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The Almanian

March 25, 1997

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 21

Honors Day starts a new Alma tradition

By Staci Hill
News Editor

For those students who have yet to realize it, the end of the term is fast approaching. But before finals and commencement comes the tradition of Honors Convocation. This year the tradition changes for the induction of Honors Day into the Alma College academic calendar.

Honors Day will take place all day Thursday, April 3. The annual Honors Convocation will be incorporated into the day at 9:30 a.m. in Cappaert Gymnasium. All classes and laboratories will be canceled to allow students to take advantage of the activities offered.

The highlight of the day will be presentations by over 125 students in 24 departments and programs.

Students will present their work at pre-scheduled times from 8 a.m. until 5:45 p.m. on Honors Day. Each presentation will last about 15 minutes in rooms all over campus that have been assigned to the student presenters. A full schedule of all Honors Day events, including each presentation, will be distributed this week to the entire campus community.

Chair of the Honors Day committee, John Davis, associate professor of exercise and health science and chair of the department, expressed his excitement for the project. "The day is to honor student achievement and the wonderful things students are doing on campus; how better than to let students present their work."

Davis also commented on the reason classes were canceled. "It is not a day where faculty get up and lecture. This could have been easily done on a Saturday, but it would not have been as important. Faculty giving up a day of classes shows the importance of it."

An incentive for students to attend the presentations has been created by WQAC, ACUB and the Honors Day committee. If students attend at least two presentations they will receive a ticket for an all campus concert on Friday, April 5, at 10 p.m. in the gym. The concert

features three bands: *Rosemary Caine*, *The End* and *Hog Leg*.

To kick off the Honors Day events, Richard Selzer, M.D., will speak Wednesday, April 2, at 8 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Davis mentioned the title of Honors Day, "A Celebration of the Liberal Arts," in relation to Selzer's visit and the student presentations.

Davis commented, "We wanted to get someone in who was not focused on only science, art, or the humanities, but truly across all disciplines. He [Selzer] was here several years ago and we had a session in Dow L1 where it was standing room only; he captivated the audience...so he has a connection to Alma already and will represent the day well."

The committee decided that it would be fitting to give Selzer an honorary degree at Honors Convocation. This event will be shorter than in the past as Selzer would have spoke the night before; usually the recipient of an honorary degree speaks at convocation. Students will also be recognized at "Convo" including the graduating seniors, senior leaders, Barlow Award nominees and honor society inductees. Faculty awards are given as well.

The campus will celebrate with special luncheons for student presenters and their faculty sponsors, and for the awardees at convocation. There will be an all campus picnic for dinner on Thursday.

The Alma College Theatre production of *Sight Unseen* at 8 p.m. on Thursday is included in the Honors Day schedule. Davis commented on the pre-show presentation of the work that went into the production. "I wonder how they pull it all together; I am amazed at how they learn the lines. It will be interesting to see the things that go on behind the scenes."

Davis hopes that Honors Day will be an annual event. "This is the first annual Honors Day so there will be some rough edges...I am pretty passionate and pretty excited about it. It is fun to see students doing great things."



The Clothesline Project ran from Tuesday through Thursday of last week. Held in the lobby of Dow, many students, faculty, administrators, staff and members of the community attended the showing. Here, Wilcox Medical Center Nurse Denise Bouchee and junior Michelle Colville pose in front of some of the t-shirts. Photo by Jon Croff.

Barlow nominees announced

By Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

Three senior students are nominated annually for the prestigious Barlow Trophy. The Barlow Trophy was established by Joel Barlow, class of 1929, in order to honor graduating seniors who have been active in campus and community activities and maintained standards of academic excellence, among other factors. Monique Averill, Staci Hill and Mark Skinner are this year's nominees.

Faculty and Student Congress cast their ballots for the trophy last Monday and the final result will be announced at Honors Convocation on April 3.

Averill believes that volunteering has helped her decide what she hopes to do with her life. A biochemistry major, Averill says that volunteering has "taught me what the community expects out of the medical personnel."

"Volunteering showed me that I loved the community-oriented part of medicine," she said.

After she graduates, Averill plans to attend medical school at either Wayne State University or Michigan State University.

While at Alma, she has been active in Students Offering Service (SOS), Students United for Nature (SUN), is a member of Gamma Delta Alpha, the women's honor society, and Omicron Delta Kappa, the national leadership honorary. Averill was a National Humanitarian finalist along with participating in Alma's Women's History Project and the Adopt-A-Grandparent program.

Averill believes that "the experience I've gained through the volunteer programs has been my absolute best."

She enjoys Alma because of all the opportunities and more individualistic education a small school offers. She also had the opportunity to study in Jamaica, where she worked in health clinics and with traveling nurses and had what she considers a "truly amazing experience."

Averill was honored to be nomi-

nated for the Barlow Trophy. "I know that there are so many outstanding nominees on campus ... I was surprised to hear I was a candidate. It was a true honor."

Hill has been actively involved in the Alma community since her arrival to campus. Hill will graduate this spring with a bachelor of science in biochemistry and a bachelor of arts in English.

She feels her two majors and vast interests help make her a well rounded individual.

Hill has been involved in the Alma College Dance Company for four years, is a section editor for *The Almanian*, a resident assistant in Newberry Hall, a volunteer at the Masonic Home, a member of the Gamma Phi Beta Sorority and is involved in five other honor societies as well.

She also helped in founding the Alma Young Democrats and works with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Adopt-a-Family, Adopt-A-School and Adopt-A-Highway volunteer

—see BARLOW, p. 2

• NEWS BRIEFS •

• **Student Congress minutes** are now available on e-mail. Anyone interested in receiving minutes via e-mail should contact Student Congress Secretary Jenn Tripp at 98Tripp.

• **Tickets for commencement and graduation brunch** are now available at main switch in Reid Knox. Seniors can receive up to eight complimentary tickets for commencement and three for the brunch, including their own ticket to the brunch.

• The **Women's History Month** event "Life After Alma" featuring a panel of female Alma alumnae, will take place Thursday, March 27, at 8 p.m. in Jones Auditorium.

• **Classes will end** at 12:30 p.m. on Good Friday, March 28.

• The **Alma College Percussion Ensemble** will perform works by DeGastine, Houliiff, Gillingham and others Saturday, March 29 at 8 p.m. in Presbyterian Hall. Admission is free.

• **Sight Unseen**, performed by the Alma College Theatre opens Thursday, April 3 at 8 p.m. Shows continue Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Heritage Center Theatre. Tickets are still available by calling the box office at x7304. Attention: this play contains explicit language and adult situations.

March 25, 1997

Students present papers at Michigan Academy

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

Many Alma College students presented their hard work and research this weekend at the annual meeting of The Michigan Academy of Science, Arts and Letters. Calvin College in Grand Rapids hosted the event.

A two-day affair, some students left at 6 a.m. on Friday to arrive at Calvin College at 8 a.m., not returning until around 7 p.m. Other students did not make the trip until Saturday.

Those students presenting at Michigan Academy spent many hours doing research and then pre-

paring it for presentation. Sophomore Jenny Souva commented that most students presenting, at least those supervised by David Clark, assistant professor of biology, conducted their research at least through fall term, spent about two weeks preparing slides and then practiced their presentations during the past few weeks.

Each presenter had 15 minutes to give their presentations. Many of the actual presentations were 12 to 13 minutes, leaving the remaining time open for questions from audience members consisting of both professors and students.

There were presentations on a variety of topics in just about every

subject manner. The subjects represented at Michigan Academy ranged in scope from administration to zoology to cinema studies. Besides the regular presentations, people were able to attend a variety of special sessions, panels and symposiums.

James Vanden Bosch, associate professor of English at Calvin College, was the luncheon speaker. He spoke on issues related to the future of the professoriate.

Souva stated, "It was a good learning experience. I was nervous, but it went well and I think that doing it will help in the future. Everyone else also did well."

Alma College Michigan Academy presenters

In addition to several Alma College faculty presenters, 28 students presented their work during the two-day conference.

- Botany: Sarah Hypio (98)
- Computer science: Brian Martin (97), James Blum (97) and Nathan Woodhams (98)
- Foreign language and literature/French: Lori McMann (97) and Julie Wilson (98)
- History: Monica Hoeft (97)
- Language and literature: Anne

DeLind (97)

• Political science: Christopher Trebilcock (97) and Amy Tcholak (00)

• Psychology: Denise Vernon (97), Christopher Girard (97), Victoria Kissane (97), Catherine Sinclair (97), Alicia Sanchez (98), and Cynthia Miller (98).

• Religious studies: Lisa Yoder (97), Kathryn Taylor (97), Jessica Bushore (97), and Michelle Massey (98)

• Zoology: Don Hoffman (97), Monique Averill (97), Amy Brumm (97), Aaron Adams (97), Samantha Jacobs (97), John Zielinski (98), Todd Ruiter (98), and Jenny Souva (99)

Kiltie Band gains admission to Student Congress

By Laura Paetz
Freelance Writer

Student Congress representatives voted last week to allow the Alma College Kiltie Marching Band to become a recognized student organization in Student Congress, despite the Constitutional Review Committee's recommendation not to allow them to join.

According to Jenn Tripp (98), Student Congress secretary and member of the Constitutional Review Committee, the Kiltie Band's admission was not recommended for three major reasons: the band already receives a budget from the music department, many of the band members are awarded scholarships for their participation in the band and members receive class credit for their performances.

Though the Kiltie Band's admittance raised questions of whether classes should be allowed to become Student Congress members, such as the Model UN Team, representatives voted 25-7 in favor of allowing the band into Student Congress with the stipulation that the organization cannot request a budget.

"I want to make it clear that our intention to join Student Congress is to get a seat on Student Congress," said Kiltie Band Manager Tom Burzyck (97). "If we get funds, that's an added bonus.

However, that is not our intention."

Burzyck and Kiltie Band Librarian Lenore Giannunzio (99) restructured the Kiltie Band's constitution and submitted it to Student Congress's Constitutional Review Committee after questioning during fall term why the band had never sought membership before.

"Anything that big should have a say in what goes on on this campus," said Burzyck.

Though the Kiltie Band did not expect any funding, they proposed a budget for the 1997-98 year. According to Burzyck, the music department cut the amount of money they allotted to the band for band camp. Because of this cut, the Kiltie Band was able to prepare for one day—instead of the normal three days—for early fall term performances.

Additionally, the band would like extra money to help fund fall and winter term banquets to honor band members and breakfast foods for game days when the band starts practice before Hamilton Commons opens for brunch.

Burzyck said he does not mind being denied a budget since that was not the band's intention in seeking admission to Student Congress. He hopes that the Kiltie Band's membership will help bring band members together in decision making situations.

tions on campus and in the community. He has been a leader on campus through Chi Epsilon Mu and Chem Club. OAK recognizes his contribution to the community as a coordinator for Future Generations. To nominate someone for OAK Leader of the Week contact OAK President Anne Murphy (98), Vice-President Sarah Hypio (98), or Secretary Jen Bade (98).

