some improvements to make the competition better. As participants we were disappointed when we were told to stay in the basement of the chapel while everyone else was seated. If there were any seats left for the large and small group

members we could then go up and sit. This decision was made only after the groups complained about missing the entire show.

Certain members of ACUB told us we would be too loud and disruptive when a group left the audience to perform. We pointed out that there was an intermission between soloists and groups and we could leave the audience without being disruptive, but members of ACUB still would not reason and became a little forceful with keeping us downstairs.

After waiting for five minutes we went upstairs anyway to see a completely full Chapel so we stood up to be approximately two hours before the intermission. We believe we also deserve the opportunity to watch the show and not be trapped

in the basement or standing in the back.

We understand ACUB planned the night for other students and family to watch, but there were ways to remedy the situation. We could have been seated in the back; ACUB could have turned people away or found another location for the event.

We propose that Songfest be held in the Heritage Center Presbyterian Hall which comfortably seats 489 people with much more standing room for the audience. The Chapel holds over 600 people but those who went on that Friday night know how crowded and stuffy it was. In actuality the Chapel only holds 450 seats.

After speaking with Linda from the Heritage Center we learned that ACUB never attempted to book

Answer to last week's crossword puzzle

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the Presbyterian Hall. We recommend booking Presbyterian Hall next year for Songfest because it is an annual event that can be booked a significant amount of time in advance. Songfest 2000 would be more enjoyable for both the audience and participants if held in the Presbyterian Hall.

Sports Track by Michael Murphy

The Breakdown

The Lions look like geniuses after signing Gus Frerotte to be Charlie Batch's backup. Their pick of Sedrick Irvin in the fourth round is also paying dividends as he has turned out some decent numbers.

Speaking of the Lions, they have commenced with the groundbreaking for the Lions new stadium - Ford Field - in downtown Detroit. Maybe Detroit will be able to host a Super Bowl by the time we are 30, for the chances of them hosting one in the Silverdome are as good as a snowball's chance in the Sahara.

The Pistons are off to a pathetic start this season. There is not much else to say to them except they have not brought their game to the season yet.

The Wings are doing very well. They have the character and poise to challenge heavily for the Cup. I like their acquisition of Pat Verbeek. He is another individual that is a solid player who will only enhance the Wings' playoff chances.

Brendan Shanahan is having an excellent year and has eclipsed the 400-career goal milestone.

Speaking of milestones, Steve Yzerman has already eclipsed the 900-career assist milestone and will score his 600th goal within the next few games. He is in an elite club. Hopefully these milestones bring him the recognition that he deserves as one of the best ever. You would have thought that leading the Wings to two Stanley Cups would have cemented him in with the very best of hockey.

The Tigers look like cheese puffs after not signing Alan Trammell to be their hitting coach. So, Tram

will be helping the Padres with their hitting. San Diego has gotten a winner and the Tigers are looking like chumps.

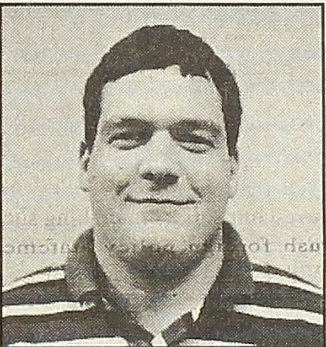
The Wolverines have rebounded very nicely after blowing a 20 point lead to the Fighting Illini. Their comeback victory over the Nittany Lions showed their resolve and willingness to fight adversity.

Speaking of the Wolverines and Illini, the Big Ten is the toughest it has ever been this year. Every team - except for Northwurstion - is tough and can challenge for the victory in any game. Take the Minnesota Golden Gophers, the Fighting Illini and the Indiana Hoosiers for example. Those three schools had been easy victories in years' past. Now, they scare any team they play.

Isn't it great that Ohio State is playing great nowadays? I know that us Michiganders are enjoying seeing their tremendously horrid and ridiculous season. The Buckeyes. What a bunch of nuts.

It is very nice seeing the Broncos of Western Michigan University playing so well. They have bucked themselves into a chance to go to a bowl game, and that would be a wonderful statement to a team that was in the doldrums of the MAC. So, Steffi Graf has retired from tennis. It is quite sad, as she was one of the best ever. It only leaves room for the younger players - like the Williams sisters and Anna Kournikova - to try to live up to her tennis standards.

