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Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 4

Alma College welcomes Radio Days

By Wendy Holmes
Staff Reporter

Tonight, Alma College will welcome the vocal ensemble Five By Design to the stage in the Heritage Center. They will be performing a musical retrospective entitled "Radio Days."

Radio Days recalls the style of the typical 1940s radio show in the symphonic pops genre, including segments from vintage serials, comedies, soap operas, radio commercials and quiz shows. It is meant to commemorate the so-called golden age of radio, a time when the radio became the most powerful form of news and entertainment. The show also boasts several costume changes and a set built to model an old-fashioned living room.

The two hour musical retrospective will feature 27 popular songs, such as "Chattanooga

Choo-Choo," "Moonlight Serenade," "Jukebox Saturday Night," and "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy", as well as others from the late 1930s and early 1940s (most date from 1941 to 1945). The songs will be performed by the five members of Five By Design, sopranos Lorie Carpenter-Niska and Debra DuPlage-Bishop, tenor Kurt Niska, baritone Michael Swedberg, and bass Terrence Niska.

Alton Accola used to be an ensemble member of the show, but now serves as manager and as the host of the radio show. "The group is on the road a hundred days a year. We are one of the few vocal groups who do this for a full-time living. In fact, we have a husband and wife combination in the show and a pair of brothers," Accola told Janet Martineau of the *Saginaw News*.

Of the members, Accola commented, "The three guys in the group all have a flair for comedy on the side. Great timing. And that works well for us in creating a seamless show. There are no lulls. But then we've had nine years together to work out the kinks."

It is hoped that the show, featuring music from people such as Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey will be a nostalgic trip down memory lane for older audience members, but also entertaining for the younger generation as well. Of the songs sung in the show, Accola said, "Quality music is timeless....Music from the 1940s is especially rich; the lyrics were so clever back then...all audiences appreciate that quality."

Charlotte Schmidtke of the Alma College Public Relations Office said, "It sounds like it



Five By Design pictured above will perform *Radio Days* tonight in Heritage Center, Presbyterian Hall at 8 p.m. The group will perform many selections from 1940's radio. Photo courtesy of David Loeb.

should be an excellent show."

The program will take place in the Heritage Center, Presbyterian Hall, at eight o'clock on Tuesday night. Admission is five dollars

for adults and free for students, but seating is reserved. For more information, call the Heritage Center Box Office at (517) 463-7304.

Hall councils look to increase involvement

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

Many opportunities to become involved on Alma College Campus exist for students. Through hall councils a resident may have the chance to work with fellow students on improving various aspects of Alma College and also in the community.

Newberry Hall Council has a busy schedule arranged for the year. They currently are collecting empty pop cans in order to raise money to ease the expense for The AIDS Memorial Quilt. Council President Allison Shaver (00), said the council plans to conduct their annual Community Trick or Treating in October.

Other annual activities coming up include the Mitten Tree, where articles collected are donated to the community and the Euchre Tournament. The charity to which the tournament's proceeds will be donated has not yet been determined. The council is open to suggestions.

The 45 member council—two representatives from each corridor—has many goals for the year. One is that the members wish to stay involved with and personally venture into the Alma community. The council is also eager to assist other councils, especially the South Complex, which is attempting to set up a council. "If people are interested we would love to help," commented Shaver.

Mitchell Hall Council has a full agenda for the year. Sophomore Scott Hill, Mitchell Hall

council student advisor, said that the main focus for the council was for hall improvements and to bring in guests and speakers. Ideas for improvements include soap dispensers for the bathrooms and to fix up Mitchell Hall's recreational room. The members of the council are thinking of presenting guests such as a Congressperson or a motivational speaker.

Mitchell Hall will also hold its second annual Haunted House this October. This event will be held in the basement of the hall and proceeds will be given to Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Other suggestions to be tackled this year will be movie nights, euchre parties and working on the no-smoking policy for campus and residence halls.

Hill said that the members, consisting of one representative from each corridor, will work closely with Newberry Hall Council and Student Congress. He also stressed that the council forum is very open allowing residents to inform the staff of their views and ideas.

"Building on the hall council from last year, this year poses new challenges and new goals for the new faces of Mitchell Hall Council and staff. The whole staff seems enthusiastic about the programs planned for the year," commented Hill.

Bruske Hall Council President, Sara Peel, (99) said that the council will mostly be concerned with programs involving the Resident Assistant staff. Other activities

planned for the year include a pop can drive to help quell the expense of The AIDS Memorial Quilt and then later they will donate the funds to the Adopt-a-Family program. The council is also anticipating presenting a program to occur during Alcohol Awareness Week. The 28-member council would like to program movie nights, euchre games and other in hall activities.

"We are trying to do more philanthropic things. We want to get more out in the community and get more people in the building involved and not just staff," remarked Peel.

The main concern for Gelston Hall Council, headed by sophomore Mike Stoneback, is hall improvements. As the oldest hall on campus, Stoneback said Gelston needs a lot of attention. Various improvements include hooks for the showers and making sure the washers work properly and consistently. The council will be forming a petition—a sort of improvement "wish list."

Other projects include the revision of the Hall Council's Constitution which was last revised in 1966.

Stoneback's goal for the council is to become more active and involved in change on campus.

"I hope that we can increase membership and get people involved and can affect changes that are talked about but not done. I would like to focus on one item at a time and get it done and make a difference."

News Briefs

National News Briefs

Marv Albert, accused of biting a woman and forcing her to perform oral sex, pleaded guilty on Thursday to a lesser charge. He agreed to plead guilty to the misdemeanor of assault and battery against the woman in Arlington, Virginia, in return for the prosecution dropping the more serious charge of forcible sodomy. Albert has resigned from Cable Sports Network and was fired by NBC Television Network.

President Clinton praised nine African-American's, six women and three men, who braved jeering white mobs to enter Arkansas' Little Rock Central High 40 years ago. They re-entered the building at an anniversary ceremony on Thursday.

Jury selection began on Saturday in Denver for the second Oklahoma City bombing trial. Terry Nichols went on trial almost four months after Timothy McVeigh was convicted in the case and sentenced to death.

Campus News Briefs

The Alma Symphony Orchestra will be performing on October 3, at 8 p.m. and October 5, at 3 p.m. in the Heritage Center Presbyterian Hall.

Newberry Hall is hosting their annual sexual assault and awareness program for Newberry residents on October 4, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The Alma College Theater Company is presenting *Hot I Baltimore* on October 9-11, at 8 p.m. and October 12, at 3 p.m. in the Heritage Center Presbyterian Hall.

Dr. Donna Lopiano will be speaking on Title IX sports funding rules and women's athletics in the Heritage Center Presbyterian Hall on October 8, at 8 p.m.

The Alma College Signature Square from The AIDS Memorial Quilt presentation will be on display this week in the foyer of the Reid-Knox building.

Students head to Chicago

By Cheryl Lenard
Staff Reporter

Jobs and the real world may seem distant to many Alma College students, but the staff at the Center for Student Development has been busy in the last few weeks preparing for two annual events which they hope will help students think about future plans. Career Explo will be held on Saturday, October 4, from 1-3 p.m. in VanDusen Commons, and the Columbus and Chicago in-city interview trips are October 29-31 and November 19-21 respectively.

The Career Explo is a career fair where more than thirty alumni, parents and friends of Alma College will be on campus to discuss career and graduate school opportunities. They day will begin in SAC 113 with two separate panel discussions entitled "Ethics and Expectations" and "Networking Strategies." Alumni Tom Scholl and Bob Eldridge along with Carolyn Schneider, associate dean of the Center for Student Development will lead "Ethics and Expectations." "Networking Strategies" will be led by alumni Susan Garvey and Karen Ball, assistant professor of exercise and health science. At 1 p.m. the Career Explo open house will begin.

"The alumni participants come from a wide range of career fields, particularly the areas of business, health professions, law and science.... They

will be prepared to speak with our students about their career field in general and their organization or company," stated Mindy Sargent, associate director of the Center for Student Development.

Career Explo is open to all Alma College students. "It will have different meaning to different people depending on where they are at on their career search, but I think it will be helpful to all," said Sargent.

The second major project the Center is working towards is the Columbus and Chicago in-city interview trips.

"These trips," according to Sargent, "help Alma College seniors gain a broader exposure to interviewing and help jump start the whole interview process." The goal is for Alma students to get jobs at the places they interview. Last year, the placement rate for those students that went on the in-city interview experience was nearly fifty percent.

For a higher chance of placement, the Center's faculty encourages all students to look around at what is available and not limit themselves to one particular company or small field. Sargent said that there are two major benefits of participation in these trips. First, the companies are grateful because the College brings the students to them. Second, the trips save the students both time and money. The trips cost \$90 each which covers two nights in a hotel and transportation to the cities. Plus students' time is saved by the help of the Center's faculty

who coordinate the logistics of the trips. The deadlines for the Columbus trip registration are October 6 for the application and cover letter and resume draft and October 13 for the final copies of the cover letter and resume. The deadlines for the Chicago trip are October 27 and November 3, respectively.

Both trips begin by leaving Alma on Wednesday morning and driving to the city. Once there, there is a reception with Alma alumni who live in the area. Sargent explained that "students kind of catch the fever and excitement from them." The next two days are spent by students interviewing with the companies with whom they receive interviews.

This is the first year that the Center has taken a group to Columbus. Sargent explained that the reason the program now includes Columbus is because Columbus is a small town that has gotten "really big really fast." She went on, "It is a really easy city to get around, and it is a really safe town." Sargent also explained that Columbus is "hungering for good employees right now." Chicago has been done in years past and has been a popular location for Alma alumni.

Sargent concluded, "There is a part of these trips which really empowers students, especially those who have not grown up in a large city."

Pig Books due out this week

By Missy Crossnoe
News Editor

The Alma College picture identification books (PIG books) are expected to arrive on campus at the end of the week.

The PIG books are designed and completed each year by the Scot yearbook staff. Several members of the staff agree that completion of the PIG book went a lot smoother this year compared to last.

Junior Joey Martin, PIG book editor, designed a new system for gathering the PIG book data this year. For all returning students, he copied the data that was displayed in last year's book, and he e-mailed first-year students to request the necessary information. As each student had their picture taken for the book, they got the chance to look over the collected information and check for mistakes.

"Our biggest problem in the past was incorrect information," said Martin. "My goal this year was to cut down on mistakes, and I think this system helped a lot."

Junior Cindy Fiedler, yearbook editor, said "I've worked hard this year to iron out all the hang-ups from last year. That's why I wanted this job again. I know what the difficulties are and I can work to overcome them."

The yearbook staff has also decided to add e-mail addresses

into the PIG book this year, and they made sure that everyone will be pictured in the book. "Previous PIG book pictures were used for those who did not wait in line to get a new picture taken," said first-year student Jason Cottrell, yearbook organizations editor.

"This year we were much more organized," said junior Carrie Kaminski, academics editor. "Joey and Cindy did a great job."

The staff worked hard to complete the student section of the PIG book in one night. The faculty section, cover design and advertisements were completed a few days later. The entire book was sent in to be copied on September 25.

"The hardest thing about working on the book is the amount of time that goes into it," said Martin. "I was impressed to see how quickly we got it done this year."

On top of all the work the Scot staff has been doing on the PIG book, they have also began working on next year's yearbook. Last year's yearbook is expected to arrive in November.

