

Orchestrans shine.

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New spring terms planned.

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Women's basketball beats Aquinas.

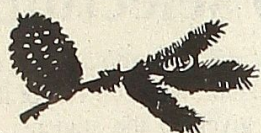
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Men's basketball hovers at .500.

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Organ donors save lives.

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The Almanian

Dec. 10, 1991

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Issue 12

Kukla receives vice-presidency

By Jason Ricks
Staff Reporter

Student Congress may have a new vice-president winter term. Current vice-president John David is hoping to study overseas in Australia, and sophomore Chris Kukla has been recommended to take his place.

David, a junior, has been planning to study overseas since last winter term, but has only recently secured permission to go. The only thing that now stands in his way is his grades for this term. "If I do well on my exams, I'll be able to go for sure. If I don't do well, there's a chance I won't be able to go," said David.

David alerted Dave Woodruff, president of Student Congress, early in the term that he may not be here for winter term. Woodruff has

announced at all meetings since then that the position might be open next term and has invited people who are interested to let him know.

According to the Student Congress constitution, "If any other executive committee offices are vacated, the president shall appoint a successor subject to a two-thirds majority vote of the voting membership present at Student Congress." In effect, Woodruff can name any student he wants as the next vice-president of Student Congress.

Woodruff has conceded, however, to follow the recommendation of the other members of the executive committee, consisting of David, treasurer Drew Walker and secretary Emily Shaw, in naming Kukla as David's successor.

Commenting on his interest in the position, Kukla said, "I wanted to get more involved with student activities, particularly Student Congress, and figured this was the

best way to do it."

Woodruff and the rest of the executive committee interviewed four candidates who expressed interest in the position. After all interviews were completed, the committee agreed that Kukla was the most qualified for the position. "He knows a lot about the position and the responsibilities it entails," said Woodruff. "He has a good, diverse campus background as far as previous organizations and offices."

If David does go overseas, Kukla will be installed at the first meeting of winter term. Woodruff will subject his nomination to a vote and Kukla will start immediately if approved. "I hope the voting members of Student Congress will support the executive committee's recommendation," said Woodruff.

If Kukla is not approved by the voting members, the executive committee will examine the reasons, and, if need be, look at other candidates for the position.

Siegler opposes legalization of euthanasia

By Tracey Antcliff
Staff Writer

Mark Siegler, the Phi Beta Kappa lecturer for the 1991-1992 school year, came to the Alma College campus this past week hoping to raise issues and ideas "for the intellectual life of the campus." Siegler accomplished that goal Tuesday evening by addressing the topic of euthanasia in a talk entitled "Should Doctors be Allowed to Kill?"

Siegler first talked about euthanasia laws in the United States, including the recent referendum on Proposition 119, which would have been the first law in the world to legalize euthanasia, had it not been defeated, 54-46. However, the Self-Determination Act, passed Dec. 1 of this year, does require hospitals to provide some kind of "living will."

Next November, there will be three laws attempting to legalize euthanasia. One will be an Oregon law that will acknowledge involuntary euthanasia for the senile or unconscious.

Siegler made two claims in favor of euthanasia. The first one is his "claim to pain and suffering," saying that patients who are ill, dying or suffering have a right to claim assistance in relief. Reasons for wanting to die may include patients' fears of dying tied to machines because they have lost control over their existence, or patients not wanting to lose their independence and become a burden to themselves and to others.

In response to this, Siegler said, "Dying is not as horrible as we think, but I agree that there is a degree to human suffering and mental anguish." He cited statistics showing that many elderly people die well-oriented, alert, in excellent health a month before, with no trouble breathing and in no pain.

He then made a "claim to civil rights," meaning that patients have rights to die and to be assisted in dying. The key is "choice," the "ultimate civil liberty." These rights, though, have to be "balanced against rights of other legal, political and ethical standards of society," said Siegler.

