

The Almanian

Tuesday, February 12, 1991

Alma College's Student Newspaper

Issue 15

Troupe presents Black History Month program

Pinpoints presents '1001 Black Inventions'

By Sarae Wilkie
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Feb. 6, the musical theatrical group Pinpoints performed their nationally acclaimed performance of black history in "1001 Black Inventions" in Jones Auditorium free of charge to students and faculty.

The troupe consists of five actors and actresses: Karen Braxton, Lennie Smith, Namu Lwanga, Michael Morris and S. Robert Morgan. Reverend Jesse Perry sponsored the group. He said the performance was pertinent to the College because "the motto [of Pinpoints] is to 'edutain,' and they show us scenes that are left out of the history books."

The purpose of Pinpoints is to teach black history without monotonous lecturing. The show combined comedy, singing and dancing, along with learning on stage.

Perry said that the show taught that "blacks have made more contributions besides athletics and entertainment."

The skit described several black inventors and their lives. They first acted out the life of Dr. Daniel L. Williams. He was the first doctor to perform open heart surgery in 1879. They then went on to portray the

life of Jan Erntz Micelli, who invented the machine that sewed shoes together. The next inventor was Benjamin Baniker, who made the first atlas, the first clock and laid out the streets of Washington D.C. Pinpoints also retold the life of George Washington Carver in the form of a trial. Carver worked in sciences and developed weather-proof cotton and talcum powder from clay.

After a brief intermission, the actors presented a life without any black inventions. There were no street lights, car brakes, lamps, ironing boards, silverware or long distance phone calls.

Michael Morris has been with the act for two years. He said, "A lot of times when one is teaching somebody it can be boring. If you make something entertaining and educational at the same time, it can be easier to grasp."

Pinpoints was brought to campus as part of the February Black Awareness Month after Perry viewed a Detroit performance. This was the second visit to campus; their first was in 1988.

Pinpoints is out of Washington D.C., where it originated in 1978. It began as a writers' workshop which ultimately evolved into dramatizing inventions that had been researched in the Library of Congress for patent dates. The group eventually received national attention for performances.



Pinpoints performers dramatize black history.

Photo by A. Mull

There are three different troupes that travel throughout the United States. On tour, performances are daily. Pinpoints has two different versions; one for adults and the other formulated for young children.

History professor returns

By Leslee Bartrem
Staff Writer

"There is something unique about people who are touched by Alma College," said M.J.J. Smith, history professor. "I do not know what, but something special happens to them when they deal with this institution...they develop a humane concern and caring for everybody; they are good people. The celebration of credit goes to them."

Celebration, in this case, is an appropriate word. M.J.J. Smith returns to the College after more than nine months of recovery from a head-on collision occurring on the morning of Saturday, April 28, 1990. The accident demolished the front end of Smith's van and sent him into "102 days of joyous contemplation about the values of life, drama of the bedpan and importance of good medical care" in the hospital. Smith suffered a fractured neck and shattered right shoulder, as well as head and leg injuries.

While in the hospital, Smith took a variety of therapies which restored his ability to walk, compute square roots, sharpen the reasoning process

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Spring Term classes closed on first year students

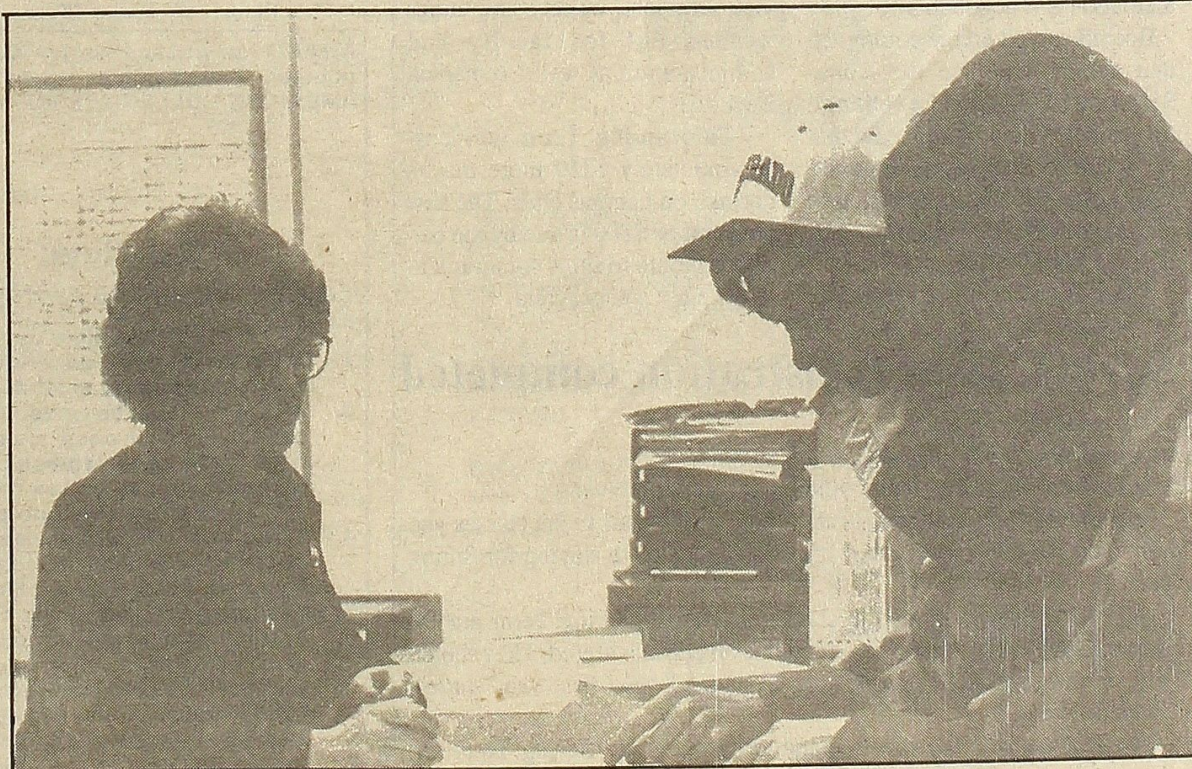
Controversial registration process encounters problems in second year