SC grants less funding for 1997-98

By Laura Paetz
Freelance Writer

As campus organizations begin planning next year's events, they may find that appealing to Student Congress (SC) for contingency will be the only way to fund their activities.

According to SC Vice President Ray Tessier (98), most campus groups will receive cuts in funding despite a \$5 proposed increase in the student activity fee. A budget deficit, decreasing enrollment and the addition of seven new campus organizations are the causes for this decreased funding.

The budget deficit, estimated by the SC Budget and Finance Committee to be \$3386.50, is the result of inaccurately estimating enrollment. SC, in conjunction with the student affairs office, estimated that 1,400 students—not including commuters or overseas students—would be on campus during the 1996-97 year. The actual enrollment was 1330.5. Total funds allocated in this year's budget was \$185,343; however, because of the inaccurate enrollment count, SC received only \$176,956.50 in student activity fees—a difference of

\$8386.50. SC used \$4,500 in emergency contingency funds to cover some of this loss.

"This leaves Student Congress with a shortfall of \$3886.50, which must either come from funds remaining in organizations' accounts at the end of the year (they roll back into the general Student Congress emergency account) or from next year's budget," said Tessier in a report originating from the March

The student activity fee would have to increase to \$174.88 in order to give all organizations all the money they requested in budget proposals.

20 Budget and Finance Committee meeting. "This year's Budget and Finance Committee is budgeting for the worst case scenario where we have to pay the entire deficit next year. In turn, we are subtracting \$3386.50 from next year's available funding to cover the deficit."

According to Tessier, many organizations were granted substantial sums of money for unplanned

events this year. In order to compensate for the deficit, SC has allocated less money to individual organizations.

"We are planning on a contingency fund account of roughly \$10,000 (as opposed to this year's contingency budget of about \$3,500) to enable organizations to sponsor additional events that demonstrate proper planning," said Tessier. "This will enable SC funds to be used as needed since they won't stagnate in accounts of organizations that don't sponsor any of the events they propose."

The Budget and Finance Committee are estimating next year's enrollment to be 1315—15 students less than this year's enrollment, leaving SC with a total funding projection of \$174,895 if the \$5 student activity fee is not passed during general elections March 31-April 2. The increase is a 3.6% raise in the current activity fee of \$133.

"The opportunities these groups provide students, as well as their potential for boosting the college's recognition and reputation regionally and nationally, clearly deserve the \$138 they will cost next year," said Tessier.

BARLOW—continued from page 1

programs.

Hill has enjoyed Alma because it is a liberal arts college and has provided her with the opportunity to explore many areas of study at once. She hopes that her contributions have given something back to the college in a significant way.

Hill will attend Michigan State University's medical school in the fall and hopes to focus on women's health.

She was surprised to be nominated, but happy three vastly different people were chosen to be recognized.

Skinner transferred to Alma from Mid-Michigan Community College and is majoring in sociology because he sees "its utility in bringing about positive social change."

Skinner spent a summer with the

Urban Life Center in Chicago teaching summer school in a public housing development.

"Until you have a chance to work with people on a daily basis who don't have much, it's hard to see how lucky that you are and how unjust the system is," he said.

Skinner is also active in the United Coalition of Students, was a co-chair of Alma's sociology club in its first year and a member since, has been campaign manager for the Alma Young Democrats and participates in intramural sports.

He is also involved in a Social Theory Reading Group, has volunteered at a reading program in Saginaw, at the Community Cafe and is currently tutoring two students.

Skinner feels that Alma has

taught him "to stop worrying about the grade and start being able to analyze things and look at them in depth ... to learn for the sake of learning and the good it can do."

After graduation, Skinner hopes to go to graduate school to study social work or sociology, though his mind is not yet quite clear.

"Someday I think I'd enjoy teaching at the college level," he said. "But there are many things I'd like to do first."

He was shocked to be one of the final three nominees for the Barlow Trophy. "I read the letter about 18 times, I was so shocked," he said. "I certainly did not expect it."

"I'm a tough person to satisfy," he said. "I want to feel for the rest of my life that I am doing something significant."

Brian Nielsen (97) has been chosen as this week's Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) Leader of the Week. ODK, the national leadership honor society at Alma College, selects one non-ODK member each week to receive this honor.

Nielsen was chosen for his outstanding contribu-



Sophomore Meredith Yost dances in ACDC's last performance of the year. Photo by Derek Warner.

ACDC earns acclaim for year's last performance

By Charlotte Grant
Freelance Writer

The Alma College Dance Company held its final performances for the 1996 season this past weekend. The performance featured ten pieces, comprising a blend of modern dance, tap dance and ballet.

Well attended by the college and the community, House Manager Jenni Olson (97) said there were 380 people at Friday's concert. The large audience was due in part to Little Siblings Weekend. Dan Axford, assistant director of admissions, commented, "Just from little siblings there were 176 registered people, but in actuality there were probably more."

The performance was enjoyed by both audience members and dancers alike. "This is the Life," choreographed by Kelly Martell (00) and Nichole Rhodes (00), was particularly liked by senior Dinice Buitendorp, who said, "I thoroughly enjoyed the piece 'This is the Life.' The costumes and choreography were fantastic. Together they exu-

berated life."

Working hard, the dancers put a lot of effort into the concert. However, this did not mean that they did not have fun. "I love dancing for Alma College Dance Company," commented Meredith Yost (97). "I love working with all the girls. I thank Tom Morris and Carol Fike for the opportunity to dance."

A lot of work was also put into the choreography of the performance. The pieces were choreographed by students and professors, as well as Linda Sievers, a visiting choreographer from Humboldt State University in California. According to Sievers, her piece "Recall the Lost Joys" was a call for harmony. "This work is dedicated to the violent times in which we live. May we all be restored by recalling the lost joys of people moving together in harmonious and respectful validation of all that is supportive to life and the natural order of the planet."

Another piece, "In Passing," carried a dedication as well. Choreographed by Carol Fike, the piece,

consisting of both dancers and projected slides, was dedicated to her friend, who passed away due to cancer earlier this year. "She would've loved that piece," stated Fike. "Everything was passing, my friend passed away, the slides passed. Even the dancers passed. It was a difficult piece for them."

Fike got the idea for combining dance with photographs from Assistant Professor of Art and Design Sandy Lopez-Isnardi when she visited the Clack Art Gallery during Lopez-Isnardi's photography showing. "I saw Sandy's wonderful work and contacted her. She said she had always wanted to do a piece combining art and dance."

Leah Christopher (97) agreed with the concept of combining art and dance. "A lot of man hours went into 'In Passing.' The dancers were tremendous. It was nice to see a collaboration between the art and dance departments."

Overall, everyone felt the concert went well. "It was thrilling," says Fike. "We got a standing ovation."

Kiltie Band to perform Holy Week concert

By Cheryl Lenard
Freelance Writer

Several selections to be played on Maundy Thursday are designed to put the Alma College Kiltie Band audience in an Easter mood. The sixty-five member Alma College Kiltie Band will play several seasonal selections as well as a few other band classics.

The first half of the concert will include the Welsh hymn, "Rhosymedre" and Leonard Bernstein's "Almighty Father." Senior Jackson Martin will conduct Frank Ticheli's version of the classic hymn, "Amazing Grace."

This selection is not only appropriate for the concert because of the upcoming Easter holiday, but also because Frank Ticheli, one of the front composers in American band music, has ties to Alma College.

He taught here for a short time in 1988. Currently, he is at the University of Southern California. Junior Jennifer Corry says of the music, "It is perfect for the Easter season."

For the second half of the concert, the band will play three band favorites. The first, "Chorale and Shaker Dance" by John Zdechlik, is a selection based on the old Shaker melody "Simple Gifts."

Next, the music of Leonard Bernstein will again appear in the concert in a medley of songs from his Broadway shows arranged by Clare Grundman. Grundman had arranged many selections for bands before her death last year. This medley was her last arrangement.

Finally, the group will perform the John Philip Sousa classic "Washington Post March," a song named after the famous newspa-

per.

"We are really excited about the concert," said senior Megan Brunelle. "The music is really varied."

Last winter, due to size constraints, the Alma College Kiltie Band split into two groups, the Kiltie Band and the Alma Winds.

Doug Scripps, director of the Kiltie Band, professor of music and chair of the music department, commented, "They [the Winds and the Kiltie Band] are two entirely different groups. The Kiltie Band plays traditional band music and the Winds play more new and unusual music for wind instruments."

Sophomore Sara Schrader said that "It's been a lot of work preparing for it, but it will all pay off in the end with a great concert."

The concert starts at 8 p.m. and should last just over an hour.

Student Congress election schedule

- Monday, March 24: Pick up application forms at Student Congress office after 5 p.m.
- Thursday, March 27: Petitions due by 5 p.m. at the Student Congress office. Signs advertising candidates may be put up at 5 p.m.
- Monday, March 31–Wednesday, April 2: Vote in Hamilton Commons during lunch and dinner. All signs must be taken down by 8 p.m. on April 2.
- Monday, April 7: Election results are announced at the Student Congress meeting at 6:30 p.m. in SAC 113.

Election topics:

- Student Congress executive committee
- Class officers and associate trustees
- Student activity fee increase
- Student Congress constitutional changes, which include
 - Allowing second term first-year students to run for secretary or treasurer
 - Establishment of bylaws to its constitution
 - A section containing a procedure to remove executive officers
 - Official establishment of the Student Affairs Committee
 - A section stating that "Any student organization in which a student receives college credits for being a member of, that falls under the jurisdiction of Student Congress, shall be limited to a fixed budget as determined by Student Congress Executive Committee in conjunction with the Student Budget and Finance Committee."
 - Sections explicitly stating organizations that are members of Student Congress, the student activity fee and executive committee salaries

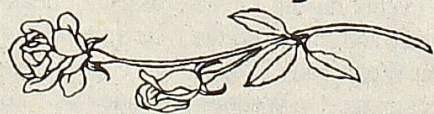
Students must vote on whether or not they agree with the proposed changes in Student Congress's constitution. The constitution will be available, with changes highlighted, at the voting table in Hamilton Commons. Constitutions will also be available outside the Student Congress office across from the Student Affairs office. Questions about these changes should be directed to Student Congress Secretary Jenn Tripp during her office hours: Mondays from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Almanian applications available for 1997-1998

Applications are available for all *Almanian* positions and can be picked up outside *The Almanian* office, located in the Newberry basement. Applications are due back to *The Almanian* by Friday, April 4.

All positions are paid.