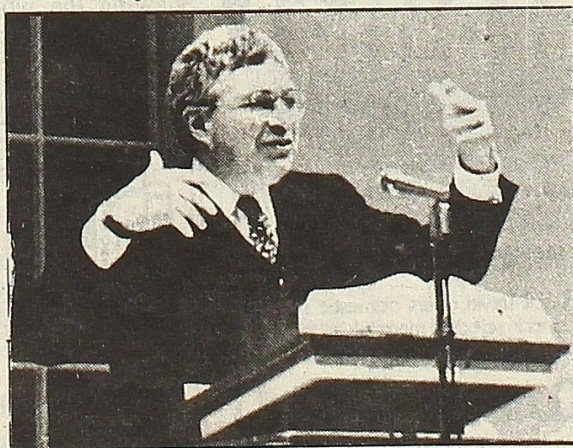
Siegler then presented two arguments against euthanasia. The first was the fear that euthanasia would be

abused, that it will be applied to people who don't request it, such as the vulnerable, the incompetent who will have their decision made by someone else and—Siegler's greatest worry—those patients who may be euthanized involuntarily because of discrimination against poor, mentally impaired, physically handicapped, and diseased people.

The second argument against euthanasia is patient care. "It is not a good policy for patients in general," Siegler said, pointing out that legalized euthanasia might endanger some of the fundamental elements in medicine, such as improving pain control, improving communication between patients and doctors and improving hospice and its funding. "It will put too much power in the hands of doctors who most patients don't trust to begin with." It will also be an easy way out for doctors and nurses who don't want to hassle with patient care.

Concluding his discussion, Siegler said, this "essential legalizing of private killing" should be "resisted in the eyes of the public" because it is just "too great of a risk."

Siegler is a professor of medicine and director of clinical medicine at the University of Chicago, which he joined in 1971. He deals with medical ethics, treatments, donors, patients, and life-ending decisions. He has written seven books and published 84 articles and journals.



Mark Siegler, of the University of Chicago, was the Phi Beta Kappa speaker. Photo by B. Gilling.

Bender and Hoeffel propose new women's studies minor

By Karen McDonald
Editor-in-Chief

After a term of preparation and study, Roseanne Hoeffel and Carol Bender, co-authors of a proposal for a new women's studies program, await approval from the Educational Policy Committee (EPC).

According to Provost Ann Stuart, "The proposal really rests in the hands of EPC and then the faculty."

The proposal calls for a women's studies minor to be housed under the English department.

Even though the minor would consist of courses that already exist in the curriculum, the addition of one course would be necessary to maintain the program. "Because of the increase of the English major, the Provost's office may have a difficult time approving one of the faculty members of the department to teach something other than an English course," Bender said.

However, Stuart confirmed that her commitment to the minor will be supported both administratively and financially, if necessary.

"If the minor is approved, we will stand behind offering it [the additional introductory course], just not every year," said Stuart.

Both Hoeffel and Bender expressed reluctance concerning whether or not the minor would serve the best interests of students choosing to secure a minor in women's studies if the introductory course was not offered every year.

Despite these uncertainties, support throughout the campus exists.

According to Hoeffel, "The program would raise awareness of primary issues, concerns, and

options—career-wise and others—for women who have too often been overlooked and ignored in the curriculum."

If approved by EPC in January, the proposal then goes to the entire faculty. Given faculty approval, Alma College will join Hope, Aquinas and Kalamazoo Colleges in offering a women's studies curriculum.

With over 50 percent of the student body being female, student interest is expected. "A fair number of students have indicated an interest in such programs, a few going so far as to transfer to other schools housing such offerings," Hoeffel said.

Steve Moore, junior biology major, said, "I agree with it because anything that gives our curriculum more variety is a good thing."

"There is not enough distinction between men and women," said senior Tammi Bruggema, a Spanish major. "We need more prestigious roles at this college. A women's studies program would give women an opportunity to identify themselves in today's society."

Possibilities of a major in women's studies may exist in the future if the minor is approved and is successful once in place.

"Traditionally at other schools it's a minor, but there have been schools that chose to make it a major. You have to begin to develop programs by testing the waters," said Stuart.

According to the proposal, the minor will consist of 28 credits which include the following core courses: Introduction to Women's Studies (WST 201), Sex and Gender roles and Relationships (SOC 353), Feminist Philosophy and Religion (RSP 202), and Women's Literature (ENG 381). An additional eight to 10 specified elective credits will be required as well as some sort of practicum and independent study.



Tappers celebrate the fifties. Photo by L. Kuntzman.

Orchesis acquires polish but lacks some acts

By Shay Norton
Feature Editor

When Provost Ann Stuart introduced Orchesis saying that it was a turning point for the dance department, she was serious. The addition of two professional artists did wonders for the show, which after a year of disorientation due to a new location, was much more polished.

The performance opened with five dancers in black tops and cut-offs. The music was by George Micheal; choreographed by senior James Bovan, the dance was upbeat, lively, and entertaining. The following dances all lived up to this high standard.