By Mike Kenley
Staff Writer

It's time to break out the Bermudas, squirt on some suntan lotion and get ready to party as Spring Term nears. Registration took place Feb. 4-8 for the four-week term running from April 29-May 24. Many first-year students were closed out of classes by their registration day, Thursday, Feb. 7.

Spring Term was added to the Alma College academic curriculum in the spring of 1974, when twenty classes were offered. Throughout the years the number of classes has continued to increase to the present number of thirty-eight. Along with this increase in the number of classes, the percentage of students participating has increased.

The first few years classes were offered in the spring, 50-60% of the student body enrolled for a class. In recent years, the percentage has reached heights of 70-80%. The



John LaRue and Karl Kaufmann register for Spring Term.

Photo by M. Stargardt

total number of students who have registered for Spring Term this year is 817. This number includes 188

first year students, 250 sophomores, 224 juniors, and, last but not least, 155 seniors.

Twelve Spring Term classes remain open, but spaces are limited. The classes still open include: BIO

315, BUS 480A, EDC 480, MCS 480, MTH 280, MTH 380, MUS 250, MUS 443, PHY 380, SOC 315, SOC 352 and SPN 128. However, according to the Registrar's Office, many professors signed students in doubling the size of some classes from their original intent.

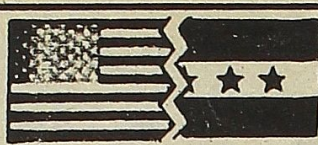
Seniors and juniors have the obvious advantage of getting the classes they want, while sophomores and freshmen are left to fight for the last few slots remaining on a class list due to the prioritized registration schedule in which seniors register Monday, juniors Tuesday, etc.

Senior Rob Ronk said, "I'm a senior, it's grease!"

Another senior in favor of the registration process is Jeff Appelt. "It saved me from getting up at 5:00 a.m. so I could even have a chance at getting the class I wanted."

Freshman Lalit Dhadphale agreed. "It's fair because some seniors need

Please see SPRING TERM, page 2...



Recoveries speed faculty return

Smith returns after accelerated rehabilitation period

...Continued from page 1.

And "persuade nurses to give me back rubs which were not part of the therapy." After eight weeks of therapy at Mid-Michigan Regional Medical Center, Smith was able to walk out of the hospital with a cane.

"More importantly, I learned how to manage pain and develop a positive attitude due to the influence of two roommates who had multiple sclerosis — fine people who made a big difference in the speed of my recovery with the rule of 'forget yesterday, to hell with tomorrow, and make progress today,'" Smith said.

What changes has the accident brought in Smith's life?

"If not for the inconvenience and extreme discomfort, it was a wonderful experience," Smith laughed. "I received hundreds of cards and letters from old students and came to realize what unique and wonderful people Almanians are. Many took the time and trouble not only to write, but to remind me of events that happened 25, 10, 15 years ago. Each day those cards and letters came were more helpful... I would save them sometimes until the end of the day when the pain got

bad, and then switch on the light and open one," recounted Smith.

Smith was part of a ten patient rehabilitation unit which "helped each other to improve; so the experience of one was a benefit for all."

Having severely limited contact with people for a long time, Smith calls returning to the classroom "a great joy."

"The intellectual challenge of the young mind is a pleasant enterprise," Smith said.

Smith credits history and political science professors Burnet Davis, Michael Yavenditti, James Schmidtke and Edward Lorenz for keeping him mentally "in tune" during his semester away.

Learning-therapy has altered Smith's perspective on teaching.

"It taught me that learning is not always easy... I came to appreciate and understand more about active learning and have more interest in student comprehension and ability to reason perhaps better than before," said Smith.

Doctors were amazed not only with Smith's constant stacks of mail, but his remarkably speedy recovery which Smith attributes to several

factors, most notably to those who cared so much to help him.

"My attentive family, the prayerful concerns of several Presbyterian ministers, especially Rev. Perry and a minister from Midland, and Almanians who, because of Dr. Yavenditti's medical briefs, sent hundreds of cards and letters, account for my speedy recovery.

Also, wonderful colleagues kept me involved in the life of the College and, thus, stimulated my desire to get back to work," said Smith.