Junior Sarah Green, assistant darkroom editor, said "I'm really excited for this year because we basically have a brand new staff. Everyone seems to have a lot of energy and is ready to go."

Class of 2001 elects student representatives

By Karin Shrum
Staff Reporter

At their meeting this past Monday Student Congress welcomed the new representatives for the class of 2001.

Winning for president was Robert VanTongerloo, for vice president Ryan Gall, for secretary Amber Brand, for Treasurer Jennifer Gibson and for Associate Trustee Elizabeth Weber.

Elections and campaigning began in the week of September 15th. For the first-year students especially, elections meant campaigning to quickly become known to a large group of strangers.

Posters and door to door greetings seemed the most common means of introduction, for in the end it really was the one whose name was most familiar that won.

Now that they've won what will they do? Each class' representatives have a list of duties set before them that are outlined

in the student handbook. Most duties, however, begin with social activities and progressively become more oriented to student development causes.

"Usually the class officers especially [first-year students] do two or three social things to get the class together," stated Dean of Students James W. Kridler.

Trying to unite the class of 2001 will be a large goal for their newly elected members.

"I'm hoping that as a class we become more involved," commented Brand, whose sentiments closely matched those of her fellow representatives.

Having been on campus only one short month the first-year students are still largely strangers, however, the class representatives are not.

Usually it is five students that are relatively unknown to each other that are elected as representatives in the first year. However, purely by chance elected to be 2001's associate trustee, treasurer and vice president were three stu-

dents from Heritage High School in Saginaw.

"I think it will be good because we can work well together, and we're all very diverse people," stated Weber on the unusual fact that three of the 2001 representatives went to high school together.

Despite their relationship the 2001 representatives are expecting little conflict, fresh ideas and a great year.

"It will be a great year," stated VanTongerloo, who is planning on having a group meeting with Kridler, in the upcoming week to discuss the group's duties and responsibilities for the fall term.

Traditional first-year class activities and responsibilities for the fall term include: preparing a float for the Homecoming parade, arranging a class dinner and other activities deemed appropriate by the representatives and their advisor Chris Brown.

Both the class president and vice president mentioned that one of the activities that they intend to include this year was fund rais-

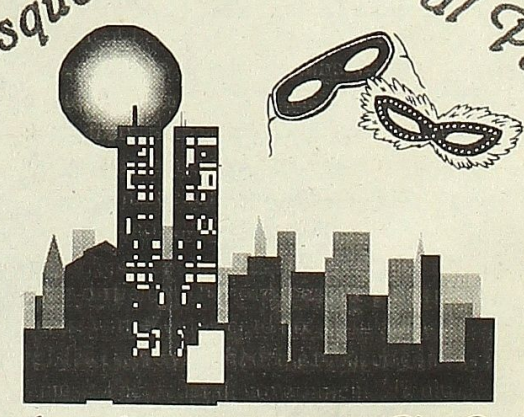
ing. They are hoping to be able to get the class funds up, thinking ahead already to when the class will purchase a present for the

school upon their graduation.

All five representatives are anxious to begin their work and are looking forward for a memorable year to come.

*Alpha Gamma Delta
presents its campus formal*

Masquerade in Central Park



October 4 from 9 pm - 1 am in Van Dusen
\$12/couple, \$7/person. Open to the entire campus.
All proceeds benefit diabetes research.

Campaign reform becomes a heated issue

By Patricia Baldwin
Freelance Writer

President Clinton's and Vice President Gore's telephone calls have turned into the catalyses for Senate and House Committee hearings. The telephone calls in question were allegedly made to seek contributions for campaign funding for the Democratic Party.

The hearings being held by the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee and the House Commerce Committee appear to be leading the way to an outcry for campaign funding reform.

When asked about the necessity of campaign funding reform, sophomore Brock Kremer, "I believe that less control is more effective than more control. If more regulations are instituted then the possibility of long term problems increases."

First-year student Lisa Listvan said, "Campaign funding should be reformed. President Clinton

and Vice President Gore should not be able to use their positions for Democratic Party or personal gains."

Sophomore Kale Stevens believes campaign funding should be reformed. He explained, "If the reported stories are true and if what they [politicians] are doing isn't illegal; then it should be." Additionally Kale said, "All campaign spending should be monitored by an unbiased party."

Everyday American business people pick up the telephone receiver, dial a number and speak to another person. Telephones provide a relatively inexpensive and a seemingly innocent way of doing business unless the callers are President Clinton and Vice President Gore.

As federal employees, Clinton and Gore's telephone calls made from their workplace, the White House which is federal property, could turn into an expensive and illegal means of doing business

especially if the calls were made to solicit campaign funds specifically for the Democratic Party.

The hearings by the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Sen-

campaign funds.

The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee which is chaired by Fred Thompson is a committee that handles intergovernmental relations including issues concerning federal employees. The senate's 99-0 vote mandated that an investigation about campaign funding be conducted. The Governmental Affairs Committee assignments made them the best fit committee to handle the type of investigation that was mandated.

They are gathering information in an attempt to bring about policy changes and with the very real possibility of enacting campaign funding laws. Politicians seem to be looking for a uniform, regulated manner in which campaign funds may be raised.

The House Commerce Committee, which is chaired by Thomas Bliley, is questioning what

the consequences may be to American business policies if foreign entities are encouraged and allowed to make financial contributions to political campaigns. If the contributions become substantial, national elections could be directly influenced by foreign intervention and that could affect the Commerce Committee's interstate business policies.

With all the investigating and questioning being done in Washington about campaign funding reform, now may be a good time for lawmakers to resolve and settle the age-old questions: Is there an appropriate, equitable way to fund political campaigns? If so, should there be uniform guidelines or specific laws for campaign funding?

Since the lawmakers have invested time and money into the hearings, may be they could follow Kale Steven's advice and set the guidelines and laws for campaign spending at the same time.

"
If the reported stories are true and if what [politicians] are doing isn't illegal it should be.
"

•Kale Stevens (99)

ate Governmental Affairs Committee will evaluate and decide if the telephones calls in question were made for the purpose of requesting "soft" money.

The Senate Judiciary Committee which is chaired by Warren Hatch convened to obtain information that may be relevant as to the legality of federal employees using federal property to solicit

WQAC branches out to provide better variety

By Joey Mead
Staff Reporter

91 FM *The Duck* went on the air Monday, September 8.

WQAC plans to have better success then in past years, due to new ideas, more music and better equipment.

General Manager Pete Muccio said, "We're playing sca, rhythm and blues, rap, country, 80's, jazz and some European music in attempts to reach a broader audience. We also plan to get some more specialty shows on the air, so more groups will get involved."

The Duck has spent more money on a variety of music to reach their goal for more listeners. They have also lined up a Battle of the Bands concert during the winter term. Battle of the Bands will be a concert where community bands and any College bands will compete for the best all around sound. The winner of that concert will open for a national band that The Duck will bring to Alma College

this year. The Duck has not determined what national band they want, but they are taking suggestions before they make their decision.

Jerimiah Lee, the Music Director for WQAC, said, "We're changing from just whinny alternative to rock and roll and more mainstream music. We're looking to be louder."

Not only has The Duck's music expanded, but according to Lee, "Our executive council is very efficient this year. We have people that give a damn."

The Lumberjack and Pajama morning show from 7:00-9:00 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday with Barb Knust and Melissa Allen also plans on getting more listeners.

Knust adds, "We've been listening to a lot of new music. We honor every request. We want people to know we're out there and we're awesome."

The Duck plans to have more give-aways and to expand and

reach more students.

Zack Shipstead, DJ for WQAC said, "We've got a big program this year. Requests are up and people are responding really well. I think people are ready to forgive our past years performances."

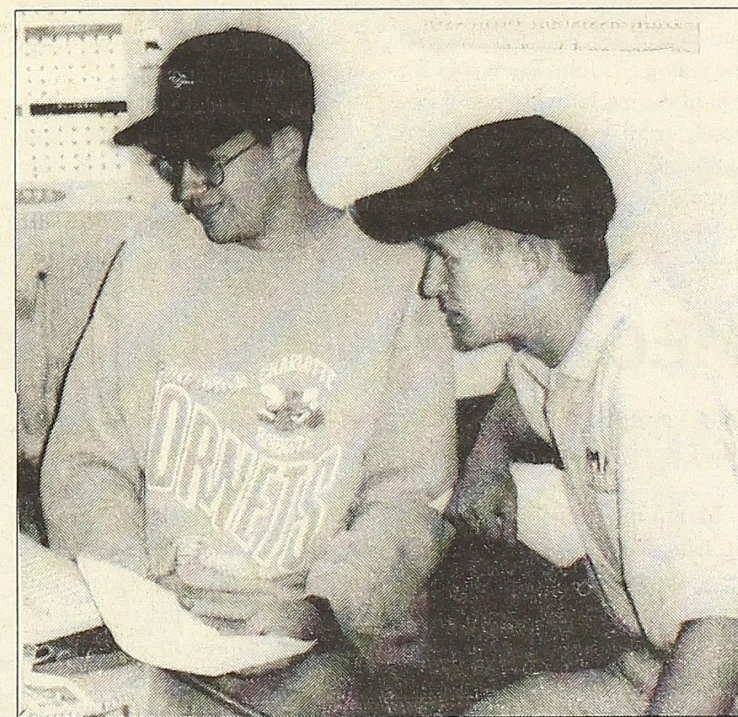
Also achieving success for The Duck is senior Mark Alderman. Starting from scratch with a sca show that airs every Wednesday at midnight, Alderman is in the process of ordering more music to get things really rolling.

Alderman said, "I've been working from my own personal collection right now. It's a little difficult to get a hold of a large selection, but sca music is starting to break into the mainstream music stations, which is good. I've been calling a lot of record stores for help on finding some more sca music. I go to a lot of sca concerts and I talk to the bands, and they're more than helpful."

WQAC has many staff member striving to make the Duck a better station. Alderman concludes, "In

past years The Duck had some good DJ's working from the bottom up. Now we have a great

executive council, and things are working from the top, down to the DJ's."



WQAC General Manager Peter Muccio (99) and Sports and News director James Hintz (98) console on the days news. WQAC broadcasts from 7 a.m. until 1 a.m. and offers a wide selection of music. Listeners can tune in at 90.9 fm. Photo by Derek Warner.

Astronaut launches for Mir despite controversy

By Wendy Holmes
Staff Reporter

On Thursday, September 25, the space shuttle Atlantis took to the air, leaving behind it a cloud of controversy. Atlantis, on its 20th mission since 1981, drew attention because of one crew member: David Wolf, the man set to replace astronaut Michael Foale, who has lived on the Mir space station since May.

Speculation about whether NASA would approve the replacement ended on Thursday morning when it was announced that Wolf would indeed fly with

Atlantis to Mir. Before the decision was made, Wolf told ABC News, "It just seems ludicrous to bail out because things aren't going as smooth as we'd like them."

Controversy concerning Mir, and whether the Americans should remain a part of the program, has been swirling for quite some time now. It has grabbed headlines again and again this year as crew members dealt with one malfunction after another.

In February, a fire broke out, forcing those aboard to wear protective gas masks. They donned

the masks again a scant two weeks later when the oxygen supply generator failed. Not even a month after that incident, a leak in the cooling system (used to maintain breathable air for the astronauts) was discovered.