New York City Serenade, choreographed by artist-in-residence Frank Vulpi and the dancers, was an interesting combination of dancing with a story line. The song was one uncharacteristic of Bruce Springsteen, but appropriate for the performance.

Visiting artist Thomas Morris's choreography for *Tchaikovsky Passages* was soulful and moving.

Vulpi opened the second act

with an original score. The addition of live music was a treat for both the dancers and viewers. The ending startled, but also impressed, the audience.

A Chris Isaak song was next in the concert. The ballet *Wicked Game*, choreographed by senior Kay Mathers, highlighted performers in duets with Bovan.

The next piece, a solo by sophomore Michael K. Rooney II, was an outstanding display of what a student can do. The dance, which was set to *In the Beginning* by Michael Card, told the story of the garden of Eden. Rooney did an outstanding job and was appropriately rewarded with an outburst of applause from the audience.

After Rooney's solo came a fast change to the closing act of the concert, a tap dance to Jerry Lee Lewis' *Great Balls of Fire* choreographed by sophomore Jennifer Hardy and junior Jennifer Eork. Dancers sported fifties poodle skirts and pony tails.

The only things strangely omitted from the concert were the modern dances and the traditional performance by the Kiltie dancers.

Overseas spring terms spice up selection

By Sarae Wilkie
Staff Reporter

The purpose of a liberal arts college is to give its students a well-rounded education. Part of that "well-roundedness" is being cross-culturally aware. Alma College offers the opportunity for its students to become just that, but its many semester-long overseas study programs are, for most, not feasible.

The College fixes that by offering spring term courses that take students overseas. Spring term 1992 offers seven overseas classes.

Four of the trips are headed to England. The English and education departments collaborated to offer a trip to London. For the education class, students will be placed in English schools and spend the morning working with students. The English class will read four novels set in London, then visit the places that are mentioned. The class will spend three weeks living in apartments in London with education department chairperson Lynda Markham and assistant professor

of English Carol Bender.

Speech communications chairperson Robert Smith will lead a London speech class. Students will study influential British speeches and speakers. The first eight days will be spent in Alma studying the political background of England and the next 16 days touring the places where famous speakers have spoken, been kept prisoner for their words, or were executed for the same reason.

The last trip headed to England is a theater class with theater and dance chairperson Phil Griffiths. The first week will be at Alma reading plays and some English history, then 11 days in England: eight in London, two touring. The class will go to classic and modern plays, review and discuss them, and visit famous theatrical sites like Canterbury and Stratford.

Philosophy chairperson Nick Dixon and EHS chairperson Doug Seelbach are organizing the annual trip to Jamaica. This trip is specifically developed to give students a chance to live in a third world country. The students are placed in homes with specific families. Five

hours of the day are spent doing manual labor, while the rest of the time is given to the students to experience the culture.

Associate professor of math and computer science John Putz is returning to Scotland with a spring term class. This class also gives the student a chance to live with the Scottish people. Three weeks are spent in the country working in Scottish schools, individually helping the students. Several weekend trips will give Alma students a chance to see the country.

A business class is headed to Brussels with business professor Randolph Jacques.

A new spring term this year is a trip for 20 days to Martinique, an island in the Caribbean, to study French literature. It is offered both in French and English. The reading will be mostly black writers and the discussions will tie in the French writers with their influence on black American writers. Assistant professor of French Stella Behar felt this class was needed because "there are no literature classes offered that deal solely with black writers."

English professors share their creative works

By Jane Brown
Staff Writer

On Dec. 6, members of the Alma College English department presented some of their works, in poetry, prose and essay.

Roseanne Hoefel began with an essay titled *The Female Underground*. It set a stage for women in the Alma College community to consider just how the female sex is overlooked. As backdrop for the point of her essay, Hoefel used the example that we have "Shrines of Democracy" such as Mount Rushmore, but these monuments simply show the merits of men, whereas we have few representations of the great women of our history. Hoefel believes "women's countless and varied contributions" could be well-represented in a cave which would have the faces of the great women carved into the cavern rock to show the diverse strain within each of the women's faces.

Though she said that these faces would wear away quickly due to damp corrosion, it will only give more women a chance to have their faces upon the wall; Hoefel said that for women, "illusions of permanence" are impossible. In the end of the essay Hoefel said, in a bittersweet remark, "the cracks in Washington's forehead," are preferred to a female underground.