"In some ways," Smith concludes, "the accident was a real blessing, because I learned that my thirty years labor in the field of teaching had not been wasted. Without that crunch of metal and the broken

bones, I might not have realized that three decades had not been wasted."

Smith will resume the chairmanship of the history department this term and is teaching a Spring Term course, HST 407, which was deleted from the registration brochure.

THD Chair returns after surgery

By Leslee Bartrem
Staff Writer

Alma College welcomes back Phil Griffiths, theater and dance chairperson, this term. Griffiths returned to the classroom in January after taking fall term leave to recover from surgery on a malignant tumor.

"It's the kind of thing everybody has nightmares about," said Griffiths. "I had no symptoms of any kind of problem."

The tumor was discovered by digital test when Griffiths went to a general practitioner in his in-laws hometown of Cooperstown, New

York, for a routine checkup.

"I had faith in the hospital, so I decided to go right on with [surgery]," said Griffiths. "It really was major surgery, but they gave me a clean bill of health with no need for follow-up therapy."

Griffiths called President Alan J. Stone and his colleagues and suggested a temporary replacement, John Kunik, Griffiths' former student at the College, for fall term.

Now Griffiths is back full-force, transporting students to Gratiot County Playhouse for play practice while Dow Auditorium is renovated, and conducting a dynamic program in children's drama two days per week at the local grade schools.

"Just getting back and having to do this is a form of therapy; it has been a very positive situation in the healing process," Griffiths said.

And what insight has the drama professor gained from this whole experience?

"I learned you have got time to get things done; don't get discombobulated if things go wrong. You accept what happens and deal with it in a creative way," advised Griffiths. "Also, one gets a great appreciation for kindly thoughts expressed for them by a circle of friends and well-wishers — that's what it is all about: a niche of people that you mean something to," he added.

Stillman-Alma Spring Term course offered

By Stacie Herriman
Assistant News Editor

Interpersonal Relations, SOC 352, moves to Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, this spring term. The class will follow a different schedule than other spring terms courses as it runs from May 6 through June 9 and will be taught by Vern Bechill, sociology chair, and his wife Shirley.

"This will be an opportunity to get to know people within, as well as outside of, class," Bechill said. "[This exchange] is a great opportunity in terms of experiencing another school and student body."

Twelve to fifteen Alma students will drive to Stillman where they will join 12-15 Stillman students who will be taking the class.

"Our students will be blended into Stillman College in every manner. They will live with Stillman members as no Alma students will be allowed to room together," said Bechill.

SOC 352 will be run "in exactly the same way as it has been in the past." According to the course catalog, the class is "an analysis of interpersonal relationships with emphasis on communication skills, problem solving, clarification of values and principles and skills of negotiation." The class will focus upon parent-child, teacher-student and leader-follower interactions, as

well as ways to maintain one's "personal integrity while negotiating toward mutually-satisfactory conclusions." The only prerequisite for SOC 352 is SOC 101, Introduction to Sociology.

Bechill summarized the class as an intensive course in the training and practicing of listening and helping skills along with those of mediation and negotiation.

Bechill served on the committee that helped negotiate the Alma-Stillman Colleges exchange agreement. When Bechill saw that no one else was doing anything with actual student-teacher-class exchange he decided why not teach SOC 352 at Stillman.

"Our Spring Term corresponds

with the first half of their Summer Term. Furthermore, this class [with its emphasis on interpersonal relationships and interactions] is ideally situated for [an exchange]," said Bechill.

Bechill reports that Stillman is excited about this class as there has never before been anything like it. "Dr. Gore, the Stillman academic vice president, wants some things worked out for faculty and administration as well," remarked Bechill.

This Spring Term will cost approximately \$250 more than a normal, on-campus class. The first payment of \$100 is due by the end of this month to show commitment to the class and program.

Spring Term registration completed

...Continued from page 1.

certain classes more than others."

Other students had different opinions.

Sophomore Cara Sell disagreed. "I hate it. It's hard to get classes you want, and the selection is poor. It's almost not worth staying for Spring Term."

"It seems that most of the classes offered in Spring Term are for upperclassmen. There are a lot of upper level classes offered. They should offer more distributive classes for freshmen," said first year student Chanelle Wilson.

The initiation of the new registration process for Spring Term has alleviated most of the turmoil over getting classes, but problems still arise for some people. Changing the registration process from a first-come, first-serve basis, to giving upperclassmen first choice over underclassmen caters to seniors and juniors. However, next Spring Term registration underclassmen will have more seniority and an improved chance of obtaining their desired Spring Term.