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March 25, 1997

Star Wars returns to the big screen

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

"A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away..." Thus begins the saga of *Star Wars*, the battle of the "good" side of the Force versus the "dark" side of the Force.

The digital enhancements, plus the addition of scenes previously cut or remade make the re-releases just as exciting to watch as the originals from a generation ago.

Fans can see the two great battles between Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader, who Luke eventually learns is his father.

Fans can once again witness the power of the evil Emperor as he attempts to destroy "Young Skywalker," only to be thrown into oblivion by his henchman, Darth Vader. By saving his son's life, Vader also saves himself. With the help of his son, he turns back to the good side of the Force.

Movie-goers again laugh as the Ewoks, possibly the most harmless creatures in the entire trilogy, aid in the crucial "final" victory over the Galactic Empire.

Those who now have the chance to see the trilogy on the big screen for the first time can be amazed by

the entire production, whether it be the music of John Williams, the genius of George Lucas, or just James Earl Jones as the voice of Darth Vader. Who did not get a lump in their throats when Vader died, or when Luke told Princess Leia that she was his twin sister?

In *The Empire Strikes Back*, first-time viewers are introduced to Yoda, Jedi Master, of the Degaba system. Yoda trains Luke to become a Jedi by the amazing example of what can be accomplished with the Force. Yoda, old, feeble and little, yet with the Force, lifted Skywalker's fighter jet out of the swamp.

The most hated, yet possibly most intriguing character is the Emperor. As the ultimate villain, viewers want to hate him. Yet everyone laughs at his sarcastic quips. He always has a comeback. When Luke tells him that his overconfidence is his weakness, the Emperor responds, "And your faith in your friends is yours!" And even though he loses, he does so only because Vader blind-sides him while he is attempting to kill Luke.

Despite three two a half hour movies, fans are still left with many curiosities. First and foremost, what

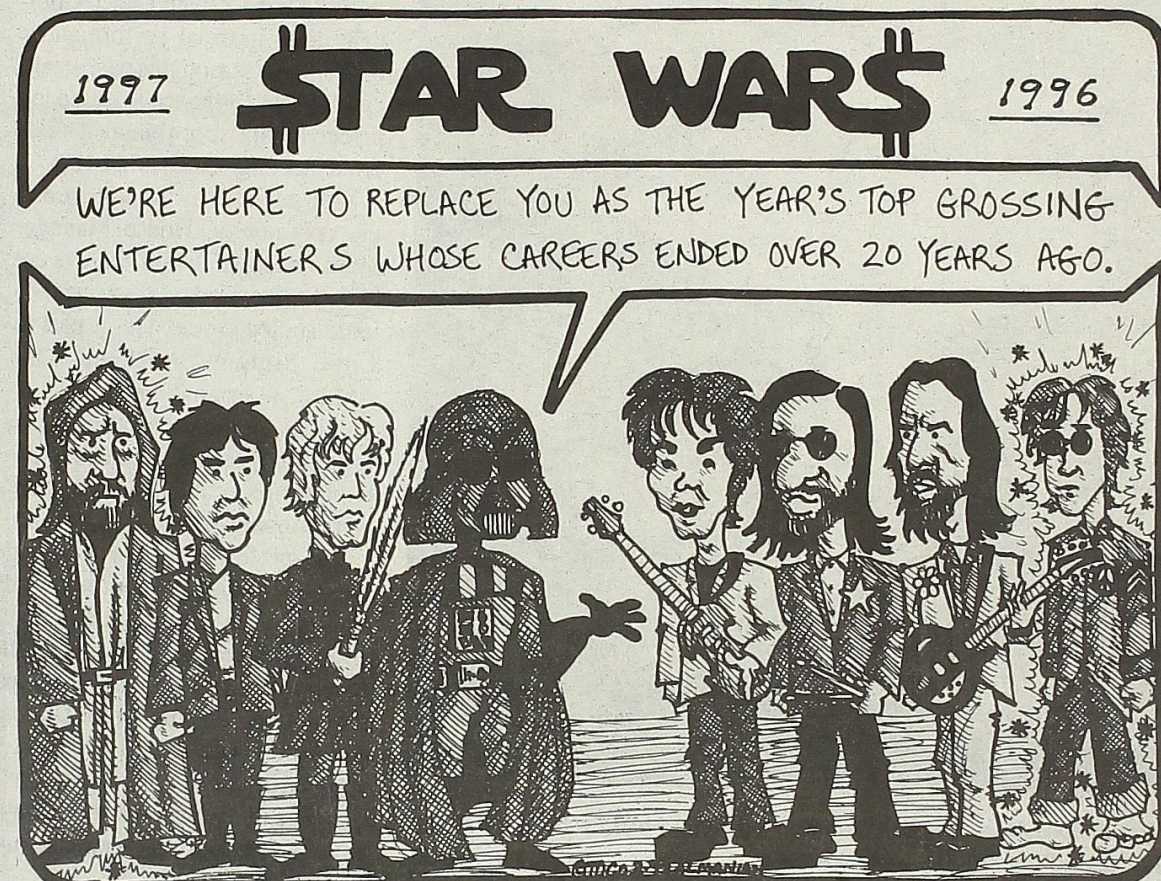
will happen to Captain Han Solo and Leia? Will Solo become a Jedi? Will Leia learn to use the Force as her brother has? Also, what would happen if Yoda were to have confronted the Emperor? Who will replace Jabba the Hut as the new

Intergalactic gangster? For that matter, who will replace the Emperor? And finally, will the droid C-3PO ever lighten up?

The makers of *Star Wars* have kept all these questions in mind, and over the next few years, three

sequels and prequils will be produced.

Finally, *Star Wars* fans have their reward for sitting through all those Howard Stern/Dennis Rodman films. The trilogy is back.



Graham's thesis benefits local MS patients

By Larissa VanderZee
Feature Editor

Regardless of impending plans after graduation, some seniors will only be fully finished when the final draft of their thesis sits on the desk of their advisor. Megan Graham is one such senior.

While all thesis projects involve hours of work, not many directly touch the lives of individuals outside Alma's academic world. As an Exercise and Health Science major planning on pursuing a career in occupational therapy, Graham is working on a project that touches two multiple sclerosis (MS) patients living in the Michigan Masonic Home. Her thesis, "The Effects of Aquatic Exercise on Multiple Sclerosis" is a seven week study to observe what types of benefits aquatic exercise can bring to the physical conditions of

MS patients when done on a regular schedule.

"The program consists of one half hour water aerobic sessions three days a week. It's basically a cardiovascular workout. We are hoping that continuous, regular exercise will slow the effects of M., that the regular movement will increase mobility and the patients' muscle use," said Graham.

In MS patients, normal muscle use is impaired because the brain and muscle have a weak connection: the signals cannot quite make it all the way through.

"The theory behind the program is that continuous activity through repetition will allow more of the signals to get to the muscles," commented Graham. "MS really starts to effect these patients' everyday lives. Every bit of therapy

helps."

Dave Chambers, one of Graham's two patients, said the program is "just great." "I noticed that going in the pool relaxes my

muscle movement. "My skin feels better; I have more color; and I feel more stable. There is a definite benefit to going into the water," Chambers said.

Graham began this project in January under the assistance and guidance of John Davis, chair and associate professor of exercise and health science.

Before beginning the project Graham researched the current literature about this mode of therapy. She found that there is research that supports the use of water therapy in many situations. As for treating MS, she discovered that it was primarily used to assist patients in the earlier stages.

"Most studies of aquatic therapy have been done on early stage MS patients. For many of them it has

been productive. We are kind of exploring new territory in our program because we are working with people whose disease has progressed further," stated Graham.

Not only does Graham's thesis involve contact with the personal world outside Alma, it also involves many other people. Graham said she could not actually run the program alone. During the water aerobics sessions, Graham leads the exercising but she needs other students to assist the patients. Many students are fellow EHS majors who enjoy the hands on experience as well as helping others.

Graham is glad she decided to undertake this project. "It has been good for me to be working so closely with people who have disabilities. This is very applicable to occupational therapy. I just hope that what I am doing makes some sort of difference," she stated.

It has been good for me to be working so closely with people who have disabilities.

• Megan Graham (97)

legs from the stiffness and soreness. As long as I don't allow myself to be too vigorous the stiffness stays away," he said.

Chambers also claimed that the program was effecting more than

Greek Week expands to involve entire campus community

By Erin Freeland
Staff Reporter

The tradition of Greek Week continues this week. This year the Greek community is looking to involve the entire campus in their activities as well as recognizing and celebrating their accomplishments.

As in the years past, the week opened with an awards ceremony. On Sunday, various Greek chapters and individuals within Greek organizations were honored. Awards such as highest chapter grade point average, highest individual grade point average, out-

standing senior and Greek man and woman of the year were awarded. Awards focused on scholarship, community service and general chapter activity in and outside of campus. Individual Greek organizations were also allowed to honor various individuals within their organizations. Awards given were as follows; Greek Man of the Year—senior Will Deeds (TKE), Greek Woman of the Year—junior Julie Wilson (ΓΦΒ), Outstanding Senior Greek Man—Justin Burtch (ΘΧ), Outstanding Senior Greek Woman—Allison Shoemaker (ΑΓΔ). Chapter of Distinction Awards were given to Theta

Chi, Sigma Chi, Alpha Gamma Delta, Gamma Phi Beta and Kappa Iota.

Sunday night the Greek organizations separated into teams before beginning the weeks festivities. On Monday, a mixer was held to allow members to meet people and make banners promoting the theme of Greek Week. This year's theme is, "Got Greek?", which was inspired by "Got Milk?" commercials. The banners will be judged at the end of the week.

Continuing with the Greek tradition of serving the community, a blood drive was held on Monday. The blood drive was sponsored by

the Panhellenic Council and the Interfraternity Council.

Tonight the Greek Olympics will be held. The same teams that were chosen at the beginning of the week will continue to compete in events such as a jellybean eating contest and sack races.