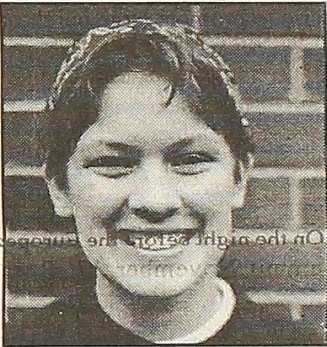
And these, my fellow sports fans, are the latest of happenings in the wide world of sports.



"Yes, I've played on it before. Every year sand comes up through the turf and someone has to come out and resew the seams that have ripped. The ripped seams cause injuries to players that could be avoided with new turf."
Steve Bouvy (01)

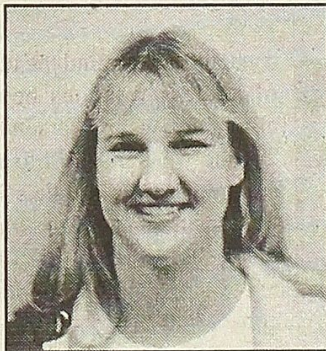


"Definitely. Through I.M. football, I know how hard the field is. I think it should be changed for the safety of the players."
Andy Cashin (01)

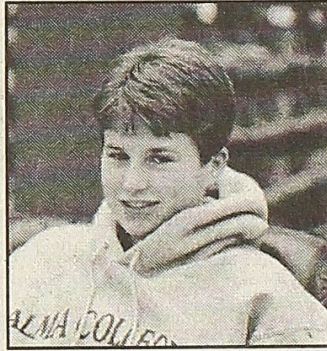


"I guess if the school has a spare \$600,000 floating around and there is nothing better to do with it, then go for it. There are enough people walking around campus on crutches."
Rachel Edge (02)

Campus
Views



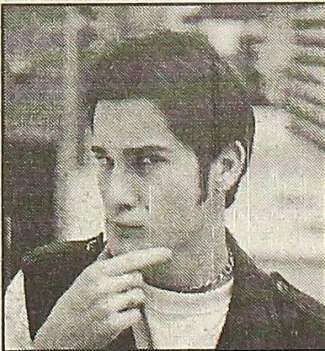
"Yes, upkeep on the field will help our team continue to improve on this season."
Anne Griffith (02)



"Sure, too many injuries are occurring because the field is in horrible shape."
Tracy Lentz (01)



"What's wrong with it? I only go to the games to see the guys in kilts. If the guys in kilts have a problem marching on it, then it should be redone."
Kaitlyn Sawa (03)



"Our field is in bad shape. When I'm marching on it I don't want to slip and fall, since I go 'true Scot'. I wouldn't want anyone to see 'all of me'."
Matt Friar (03)



"I don't know anything about football, but I'd rather play on real grass than on turf. I don't know what the guys prefer, but that's what I think."
Jen Riedlinger (02)

Staff Editorial

Two ovens a heated issue

As most of you probably do not know, there are only two places on all of campus that a student is able to cook an entire meal without the use of a microwave. These places are Newberry Hall and Gelston Hall. What does or should this mean to everyone else?

Every residence hall on campus has a laundry room and small kitchenettes. However, the only actual stovetops and ovens are in the basements of Newberry and Gelston. It is great that there is an oven in Gelston, this actually puts forth a positive sign. It says to me, "Maybe there are people here that would like to cook." However, the oven in Newberry is the one that bothers me a little.

Just because the inhabitants of Newberry are all female does not mean that they are the only ones who do actual cooking. Perhaps some of the inhabitants of Bruske would like to prepare a meal. They would not be able to with-

out traveling across campus with their food.

Personally, I think that the oven in Newberry screams out, "Hey! Girls live here! Let us give them an oven so that they can become good homemakers!" This shows tendencies toward a very sexist distribution of equipment. Whoever is in charge of furnishing the dorms should either find a way to put an oven in all of the dorms. I think that this would be the best solution.

"I don't know why the oven is even down there. It's been used probably three times so far this year. One person made cookies, but other than that no one has really used it," said one Newberry resident. "I mean, how many people really have a place in their tiny refrigerator to keep the necessary things to actually cook?"