The second speaker was another new staff member, Michael Selmon, who said at one point he would only read his own work; "the other's [work] make my own look bad." In regard to his poetry Selmon said, "It's not fashionable, but I cannot write in free verse." Selmon read sonnets about a variety of subjects stretching from genetics and a *National Geographic* caption, to his father and "whiny" love poems. Through his poems Selmon displayed a sincere simplicity. In one poem, *To My Father*, Selmon dwelt on the fact that while he did not know his father well, he was half of him, and wondered what his father's other half would have been like. Selmon's sentimentally displayed beliefs many of us have about our parents. Selmon's writing flows smoothly, and has a candid way of viewing the world. In actuality

Selmon often has an air about him which is far from serious, but his poetry displays a mature affection for the life around him.

Jane Keon, the third speaker, read her own creative story *Falling out of Biology*. She said the story "has nothing to do with my life." The story she told was of a boy who saw his grandfather fall off the Alma Water Tower. Though the boy's grandfather did not die, the event stayed with him throughout his life. In Vietnam his leg was blown off, and the man relates to the reader how his grandfather's experience and his were much alike. Though the grandfather was not injured and the grandson was, he learned a great deal from his grandfather's fall off the water tower. The grandfather said that as he fell off the water tower, "I fell out of my biology to what life really is...I fell and lived because you needed me to." This tale of the grandfather realizing the mind and heart are what keep us alive helps the grandson realize though he lost part of his biology, he should be a man who lives for life.

William Palmer, the last author, brought his listeners back to amazing childhood. Palmer's works were strong, using such graphic language as "the tight end of a balloon." The pictures this language produces in the mind of readers amazes. During his presentation he told the tale of *The River of Understanding*. Many of his student have experienced the River first hand. He illustrated how teachers and students begin the time together with uncertainty, then experience the ups and downs together and, in the end, both parties are learning from each other. At the end of his presentation, Palmer said that we "criss-cross the sides of the river for the rest of our lives."

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Women's basketball

Alma topples tough Aquinas squad

By Barb McCarty
Staff Writer

"It has always been a good rivalry," said women's basketball head coach Charles Goffnett of any Aquinas and Alma face off. This Saturday, Alma College women's basketball fanned the fire, beating Division III Aquinas 64-59.

From the beginning to end of the matchup, the referees were noticeably quiet, hardly blowing their whistles at all. In the first half, though bodies were flying, Alma shot only seven free throws—six by sophomore Katie Mans—and was called for only seven fouls of their own. The second half saw a little more whistle noise as the Scots shot eleven free throws on Aquinas' eleven called fouls and were called for nine themselves. Aquinas had two players foul out within a minute of each other late in the half.

Goffnett thought it was a "very physical game....Any time you play Aquinas," he said, "you're in for a

semi-wrestling match." The rivalry remains then, fed by the fact that Aquinas, a Division III team picked to win its league the NAIA, was beat by Alma, another Division III, picked to win its.

Sophomore Tara Sherman further explained the hack-fest nature of the game. "They had a couple of real big girls underneath," she said, "not to mention Aquinas is always physical."

High scorers for Alma were junior Lauri LaBeau with 16. Sophomores Mans and Kelly Jaster had 14 and 13, respectively, while first-year student Amy Doucette contributed eight. Mans was high rebounder with strong contributions from junior Colleen Wruble and first-year student Andrea Balliet.

Though they were outrebounded under Aquinas' basket all day, the Scots' overall first half defense was outstanding. Co-captain LaBeau called it "our best first half so far this year." At halftime, Alma had Aquinas down 41-23, and the Aquinas bench—with seemingly more coaches than players—and its team on the floor were visibly and audibly frustrated.