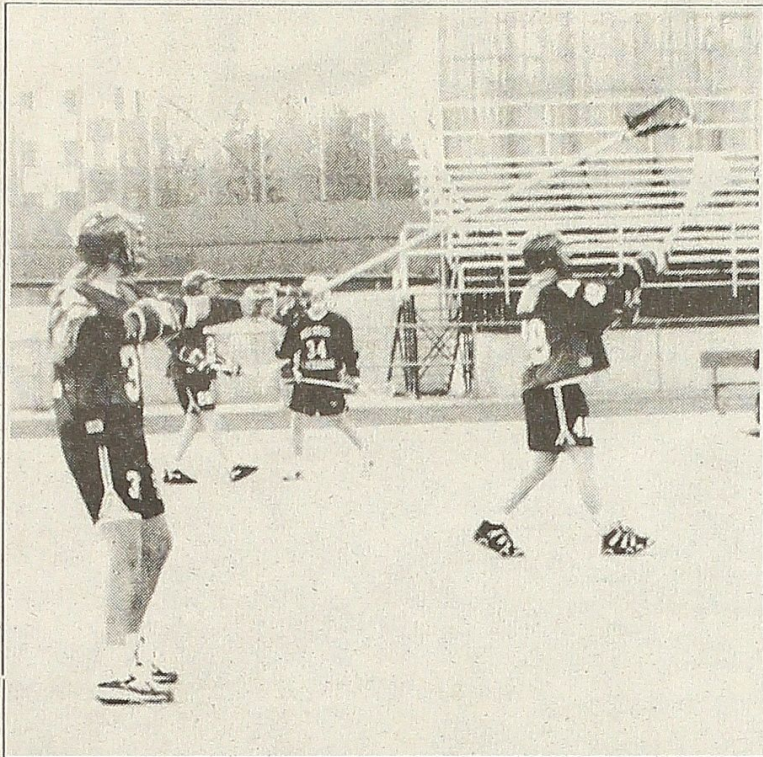
The Greek community wanted to involve as many people as possible in the events during Greek Week this year, and therefore the event held on Wednesday is open to the entire campus. On Wednesday an all-campus party will be held at Town and Country recreation center in Ithaca. Bowling, dancing, darts and karaoke are in-

cluded in the cover charge of \$3. Shuttle busses will be leaving campus at 9:15 and 10:15 p.m. to take people to the event.

"I think that while trying to recognize individuals within the Greek community, we also wanted to provide alternatives for everyone, not just people involved in fraternities and sororities," said Bill Arnold, assistant dean of students and interfraternity council adviser.

The all campus party will conclude this year's Greek Week.

"I think this week is going to go well," said Mike Baszler (99), "I personally want to get as many people involved as possible."



Junior John Zielinski calls the shots on defense. The Scots were defeated in their second ever game in overtime by Ball State 4-3. In the first game of the double-header Alma lost to Western Michigan University 8-2. Photo by Jon Croff.

Lacrosse team proves successful despite loss

By Joey Mead
Freelance Writer

On March 22, Ball State and Western Michigan arrived at Alma for the first lacrosse tournament of the season. But for Alma College, not only was it their first game of the season, but it was their first lacrosse game in Alma College history. On top on that, for some of the Scot players, it was the first game they have ever played in their entire lives.

No one was sure of what to expect of this new born team, but Alma students, parents and other lacrosse fans showed up anyway to show their support. Even many of the players were unsure of what

lied ahead as they walked on to the field that day.

Alma's first game was against Western. Sophomore Craig Wasen was the first Scot to score against Western. Later on in the third quarter, first-year student Zachary Workman followed up with another point giving Alma two points. Unfortunately, Western came on stronger and scored a total of eight points, ending the game 8-2.

Western went on to crush Ball State 11-1 in the next game. This put Alma up against Ball State for the final game of the tournament. Eugene Deci, coach and professor of physics, and student coach Steve Didocha pump up the Scots for their last game.

One of the most impressive performances was given by first time player and sophomore Jay Swan. Pacing up and down the side line was Coach Didocha, as he took charge and coached the Scots through the first quarter. Ball State is the first to score, but answering was Swan. Breaking through Ball State's defense, Swan fired one in to tie the game at 1-1.

Ball State and Alma battled on as both defenses held each other off until the third quarter. In the third Swan again scored for Alma, giving the Scots a 2-1 lead. But, Ball State answered the Scots as they manage to sneak one passed sophomore goalie Tim McAleece.

In the forth, Swan scored another point as he rushed the rack and drilled his third point by Ball State's goalie, once again putting the Scots in the lead 3-2. Seconds later Ball State tied it up at the end of the game making it 3-3.

Coach Didocha then called Alma in and prepared them for overtime. Alma College and Ball State clashed together for four minutes in overtime, and gave the fans something to sweat about. With less than 20 seconds on the clock Ball State scored to win the game 4-3.

Despite the loss Coach Didocha congratulated the Scots. "The guys came a long way. Even the referee told me that this was the best first year team he had ever seen," he said.

First-year student Matt Terry said, "We played very well. We went out and proved we could play and came together as a team."

"We had a good time. It was nice to see we could come together and look like a team. Fun game!" added Swan.

In the locker room there was nothing but smiles and positive encouragement. Some were happy with their personal performance and others were just happy that people showed up.

Goalie McAleece stated, "Glad to see people showed up. The fan support was nice and we will win this year."

Women's tennis team participates in Bay Valley Tournament

By Chris Tapley
Sports Editor

The women's tennis team traveled to Bay City this past weekend to participate in the Bay Valley Tournament. The Scots were one of four teams to participate in the tournament.

Other participants were Saginaw Valley State University, Lake Superior State University and Northern Michigan University.

The tournament was more of a practice for the four teams than a true tournament, as Alma was the only team to be in season at this time. The other four teams have a non-traditional season and are currently in the off-season.

The format of the tournament led to several changes from a normal tournament style. The most notable being that the players played for an hour instead of up to a certain number of points. Each player was guaranteed a certain number of matches whether or not they won or lost.

"The girls played very well despite the format change," said Head

Coach Tammy Anderson.

The other major change in the tournament was that neither individual wins or losses were recorded, so there were no individual or team champions. According to Anderson a nice performance was turned in by junior Lisa Tessmer. Tessmer plays fourth singles and second doubles.

"She had a very nice weekend, she won most of her matches," commented Anderson.

Tessmer's performance however did not take away from the rest of the team.

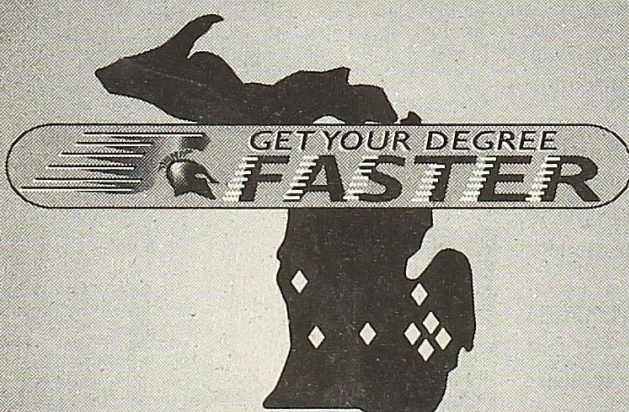
"We didn't have one outstanding player, we all added," said sophomore Jatell Driver.

"Overall, the majority of the players were happy with their performances," said Anderson.

Anderson continued by saying that the experience gained in the tournament will help prepare the Scots for their conference schedule. "It was nice to have the team play well," she said.

The team starts conference play this Wednesday at Hope College.

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Little

Admissions office sponsors annual sibling weekend

By Lisa Sherman
Staff Reporter

With anxious anticipation, 176 little brothers, sisters, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends waited last week for the weekend to come. It was Little Siblings Weekend at Alma College.

The weekend started as dozens of little sibs arrived Friday evening. Upon arrival, these siblings first attended registration in the Rotunda Lounge, where they received their schedules, meal tickets and baseball cap. They also signed up for a Saturday morning academic session.

Little Sibs Weekend was filled with fun activities for children of all ages.

The first event was an ice cream social. Then later Friday night the sibs could enjoy the Fun Fest at the Physical Education Center. They could spend the evening playing basketball in the gym or go relax and swim in the pool.

Brooke Ladensack, first-year student Katy Hammack's ten-year-old cousin, liked swimming the best "because it was fun."

Saturday after brunch the sibs could participate in a Scavenger Hunt. It sent them running all over campus to figure out how many steps were in front of the library, where Religious Studies Professor Joe Walser's office was, and when Mitchell Hall was built, along with various other facts about Alma College.

Also on Saturday afternoon, the sibs could choose to go to one of five academic sessions. For kids three to eight years old a session called Old McDonald's Puppet Show and Activities was held. The

sibs got to color and draw pictures. The other sessions were named Find Out Your Fitness sponsored by senior Sara Reinbold and the EHS Honor Society, Constellations and Stars headed by Cameron Reed, associate professor of physics, A Voyage in Chemistry presented by the Chemistry Club and Choosing a College presented by Jerry Ross, assistant director of admissions.

Saturday afternoon was free for the little sibs to spend time doing whatever they wanted with their big sibs. The 300 Bowl provided discount bowling for the sibs. They could have also gone to see the Lacrosse team play, attend the Senior Art Show or go swimming during open pool hours.

A pizza party was provided for dinner. Saturday evening was topped off with a dance and games. Prizes were available for many of the little sibs to choose.

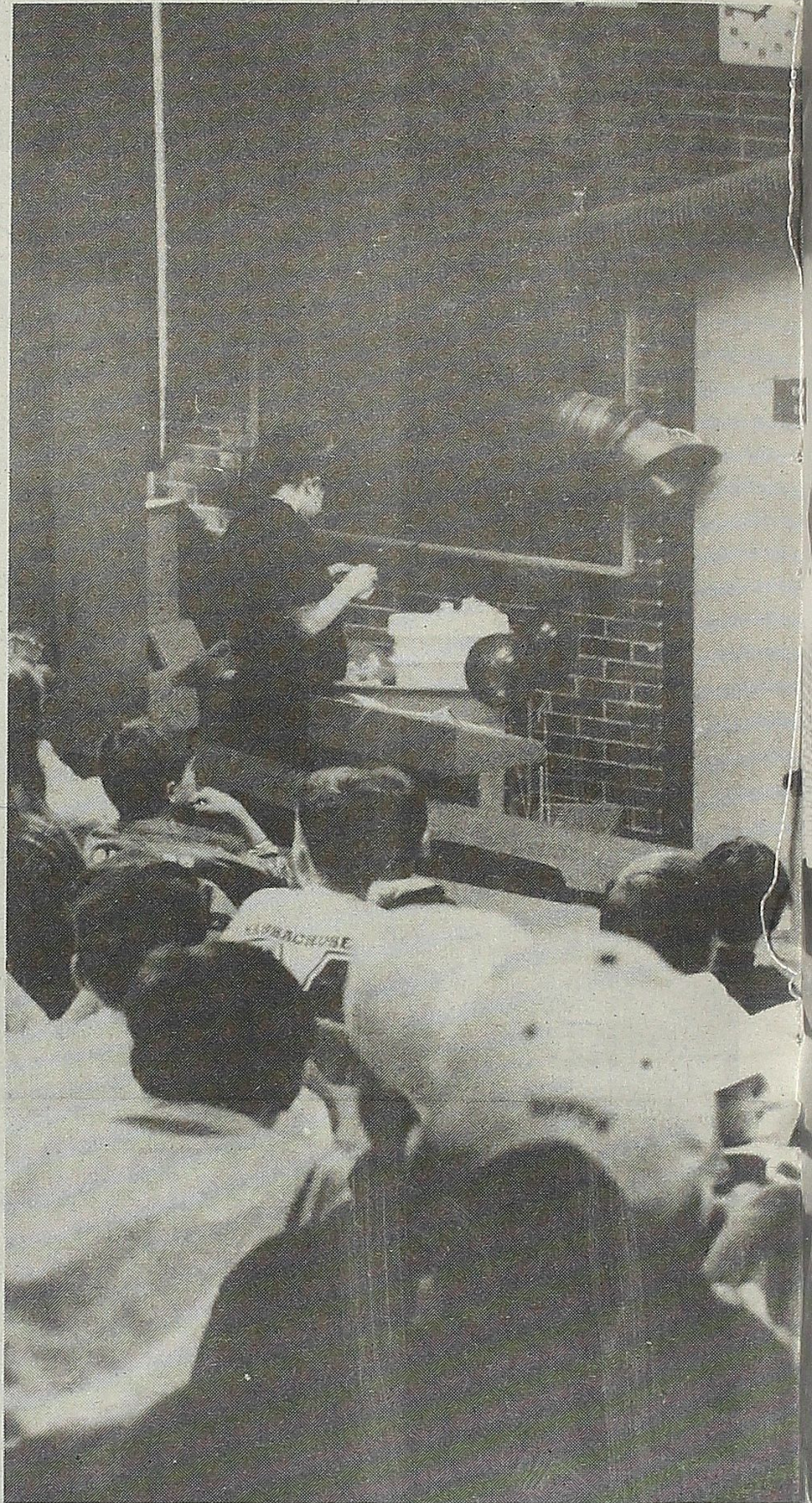
Sunday was almost entirely a non-planned day since it was the kids' last day on campus. However, there was an Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Mitchell Hall and Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