American Collegiate Poets Anthology

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- Any student is eligible to submit his or her verse.
- All entries must be original and unpublished. Poems previously printed in student publications are acceptable.
- All entries must be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the page only. Each poem must be on a separate sheet and must bear, in the upper left-hand corner, the NAME and ADDRESS of the student as well as the COLLEGE attended. Put name and address on envelope also! (Alumni Welcome!)
- There are no restrictions on form or theme. Length of poems up to fourteen lines. Each poem must have a separate title. (Avoid "Untitled"! Small black and white illustrations welcome.)
- The judges' decision will be final. No info by phone!
- Entrants should keep a copy of all entries as they cannot be returned. Prize winners and all authors awarded publication will receive a gold-seal certificate ten days after the deadline. I.P. will retain one-time publication rights for accepted poems. Foreign language poems welcome.
- There is an initial \$3 registration fee for the first entry and a fee of one dollar for each additional poem.
- All entries must be postmarked not later than the above deadline and fees be paid, cash, check or money order, to:
INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS
P.O. Box 44044-L
Los Angeles, CA 90044

Tuesday,
January 29, 1991

Residential Life Staff sponsors faculty programs

Luke kicks off Last Lecture Series

By Sarah Slater
Staff Writer

The "Last Lecture Series" sponsored by the Residential Life Staff began with a speech given by J. Tracy Luke, religion professor, on Feb. 7.

Because of past success with similar programs, Dean of Students James Kridler initiated the activity. Each resident hall staff asked their residents which professors they would enjoy hearing. Once selected, Kridler organized lecture times and dates. He asked them, "If you had but one more lecture to give, what would you say?" Kridler said he hoped that this would encourage a large range of topics.

Luke's topic, "God, Love and

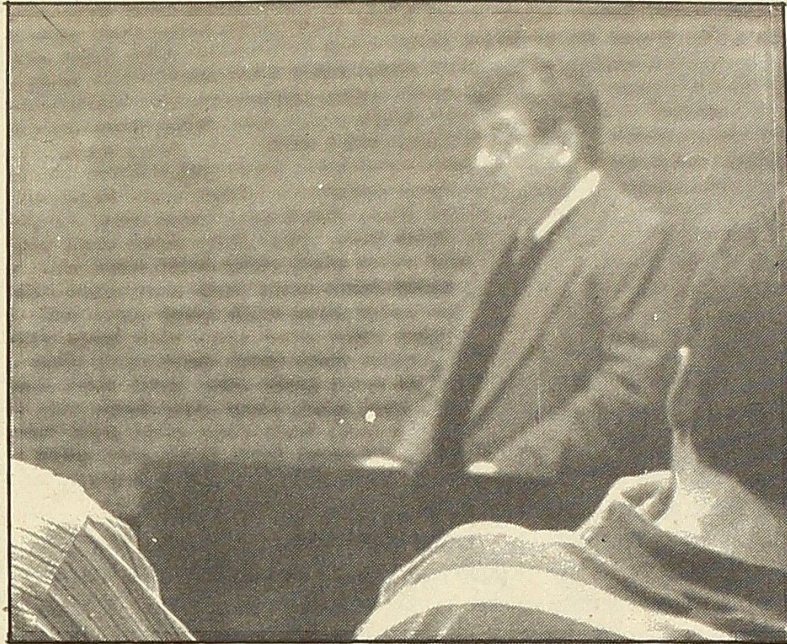
Change," stemmed from his work with Paul Pruyser at the Menniger Foundation in Kansas.

Luke said, "I would identify this as the high point of my own intellectual life after graduate school."

His work with Pruyser centered around the ancient tale, "The Epic of Gilgamesh," which focused on the selfishness of the protagonist, Gilgamesh.

Luke said, "The story odiously teaches that excessive narcissism is awesomely destructive to an individual and society."

He also compared classical works such as "Antigone" and "Oedipus Rex" with present day phrases such as "Don't get mad, get even," and, "If it feels good, do it," to illustrate his main theme.



Dr. J. Tracy Luke discusses the ailments of society. Photo by J. Steffee

Luke said, "When we are filled with selfishness, or narcissism of whatever kind, we cannot see anything clearly or relate to other people with integrity, but love frees us to create a vision and act on it."

Retiring Joe Sutfin, English professor, will speak March 7, at 8 p.m.; James Schmidtke, history

professor, March 14, at 7 p.m.; Nicholas Dixon, philosophy professor, March 21, at 8 p.m. and Richard Bowker, biology professor, April 4 at 8 p.m. All lectures will take place in Swanson Academic Center Room 113.

Refreshments are provided following each presentation.

New IFC policy protects fraternity privacy

By Sarah Houghton
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Feb. 7, 1991, Alma College's Interfraternity Council (IFC) passed a Privacy Bylaw. This bylaw closes all IFC Executive Committee meetings to all parties except the Executive Committee, the IFC advisor, all Greek males who wish to attend and invited guests. All regular IFC Body Meetings will also be closed except to IFC members, IFC Executive Committee members, the IFC Advisor, all Greek males who wish to attend and invited guests.

The bylaw also states if the Judicial Committee finds a fraternity in violation of IFC and/or College rules and regulations, the Vice-President and/or Secretary of IFC will send a press release to the *Almanian* without mentioning the fraternity.

IFC has decided to keep these meetings closed to respect privacy. It will still release judicial information, just not the name of the fraternity and the members involved.

For example, an infraction would be cited in the press as "a fraternity was found in violation..." No names would be disclosed. Individual fraternity presidents would be responsible for any specific information released to the press. There is no obligation on the fraternity's part to contact the media. "We are not closing out the media. All we are trying to do is respect the fraternity's right to privacy," said Jeff Hyames, IFC president. "We are putting the option to the fraternities to disclose information on the incident."

This new policy arose in an effort to remain consistent with student judicial, which does not release names on infractions.