In July, the station was tossed about in its orbit for several hours after a crew member mistakenly caused a massive power failure. Over the last three months, the main oxygen generator system aboard has broken down no less than three times. The main computer has suffered a similar fate, breaking down five times, most

recently on September 22. That day, the crew also noticed brown droplets leaking from the jets on their Soyuz escape craft. This was alarming because in case of an emergency that craft will be the crew's only way home.

These and many other dangerous situations were documented in a letter released September 12 by Roberta Gross, NASA Inspector General. In light of this letter, the House Science Committee decided September 18 that Mir was too risky to send Wolf aboard. NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin made the final decision,

however, the morning of the launch, after hearing safety reports from both Gemini and Apollo astronaut Thomas Stafford and an independent consultant. Wolf, for one, was pleased with Goldin's go-ahead.

He told ABC News, "What we have here is an incredible opportunity to look into the crystal ball at how our station will be in eight, ten, twelve years into its life span. And everything we see happening in the Mir system is something we still have time to design around, upgrade around or alter procedures to prevent."

MSU's *Summer and Smoke* dazzles audiences

By Charlotte Grant
Feature Editor

The Michigan State University (MSU) Department of Theater's production of Tennessee Williams's *Summer and Smoke* starts with a laugh and never lets up.

Williams's work is largely a character piece. It relies on the intricate and subtle (or sometimes not so subtle) interactions between complex individuals, not action, to entertain the audience. It deals seriously with issues of love and sexuality in an age where those aspects of life were largely denied.

The play takes place in Glorious Hill, Mississippi sometime in the early twentieth century. Time and place are unimportant, though, compared to the timeless struggles of life.

The lead female character is Alma Winemiller, a Reverend's daughter who is in her twenties and unmarried. Alma is confused about life and love. She received a proposal from a eager yet utterly boring young man named Roger Duremus. Although she considers his proposal out of respect, her passions lie elsewhere.

Alma's true feelings of love and desire are directed towards the young Dr. John Buchanan Jr., whom she has known since childhood. John both frightens and exhilarates Alma with his heated, passionate ways.

John is not a clear cut hero figure, though. From the minute

he returns to town from school he engages in a reckless lifestyle, full of gambling, drinking and whoring. The main object of his physical lust is Rosa Gonzales (played well by Ceora Hoxsey), the daughter of a local casino owner.

John's relationships with the two women clearly contrast the difference between spiritual and physical love. For Rosa it is the latter but for Alma John feels a desperate ethereal passion that he cannot admit until it is too late.

The majority of parts are played by MSU theater students who do a phenomenal job performing excellent parts in a wonderful play. Both lead parts, Alma and John, were extremely well acted. The young performers literally astonished audience members with the vitality and life brought to the roles. Sitting in the theater it was easy to forget they were actors, and easier to imagine that one was really just snooping in on real lives.

Alma was played by Trisha Miller. Miller displays her enormous talent by bringing the character to life. She manages to reveal Alma's periods of reserve, tension and passion with equal deftness, giving the character a three dimensionality often lacking in acting.

Miller is at her most impressive when she portrays Alma in an agitated state. Her hysterics seem uncannily real. She even fakes sobs extraordinarily well, a difficult task when it must be done on

the spot.

Through all this Miller deftly maintains Alma's characteristic gestures, diction and mannerisms, showing that for the period of the play she truly is Alma.

Robert Evans plays John with equal facility. Evans accomplishes the difficult task of playing a troubled young man without making it seem trite. A character such as John could easily become a flat, stock character that anyone has seen hundreds of times before. However, thanks to William's excellent writing and Evans's ability to reveal inner turmoil this is avoided.

The portrayal of the inner tumult that buffets John every day of that long, fateful summer is Evan's greatest achievements. It is the true mark of a great actor to say something without speaking. Throughout the course of the play John becomes more than what he says and what he does, he becomes who he is, a remarkable achievement by Evans.

Though the play explores these serious character issues, it is not without humor. The supporting characters provide frequent and appropriate laughs.

The best, and probably funniest example is the character of Mrs. Winemiller, Alma's mother. Apparently she had had a breakdown some years ago and now Alma and her father, Reverend Winemiller care for her.

Mrs. Winemiller's breakdown left her stone cold crazy, and this is where the laughs come from.



John teases Alma as they sit on a bench in the park. Photo courtesy of Michigan State University Theatre Department.

She frequently echoes the statements of other characters in a laughing, falsetto voice. She constantly demands ice cream and often flips her skirts over her head. Played by Katja Luczki, Mrs. Winemiller consistently provides comic relief.

Luczki is not the only source of humor in the play. Alma's "intellectual group," which meets every few weeks to discuss literature, provides a virtual cornucopia of unique and hilarious individual character. The scene involving this group is nothing but laughs as one member after an-

other makes fools of themselves by just being themselves.

As an overall result of the excellent writing and acting, in addition to the well placed humor, the play is a tremendous success. It is recommended that anyone with a serious interest in well performed theater try to see this show.

Directed by Joyce Ramsay, the play runs September 25-28 and October 2-4 at the Wharton Center's Festival Stage in East Lansing. For times, prices and ticket reservations, interested parties can call the Wharton Center box office at (517) 432-2000.

MEGA eases first year adjustment

By Rhonda Smith
Staff Reporter

Mentoring Enhances Growth at Alma (MEGA) assists first-year students in becoming familiar with college life. Mentors, who are upperclass students, volunteer to spend time with their mentee and introduce them to various aspects of the campus.

According to MEGA coordinator, senior Amy Hoffman, the process begins in the spring with training of potential mentors.

"We tell mentors what we expect and go through scenarios that could happen with mentees," said Hoffman. Coordinators of MEGA reinforced the idea that it is a responsibility and requires a lot of common sense.

During the summer the prepared mentors are informed of their "match"—the first-year student(s) under their guidance. The mentor is given the address of their first-year student allowing them to become acquainted before the school year begins. If the mentee has any questions, such as how much junk can fit into a Gelston Hall room, they have the opportunity to ask ahead of time.

The first event MEGA held for the 100 mentors and 160 mentees

was their opening picnic which marked the beginning of the semester. Hoffman said the picnic was an event centered on gathering everyone together in order to meet new faces. This was the first event at which "matches" were able to formally meet. A group photograph was taken also.

MEGA also sponsored a canoe trip for the group of about 25 students.

Hoffman said that the matches are asked to keep in touch at least once a week until mid-term—a period when assistance is usually needed by the mentees. Although participation in MEGA persists through the year many matches may dissolve after mid-term. It depends upon the relationship between the mentor and mentee and whether or not help is desired.

The organization has many events planned for the rest of the year. Attempting to coordinate as many as two events per month, MEGA tries to get their members involved both on and off campus. "We try to get people without cars off campus so they aren't always stuck here," said Hoffman.

Events planned include a Halloween party, a trip to Uncle John's Cider Mill and shopping

at the Meridian Mall near Christmas season.

Mentoring appears to be helpful for first-year students because they are given a friend to talk to when they feel the need.

"They get their questions answered by students who've been through it," said Hoffman. "Advisors are great for advice for classes but mentors can say this is what they tell you, but this is what you should know."

Hoffman hopes that MEGA can continue to make good matches and create friendships. The group wants to get their mentees out on campus and not lost in the shuffle.

Mentor Jodie Bannan (98) commented, "As a mentor I like being able to help others. I was a mentee once upon a time so I know what it's like."

Bannan also remarked on the special aspects of MEGA, "The program in general is a lot of fun. We do a lot of activities based for everyone."

The desire to help others seems to pass down from the mentee experience. Brand, who is one of Bannan's mentees, said, "I think I would be a mentor next year. When I got here I didn't think it'd help me but it helped knowing someone was there."

Center Corner

CSD to host career fair

The Center for Student Development will be hosting about 30 alumni and friends of the college on **Saturday, from 1-3 p.m.**, in VanDusen Commons for the annual **Career Explo!**

All Alma students should attend this event. While this request should be especially strong for juniors and seniors, all students are welcome.

It is a unique opportunity for our students to benefit from the expertise of our alumni.

The alumni participants come from a wide range of career fields, particularly the areas of business, health professions, law, science, consulting, publishing, research and ministry.

They will be prepared to speak with our students about their career field in general and their organization or company in particular.

Alumni will also entertain

questions regarding their own professional development and networking in their profession and in their community.

In addition to the Career Fair format in the afternoon, this year we will be adding a new component in the morning: two panel discussions in SAC 113.

The first panel discussion, presented at 10:00-10:40, will be **"Ethics & Expectations"** and the second panel discussion topic, presented at 10:45-11:25, will be **"Networking Strategies."**

Alumni, faculty and staff will be presenting their views in a panel discussion format and will welcome questions and comments from attending students.

Any questions? Do you want a list of the organizations and types of positions represented by the alumni? Please call Mindy Sargent (7225) at The Center for Student Development.



Sophomore Michael Campeau chases after the ball. The men's soccer team is currently tied with Hope for first place in the MIAA. Photo by Derek Warner.

Football team rolls over Elmhurst College, 48-7

By Sean Babbitt
Sports Editor

The Scots continued their winning ways Saturday as Alma steamrolled the Elmhurst College Bluejays 48-7.

It was the Scots' rushing attack and not the normal passing barrage that blew out the Bluejays.

Led by senior Ray Dawood's school record tying four touchdowns, the running game accounted for six of the seven Scot scores. Another touchdown was scored by junior quarterback Jason Vandermass, his second of the season. Dawood finished the day with 79 rushing yards to go along with the four scores.

"We were pretty balanced in terms of total yards," said Head Football Coach Jim Cole.

In the opening quarter of play Dawood scored twice on runs of 3 yards and a season long 58 yard scamper. Both extra point attempts were completed by junior kicker Rick Brands bringing Alma's lead to 14-0 at the end of the first quarter.

In the second quarter of play Dawood ran for his third touchdown of the day by breaking across the goal line on a 1-yard dive. The Bluejays accounted for their only score on the day late in the second by completing a long 58-yard bomb to bring the half-time score to 21-7 Scots.

The second half was more of the same for the Scots as they dominated both sides of the ball, scoring three more times and not

allowing another point.

In the third quarter, Dawood completed his league leading scoring drive as he again powered into the end zone from the 1-yard line to put the game way out of reach for Elmhurst.

The one passing score of the day for the Scots was completed by Vandermass to sophomore receiver Greg Bowden on an 11-yard strike. Vandermass also ran in an 8-yard gain for another touchdown.

The Scot defense stymied the Bluejays the rest of the way holding them to a season low 147 total yards while the offense piled up 392 yards.

"They worked hard and everyone contributed [to the win]," said Cole.

The 48-7 victory raised the Scots overall record to an unblemished 3-0 going into conference play starting next week. The game also propelled Vandermass to the top of the total offense leaders in the MIAA with 984 total yards passing and running the ball, 255 yards ahead of the closest competition.

Dawood has also compiled a comfortable lead in the scoring race, a full 18 points in front of Hope senior Brandon Graham, who is in second place.

The Scots will resume action next Saturday at Defiance for their second of three consecutive road games, before returning home against Albion on October 18 for the annual homecoming game.

Men's Soccer

Alma, Hope lead MIAA

Women's soccer team defeats Oberlin, falls to Calvin

By Joey Mead
Staff Reporter

Last Tuesday, the men's soccer team won the first game of three they played that week.

Tuesday's game, against Calvin College turned out to be a 4-0 win for the Scots.

Sophomore Nate Spang said, "We dominated the game. It showed everyone where we were in the league, and it was kind of revenge for last year."