Every once and a while there may be someone who does want to cook a meal, maybe for their girlfriend or boyfriend. However,

this is a rare occurrence. No one really has the time to cook real food. Nonetheless, most students do not have sufficient funds to go out to eat either. This could put some students in a hard place when trying to be romantic or trying to be nice. In this case, having the oven in that hall could be a good thing, but only if those people really feel like eating in the basement of Newberry or Gelston, which does not seem like a pleasant idea.

Maybe this has raised a few eyebrows, maybe it has made a few of you think about what the signal the oven in Newberry gives off and the signal the oven in Gelston gives off. It signifies a subtle sort of sexism here on our campus. Perhaps the campus should consider getting more ovens. I know that I personally feel slighted by the fact that I cannot prepare a meal in my hall of residence, even if I wanted to.

Classifieds

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editors:

As Brothers of the Theta Chi Fraternity, the comments in the article entitled "Spirit Rock Surgery" were slanderous and unfounded. The author wrote, "These individuals have remained anonymous, however the buzz around campus places the blame on the fraternity Theta Chi." This comment has no place in the realm of journalism. Before an article is written, there should be strong evidence that the statements contained within are true.

Although it is accurate to say that some members of Theta Chi do not find "Spirit" in the rock, that does not prove that the group took it upon themselves to eliminate the "Spirit of the Rock." For any person to jump to the conclusion that the action was supported by or carried out by the chapter of Theta Chi is preposterous. The next time that *The Almanian* sets out to place blame on a single organization, they may want to examine the facts a little more carefully.

Rumors are not journalism — unless *The Almanian* wants to be seen in the same genre as *The National Enquirer*. Everyone has the right to have an opinion, but to spread that opinion as truth is absurd. This is especially true when it comes from a source that should

have been conceived upon the ideals of "journalistic integrity."

Bill Dever (02)
Bernie Brooks (02)
Adam Matthew Lincoln (02)

* * * * *

Dear Editor:

Over the past few months, members of ACUB have been hearing from fellow students that, "There is nothing to do on campus." We, the members of The Alma College Union Board, beg to differ! Two weeks ago, ACUB was presented with the Outstanding Overall Programming Award by the National Association for Campus Activities (Great Lakes region) at its annual conference. This award celebrates the diverse and exemplary programming that the Union Board provides for the entire Alma College community.

ACUB strives to provide a comprehensive and unique blend of campus programming including musicians, comedians, novelty acts, Songfest, the All-Nighter, Mock Rock, Casino Night, Coffeehouses, a Carnival for Little Sibs Weekend, in addition to providing entertainment for Bursting the Bubble Weekend and Homecoming week.

ACUB attempts to reach stu-

dents, administrators and faculty through its constant advertisement of their events. We enjoy great participation for many events and sadly, sometimes not so great attendance for others. ACUB is a student-funded, student-run organization that seeks to meet Alma College's student needs. We hope that you enjoy our events and will continue to make ACUB events an even greater success throughout the rest of the year.

We believe that there are things to do on this campus. It is up to you — the members of this great campus community — to attend these events and let us know what you liked and what you did not like so that we can better serve your needs.

Your student dollars have already been allocated. Why not put your money to use and attend some of the great programming provided by ACUB and other organizations here on campus!

Thank You,
The ACUB Executive Board

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THE ALMANIAN
Judgement Calls

Thumbs up to the hard-working Almanian staff.
Thumbs down to those that do not complain but do not contribute.

Thumbs up to "true Scot."
Thumbs down to streakers.

Thumbs up to Turkey dinner.
Thumbs down to be so "stuffed" you can't move.

Thumbs up to ACUB for providing alcohol-free entertainment opportunities to the campus community.
Thumbs down to those who don't take advantage of these opportunities and complain that there is nothing to do.

Thumbs up to the great after Thanksgiving sales!
Thumbs down to waiting in line all day.

Thumbs up to great attendance at Songfest '99.
Thumbs down that there were no seats because of great attendance.

Thursday's Weather



Partly Cloudy
Hi: 46°
Low: 29°

Friday's Weather



Showers
Hi: 49°
Low: 31°

Saturday's Weather



Scattered Showers
Hi: 47°
Low: 35°