It seemed that the weekend was successful.

"I liked spending time with my sister and meeting all of her friends," commented Rachel Howd, 12-year-old sister of junior Joanne Howd.

"I think that my little sib is having a great time. She just came to see what her big sister does around college," stated first-year student Julie Tolles.

First-year student Bryan Brunelle commented, "It's nice to see that the college can help the students show young family members a good time."



Senior Brian Nielsen, junior Marie Nelson and members of the Chemistry Club introduce the little sibs into the world of chemistry. The Chemistry Club demonstrated various experiments for the sibs gathered in Dow L-4. Photo by Jon Warner.

Newberry Hall Director (JJ) Klimkiewicz assists a sibling during with her egg hunt. This session called Old McDonald's Puppet Show and Activities was designed for the youngest of siblings. Photo by Jon Warner.

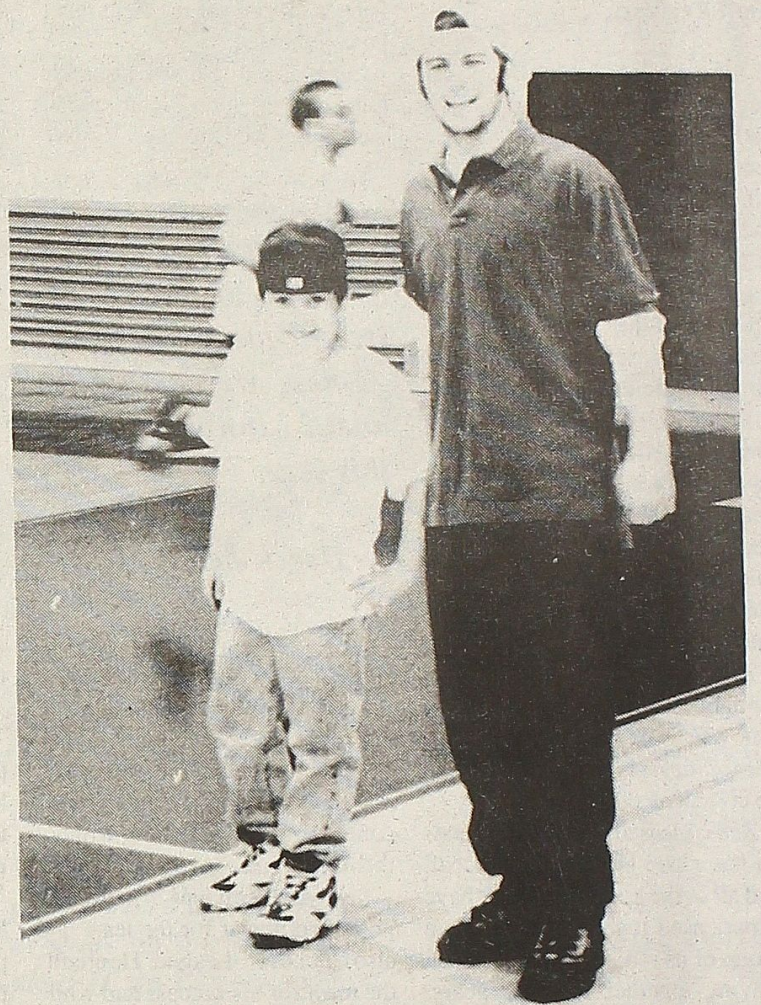
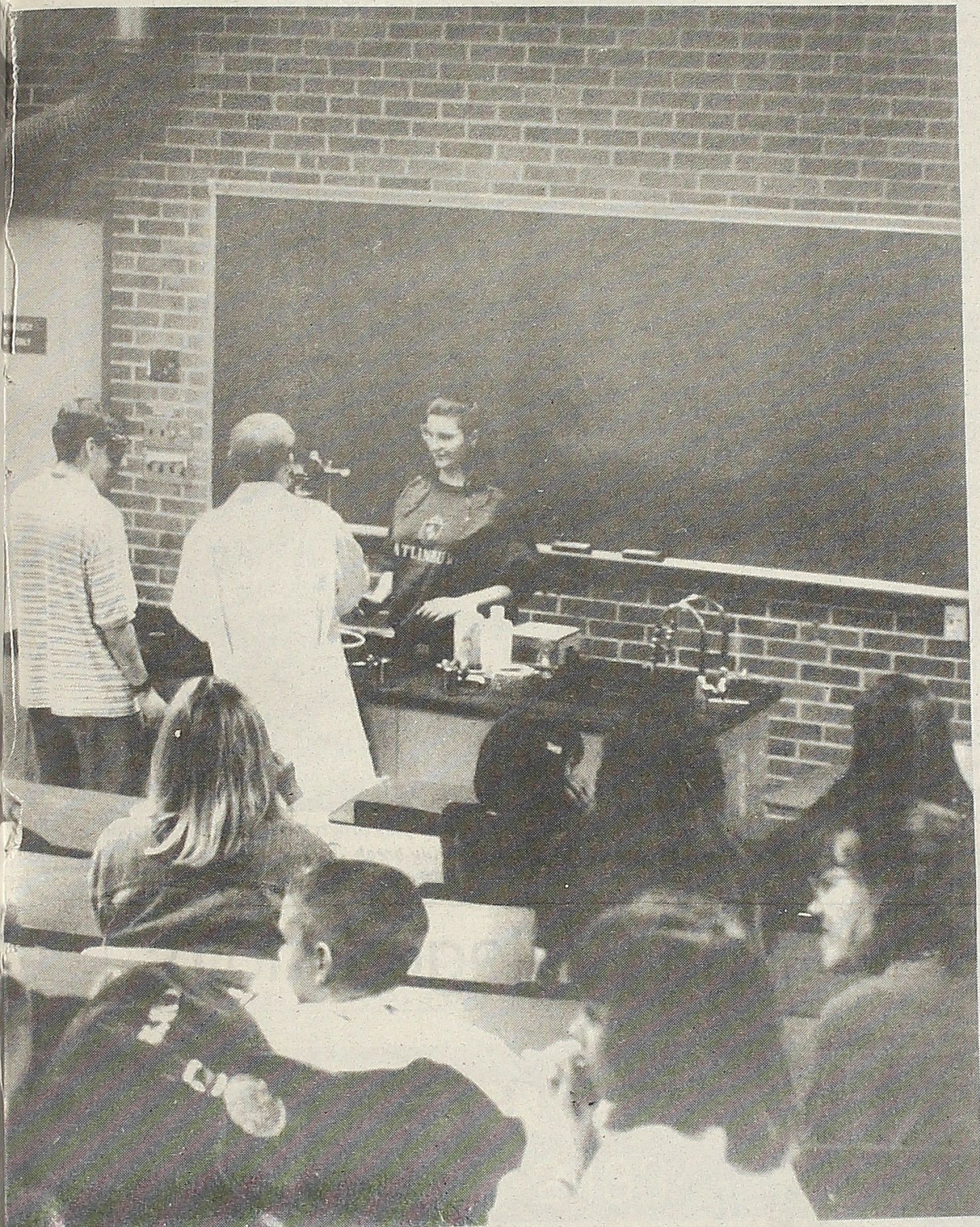
Sophomore Melanie P. dances with her partner during the organized portion of the weekend. The weekend ended with a pizza and dance Saturday. Photo by Jon C.



Alma College students gather with their little siblings in Van Dusen Commons on Saturday night for a pizza party. Siblings received meal tickets allowing them to eat in campus dining halls throughout the weekend. Photo by Derek Warner.

invade alma

TRIBLIVING



First-year student Michael Campeau poses with his little brother Anthony during the open gym event. Swimming and basketball were offered at the Physical Education Center. Photo by Jon Croff.

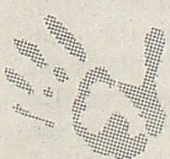
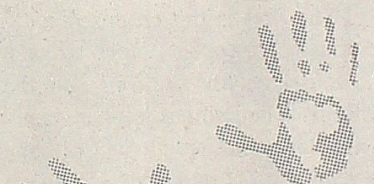


Alma students point out the latest dance moves to their little sibs. A dance was held on Saturday night. Photo by Jon Croff.

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MA COLLEGE

March 25, 1997

Zell sets goals for season

Jennifer Hughes
Staff Reporter

Alma College senior Derek Zell began playing baseball because his dad made him join a team. Seventeen years later, this four year Alma shortstop plays for love of the game.

"As a team, I've seen us get a lot better," Zell commented. "Instead of just trying to win games, we're talking about winning the title this year."

While Zell's goal this year is to win the MIAA title, his goals have changed during his four years on the team. Zell's first goal was to make the team, he said, and then to be a starting player, and then to just play to the best of his ability.

Zell says there's definitely potential for the team to win the title this year. "If we play up to our capabilities, we have a good shot," he commented.

Zell is pleased with all the friends he has made because of baseball and all of the good times they have experienced together. "There's a group of us seniors that have been playing together for four years.

We've grown close and we're friends on and off the field now," he commented.