Scoring a goal a piece for the Scots were senior Jeff Bateson, junior Randy U'Ren, first-year student Paul Aceto and junior Matt Keller.

Jeff Bateson was named MIAA Player of the Week.

The men's soccer team went on to compete in a tournament held on Friday and Saturday. The Scots beat Transylvania University on Friday 3-0. Keller, Aceto and co-captain Tom Jewitt (98) each scored goals.

Keller stated, "Transylvania was a good team and they had an okay record. But we just played better. We had lots of shots on goal and strong defense."

Beating Transylvania moved the Scots into the championship

game against Wilmington College, who is ranked second in the region, and 17 in the nation.

Alma fell short of victory, with U'Ren scoring a penalty kick and Wilmington sneaking two goals by back-up goalie Todd Ruiter (98). First-string goalie Jon Cullen (00) broke his forth metacarpal in his left hand when practicing the day before the Calvin game. Cullen hopes to return soon.

U'Ren said, "We played hard, but we could have played harder."

Head Coach Scott Frey said, "We got a chance to play Wilmington who are ranked second in the region, but we have wanted to play them for a while. We won against Calvin, and they're a team we hadn't beat in the past so I was not disappointed at all."

Alma is tied with Hope College for the MIAA championship. Both teams are 3-0 in the conference.

The Scots are anxious to play Hope, U'Ren added. There is a big rivalry between the Flying Dutchmen and the Scots.

Men's soccer plays again against Olivet on Wednesday at 4 p.m.

Women's soccer also played a couple games last week. Last

Tuesday, the women played Calvin College and lost 1-0.

Junior Heather Klepper said, "We played well. Everyone is improving, but both of our goalies are injured."

Goalie Missy Hamlin (01) is out with a injured leg. It is possibly an ACL tear, but there has been no official word on her condition.

The other goalie, Kathleen McCruder (01), is also out with a bad leg.

McCruder said, "I have a pretty nasty bruise, but I should be playing again next week."

Having 12 saves in the game against Calvin, and temporarily replacing the two real goalies, is senior co-captain Stephanie Craig. Craig commented, "We played really well. Personally, I prefer to play in the field."

The women had another game Saturday against Oberlin College. The Scots won 2-1.

Scoring for the Scots was Sarah Hayes (01) and Kristi Hopper (01).

The team is continuing to improve under the instruction of new coach Megan Owens and they hope to play well against Olivet College tomorrow.

Cross country teams place 4th, 5th at first MIAA jamboree

By Beth A. Knapp
Co-Editor-in-Chief

On Saturday, the men's and women's cross country teams competed in their first MIAA jamboree at Adrian College. The women finished fourth overall and the men fifth.

"We were really happy [even though] we didn't place as high as we would have liked," commented Head Coach Dan Gibson about the teams' performances.

Senior Joy Engblade, who finished in seventh place with a time of 18:47, led the women's team. Gibson was impressed with her effort, stating that up until the last half mile of the race Engblade was in a position to win the invitational or at least finish in the top two.

Other top finishers for the women's team were sophomore Anne Grimaldi (15th), first-year student Breanne Moeggenberg (27th), senior Katie Rodgers (28th) and senior Rebecca Walter (42nd).

Moeggenberg cut just over

two minutes off her personal record in Saturday's performance.

"We ran better as a team, but we still need to work on packing it up. The ability is there," stated Rodgers.

Top finishers for the men's team included junior co-captain Peter Muccio (9th), senior co-captain Jerry Howard (26th), first-year student Mark Williams (29th), sophomore Josh Wiggins (31st) and sophomore Kyle Kristin (45th).

"Overall, as a team, we performed well. Everyone ran personal best times for the season. We just haven't peaked as a team yet," said Muccio.

The only down note of the day resulted from the fact that both teams lost to Albion for the second time this season after not losing to them in years.

The men were edged by the Britons by two points and the women by 14 points. Both Calvin College teams finished first.

Saturday's meet counted for one third of the MIAA championship competition. The other two

thirds will be determined at the second jamboree on November 1, which will be hosted by Olivet College.

According to Gibson a good performance at the final jamboree could allow the teams to move up as many as two places.

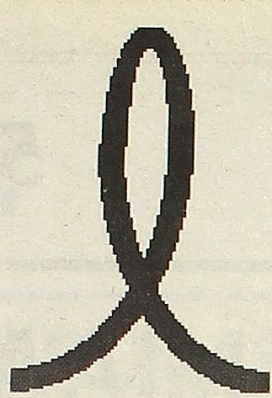
"Losing to Albion is excellent motivation [for the next jamboree]," commented Muccio.

Muccio stated that practices have been productive and times have been fast in up-tempo runs. "We're on track to peak at the end of the season when we need to," he said.

Next weekend the teams travel to Indiana to compete in the Earlham Invitational. Gibson stated that this invite will provide excellent racing experience on a unique course against teams that they don't normally face.

However, it is doubtful that many records will be set.

"The course is tough, so we won't have great times," commented Gibson.



AIDS AWARENESS WEEK

TRAGIC REALITY

AIDS Memorial Quilt educates visitors

By Karin Shrum
Staff Reporter

AIDS Awareness Week was an emotional one for all Alma College students, but an educational one as well. In association with the visiting AIDS Memorial Quilt, various other AIDS awareness activities and speeches were offered.

On Monday T.J. Sullivan and Joel Goldman gave an entertaining and enlightening speech in Presbyterian Hall on friendship in the Age of AIDS and way to protect yourself from HIV.

Tuesday brought two more educational speakers: Matthew Modine spoke in the Newberry Hall Lobby and a speech entitled "AIDS: It's Impact on all of us" was given in the Mitchell Hall lobby.

Also preceding the opening ceremonies of the quilt, a campus wide mock HIV epidemic was distributed by Alma's Resident Assistant (RA) Staff. After calculating the percent of people infected by the virus everyday, the RA staff infected that percentage of residence hall doors.

"I think the infection brought home to those of us living in Alma just how many people the virus

affects," commented Becky Dutton (01), whose door was labeled with HIV early this past week.

On Wednesday, came the long awaited AIDS Memorial Quilt display opening ceremonies featuring performances by all the Alma College Choirs, a theatrical reading of the poem *How to Watch your Brother Die* performed by Eric Grace and the presentation of a portion of the quilt.

"This has been a work of love for Alma College and it will be remembered forever," said President Alan Stone during his opening remarks at the ceremony.

At the close of the ceremony the audience, led by a bag piper, filed in to view the quilt display in Van Deusen Commons.

Running concurrently with the quilt viewing were three more educational activities.

On Friday night a performance by the Greater Lansing Gay Men's Chorus was given in Presbyterian Hall. The movie *The Cure* was shown as well on Friday and Saturday night.

On Thursday night the Academy Award winning documentary *Common Threads* was supposed to be shown but was can-

celed due to technical difficulties.

For at least one Alma student the AIDS Memorial Quilt brought a way for her to say a final goodbye to a close friend who died of AIDS in 1994.

"I'm inducting [a quilt panel] to pay homage to Janelle because I don't think I did enough for her. It will bring closure for me," stated Jennifer Fish (99) who worked vigorously all week to complete the quilt piece.

At the closing ceremony on Sunday 13 new quilt panels were inducted to the overall quilt, thanks were given to all those who made the week possible and a candlelight ceremony was held.

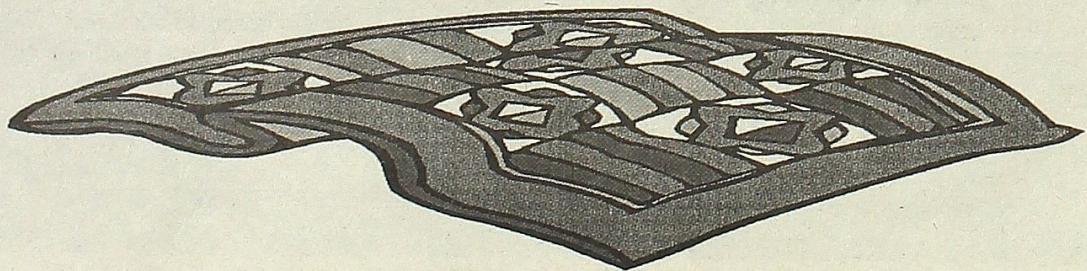
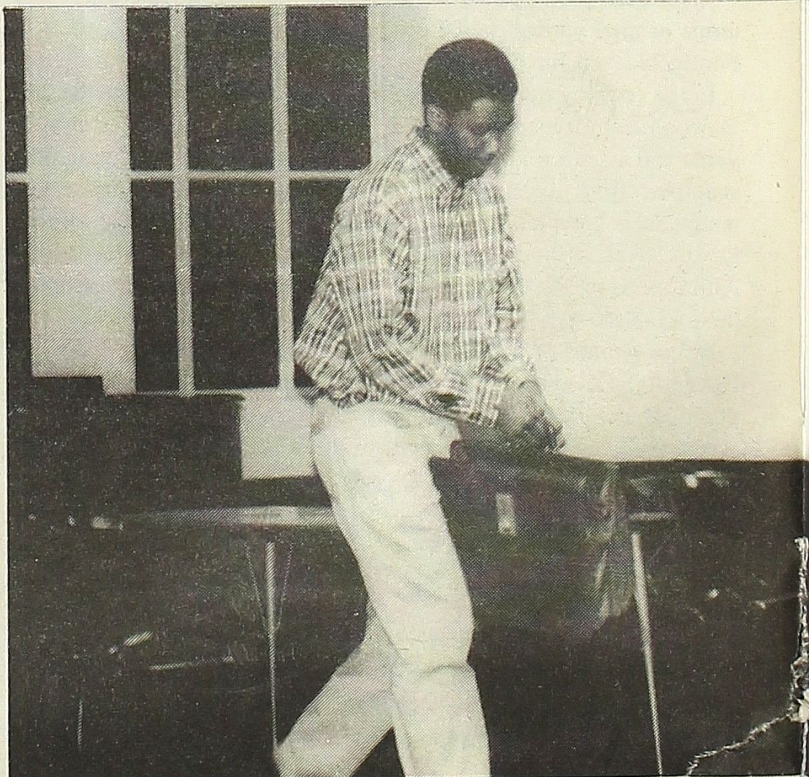
"I think it's been a rewarding experience that everybody from President Stone down to the students, that all of us will be much greater for," commented Alma College Chaplain Jesse Perry on the week's overall effect.

Over 3,000 people came and visited the quilt this past week. They came from the campus, Alma and from as far away as Ohio. Their attendance helped reach the goal to remember those who had died, celebrate their lives, and educate those who visited.

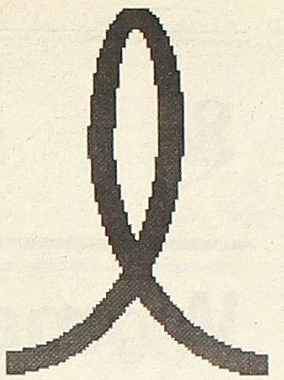


(Above) A group takes the time to view the panels. The display itself was coordinated by Patrick Lombardi from the Lansing Area AIDS Network. Photo by Derek Warner.