"We recognize the value of letting the media know that there are certain sanctions that come about, but it is not necessary to give out information about certain people involved," said Emily Perl, IFC advisor.

IFC does not consider this policy a press ban. It is only concerned with the privacy of judicial proceedings and has nothing to do with the activities that IFC is currently involved in or planning.

"We are still here to share information," said Hyames.

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RESEARCH WRITING CONTEST

Prizes will be awarded for student research writing submitted for Alma College classes during the academic year 1990-1991.

Papers will be judged for quality of writing as well as for skills in synthesizing sources, for methods of investigation, for use of primary sources or data, and for documentation consistent with the standard style sheet in the academic discipline for which the paper is submitted. Length of paper must be commensurate with that of major research writing for undergraduate courses in the discipline for which it is submitted.

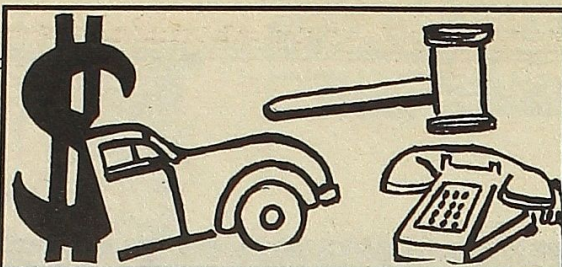
Students in all academic disciplines are encouraged to enter this contest. Judges will be drawn from all academic divisions.

FIRST PRIZE \$100
SECOND PRIZE \$50
THIRD PRIZE \$20

Deadline: April 10, 1991

Submit the writing to the Office of the Provost in a manila envelope. The writing should have a detachable title page; the contestant's name should appear on the title page but not in the text.

Awards will be announced May 22, 1991 or as soon thereafter as possible.



Young Authors workshop uses student volunteers

By Heather Jelly
Staff Writer

"Use your expertise, your fire, your zeal, and your desire to get in and see what it's like to teach kids," said Sue Kennedy, Alma Middle School teacher and co-advisor of the Young Authors Workshop, to the Alma College students at an informational training session on Feb. 6. Most of the students had volunteered to be team leaders and hosts for this very special program for children.

The Young Authors Workshop, taking place from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on March 9 at Alma Middle School, is sponsored by Alma Public Schools. The school system provides the facilities and materials for the event, a three-hour workshop for area students in grades pre-kindergarten through eighth grade.

The workshop has been an annual event for at least the past ten

years. Young writers are given the opportunity, with the help of student volunteers, to learn and develop their creative writing skills in the writing process, which involves three steps: pre-writing, including brainstorming techniques; writing, which is editing and revision; and publishing and sharing of the works produced.

All participants are divided into groups of usually no more than ten students, who are matched with two student volunteers who act as "teaching teammates." Within the structured writing process, young authors are not restricted to topics or writing style; they write poetry, short stories and narratives, and are given the option of drawing a picture to accompany their work.

A couple of weeks after the workshop, each student and team leader will receive a published booklet of all the works produced in the workshop.

Lori Wendt, a team leader in 1988 and 1989, said of the experience, "I

had third graders, and they were really prone to copy each other. It was hard to get them to branch off on their own creativity, but they got so excited. I was impressed by their abilities."

Lynda Markham, education department chairperson and co-advisor for the program, commented on the opportunity for students in the public schools: "Writing and the writing process is more popular now and there is always a need for individual help for the student that the teacher doesn't have the time to do."

There have been a few changes in the Young Authors Workshop since it began. Originally, Central Michigan University students worked with the program, but organizers found much more success with Alma College students. Kennedy said, "The nice thing about the program is to work with Dr. Markham and the students she inspires. Alma College students get pre-teaching experience and our

kids get published."

Markham said, "Every year it gets better and better with more research into the writing process and pre-writing activities. We have added more grade levels and we have students choose their own topic."

The program organizers have started using computers and word-processing techniques to publish the booklets, and this year, for the first time, there will be three student co-chairpersons: Wilberta Kreeger, Jennifer McDonald and Wendt. Wendt, an education major, said this year will be different for her because, "I'll be working more with the volunteers rather than with the children. I'll learn what goes into organizing something like this. I'll see it from a different angle."

Kennedy added some more words of assurance to the volunteers, saying, "We have total confidence in you. We get a fine product with you in charge." She also added a comment about her job which students will be assuming for a day.

"I can't imagine a better way to make a living...it's sweet," she said.

Even though the program is most popular with education majors, participants and organizers agree it is a great opportunity for anyone. Markham said, "I think it's great for anybody going into activities like social work, counseling, and even sales."

Kreeger also encouraged people to come and help, especially "anybody that likes to work with kids, see their accomplishments, even if you're going to have your own kids some day."

Wendt had two reasons for people to join the program. She said, "First, in fields where students will be working with people, you learn that it is better to help rather than control, learn how to be creative and not manipulative. Second, children have a fresh perspective on the world that adults have lost somewhere along the way. Our perspective sometimes gets jaded, and childlike-ness is catching."

Faculty study, travel on sabbatical

Picture Mathematics Professor Mel Nyman untangling foot after foot of wet, sloppy seaweed, or Psychology Professor Carol Slater talking philosophy with philosophy experts in San Diego. What were these professors doing? They were on sabbatical, a time which reaps positive benefits not only for the instructors, but also for the students, according to most professors.