"Our second basemen, Jason Cotton, and I are good friends and we work really well together. We have

As a team, I've seen us get a lot better. Instead of just trying to win games, we're talking about winning the title this year.

• Derek Zell (97)

an incredible pitching staff too ... it's easy to play behind good pitchers."

"The coaching staff has also been really supportive. I don't think I could have done anything without them," he said.

Last year, Zell was named most improved player for the team and also named All-League. He credits the team for his success and while

he says that is a typical player response, stressed that he truly could not have done it without them.

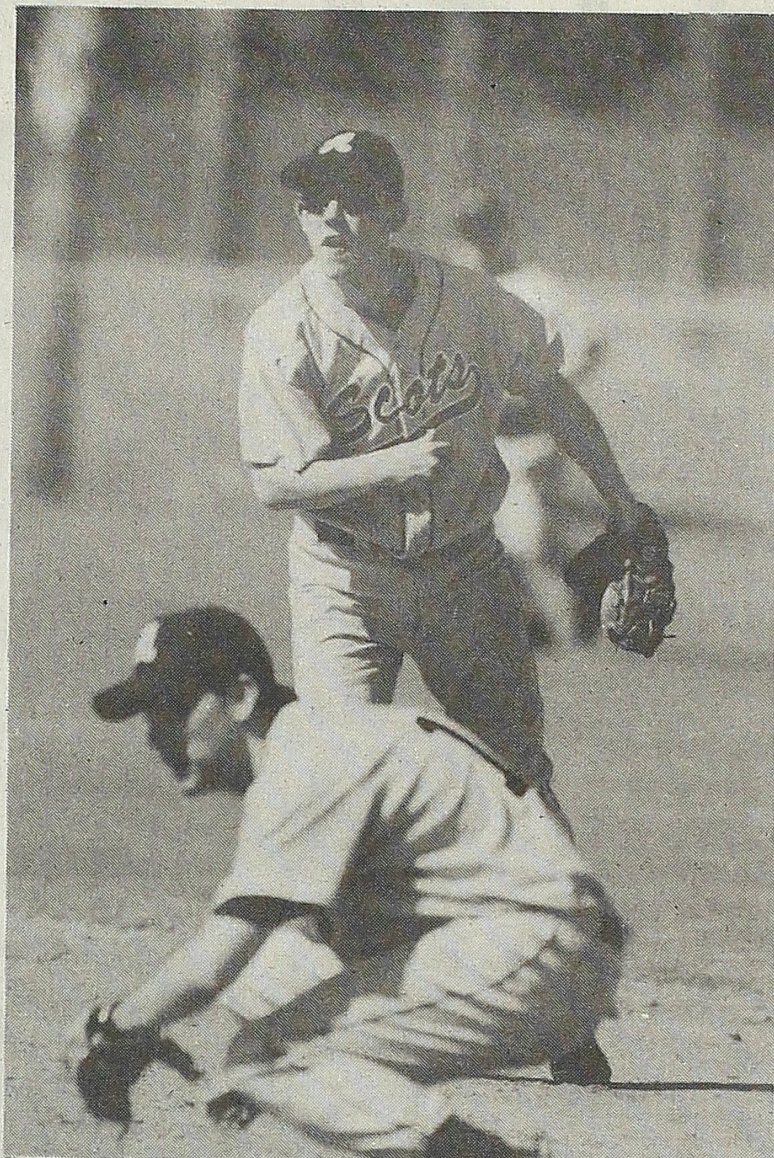
This year, Zell sees teamwork as a strong point to the team's success. "I think the level of players here has improved. The younger guys are all good players too. Instead of just relying on one or two players, everyone can get the job done."

After graduating from Alma, where he has studied international business and Japanese aside from playing baseball, Zell plans to move to Chicago where he will be a financial advisor for Hewitt Association.

Part of his Japanese study included attending a college in Hikone, Japan for the fall term of his junior year. From the experience, Zell says he learned "how good we have it here."

At Alma, Zell has also participated in intramural football, has been employed as a resident assistant in Mitchell Hall, and a member of Sigma Chi (ΣΧ) fraternity.

Zell doesn't plan on giving up baseball after college, but plans on playing "more for fun than competition."



Senior Derek Zell looks on as a play progresses during the baseball team's trip to Florida over spring break. File photo.

Sports Chat by Tom Glegola

Further expansion of NFL requires thought

Just two years after the Jacksonville Jaguars and Carolina Panthers began playing football, the National Football League (NFL) is considering yet another expansion.

Paul Tagliabue, commissioner of the NFL, has stated that he wants owners to "take a hard look at expansion to 32 teams." The NFL has promised to award one franchise to Cleveland and would prefer to award the other to Los Angeles.

There are several problems with further expansion.

The first is the proposed locations. Los Angeles failed to keep two teams, the Raiders and the Rams. The Browns left Cleveland for Baltimore, which the Colts left years ago. If Los Angeles could not keep one of the two teams that left, why would the NFL have any confidence in the city being able to retain another team? Both teams left for the obvious reason: money. What would stop another team from doing the same? Though Cleveland would be the sentimental favorite to receive an expansion team, football is a business and therefore another team could leave in exactly the same manner, leaving the NFL desiring further expansion.

The second problem is that continued expansion depletes the amount of talent on each team. The more teams a player can play for, the more spread out the talent will become. The problem is that certain teams would still dominate. Teams like the San Francisco 49ers

and the Green Bay Packers would retain most of their talent, while teams like the Tampa Bay Buccaneers would lose what little talent they have. So competition would not increase.

With many teams struggling to make profits, the problem of a smaller percentage of profits per team would force more owners to sell their teams, which could lead to further teams leaving for other cities. The proverbial pie would not grow much bigger by adding 32 teams, and shares in that pie would decrease. Though owners are originally compensated by the expansion teams for this, that money is very little relative to expenses.

The final problem is that expansion just occurred. Owners should take more time to consider this proposal before agreeing to it.

The only positive aspect of expansion is that more fans will have the opportunity to see professional football. But does this outweigh the negative consequences?

Because the NFL and national television stations negotiate with the NFL as a whole, the only major financial increase will come from increased ticket sales and potentially merchandise, though again, when a consumer purchases merchandise of one team, it stops buying merchandise from another. Therefore expansion currently does not seem profitable enough for owners.

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Track teams exceed expectations

By Chris Tapley
Sports Editor

This past weekend several members of the Alma men's and women's track team traveled to Atlanta, Georgia to participate in the Emory Division III Spring Break Invitational at Emory University. The men's team placed fifth out of 20 teams overall and the women's team placed seventh out of 16 teams.

"We did really well, how we expected to or better," said senior Josh Hicks.

This was the first year that Alma had traveled to the invitational in Atlanta. Due to the distance involved, the team was only able to take 11 men and 15 women. Team members were selected on the basis of their performances during time trials. The team was able to compete in all but five events de-

spite not having a full team at the meet.

Head Coach Dan Gibson said, "It was something I had been thinking about and then the meet we had planned for that weekend got canceled," when asked why the coaching staff had chosen the Emory meet.

The team left for Georgia on Friday afternoon and after an unplanned three hour delay arrived in Atlanta. The team returned from Georgia on Saturday evening.

"It went well, we ran well," said Gibson.

Several members of the team had exceptional meet. Sophomore Pete Muccio won the 1500 meter with a time of 4:02.54 placing him on Alma's all-time list of the top ten best times. In fact his time placed him in front of Gibson. Several of the runners that Muccio beat are potential All-Americans.

38.18 meters and 43.54 meters respectively. Inman's hammer throw was a provisional national qualifying throw. A provisional qualification means that there is a chance that Inman will qualify for the national meet depending on how other individuals do.

Other good performances were handed in by the mile relay team

consisting of senior Chad Mills, sophomore Greg Knight, Hicks and junior Jon Hanson. The team took second place in the final event of the meet. Junior Joann Brnjac performed well with a second place in the shot and eighth place in the javelin. Junior Joy Engblade placed seventh in the 3000 meter, which placed her on the top ten list.

"I think it was a real success for what we wanted to get out of it," said Hanson.

The team has plans to repeat the trip or a similar trip next year. The teams will next be in action on Saturday at the Indiana Wesleyan Relays.

Men's tennis starts off with victory over KVCC

By Mike Traywick
Freelance Writer

"We have the potential to be better than we were last year, and we can improve a lot," said sophomore Bill Zeedyk, summing up the men's tennis team.

Because of the early Spring Break this year, the tennis team was forced to play Florida Division II schools who have the opportunity to play year-round. This can be tough on a team that has to depend on Michigan weather to practice, or travel to the nearest indoor facility, which is a two hour drive round-trip.

"We did get beat down in Florida, but we came away with the experience of playing Division II

schools, which will help us towards the end of the season," said Zeedyk.

Senior Nathan Lounds dislikes the fact that Alma doesn't have an indoor facility close to the campus. "Teams won't schedule matches

First-year students Aaron Barnhart and Nate Spang lost their singles matches, but played well.

"Playing KVCC was a good match to get the confidence of our young players up, because they have only played higher caliber teams, and Kalamazoo Valley is more on the level of the teams in our conference," said Lounds.

Junior Chris Ahn believes "the experience that the young guys are getting, learning from some good players and playing some good players, will be helpful down the stretch."

The consensus from the three returning members of the tennis team is that they are only getting better.

As always, Alma shoots for the top, but Kalamazoo has won the conference 58 years in a row. However, Lounds stated that Hope has the best team they have had in a while.

On Friday, Alma plays at Northwood. The MIAA conference matches start April 2nd, against Albion. The Scots home opener is against Calvin, a tough opponent, April 5.

Teams won't schedule matches here because Alma depends on the weather to play. If we had an indoor facility, we could have more home matches...

•Nathan Lounds (97)

here because Alma depends on the weather to play. If we had an indoor facility, we could have more home matches, and more fan support," he said.

On Wednesday, Alma defeated Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC), 7-2. Junior Chris Ahn, Lounds, Zeedyk and first-year student Ryan Webb all won their matches, as did the three doubles teams of Ahn and Lounds, Zeedyk and Webb, and first year student Aaron Barnhart and junior Todd Driver.



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"It was a good field," said Gibson.

Another impressive performance was turned in by senior Rainy Inman. Inman won the discus and the hammer throw with throws of

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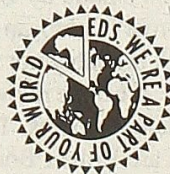
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Lake complaints unfair

Allegations similar to those made by Bork, Tower

By Tom Glegola
Staff Reporter

Former National Security Advisor Anthony Lake recently withdrew his nomination for the post of Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). Citing the Senate Intelligence Committee hearings as too harsh, Lake claimed that Republicans on the committee were displaying partisanship by attempting character assassination. In actuality, the committee was simply asking difficult questions.