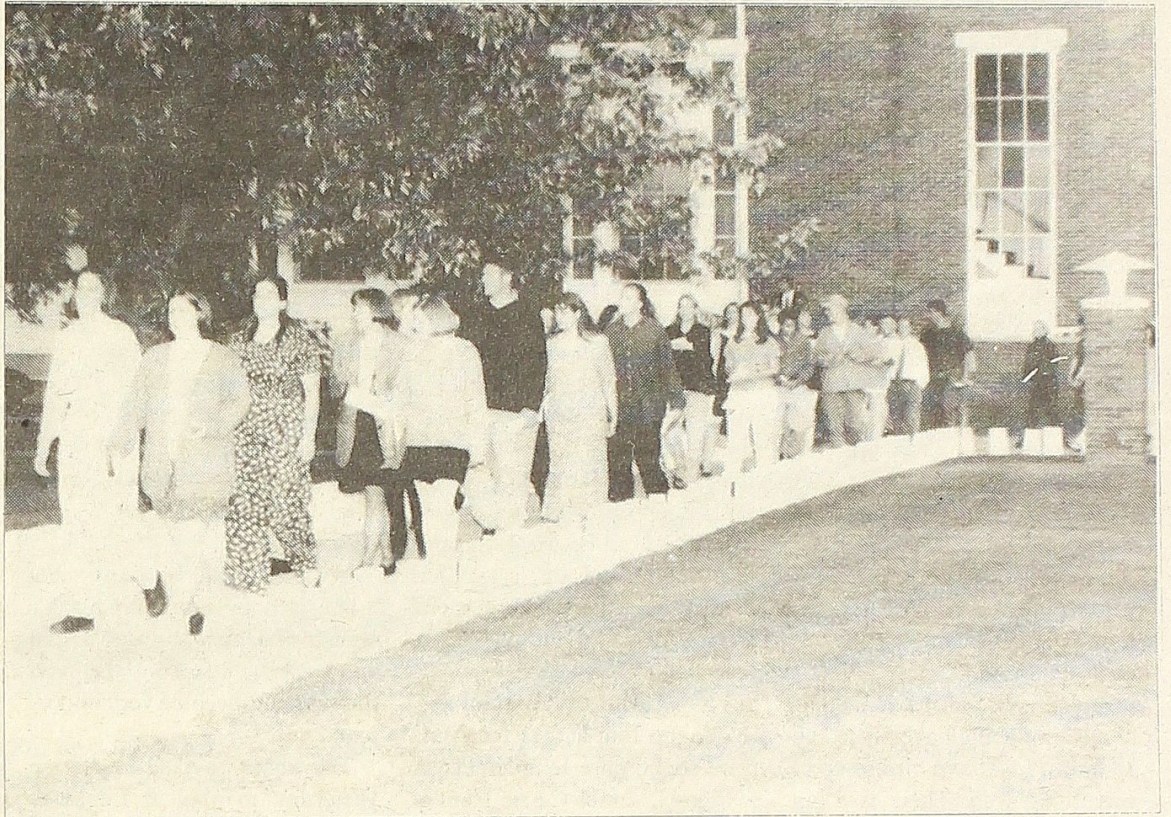
(Right) Junior Eric Grace leaves the Chapel stage after reciting the poem "How to Watch a Brother Die" during the opening ceremony. Photo by Derek Warner.



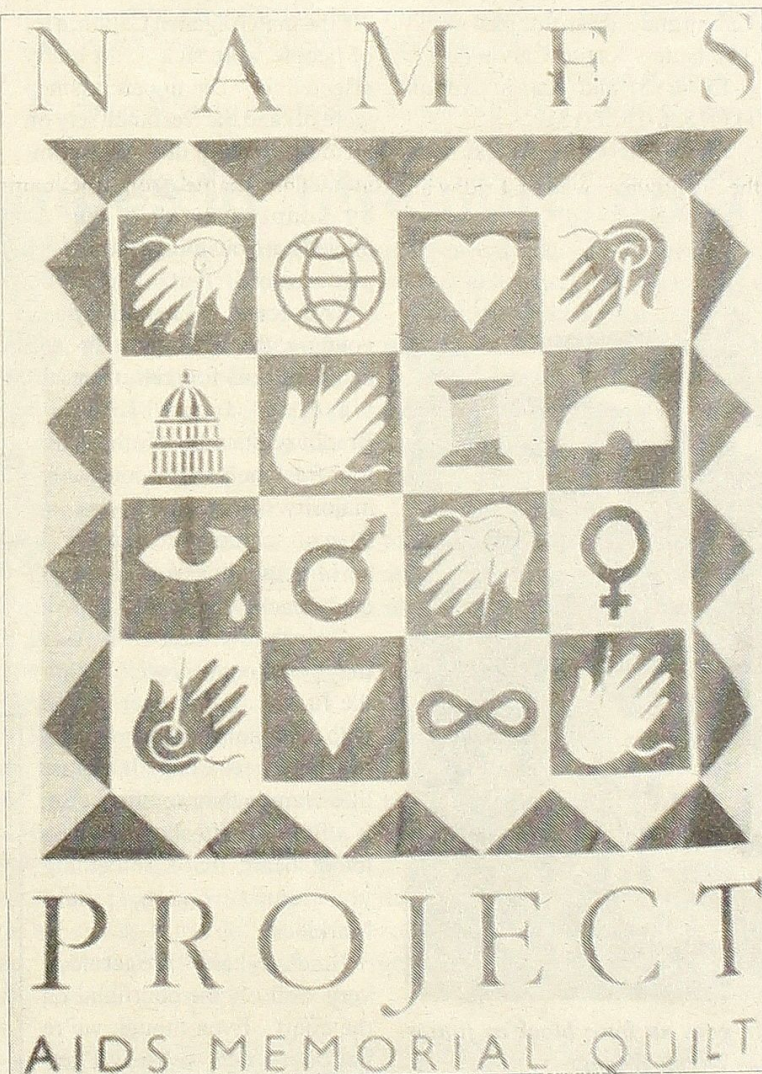
DEK BRINGS PANDEMIC'S TO ALMA COLLEGE



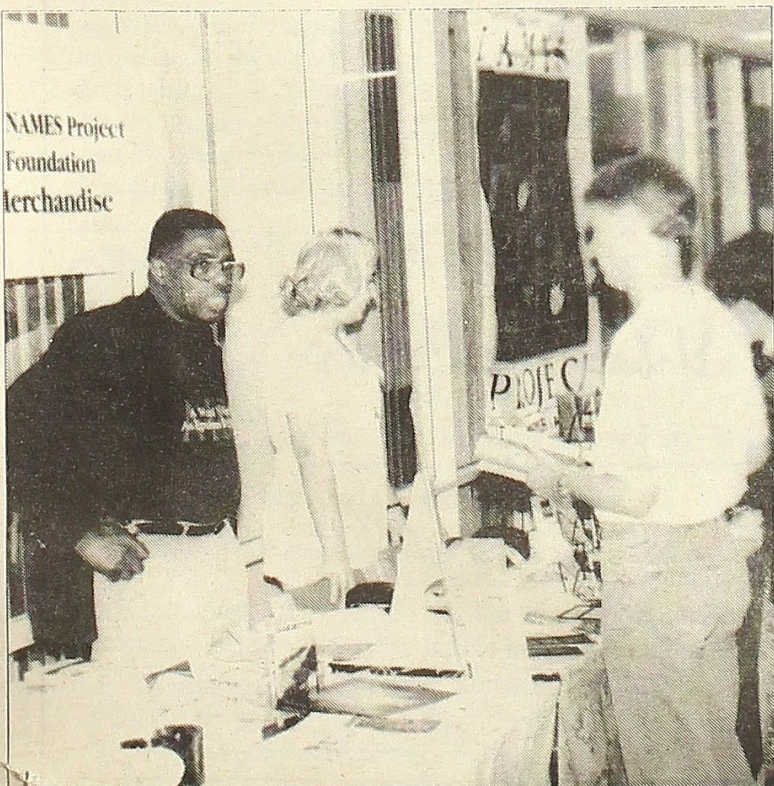
Two visitors to the Quilt display embrace as they remember the loss of their loved one. People traveled from as far as Ohio to see the display. Photo by Derek Warner.



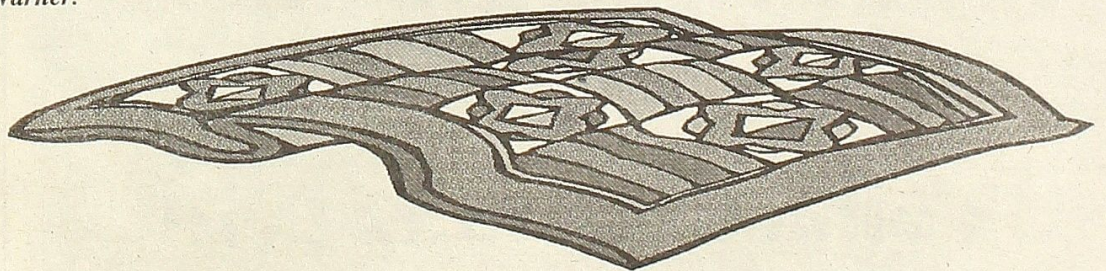
(Above) A group of students, faculty and community members take part in the procession from the opening ceremony to the Quilt Display. The ceremonies were coordinated by Diane VanderPol, assistant professor of library science.



(Above) A banner announces the AIDS Memorial Quilt display. Photo by Derek Warner.



(Left) Reverend Jesse Perry, campus chaplain, sells AIDS Memorial Quilt merchandise at the panel display. Perry, a member of the committee that brought the Quilt to campus, recruited volunteers. Photo by Derek Warner.



Women's golf leads MIAA

By Joey Mead
Staff Reporter

Last Tuesday, at Thornapple Point Golf Club, the women's golf team tied for first place with Hope College for the second time this season.

Hosted at Calvin College, the tournament was cut short due to some scheduling problems. Instead of a shotgun start, which is when everyone starts at the same time on different holes, Calvin tried to set separate tee-times for every group. It didn't work.

Coach Charlie Goffnett said, "The lead group of golfers can usually go through 18 hole in 3 1/2 hours, but due to hold-ups by resort golfers it was 2 1/2 hours into the tournament and we had only played nine holes."

Sophomore Jodi Taylor added, "I wish we could have played all 18 holes. I had two birdies and I was doing well. There is a big rivalry with Hope College right

now and we really wanted to beat them."

So Alma and Hope tied at 174 strokes. The individual winner was sophomore Ellen Colenbrander from Hope College. Colenbrander shot a 39. However, her score will not affect the individual cumulative standings because they only played nine holes.

After four tournaments, Alma College still stands in first by 23 strokes. Last week's total of a 121 stroke lead was incorrect. In second with 1286 is Hope. Albion, in third, has a total of 1322.

Goffnett said, "We're leading, but it's not quite a comfortable lead. If Hope has one great tournament, we could lose first, and Hope still has a tournament at their home course. So we are really going to have to concentrate."

The top four scores for Alma were sophomore Jennifer Peters with a 42, senior Carrie Hunt at 43, senior Mandy Bowler shot a

44 and Taylor followed the sequence with a 45. Senior Jennifer Bondy shot a 54, which was a personal best.

Goffnett added, "We need to be scoring around 350 every tournament. If you double 174 that's about right, so we are playing better golf. Jenny Peters has really been our rock. Carrie Hunt has been giving us some nice scores and Bowler is finally getting a lot back. Jodi Taylor has also been doing well."

Bowler said, "I played wonderfully. I would have played better on the back nine, but it was a great day. The course was really gorgeous."