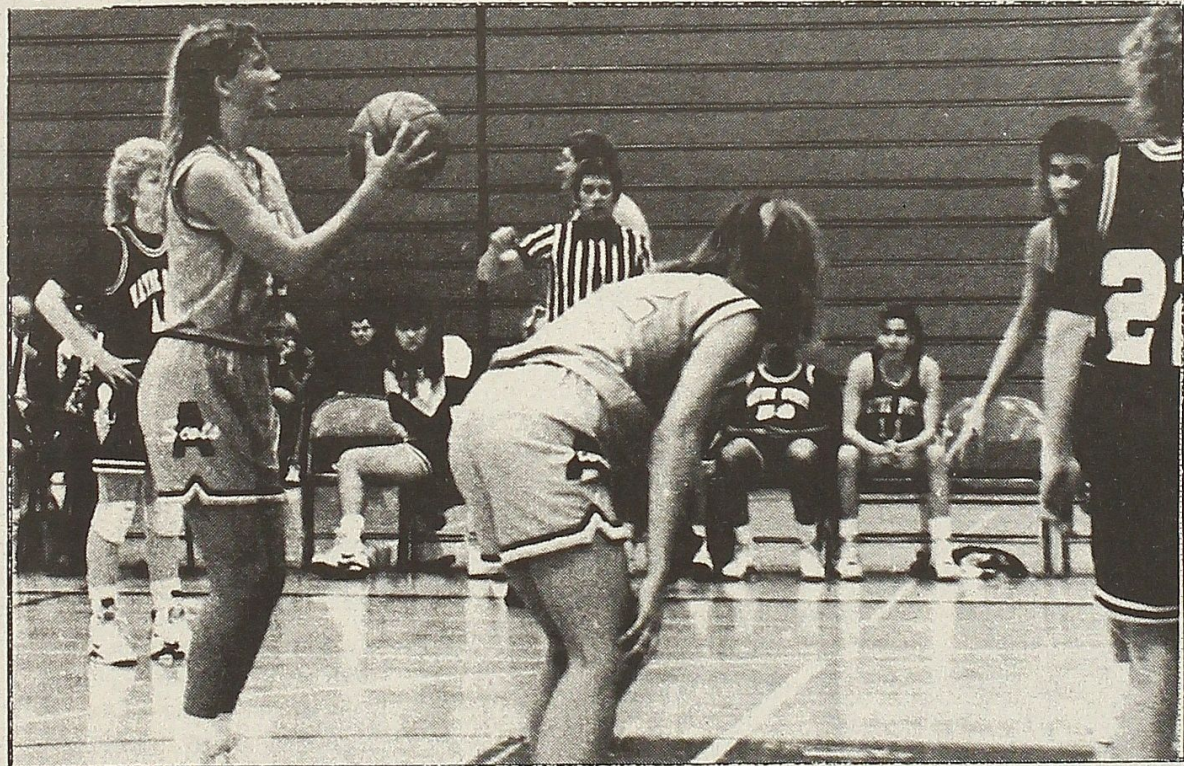
In the second half, however,

Aquinas came out strong and Alma flat. LaBeau said, "We were just playing not to lose our lead." In the first six minutes of the second half, Alma only scored four points. "It's not very odd for us to have a second half like that first of all," LaBeau said, "and second of all, we were all exhausted. We were not communicating as well as we did in the first half."

Defensively, Alma was a different team after the halftime break. "Thirty minutes of the game, I was pleased with the defense," Goffnett said. "They hurt us inside the last five to seven minutes, and we never really stopped that....Their big inside player is probably the best we'll face this year."

"We'll get better at late game situations because we're still a pretty young team," Goffnett continued. Regardless, the final score was in Alma's favor, Saturday's game goes in the win column, and the Scots learn and move on.

The Scots record now stands at 3-1, with past wins against Spring Arbor and Concordia. The women's next game is at home Dec. 14 at 1 p.m., when they face Saginaw Valley.



Sophomore Katie Mans looks to sink a free throw. The Scots' next game is at home against Saginaw Valley. Photo by J. Reed

Men's Basketball

Scots at .500 mark after six games

By Ann Marie Hribar
Staff Writer

The Alma College men's varsity basketball team has been extremely busy, playing several games over the past few weeks. Currently, the Scots stand at 3-3, and in all three losses combined the team lost only by a total of eight points. "A couple of breaks here and there and we could easily be 6-0," said head coach Bob Eldridge. "We are that close."

Five players average in double figures for the Scots. Sophomore forward Colon Lewis leads Alma with an average of 18.7 points. Seniors Mike Bachman (14.2 points), Tom Maloney (13.2), Bob Norris (13.0), and sophomore Jim Abney (11.2) round out the top five.

The Scots average 86.7 points a game while hold their opponents to an average of 78.8 points per game. The team is hitting 50 percent of its shots from the field and 74 percent from the free throw line. "These are good stats," said Eldridge. "We are very pleased with our play thus far. We are getting good performances from everyone and our senior leadership is excellent. I feel that we are only going to get better and better as the season goes along and as we become more experienced."