Full-time faculty members can take a sabbatical, with approval of the board of trustees, after six years of service at Alma. They can last either one term or one year, with full pay for the semester leave or half pay for one year.

Exactly where professors go and what they do on sabbatical varies greatly. For instance, Professor of Biology Richard Bowker went to Portugal on a Fulbright Fellowship in 1983. While there, he pursued his own interests by studying the body temperature of European lizards and how they are related to both American and African lizards.

In addition, Bowker was advisor to the Secretary of State of Portugal in the park system, and he taught a course that led to a joint program between Portuguese and American students. Bowker said he came back with "new programs, new ideas", and that he was "fresh and happy to teach." On his coming sabbatical next year, he plans to return to Portugal with Religious Studies Professor Ronald Massanari to teach a course on Bio-Ethics.

"The sabbatical program at Alma is the single most important faculty development program on campus. The results translate directly to improved classroom teaching," said Bowker.

Slater recently returned from a sabbatical she said was, "exactly what you want a sabbatical to be." On Slater's first sabbatical seven years ago, she became interested in philosophy. That interest continued and last year she decided to try what she described as her "new professional wings." Slater was granted a fellowship in San Diego, where she studied the implications of cognitive science on philosophy. The sabbatical proved successful: late last winter, she finished her dissertation in philosophy.

"Sabbaticals are an imperative contribution to a quality institution," said Nyman. On his last sabbatical he spent time at the University of Otago in New Zealand, attempting to model a giant kelp plant. The data he collected has led to the publication of a paper. Nyman, the chairman of the faculty personnel committee, is a strong advocate of the sabbatical program.

Burnet Davis, Political Science Professor, is currently on sabbatical. He is working on course revisions of his own, and a paper for a research symposium. Davis also said he hopes to get to Washington, D.C., to refresh his contacts there.

Most professors said that sabbatical time is not without distraction. Davis, for instance, is also busy trying to find a new instructor for the Political Science department. Nonetheless, he said that sabbaticals are "a time to enhance professional and intellectual growth," and are a "marvelous, refreshing experience."

■ Shay Norton, Staff Writer

Professor experiences third world culture

Walser travels to India

By Leigh Walker
Staff Writer

Professor of Religious Studies Joseph Walser spent the past five weeks in India, where he and a group of young professionals from central Michigan traveled to the state of Tamilnadu in India under the sponsorship of Rotary International. The program, called "Group Study Exchange Team," sponsors travel like Walser's trip to India in order to "bring better intercultural understanding and to promote goodwill between various countries," according to Walser, a Rotarian, who was the group's leader. He had traveled to India once before with Bishop Makarios and welcomed the opportunity to visit the country again.

The group stayed with various Rotarian families in India, and studied "a cross-section of the culture," including the educational system, the medical system, agriculture, business and professional life, and the religion, which is predominantly Hinduism.

They also put on programs about central Michigan, which entailed several slide shows presenting aspects of Michigan life unknown to Tamilnadu, such as snow and Michigan farms. A similar group of Indian professionals will travel to Michigan to study the culture and explain their own. Walser said he feels that programs like these assist the inter-cultural understanding that

is Rotary International's aim.

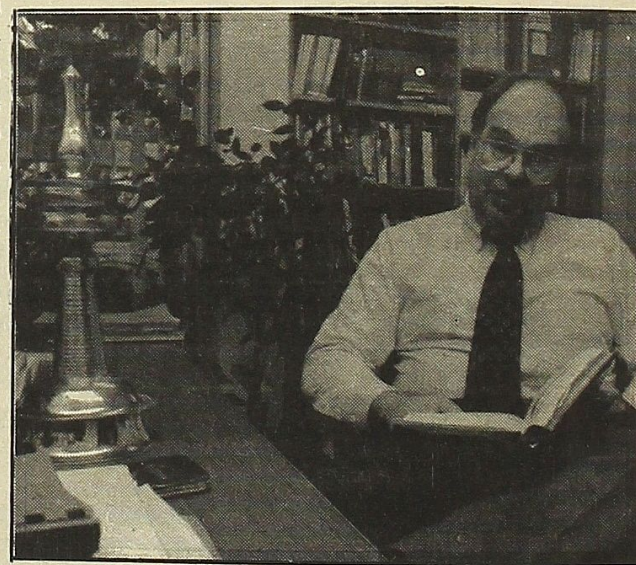
Goodwill and understanding are part of Rotary's goal, but not all of it. They also have a program to eradicate childhood diseases. Their initial program against polio has had such success—one Indian physician reports to have seen no new cases in two years—that they have widened their goal to combat eye diseases, dysentery, and leprosy as well. Walser further explained how many aspects of Indian culture he viewed through an exchange Rotarians, program sponsored by Rotary Club International, including himself, feel

personally about the dangers of these diseases, since they can remember being frightened of polio during their childhood.

Rotary International helps combat these problems, among other methods, by raising funds so that villages can dig wells and have access to clean water. Improper sanitation and over-crowding contribute to India's problems. Walser and his group visited a village where a new well had just been dug; previously, the people had gotten their drinking water from a stagnant and unsanitary pond.