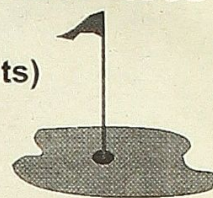
With three more tournaments Alma is hoping to stretch their lead over Hope. With only two weeks left of season, the next tournaments become very important.

The Scots traveled to Adrian yesterday to play at Lenawee Country Club at 2 p.m.

MIAA MEN'S GOLF STANDINGS



(after 3 tournaments)



	T1	T2	T3	Total	Avg.
Olivet	369	377	381	1127	375.7
Hope	389	394	375	1158	386.0
Albion	385	402	383	1170	390.0
Calvin	413	395	401	1209	403.0
Alma	397	406	411	1214	404.7
Kalamazoo	413	408	418	1239	413.0
Adrian	414	424	426	1264	421.3
Defiance	442	452	450	1347	449.0

Inexperience hurts volleyball team in losses to Calvin, Adrian

By Chris Porco
Freelance Writer

The Alma College women's volleyball team played against

Calvin and Adrian this past week. The netters lost to Calvin (2-15, 6-15, 4-15) and against Adrian (11-15, 6-15, 7-15).

Junior Nicole Markiecki said,

"In the match against Calvin, a lot of people were sick . . . it really affected us. The upperclassmen were off and the freshmen rely on us to bring them up." She commented on the Adrian game by simply saying, "We played hard but things didn't go our way."

The team is certainly young, with ten first-year students and only four returning players. Junior Ellen Bradbury stated, "We have four freshmen on the court a majority of the time — we have no seniors. We make a lot of young mistakes. You can't teach experience."

Even though the team is young, they get along very well. "This is the first team I've ever played with, including high school, that everyone gets along. It's more like a family than anything else. It's fun. The freshmen have a lot of heart, that's something you can't coach," said Markiecki.

Bradbury said, "We get along very well off the court and on the court. Even though we're not doing well we're still get-

ting along . . . we get along well enough to support each other to keep good spirits. In the long run that will help out a lot."

As far as areas the team needs

together . . . finishing a game — we would get to thirteen and almost forget we had two more points to go . . . and hustling, sometimes we would look to other people instead of ourselves."

Bradbury said, "We never do one thing exceptionally poorly. It's just the little things from lack of experience."

According to Bradbury, one of the team's goals is to improve on last year's record. The team's next opportunity to take a step towards this goal will be against Olivet College. The team will take a break from competitive play for a week and will resume play October 7 at Hope College.

“This is the first team I’ve ever played with, including high school, that everyone gets along. It’s more like a family than anything else.”

•Ellen Bradbury (99)

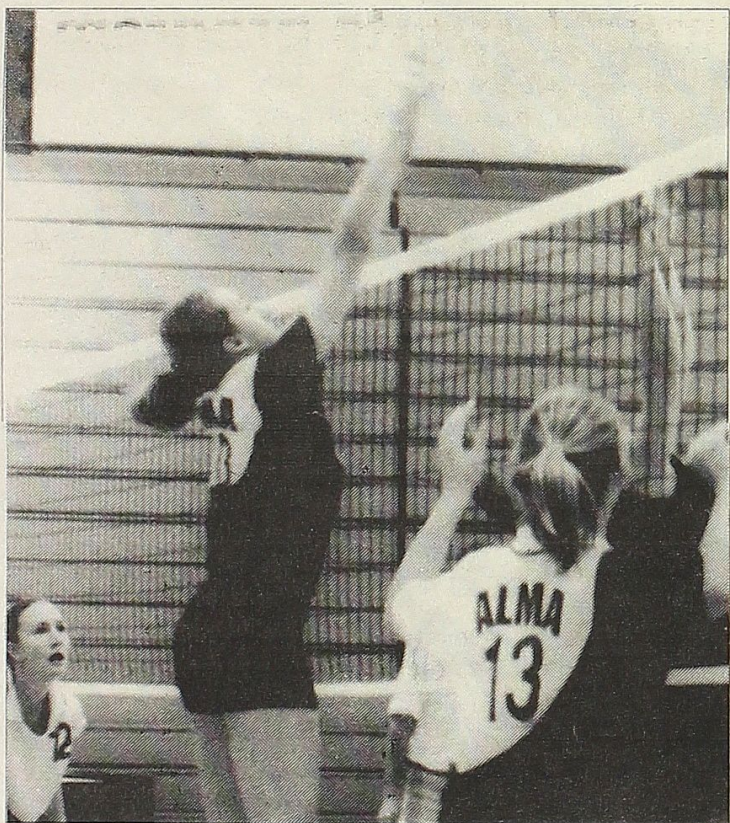
to improve on, Markiecki said, "In pressure situations, holding it

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First-year student Meghann Devlin goes up for a block as junior Nicole Markiecki looks on. Photo by Derek Warner.

The Almanian is looking for freelance writers, particularly those interested in writing for Sports and Opinion. Contact Beth or Chris at x7161.

Ground breaking for IM building set for June 1998

By Karin Shrum
Staff Reporter

Immediately following the 1997 Opening Convocation Alma College hired Stanmar Corporation out of Massachusetts to draw specifications for a new 40,000 square foot Intramural/Recreation Center to be added to the Alma campus.

Hiring Stanmar to begin drawing is the first step toward the ultimate goal of breaking ground for the new facility in June 1998.

The new facility will be located on the current baseball field. It will house four courts lined for tennis, basketball and volleyball and a three lane suspended track. An adjoining building with a lobby, offices, equipment rooms, a few lockers and a couple showers is also proposed.

Adding the new facility will provide more room for the recreational and intramural needs of Alma while increasing the available space for sports during the months of January through March.

"Now there's just no time for intramural space let alone recreation space for the general student body after 4 p.m.," commented Men's Athletic Director

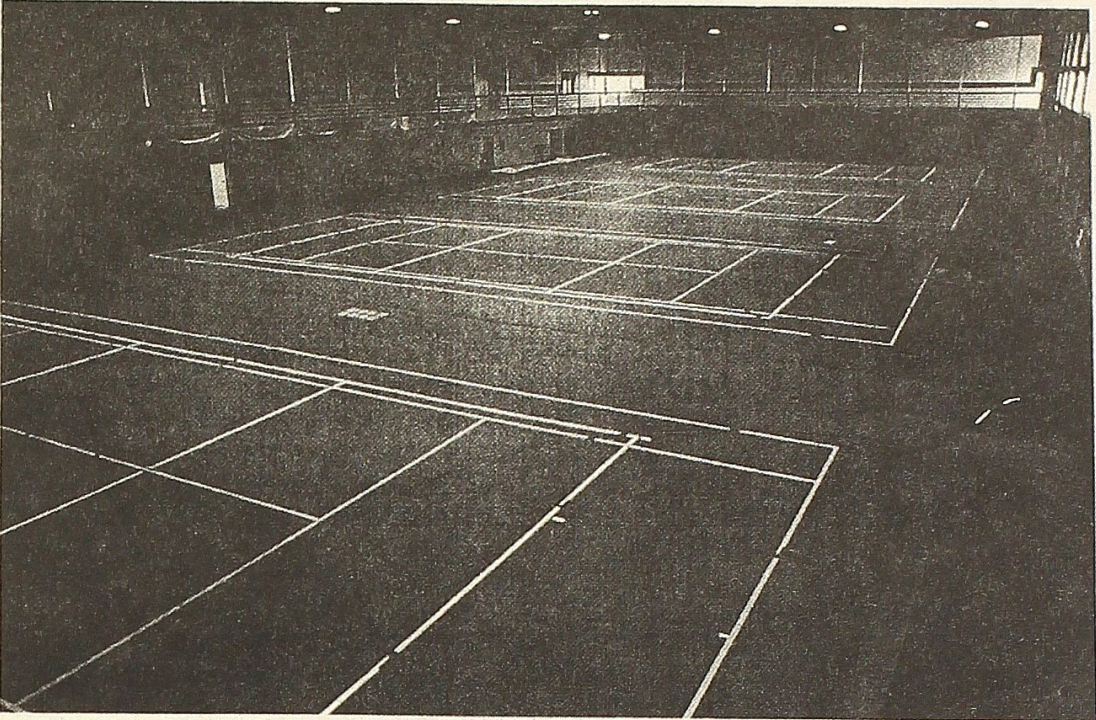
Dennis Griffin, referring to space problems in the present facilities. These problems especially occur during the overlap of the winter sports season and spring training.

During the beginning months of spring training and the spring sports season there is still snow on the ground and outdoor sports such as tennis have to drive to the nearest indoor courts to practice. In this instance the nearest courts are in Lansing and Midland. The trip to and from these courts causes not only safety problems in winter, but also takes large chunks of time from the participants.

"We drive for at least an hour then practice for two hours, then drive home. It's very time consuming," stated women's tennis player Lisa Tessmer (98).

Alma's current physical education center was built in 1967 and since its construction Alma has added four new sports, all women's sports and an intramural program. The building can no longer fulfill the student body needs.

The \$3.6 million facility will be built of the Alma red brick and white cap stone to match the existing campus structures and will be funded by donations.



The new IM building will be lined for four courts like those pictured above. Photo courtesy of the Stanmar Corporation.

President Alan Stone, hoping for a small number of large donors stated, "We've done well in the past," referring to past donor funded building projects such as the Heritage Center for Performing Arts.

The proposal for the new facility

will go before the Alma College Board of Trustees at their next meeting in the beginning of October. Administration is hoping for a tentative approval by February 1998.

If approval is granted administration will begin to look for donors

optimistically reaching their goal of 3.6 million by March 1998 and breaking ground for the new facility by June 1998, taking approximately ten months to complete.

Students benefit from changes in intramural sports program

By Chris Tapley
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Many changes have been made within the intramural (IM) sports program at Alma this year. The system has recently received a reorganization in order to allow more people to become involved. The major change in the system has been additional personnel whose sole responsibility is the program.

In the past the only faculty member dedicated to the program was the intramural director. This year, along with the director, there will also be two assistant directors. Each of these assistant directors will coordinated one term of the IM program.

Greg Baadte was chosen as one of the assistant IM directors. Baadte is currently in charge of the fall IM program. The other assistant IM director has not yet been named but will be in charge

of the winter program. The current intramural director, Charlie Goffnet, will be heading up the spring program. Rounding out the staff are two student directors senior Josh Pyle and junior Kurt Sutton.

The changes came about because it was felt the program could offer more to the student body than it currently was.

"We need more and varied activities on campus. We are probably going to double the amount of the intramurals," said Baadte.

Along with the current intramural sports, football, basketball, softball and volleyball, the new staff hopes to add a racquetball tournament and possibly a three-on-three sand volleyball tournament.

"We are trying to get more opportunities for a diverse group of people," said Baadte.

The proposed format for the three-on-three volleyball tournament

would be either a single or double elimination tournament depending on the number of teams. The tentative plan is for the tournament to be Homecoming weekend. According to Baadte, with Homecoming happening during Fall Break he is hoping more people will have time to play.

The racquetball tournament is currently scheduled for some time in November. The tournament will be played in some sort of a "ladder" format.

The changes are not just affecting the sports side of the intramural program, but they are also affecting the procedural side. One major project in the works for this side of the program is an intramural handbook. It has not yet been decided whether this handbook will include all sports or if an

individual handbook will be made up for each sport.

The handbooks would contain the rules and regulations as well as guidelines for officials for all the sports. The handbooks would also include general information about the program.