On Nov. 26, the Scots played their home season opener against Aquinas College. At the half of the varsity game, a dedication ceremony was held in memory of fellow teammate Ryan Winger. The team dedicated the season to Winger by presenting Alma College with a picture of him that will hang in the athletic building. Team members will wear black patches on the sleeves of their uniforms.

The Scots defeated Aquinas

91-73. Norris led all scorers with 26 points and dominated the boards by grabbing a game-high 10 rebounds. Maloney was the second leading scorer with 21 points and he distributed six assists. Other key players were Lewis (17 points), Abney (12) and Bachman (team-high seven assists).

At Founders Hall, the Scots suffered a disappointing loss on Nov. 30 against Bluffton, 65-64. Maloney led the Scots with 18 points, while Bachman and Abney followed with 11 and 10 points respectively. Free throws were a huge factor in this game as Alma went only six for 12 at the line, compared to Bluffton's 17 for 25.

Alma hosted Concordia College on Dec. 2 and won, 100-71. The Scots had a great second half, blowing the game open with a 27-6 run early in the third period while the defense forced 18 turnovers.

Lewis was the game high scorer with 19 points, while Norris and Abney tallied 16 a piece. "This was a good game to give everyone a chance to play," said Eldridge.

Dec. 4 the team traveled to Huddinton, Ind., where a controversial play in the second half hurt the Scots as they lost, 92-90. Maloney was called for a foul with one second to go, and a Huddinton player hit both free throws.

Lewis had a great game with 27 points, 5 rebounds, and 4 assists. Bachman had 20 points, including four three-point baskets. Maloney also 14 points and first-year student Todd Blomquist had a game-high 10 rebounds.

After a Dec. 14 game against Saginaw Valley, the Scots will take some time off, flying to Florida to participate in the Cyprus Garden tournament and defend the title won in 1990.

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Staff Editorial

Women's studies program is necessary

During this past term, Roseanne Hoefel and Carol Bender of the English department developed a proposal for a women's studies minor, which will be presented for approval of the Educational Policy Committee some time next term. (See News story p.1).

The Almanian Editorial Board strongly urges faculty and administration to approve this minor and allot necessary funds. This program is of vital importance to the Alma College community, the mission of which is "the liberation of people from ignorance, prejudice, and parochialism; the preservation and perpetuation of the knowledge, skills, and values appropriate for free men and women; and the preparation of students for useful vocations in a changing society" (1991-92 Student Handbook). A women's studies program is central to this task.

Women are the majority of the Alma College student population. However, the administration and faculty are overwhelmingly male. In addition, the curriculum, characteristic of the Western patriarchal tradition, predominantly represents the white male perspective. The authors of most texts read and doctrines venerated in the classroom are male. A women's studies minor is necessary to counterbalance this male bias in the academy. The issues, language, and debates surrounding the feminist "re-visioning" of the traditional academic curriculum, which have emerged in the last three decades, represent a significant challenge to conventional models which should be exam-

ined and discussed in the classroom.

As Kalamazoo College states in its explanation of their women's studies minor, "Women's Studies both enriches and challenges the liberal arts by examining history, culture, society, and thought in light of the female experience. In the past 25 years, a vast body of research and scholarship on women and gender has brought this experience out of the shadows of bias and ignorance into the mainstream of academic life. In Women's Studies courses, students examine works by and about women, explore ideas of gender today and in the past, study sex roles in culture worldwide and consider influence of gender concepts in the human life and thought."

Alma College should follow the examples of Kalamazoo, Hope College, Albion College, Aquinas College and numerous other colleges and universities nationwide in offering courses which focus on the woman's experience. The cost of the additional course necessary for the minor, estimated by sources to be from \$3,000 to \$4,000, is negligible when compared with the importance of this minor for the Alma College curriculum. The administration must stand behind its commitment stated in the five-year plan to "strengthen the role of women on campus" (The Strategy for Improvement: 1989-94) by approving and funding a women's studies minor.

Retractions

"You can't please all of the people all of the time," I have been told countless times. I always understood this statement, but recently it has become a way of life for me.

I wrote a review of the local restaurant, Tony's, in the Nov. 19 edition of *The Almanian*. Apparently, this offended a large number of people.

I am not going to apologize for this article, because in my mind, I did absolutely nothing wrong. I am simply going to explain my writing.