The group was forced to return

home nine days before schedule on account of the Gulf War. Walser said that he had "a chance to observe how the Gulf Conflict is affecting a third world country." India is suffering from inflation because



Professor of Religious Studies Joseph Walser discusses aspects of Indian culture he viewed through an exchange Rotarians, program sponsored by Rotary Club International.

Photo by J. Steffee

they can no longer buy Iraqi oil at a special price; they must now purchase oil from the world market, and the resulting price increases have spilled over into the rest of the economy.

Because of the country's widespread poverty, this inflation has had a terrible impact on the country. Walser said that most Indians he discussed the situation with agreed with the UN's decision, but about 20 percent feel that the deadline was too rigid. Walser said it was "enlightening" to see the world situation from another perspective.

Tuesday,
February 12, 1991

Black History awareness promoted in campus events

By Steve Jessop
Staff Writer

"After our performance I would hope that the audience would become more aware of and enlightened towards Black History," said Michael Morris, road manager of and actor in the travelling play group, Pinpoints, before their Feb. 6 Alma College show. Their performance, titled "1001 Black Inventions," represents one of many events the college is sponsoring to help celebrate Black History Month.

The origins of this recognition of black culture go back to 1926 and the first Black History Week. Dean of Students, Jim Kridler, said he thought it was expanded to a month-long celebration in the '70s. This is a month set aside to recognize and celebrate black history and achievements.

The College will sponsor a variety of events recognizing black history and culture. The Chapel sponsored Martin Luther King Jr. essay contest at the start of the month, but it ended up being cancelled. Alma College Chaplain Jesse Perry said, "The timing of the contest was bad for the students."

Perry also organized a display, currently in the stairwell in the library, celebrating black history at Alma College. Its subjects include Naarah Crawford '63, the college's

Homecoming Queen, Charles Hudson '70, an All-MIAA athlete in several sports, and Julius Ceasar Chatman, who, in 1928, became perhaps

the first black male to attend Alma College. The display points out that blacks from Alma have gone on to become, among other things, English teachers, lawyers and judges.

The Pinpoints performance was another of the many events. This was an energetic and informative show about the many black inventions throughout history. A few of the black achievements shown in the play were the first open heart surgery, shoe manufacturing machine, and the bow and arrow.

Inventions by black women were also covered in the performance, from advances in radar to space technology. Pinpoints' black women

actors made sure that the audience knew that black women were responsible for all black inventions, because black women gave birth to all black inventors.

With the theme of this month in mind, ACUB sponsored two Spike Lee movies, "Mo' Better Blues," and "School Daze." Most Lee movies are seen as controversial because they bring attention to racial tension. "School Daze" is about life at an all black college. "Mo' Better Blues" examines the life of a black jazz trumpet player.

On Feb. 13, as part of Co-Curricular speaker series, Naomi Tutu, daughter of South African Bishop Desmond Tutu, will be giving a discussion titled "South African Liberation?"

Emily Perl, Assistant Dean of Students, stressed the importance of recognizing all cultures and their achievements. Perl said, "In conjunction with the various organizations, we try to promote the diversities of different cultures at Alma."



"1001 Black Inventions," performed by the Pinpoints theater group was just one of the many events the College has scheduled for February, which is Black History Month.

Photo by A. Mull

ACUB duties revealed

By Sarae Wilkie
Staff Writer

Most Alma College students recognize the acronym ACUB and associate it with comedians, concerts, and special events this group sponsors throughout the term. But how many of us know just what these students do behind the scenes to provide the student body with campus entertainment?

The Alma College Union Board is a student organization which is responsible for many of the traditional events on campus such as Mock Rock and the All-Nighter. ACUB also sponsors movies, College Bowl and many other activities that occur throughout the year. Eight students make up the board, while Linda Harleston serves as faculty advisor.

Jeff Hyames serves as ACUB President this year. As president, he oversees all the other officers and their projects. He is in charge of the budget, which consists of a percentage of the student activity fee paid at the beginning of the year. Hyames also runs the meetings where all the board members decide what to bring to Alma College. Hyames works on ACUB because he wants to "have a say in what entertainment is brought to this campus and how our student fee is spent."

The Concert Chair, Michael Stargardt, entertains all the guests



ACUB members: (top row) Brad Guigar, Erik Davidson, Jeff Hyames, Dennis Polsgrove, Missy Cross; (bottom row) Lisa Thauvette, Linda Harleston (Advisor), Mike Stargardt, Audrey Gillespie.

Photo by M. Stargardt

that are brought in for performances. He negotiates the contracts with the entertainers and their agents. He acts as host to these visitors by getting them their hotel, food, and transportation. The Concert Chair has an unusual responsibility because he has the right to directly sign the contracts of the performers. Alma College is one of the only schools that permits their students to sign its name as a negotiator.

The Union Board events are planned by the Major Events and Special Events Coordinators. Erica Soderholmes is in charge of major

events. Mock Rock and the Irish Pub are examples of the traditional programs that she supervises. Holmes feels that Union Board "gives the campus an alternative to getting drunk."

The special events are organized by Lisa Thauvette. These are participatory games and contests such as the current College Bowl competition.