Another change which has modernized the program is the attainment of a computer scheduling program. This program allows the directors to input the teams and the computer generates a random schedule. The program will also keep track of the season records and statistics and allow tournaments to be generated at the end of the season based on record. According to Baadte this makes running the day to day business of the intramural program much easier.

The final change to the intramural

program is a new intramural bulletin board in the basement of the Physical Education Building between the track and sports medicine bulletin boards. Throughout the year this board will contain information about the intramural program. Schedules, results and forms for sign-up will all be located there.

"We are trying to get more opportunities and get more presence," said Baadte.

The intramural staff is also interested in ideas for events or other changes to the program from the student body.

"The more input we have from students the better off we will be," said Baadte. Student ideas can be directed to Baadte or Goffnet.

IM FOOTBALL A - LEAGUE STANDINGS

(as of September 26)

Rank	Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
1	Tau Kappa Epsilon	4	0	1.0	—
2	Thank You, May We Have Another	4	1	.80	.5
2	Tartar	4	1	.80	.5
2	Sigma Alpha Epsilon	4	1	.80	.5
5	Sigma Chi	3	2	.60	1.5
5	Armadillos	3	2	.60	1.5
7	The Train	1	3	.25	3
7	Robot Stallions	1	3	.25	3
9	Zeta Sigma	1	4	.20	3.5
10	Fighting Woodsmen	0	5	.00	4.5
10	The Mofos	0	5	.00	4.5



Ravenscroft

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Did he fall down the stairs, or was he pushed?

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Performances begin at 8 p.m.,
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AIDS Memorial Quilt delivers strong message

By Wendy Holmes
Staff Reporter

Every time I see the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, I always wonder the same thing: does it really deliver the message it was created to send? Can 45,000 3 foot by 6 foot panels really make a person think before they have unprotected sex or stick a possibly contaminated needle in their arm? People nowadays, especially teenagers, hear about AIDS all the time—it's on the news, and even in our schools. Teenagers are taught to wear condoms and be safe, consistently and continually. Do most do it? No. Does all this repetition simply desensitize the average person to the plague of AIDS? Maybe so, but I now think The AIDS Memorial Quilt destroys that feeling of numbness.

The sad truth is that people don't want to be educated about the risks of contracting AIDS. They would rather get lost in the heat of a fleeting moment and push all dark thoughts of an unforeseen future aside. They are

more comfortable believing they're invincible. They say to themselves, it won't, it can't happen to me.

If you don't believe me, look around. All I had to do to obtain evidence was attend the Opening Ceremony to see how people react when confronted with the issue. During the ceremony, when junior Eric Grace performed the moving poem "How to Watch Your Brother Die" many people shifted uncomfortably in their seats. As the poem reached its inevitable conclusion and Grace's voice swelled with raw emotion and became louder, more shifting and fidgeting occurred. Some people began to flip through their pamphlets, yawn, sigh, look away, etc. They would do anything not to have to watch him.

During the reading of the names later in the ceremony, the same behavior recurred, although this time I saw several people actually begin speaking to their neighbors. They were unable to keep silent even while those who had suffered and died

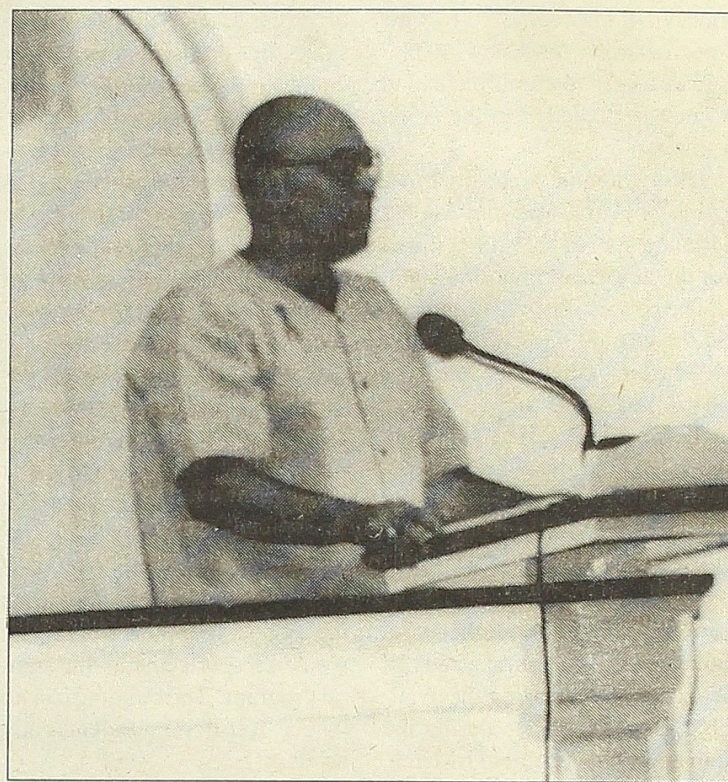
of AIDS were given their moment to be remembered and missed. Many people appeared to be bored. And why wouldn't they be? To them it was simply a list of names, names without faces, without pasts, without futures.

As the last notes of "Amazing Grace" faded away, ending the ceremony, many jumped up in a rush for the door, rushing to escape the inescapable. It's time people realized that they can no longer run from AIDS. It will never be conquered until people have the courage to stand up, look death in the face and fight, fight with all they have, to refuse to lose another family member, lover or friend.

I believe this is where The AIDS Memorial Quilt comes in. It gives a face to AIDS. Looking at the panels, the names jumping off them become more than that—they become people who had lives full of loved ones from whom *Patrick Lombardi of the Lansing Area AIDS Network speaks at the opening ceremonies of the display. Photo by Derek Warner.*

they were snatched too soon. The panels force people to confront AIDS, to see it staring them back in the face from a section of cloth. True, all one has to do is leave the display room, but anyone who has seen the panels, myself in-

cluded, can tell you that it is impossible to erase from your memory. The panels make an imprint on your heart and your mind, one that may someday save your life. That's the message The AIDS Memorial Quilt delivers.



American tax payers deserve a flat tax system

By Shannon Casey
Staff Reporter

The current tax system is a disgrace. Taxes went from a simple revenue raising tool to a system with an impossible aim: to redistribute wealth. Our current system hinders the nation's growth while giving tax breaks to the politically well-connected.

The seven million-word tax code requires over half of all Americans to hire a professional accountant or tax lawyer to prepare their tax returns. According to a study done for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) taxpayers devote 5.4 billion hours per year to preparing their taxes.

The biggest victims of the tax

system are the average citizens who can't afford to hire high-priced tax lawyers and accountants to navigate the current rules and regulations of the IRS.

Instead of giving people incentives to work harder, the current tax system bumps them into a higher tax bracket.

America needs a simpler and fairer tax system to restore honesty to government and growth to the economy. With a flat tax all Americans would pay the same rate on their taxable income. The base of taxable income would start at \$33,300 for a family of four. Income would be taxed only once, at the source.

The benefits of a flat tax are immense. A flat tax would allow

for people to keep more of what they earn, promoting faster economic growth and giving people an opportunity to save and invest.

Taxing income when it is earned and again when it is invested is counter-productive. Double taxation gives people a disincentive to save and invest. A prominent Harvard economist, David Jorgenson, proposed that eliminating double taxation could boost national wealth by \$1 trillion.

A flat tax promotes an increase in civil liberties. A complex tax code provides for more abuse and evasion of the system. A simpler tax system calls for less infringement of privacy. The IRS would have no reason to ask any more of

a taxpayer than the amount of income and size of family.

The fairness of the flat tax system cannot be matched. The flat tax treats all people equal. If someone earns 100 times the income of another, they will pay 100 times more in taxes. There are no fancy loopholes or tax shelters for the rich to hide behind.

The flat tax will end deductions and loopholes; therefore, also putting an end to political favoritism where the tax system is involved. Politicians would no longer have the power to reward friends or punish enemies by manipulating the tax code to their advantage.

Tax legislation could be driven

by sound business decisions without worrying about the influence of powerful lobbyists.

A flat tax has been proven successful in Hong Kong. Not coincidentally, Hong Kong boasts the fastest growing economy with an economic growth rate of over seven percent; this amounts to double that of the United States. Unemployment in Hong Kong has never exceeded three percent.

Although everybody pays the same rate of taxes, the wealthiest ten percent of people in Hong Kong pay 75 percent of the taxes. The tax system in Hong Kong should be a model for the United States. A fairer and more effective tax system has yet to be discovered.

Column by Tim Caister

FBI demands telephone encrypting codes

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has announced a new plan to gather any new encrypting codes that are developed for your computer. Have you ordered and bought anything over the internet? Well, if you have, you may have had concerns whether or not your credit card is safe during the transaction.

The internet is a vast, open medium for all different kinds of information. Whether you browse, shop, research or even buy products using this medium, your personal life is intact for the most part. New encrypting devices have allowed yourself, along with

millions of other people, to do so in a secured fashion. I have personally made transactions over the internet with some concern, but overall, have not worried about any repercussions. We have, probably for the most part, enjoyed the internet with privacy. Unless you divulge your social security number, your mother's maiden name, and everything else that is private about yourself, the internet is safe. With the development of encrypting programs, the internet is also a marketplace of consumer products, and not just information.

On the other hand, if you have completed drug transactions, done some money laundering, finished

your mail fraud scheme and have committed other felonies, you may need to reconsider. The Federal Bureau of Investigation is about to garner these actions through a muddy process.

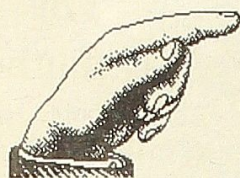
Encrypting has a great deal of positive aspects about it. Credit card numbers and other personal information is secured through a code that is only known through the manufacturer of the encrypting device and the other party which needs your credit card number. The developers of these encrypting devices continue to develop new and more reliable codes for the future of internet transactions. Now, the FBI wants them. Every time a new master code of

a new encrypting device is developed, the FBI wants it. Don't worry, this isn't written yet in stone, but time will tell if you need to reconsider your next embezzlement plan.

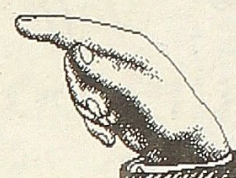
This new idea by the Federal Bureau of Investigation has a great deal of positive merits. The complexity of arresting and convicting felons is growing just as fast as the internet. With illegal transactions becoming secure through these new encrypting programs, the FBI has a large, tough task of gaining the information necessary to proceed in a trial of one who completes these illegal transactions. It is my feeling that the FBI most likely won't interrupt

your credit card order of the latest Grisham book on the net because they don't have the manpower, nor the resources to watch it. This idea of gathering every encrypting code is necessary for the FBI to help convict those in court. It would be used ex post facto, after the suspicion of illegal occurrences.

So, the next time you order the newest system upgrade for your computer over the internet, don't worry, the FBI won't even notice. But, if your about to complete that embezzlement of Alma College's endowment, watch out, the FBI may come knocking.



Point/Counterpoint: Deal forces tobacco industry to pay



Tobacco industry deserves punishment

By Charlotte Grant
Feature Editor

A few weeks ago an \$11.3 million settlement was made in Florida's suit against the tobacco industry. Critics of this deal might say it violates the rights of American industry. However, this is really just proper retribution for what could be considered false advertising.

Tobacco is harmful. Scientists have been proving it for years with concrete scientific studies.