The first question obviously concerned Lake's qualifications. Lake headed the National Security Council, a small group of presidential advisors. Though disagreements in opinion occurred within the committee, those disagreements were minor, considering the fact that the members were chosen by President Clinton. The CIA, however, is not a small organization, and there is most certainly a wide range of opinions. Asking whether or not Lake has the ability to handle such a daunting task is quite fair.

Considering the power involved with being Director of the CIA, a nominee's character must also be investigated. That means the personal life of the nominee must be investigated. The Senate has the right to know who it is confirming

for such a post. In the case of Lake, the Senate had a right to know the extent of Lake's knowledge concerning Iranian violations of the arms embargo on Bosnia. Previous failures, such as with General Michael Carns and Admiral Bobby Ray Inman by the Clinton Administration to make known pertinent information about other nominees requires the Senate to conduct its own investigations.

The confirmation hearings for the Director of the CIA must be more meticulous than other appointments such as Secretary of Defense because cabinet members have many more restraints than does the Director of the CIA. The nominee for Director of the CIA must have an almost immaculate record due to previous scandals, and simply because of the potential disaster that could occur if the power of the post is abused.

Because Lake withdrew, and both he and President Clinton refused to give Lake's FBI files to the committee, one must ask if Lake met this difficult criteria.

The accusations made by Lake concerning the role of partisan extremism, though probably not relevant to his case, are quite relevant to the confirmation process. Two clear examples are Robert Bork's nomination to the U.S. Supreme

Court, and John Tower's nomination for Secretary of Defense. Both were accused of being "controversial candidates," but in reality, it was simply Senate Democrats playing "party politics." Republicans have also committed similar acts. This points out the need for reform in the nomination process. Tough questions are crucial to any post, especially one as powerful as the Director of the CIA. Character assassination, however, deters talented officials from even desiring important posts.

To insure against future "party politics," why not create a new Senate committee, comprising of equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans? That would decrease the ability of one party to accuse the other of obstruction by forcing cooperation. At the same time, the tough questions necessary for accurate examinations of nominees could be performed.

Tough questions are a necessary of the confirmation process. The investigations prove the trustworthiness of the nominees. The questions provide the qualifications of the candidate. Finally, the difficult questions demonstrated just how much the nominees want the job.

By asking the tough questions, the Senate can provide the best candidates.

Catty Corner by Jenn Cornell Purpose of Greek week remains confusing

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

The concept behind Greek Week has always eluded me. As a non-Greek for my first two years here I thought perhaps it was something that only those in the Greek community could understand. Now that I am a member of that Greek community, I have found that not only do I not understand, but many of my fellow Greeks do not either.

In order to promote Greek unity, the five fraternities and four sororities join together on three separate teams and compete against one another to earn points. At the end of the week, the team with the most amount of points earns a cash prize to donate to the philanthropy of their choice. Greek Week is beneficial because it helps the Red Cross and other needy charities. However, Greek Week does nothing to promote the badly needed unity at all levels throughout the campus community.

The idea of competing against other people is to not promote friendliness and goodwill towards others. This idea of competition is to win. A good attitude, fairness, and excellent sportly conduct will only get you so far.

The positive aspects of Greek Week end once the charities have been given time, effort and money. Once the banners have been judged, the winners announced, and the hoopla dies down, the Greek community will go back to the way that it has always been. Every Greek organization will continue to promote their own stereotypes and everyone else around them will continue to follow along.

At the end of Greek Week, a person who is in one organization will continue to have the same

friends that they have always had, regardless of their Greek affiliation. It is human nature that picks friends, not making banners, competing in relays, becoming victorious. It is the human spirit that will always triumph in the end, not the idea of working together with seventy or so others for a week.

Greek Week is just an illusion created by people who want to see the world through rose colored glasses. This week of simple games and competitions will in no way unite anything other than those who will see Greek Week as a success no matter what. To these people who assume that the Greek community will become friends with

Greek Week is just an illusion created by people who want to see the world through rose-colored glasses.

one another, or feel more unified, just because we join together one week a year will see Greek Week as successful if all of the Greek organizations fully participate and no one becomes physically scarred in the process.

In truth, at the end of this week devoted to campus-wide Greek unity, everyone will continue to move within their same circles of friends they did before Sunday night. Intersorority and fraternity relations will still remain laden with the same rivalries and rumors. The cold hard fact of the matter is that nothing will be improved and nothing will really change.

Greek Week is a strange concept because it seemingly serves no purpose whatsoever and is even stranger because very few people with a Greek affiliation—those who Greek Week stands to serve—really understand its point. Perhaps the time and energy devoted to Greek Week could be better spent doing something actually understandable and useful.

Student broadened horizons as "one of the guys"

By Annie Grover
Guest Editorialist

Imagine: a little girl's bedroom, painted in dusty rose arid papered with hearts and birds. The plush navy carpet is tracked with leaves of grass and tiny clods of dirt; the pink doll trunk rests silently in the corner and grows dust-bunnies. The child is reveling in the outdoors: she and her brother fry ants with lenses. She races up the crabtree—with swifter agility than the boys—and stands on the highest bough with no hands. Her shoes are canvas, scuffed and faded. A threadbare

pair of grass-stained bib overalls droop from her scrawny shoulders. There are tangles, dandelions, and sunbeams in her hair; there are rocks, worms, and leaves in her pockets. She is grubby.

Imagine: ten years have flown by. The bedroom is now one of a teenager, stuffed with books and yet devoid of stuffed animals and posters of rock stars. The girl is in class, attired in five-pocket jeans, hi-tops, arid flannel. Her hair is cropped shorter than that of most of her male classmates. She consorts only with "the guys," a group of gawky pre-adolescent boys to

whom girls are still yucky.

That was me. I was the only female in vacillating groups of "guys" for years. Remaining properly feminine without becoming too masculine—or the least bit girly—was like weighing out exactly forty-six thousandths of a gram of copper chloride. I sometimes swayed toward one side or the other, but managed to find an even keel. I loved it. My relationships with females remained minimal; their ways seemed catty and their social structure repulsed me. It was all popularity, the politics of

friendship. As one of the guys, everyone one in the gang was a true friend; they would never talk about me behind my back. They accepted me on my own merit. I lost all physical contests that established hierarchy except for arm-wrestling, but that was enough to install me into their society permanently. A master at the art of put-down and one-upmanship, I had my own special role as the female of the group.

Being one of the guys allowed me to play their games, participate in their pranks, plans, and contests, and remain oblivious of the choking

architecture of female cliques. As a fellow prankster and conspirator, I stole and froze every piece of a friend's underwear. It was presented to him for his birthday before a massive audience—all of whom already knew what he was in for. I planned a secret society of "superior" students based upon the signs of the zodiac that would slowly take over my middle school and then spread; however, that plan never panned out.

Best of all, I was not one of the girls. It allowed me to become
—see ONE OF THE GUYS, page 12

Domestic violence impacts everyone

By Jenn Cornell
Opinion Editor

The clock in the hallway chimed. Its cheery call broke the strained silence in the room, heralding four o'clock. A saddened voice cried in her head, "Just leave him."

It was a voice and a message that had been growing louder and more persistent as the abuse continued. For over seven months, the voice grew. With every verbal smack and physical blow, the voice became louder—harder to ignore.

There was always an excuse. She had said something wrong, something that angered him enough to make him physically violent. A misplaced word, a sentence that's meaning was confused, was an easy target for a verbal lashing. Unintentionally, she had made a wrong move, a bad judgment—something she did always made him angry.

Leaving him would seem so logical. Who wants to stay with someone who abuses them? However strange it may seem to the common observer, she wanted to be with

him. The good times were not uncommon and were extraordinary. There were flowers and kisses and kind words in abundance to the pain and the tears. She thought that the good times certainly justified sticking through the bad.

She thought she could change him. Every romantic person thinks they can be someone else's light, the person that helps them see what they are doing wrong, be the one to help them change. She thought if she really had the strength to threaten to leave, that strength would, in turn, give him the courage to see how bad the relationship was becoming. Give him the strength to change. Give them both the power to overcome the dysfunction that their relationship was becoming.

With each punch, kick, scream, scratch, and hit, with every drop of blood that rolled down a cheek, a chin, an arm or leg, each time she thought she could become a better

person. She really believed that she could become someone who he would learn to love and appreciate. Slowly, the person she was before he came along was becoming lost in the confusion of his life. Without even causing a commotion, a once self-assured and intelligent woman slipped into the role of punching

The victims and the abusers are silent. They are ordinary people who live extraordinary private lives.

bag for someone else's aggressions. Before it could be contained, the self-esteem and courage of one woman was lost amidst the violence of what her life had become.

No one could ever imagine her as a victim of domestic violence. She was a strong woman. She was someone who helped others, al-

ways ready to lend an ear or a shoulder to cry on. She was not the kind of person who washed her face at night, looked into the mirror, and through bloody tears, saw a stranger. She was not the kind of person who put on a mask of make-up and smiles every morning to hide the excruciating pain of the previous night. She was not the kind of person who would allow herself to be beaten bloody by someone who claimed to love her. She was too nice, too friendly, too good-natured to be a statistic. She was still a child in many ways,

too young to face the cold reality of being in a abusive relationship.

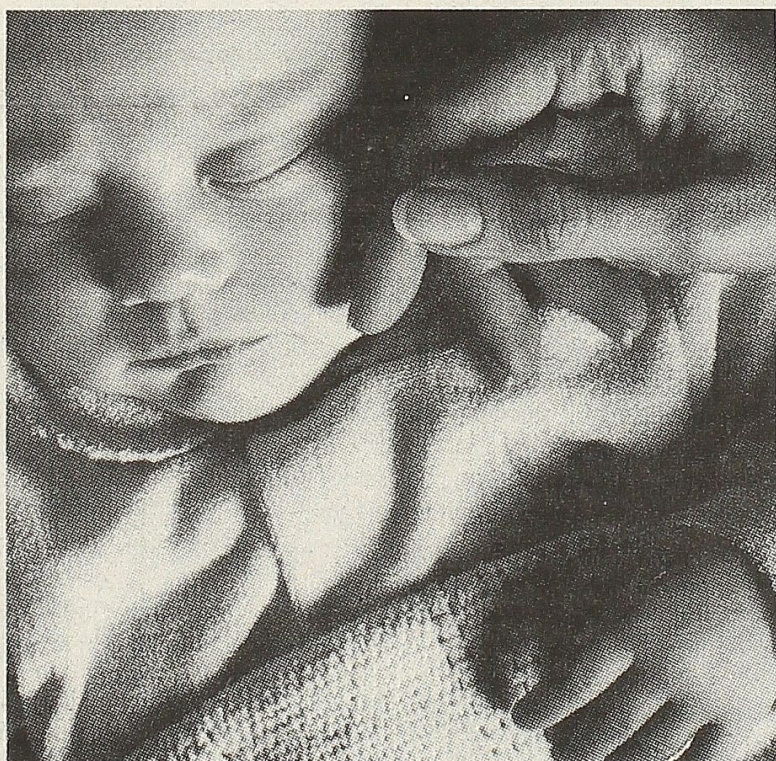
After seven months of a blackened and tearstained body, she left him. Somewhere deep inside, the strength she had ultimately needed all along rose up and took control. In a late night phone conversation she simply said, "It is over." She did not go where she knew he would

be for a long time. She never returned his looks, his calls, his physical advances. She took the time to rebuild her life and her self-confidence.