My main job as a staff columnist is to write weekly satirical articles. Satire is defined in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* as "a usual topical literary composition holding up human or individual vices, folly, abuses, or shortcomings to censure by means of ridicule, derision, burlesque, irony or other method sometimes with an intent to bring about improvement."

I can understand why people who have never read any of my writing before were offended by this particular piece. I referred to area residents as

"...unshowered...Appalachians...with extremely matted hair..." who appeared to be "missing teeth."

As offensive as this may sound, my last intent was to offend any local residents. I am a resident of Gratiot County. Therefore, I feel I am justified in satirizing the local area, for I am also included in this joke.

Finally, *The Almanian* is a student publication. It is written by students, edited by students and it is mainly for the Alma College student body. It is, by no means, an official publication approved each week by the administration of Alma College. Nothing should be held against the College because of statements made in *The Almanian*. The articles are printed and written for students, not for the Alma community.

The Nov. 26 article, "Heckler relates Nigerian experiences," was mistakenly attributed to Cheryl Sabol. The byline should have read "By Erin Fenner." We apologize to both writers for this error and any problems that it may have caused.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Because of Leigh Walker's response, I would like to clarify the meaning of my first letter. I was in no way trying to be anti-feminist. In fact, the reason I took the time to point out the things that I did was because I do support many feminist views, and I do agree that their goals of equality and respect are worth working towards. I simply had to question by which some, though not all, people who call themselves "feminists" try to advance their cause.

In re-reading my own letter, I realize that it is not the term "sexist" that I oppose. It is an attitude that the term

sometimes implied that upsets me. There are a few people who call themselves "feminists" who will label someone sexist and reject/devalue him/her because of it. This is a problem for more than one reason. If one of the goals of feminism is to see people as whole rather than to reject/devalue them by the specific, then this goes against feminist goals. And even if the rejection/devaluing is not intended, that intent is not always obvious. Not only the person being called sexist, but also others hearing the label can take it as a rejecting/devaluing. And it makes feminism look bad.

Women and men have the freedom

Save a life: be an organ donor

By Rachel Kemble
Staff Writer

If you had the chance to save someone's life, would you? Most people would probably say yes. So if most people would say yes, why is it that not many people are willing to go through with transplant surgeries?

Many surgeries are relatively risk-free for the donor. There are some people who won't even donate their organs once they are dead. Why not? They aren't going to need them.

It just seems strange to me that people would miss out on the chance to save someone's life. A person would have such a great feeling about him/herself knowing that his/her sacrifice helped someone in such a big way, and often times it is not that much of a sacrifice.

Put yourself in the patient's position. Wouldn't it be awful to know that your life could be saved, but no one will offer his/her help? Once the patient had died, just think of what the members of the deceased's family must go through. They must have a difficult time dealing with the fact that their child, parent, or sibling had the chance to live if

only someone had been more willing to give.

When I was nine years old, my older brother died of leukemia. Leukemia is the uncontrollable increase and spread of dysfunctional white blood cells. The only way to save his life was through a bone marrow transplant. My blood type was comparable enough with my brother's to go through with the operation. He died before the surgery was performed, however.

We were lucky, though; many patients don't even have compatible donors within their families, so they have to depend on outside sources, which is a little disheartening. There are currently 78,000 volunteers in the National Marrow Donor Program, but chances of getting a perfect match are one in every 20,000. They are currently trying to boost their membership to 250,000.

I suppose I am partial to this subject because of my brother. One of us matched his blood type, but what if I hadn't? My name is on the National Marrow Donor Program registry because that's what I would have wanted for my brother. I wish others would feel the same responsibility to help those in need.

Tony's somewhat offensive. I appreciated the author's attempt at humor, but was not amused. In my many visits to Tony's I have never been bothered by an offensive smelling patron. Owning and wearing several articles of blaze orange and flannel include me in the author's definition of a "hick." The word connotes an image of a dirty uneducated person, which I feel does not apply to me. I never classify people, because I view everyone as my equal, and I would encourage the author to do the same.

Thomas Miskowski, Class of 1993

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All Letters to the Editor must meet the following standards for publication: Letters must be signed and include the author's campus phone number and address, and must be pertinent to the Alma College community. Letters will be published on a first-come, first-serve basis, and will be limited to three per week. We reserve the right to condense letters for layout purposes. They must be received by 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. Address letters to: The Editorial Board; *The Almanian*; Newberry Hall; Alma College; Alma, MI 48801.