Despite the overwhelming amount of evidence, tobacco companies have continuously insisted that there was no proof that tobacco kills. Can it honestly be said that they were truly ignorant of the effects of their product? Can it really be that they were innocently ignorant of the relationship between cigarettes and lung cancer?

Probably not, because they've since changed their story.

For the first time ever, and industry representative admitted that tobacco is not harmless. That admission is just one beneficial result of the tobacco settlement. The tobacco companies can no longer hide behind the smoke screen of "insufficient proof." Now, the public is forced to wonder how long they really knew.

The law suit was also useful in that it revealed that Americans have had enough of industry lies. No one wants to eliminate tobacco altogether, but this obviously shows that the American public strongly supports its regulation. Surely this sends a message to law makers. It says that the population agrees with the latest attempts to pass legislation restricting tobacco advertisements.

Besides, it cannot be claimed that this suit is overly detrimental to the tobacco industries. When an industry that measures its yearly profits in the hundreds of billions is required to pay a mere 11.3 billion dollars, the tobacco companies are hardly being brutally penalized.

Regardless of the amount, the suit was settled in a just fashion. The several suits currently being brought against the tobacco industry are asking for compensation for the medical expenses of emphysema and lung cancer patients.

No one can deny that the tobacco companies knew what their products were doing. Therefore, the question should not be, should the tobacco companies pay, but can they pay enough.



Tobacco deal infringes upon the individual rights of Americans

By Shannon Casey
Staff Reporter

The recent tobacco settlement may look like a positive step in the right direction, but in reality it is just another way for the federal government to reign in more control over individual rights and personal freedoms.

In June, the tobacco companies and many state attorney generals reached an unprecedented settlement regarding the future of tobacco sales in the United States. The tobacco industry will be required to pay \$368 billion over the next 25 years.

Included in the \$368 billion settlement is compensation to states for Medicaid costs incurred as a result of smoking-related illnesses. The tobacco industry must also finance a massive anti-smoking campaign aimed at minors. They agreed to strict advertising guidelines such as the discontinuance of cartoon characters and anything that may appeal to the younger audiences.

This is not all. To top off the deal, the tobacco industry will be held responsible if youth smoking does not drop substantially. This will include fines and possibly

more regulation.

In return, the tobacco companies will receive protection from all future class-action lawsuits and punitive damages.

On the surface, the deal sounds like a great way to faze out smoking. In reality, it is just another way the federal government is trying to limit the rights of individuals and encroach on personal freedoms.

The fact remains that selling tobacco is legal. If it remains legal, the tobacco industry has a constitutional right to advertise in any way they choose. The federal government has no right to kill Joe Camel based on the fantasy that a cartoon character seduced young people to smoke.

The only way the government is going to curtail smoking is by an outright ban on the product. This was tried once with alcohol and it failed. If the federal government wants to regulate tobacco, do it in front of the eyes of the public; do not agree to a settlement behind closed doors. Let Congress legislate and its members be held accountable for their actions.

The truth is that politicians want cigarettes sold, it's a great revenue raiser. With government spending at an all time high, it needs the money that cigarette sales provide.

It is difficult to believe the state governments, with the power to tax, regulate and legislate, were victims of the tobacco companies. The federal government should stress a message of personal responsibility and individual freedom rather than a dependence on Big Brother.

The argument that smokers cost the states

a massive amount of money on medical costs for smoking-related illnesses makes no sense. On the average, most people who smoke die sooner than people who do not, saving the government millions on Medicare costs in the long run.

Future implications of the tobacco deal are enormous. If the government can regulate tobacco based on its relevance to health care, what is stopping it from further restricting sales and advertisement of alcohol or junk food? The number of obese people in today's society far outweighs the number of smokers.

The losers will be the American people and family farms. Tobacco companies will pass the added expense on to consumers. Did anyone stop and think about the 124,000 tobacco farms in the United States? South Carolina Attorney General Charlie Condon observes, "the farmers have done nothing wrong. They are playing by the rules and all of a sudden there's a chance their livelihood is threatened."

Small farmers will not be able to match the \$1,800 per acre they net from tobacco by producing other crops.

The true winner in this deal is not public health or even the anti-smoking campaign, but the federal government and the lawyers. According to class-action expert Lester Buckhan, the tobacco settlement will bring in the "largest lawyer's fees in the history of the world."

The government will rake in billions of dollars from tax revenue and fines while exercising complete dominance over individual rights.

**The Almanian is accepting Guest Editorials.
Please submit your signed editorials to The
Almanian Office, Newberry Basement or
e-mail to ALMANIAN.**

Staff Editorial

Quilt committee deserves recognition

As the Alma College community reflects upon the events surrounding the AIDS Memorial Quilt display, each student should take the time to thank those who are responsible for bringing the 200 panels to campus.

The whole idea of a display on the Alma College campus originated with Cindy Miller (98), when she was a first-year student. Miller, who was a member of the Newberry Hall council, mentioned the idea to Newberry Hall Director J.J. Klimkiewicz and Bob Perkins, dean of student development. The three began to work on making Miller's dream a reality in the winter of 1996.

The Newberry Hall council also adopted the AIDS Memorial Quilt as one of its projects.

Miller viewed the Quilt for the first time last fall when she traveled with Mitchell Hall Director David Wagner and Michelle Colville (98) to Washington, D.C. last fall to see the display of all the panels on the mall. The group used photographs from this display to recruit the committee that ultimately brought the panels to Alma College.

The committee grew from the original three co-chairs until it reached 16 members. Diane VanderPol, associate professor of library science, coordinated the both the opening and closing ceremonies. The public relations department assisted Michael Selmon, associate professor of English, and Kalindi Trietley, associate dean of student development, with the media. Panel making was coordinated by Anne Lawhorn, volunteering by

Chaplain Jesse Perry and merchandising by Pat Nelson, former manager of the Scot Shop. Gwyneth Beagley, assistant professor of psychology, and Susan Root, chair and associate professor of education, headed the education sub-committee while James Mueller, chair and associate professor of economics, and Stephen Draheim, assistant professor of theatre, handled logistics.

James Kridler, dean of students, and Wagner organized the fundraising with the assistance of Controller John Johnston, who handled the finances. The college raised a total of \$9,000, \$5,000 of which covered the cost of bringing the quilt to Alma. The remaining \$3,500 will be donated to the Gratiot County AIDS Resource Team.

The display itself was coordinated by Patrick Lombardi, special events coordinator for the Lansing Area AIDS network.

One of the biggest problems that the committee encountered involved where the display would take place. Marriott solved this problem by agreeing to close Van Dusen Commons for lunch during the week so that the panels could be displayed there.

It was because of the enormous effort put forth by both the committee, the volunteers and especially Miller that the campus and community members had the opportunity to view the Quilt this past week.

We, the editorial board, thank those people for educating us and bringing the reality of AIDS closer to home. We urge the student body to follow suit.

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The Almanian Letter Policy

All Letters to the Editors must meet the following standards for publication: signed, include the author's phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published on a first come, first served basis, up to three per week. Letters not printed will be reconsidered upon resubmission. We reserve the right to condense letters for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. Address letters to: The Editorial Board, *The Almanian*, Newberry Hall, Alma College, Alma, MI 48801, or e-mail at ALMANIAN@alma.edu.

IRS abuses call for system-wide revamping

By Timothy R. Caister
Opinion Editor

New and important aspects about the actions within the Internal Revenue Service are surfacing. Reports that agents abuse their power while conducting tax collection are exposing some appalling methods that they are using. These methods of tax collection are enlightening Congressmen to revamp the agency.

The Senate Finance Committee has been holding hearings on the IRS, and finding some interesting truths about the agency which collects your income taxes. Testimonies from both taxpayers and agents have revealed that abuses do and have occurred. Some of these abuses include evaluating agents by the amount

of levies and seizures they acquire during their respective audits. Also, lower class income taxpayers are targeted for audits because they are not financially secure enough to fight the long battle against the agency. These abuses are only the beginning of the truth. There has also been reports that persons not too friendly with the Clinton administration are being audited without reason. Take Paula Jones for example, she filed the sexual harassment lawsuit against Clinton, and is now being audited; coincidence? Abuses of power within the IRS need to be halted quickly. Our tax requirements are getting cluttered with red tape enough as it is without the abuses within the IRS.

Congressmen are now starting

legislation which would positively affect our taxpaying bureaucracy. Some of the ideas include replacing the Treasury Department with a new board of directors as oversight for the agency. Also, there are plans to give the IRS commissioner a greater authority to affect tax law. These plans are for the short term, and ideas for the long term changes for the IRS do include a national sales tax and a flat tax.

The Congressmen proposing the new reforms will have a very steep obstacle before they take place, Bill Clinton. He opposes legislative measures to reform the IRS because he feels it would lessen the accountability and trust on behalf of the public. Wait a minute, he says it will lessen the accountability even more? Isn't

the trust of the IRS already going down the toilet? Either way, what trust the IRS has left, it's disintegrating rapidly and actions need to be taken.

Abuses within the IRS can not be overlooked. The American people have spent too much of their patience preparing and paying their taxes. These new revelations about the IRS will not reflect positively upon the taxpayer. Already, feelings and attitudes towards the IRS are those equivalent to the KGB. Whether a flat tax or a national sales tax helps to alleviate some of the burdens from the taxpayer in terms of time spent, the people need to see a change to help decrease the negative attitudes concerning the IRS.

Letters 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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Dear Editors:

In the September 23 issue, Cheryl Lenard wrote an article discussing the newest addition to the Greek community and the pledges it has received: "ΦΣΣ announces Alma chapter's founding members." This article contained one disturbing error and relayed some discouraging news.

In the article Cheryl Lenard stated "[Phi Sigma Sigma] will not have a house like the other four women's Greek

organizations." Somehow you have been misinformed. It just so happens there are five women's Greek organizations established on campus. One of these five does not have a house. Like Phi Sigma Sigma, they gather in the basement of Bruske Hall.

This organization became national last year, transforming from Omicron Psi Omega (ΟΨΩ) into Sigma Alpha Iota (ΣΑΙ). This group, like Phi Sigma Sigma is a fraternity for women (as opposed to a sorority), but was not founded for social reasons: Sigma Alpha Iota is a professional music fraternity for women.

Sigma Alpha Iota was established with the help of the men's professional music fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia (ΦΜΑ). Phi Mu Alpha colonized on the Alma campus in 1972. The

fraternity died out, but reestablished itself in 1986. For eleven years now they have been on the waiting list to receive a house. They have yet to see one.

Cheryl's article implies that Phi Sigma Sigma will most likely receive a house once the colony is established on campus: "...the group will be given a room in the basement of Bruske Hall until they are established on campus."

This is very discouraging knowing that Phi Mu Alpha has congregated in the basement of Bruske Hall for eight years, having resided in the basement of Gelston Hall for three years, and Sigma Alpha Iota for two years prior to the introduction of Phi Sigma Sigma.

Knowing that Phi Mu Alpha has been passed over several times when houses have become

available gives me good reason to believe providing a house for Phi Sigma Sigma will rapidly become a higher priority than providing houses for either of the professional music fraternities. I find it very disturbing that there are any members of our campus community who would consider a new social organization of higher importance than two professional organizations who have proven themselves to be respectable groups of students that benefit both the campus and the community. I can only hope history will not repeat itself, that these organizations will one day be looked upon as equals in the Greek community, and that they will finally receive their fair share of what the campus has to offer. Sincerely,

Cindy Fiedler (99)