Victims of violence are everywhere. To assume that Alma is too quaint, too quiet, too glossy photo perfect to contain violence is ignorant. The victims and the abusers are silent. They are ordinary people who live extraordinary private lives. They do not announce in class that they are being abused, they do not blurt it out at parties. These people keep it contained for the guilt and the shame that they feel for themselves.

These are people in your community, at your college, in your science class, even living next door to you in your dorm. These people are around you and you do not realize it.

These are people, who with the love, support, and understanding of others, can find their way back to who they truly are.



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1 - 8 0 0 - C H I L D R E N

National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse



How many miles must we march?

By Melissa Allen
Guest Editor

This is my ode to misplaced vilification.

The mindset that watched as Harvey Milk was mowed down in a barrage of bullets, that allowed the midnight flames of Reverend Troy Perry's Metropolitan Community Church to burn, that refused the floor to the "Lavender Menace" at a NOW meeting for the advancement of women, that watched children ripped from homes due to the American Psychiatric Association's diagnosis of homosexuality.

This is my ode to freedom. 1978, and two people consummated their love for each other, creating a child. And she was there, sister to my father. That solemn, dark, shrouded figure who watched over me, baited with stories of the pseudo-democracy and the need for vigilance. Christopher Ishingwood, Tennessee Williams, Del Martin, Morris Kight, Dr. Evelyn Hooker, Howard J. Brown: pushing through the business suits, discarded prom dresses, graduation robes, Dr. Scholl's wooden sandals and into the shuttered light of the bedroom just outside the closet's door.

It's all a matter of censorship.

It was a sentence only that struck me, cruising over unprepared cheekbone, and bruising without intending. "Well, if that's what makes them happy, not that I'm a lesbian or anything, but I guess they should be allowed to get married." Yeah, I guess it's just a whim. . . the way that this whole idea of religious sanctified marriages between heterosexual couples is just a way to quell guilt on the marriage bed. Maybe it will pass, much the way of mood rings and pet rocks. But don't tell my girlfriend that. . . or maybe my boyfriend, as if it matters in the long run.

This is my ode to ambiguous lovers.

Really, I don't understand why we battle with the weapons of sex in our society anyway. Maybe it's because of something a "fundamentalist" said to me once. "Jesus preached that homosexuality was not what we were intended for." Aristotle believed completely differently, so are his views more viable being that he lived and died 322 years before Jesus was conceived? In my mind, religion should have loftier aspirations than condemning the functionings behind the bedroom door.

Perhaps in the way of keeping the kerosene off the chapel steps.

CLASSIFIEDS

COMPUTER FOR SALE: One year old Epson Action Tower 7500, IBM compatible. AMD Dx4 100MHz, 8 MB ram, 850 MB hard disk. Includes DOS and Windows 3.1, Quicken and Claris Works, several CD ROMs. Epson monitor and sound card with speakers. 14.4 internal fax modem with speaker phone. Price: best offer. Call x7563 or stop by 229 Carey and ask for Melanie.

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Staff Editorial

Students must act on messages presented

Last week the Wilcox Medical Center brought the Clothesline Project to campus and currently a dedicated group of faculty and students is working diligently to bring a section of the AIDS Quilt to Alma College sometime next year.

While it may be hard for people to look at the shirts hanging as part of the Clothesline Project or at each of the squares in the AIDS Quilt, it is important. Each of those shirts and squares represents someone who at one point or another said nothing "will ever happen to me." Well something bad did happen to them. Whether it was incest, rape, abuse, or contracting the HIV virus, something happened which changed their lives forever.

That shield of invincibility that all people have crumbled before their eyes. You know, the shield that every person who gets into a car drunk, or has unprotected sex, or leaves a friend alone at a party has. That shield which tells them that nothing bad is going to happen. Well sometimes bad things do happen.

Not only do these things change the victim's life but it also changes the lives of everyone touched in some way by that person. Friends, family, teachers, colleagues a small part of all of them is changed forever.

These are things which cannot be ignored. These are things which cannot be swept under the carpet. These are things that happen. Yes, even here in Alma, these things happen.

Programs like the Clothesline Project and the AIDS Quilt are around to make people realize that the world is not always a nice place. They begin to raise awareness of the problems facing society. But they alone are not enough.

Nothing is going to change if people simply view the Clothesline Project or The AIDS Quilt and then forget. People must act. Whether through monetary donations, education or getting involved in a project themselves, people cannot forget. They cannot forget the feelings they felt when they saw the Clothesline Project or the AIDS Quilt for the first time. They must remember what they felt and saw and act on those feelings. Just like a brave group of individuals on this campus have done in bringing these projects to Alma.

The ball is rolling, the education has begun, but it is now up to all of us to continue what has been started, to not let all the hard work go to waste. We cannot let those who come after us not learn this lesson, nor can we afford to forget those who came before. The only way anything is going to change is by action, and there is too much at stake not to act.

Letter to the Editors

Letters to the Editors reflect the views of those who author them. These views in no way reflect those of *The Almanian* staff or the entire Alma College community.

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To the Editors:

The reason why I ask this question is because in fact, within the past two years, the only times I have seen Dr. Stone was at opening convocation and honors assembly. I am on this campus every day, and I find it hard to believe that it is just coincidence that I miss him.

My major at Alma College is Biology, which means that I like to do experiments where I look for cause-and-effect relationships. It also means that I try to find correlation between two variables.

Here are two factors that I have noticed based on my four years as a student. First, I never see the president of Alma College (this includes general on campus sightings, as well as campus events). Factor number two is that I have witnessed a general decrease in the positive and personal atmosphere that used to be abundant at Alma College. In speaking to a variety of students and faculty, I have learned that others feel the same way.

The relationships between faculty, students and administration are becoming more artificial. The primary reasons why I came to Alma College were because of the educational opportunities and the personal interactions with everyone on campus. I was able to speak to my professors at any time and feel

that they were concerned about my well-being. For the most part I think this is still true, but it is not as prevalent as it used to be. The other interactions, faculty-faculty, student-student, faculty-administration and student-administration are beginning to take a turn for the worse. There are always exceptions to the rule, I am only trying to point out the overall trends.

What I do see is a college concerned with money and not students. I am sure everybody would argue that Alma College needs money to exist. While this is true, there needs to be a happy medium between students welfare and raising money for the college. I am also well aware that Dr. Stone is working on raising contributions with the capital campaign.

However, he also needs to understand that there is a happy medium between the two. It is my opinion that he has not found this. I want a president that I had when I first came here. One who seemed very open and was genuinely interested in my well-being.

I, like every other student at Alma College, am becoming a number. If I had wanted to be a number I would have gone to a big university. My point is that priorities are not in the order they need to be. If we desire to maintain the mission and goals of Alma College, which is to provide an outstanding liberal arts education with a personal touch, we must take a look at our current direction and focus, something Dr. Stone is neglecting.

Chris Sargent '97

ONE OF THE GUYS—continued from page 10

myself—and express myself—without undue pressure for conformity. "Girls" had to conform; I didn't because I was one of the guys. I learned how the other gender communicated and became fluent in the language of hierarchy. This involved intensive training. The result was that I could talk for hours without directly touching upon anything of any relevance. I could explain any sort of how-to—from building model rockets to mowing the lawn. I acquired the skills of hiding emotion under a cloak of indifference and sympathy through mockery. I displayed the expected behaviors, always remaining just within the boundaries of feminine modesty and propriety. I couldn't wrestle or shoot hoops, but I always succeeded at Mercy or inventing practical jokes. I was the originator of the plan to spike our English teacher's coffee with blue chalk, finely ground. My paper airplanes excelled in form and function despite the fact that my budding breasts occasionally became obstacles in their launches.

Not many girls are able to become one of the guys. Being fully accepted into the male circle

requires special knowledge. I had to comprehend their manner of communication, their peculiarities, and what it all amounted to. If a boy behaved like an animal whenever a girl was around, it meant he *liked* her; however, if he asked for advice on how to build a working model of a guillotine, you were his pal. I learned the taboos of the guy's world: you never made fun of his dad or his family's income. It was against the rule to *like* his sister or befriend a significantly older or younger brother. You never mocked important factors in his life; his mother, dog, or looks were something else entirely.

There were limits to my guy status, and I knew where they laid. I could not be a go-between or play team sports with them. Any true testosterone rituals were closed to me. It was acceptable. I still had to be a girl, whether I liked it or not. Usually I didn't mind. I wasn't supposed to attempt to uncover their true feelings, as females tend to do, but if they chose to honor me with their confidence, I was forbidden to share this privileged knowledge with girls. It was all implicit; I

followed the unspoken laws which the only guy wearing a bra must adhere to.

Naturally, romantic entanglements eventually ensued. Once the guys began to notice the hypnotic charm of young women, I was either the first or last on their list as a result of my familiarity. To some I appeared safer; to others, more threatening because I knew who they really were. I even danced the courtship dance with a select few. Awkward is the only appropriate word for it. Either I was still just one of the guys or I was magically transformed into a real girl. It always resulted in mutual embarrassment. Time passed and although I remained one of the guys our roles as males and female and our preferences and personalities as individuals became evident. It was easier for everyone; I still didn't have to deal with women's popularity politics.

I am still one of the guys. I can outdo any of these Alma boys in car-talk and actual mechanical ability—for example, I am capable of performing a full diagnostic and tune-up on any domestic vehicle

made previous to 1985. I possess better skills in construction, design and other "manly" skills than many of them. You name it, I could probably (with the right power tools) build it; I wired the electric for a house last summer and directed a construction crew of 20 in the creation of *Forty-Second Street*.

My competency in both masculine and feminine fields that came from this early training has shown me a greater goal. My chief desire in life, short of happiness, is to become a Renaissance woman. I want to have a Ph.D. in mathematics, a bestseller on the shelves and a part-time job in a garage. I have tasted the variety that life has to offer and have made its consumption my goal.

Being one of the guys was a learning experience. I broadened my horizons, discovered new perspectives, and gained valuable adaptation and communication skills. I developed a flexibility that would have taken years to learn independently. My sense of self developed differently than most girls. I was accepted; I was "one of the guys."

The Almanian

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