On Fridays and Sundays the Union Board shows movies in Jones Auditorium. Missy Cross serves as the Cinema Coordinator. She associates with outside agents

through a movie company to rent movies. Last semester, few films were shown because ACUB was debating the possibility of investing in a big screen movie projector. They decided against it for the time being; this semester, more movies will be offered.

Kay Mathers is the Public Relations officer. She is the manager of ACUB, controlling the office hour shifts that each board member must work. She also hires and trains the Union Board reps, the extra workers that help at the functions.

The publicity and the advertising are handled by the Public Relations officers. Erik Davidson and Brad Guigar design all the signs, T-shirts, and paraphernalia that promote the ACUB activities. Davidson says the Union Board is "a campus organization that doesn't single anyone out." When asked why he works on ACUB, Guigar replied, "because it is a hell of a lot of fun."

The Union Board also has many campus services that aid organizations in their activities. The Union Board rents technical equipment to other student organizations. This is handled by the technical crew, Dennis Polsgrove and Andy Sutton. They are also responsible for setting up and tearing down all the equipment used in the activities. Polsgrove works on the board because it is "an opportunity to bring excitement to the campus."

The digital Alpha Signs in the cafeteria and Joe's are also run by the ACUB. It cost \$5 per week to advertise. Audrey Gillespie programs and rents the signs. The Union Board office also has a button-making machine available for use of campus organizations.

When Linda Harleston was asked if she felt the Union Board was effective on campus she replied that she thought so for two reasons. First, she commented on how Alma College promotes its ability to give a well-rounded education. Her second reason was that it gives the board members a great deal of leadership experience. It is really the most fun part of my job ... being the advisor for Union Board."



The Arts

Tuesday,
February 12, 1991

Theater department rehearses "The Man Who Came to Dinner"

Thespians prepare winter comedy

By Reid Sisson
Staff Writer

This term, the Alma College theater department will perform George Kaufman and Moss Hart's play, "The Man Who Came to Dinner." This comedy portrays the difficulties that arise when a famed radio personality is forced to stay longer than he wished in a small, Midwestern town in the 1950s.

Scott Bouldrey stars as Sheridan Whiteside, a Hollywood personality and literary critic famed for his radio appearances and lectures. While stopping in a town to give a lecture, Whiteside is invited to dinner at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley (played by Jeff Sevener and Lori Stein). He breaks his hip and is forced to spend several weeks with the Stanley household. In the process he, according to Director Phil Griffiths, "takes over their house and makes hell for the family."

"At first he (Whiteside) is like a crotchety old man," said Bouldrey. "He's a real jerk when he wants to

be." Bouldrey, however, does not see this as any different from most people. He said Whiteside can be very personable when he wants to.

Most of the play, however, centers around Whiteside being a jerk. Lisa Thauvette plays Lorraine Sheldon, a Hollywood sex queen and friend of Whiteside, who Whiteside uses to attempt to stop a budding romance between his secretary (played by Karen McDonald) and a young journalist (played by Dave Engelman). Thauvette said she enjoys her part. "She's very glamorous," she said. On top of these little plots on Whiteside's part, there are all sorts of interruptions into the Stanleys' life, most of which their butler, John (played by Chris Kukla) has to deal with.

This play will not be held on the Alma College campus. Instead, it will be showing at the Gratiot County Playhouse in downtown St. Louis. There are some fears that the location will hurt attendance of Alma students. As Kukla said, "We're worried that the low student turnout will waste this production. Griffiths hopes to arrange a bussing

system from the college to the playhouse for those students who can't drive. The location has also put a lot more responsibility on the cast and crew to get there when they are supposed to be."

However, the facilities at the Gratiot County Playhouse do have their advantages. Although the stage is only half the size of Dow Auditorium's, it has a back stage where the actors can relax when they are not due out on stage. Set Designer Derake Pickard pointed out another advantage of the Playhouse: "The new theater isn't a problem, because here we can nail things to the floor." He went on to explain that they were not allowed to nail down any of the props at Dow, causing concerns over set stability. He also said that Gratiot already had a lot of equipment of its own, so the crew won't have to haul much equipment from the college.

Despite these concerns, members of the cast and crew said they felt confident that they can pull off a good show. Griffiths said he was highly confident in the group. Thauvette said that, the cast being



Scott Bouldrey, Chris Kukla, and Dealton Reames rehearse "The Man Who Came to Dinner," at the Gratiot County Playhouse.

Photo by R. Webber

so large, there were a lot of people to meet and a lot of fun going on.

Performance dates for "The Man Who Came to Dinner" are March 15-17 and March 21-23. Organizers

hope that there will be a bus running from the campus to St. Louis, starting a few hours before the play. Information will be made available as soon as definite plans are made.

Art society seeks formal status

By Shay Norton
Staff Writer

"The line quality of that T-shirt is all wrong."

This is not a statement you are likely to hear at a lunch table, but if you would like to discuss art you could go to a meeting of the Alma College Art Society.

Alma has an Art Society? Yes.

The Alma College Art Society was founded informally fall term of 1989. Members stress it was started as a group not only for art majors, but for all interested students. Brad Guigar, one of the co-presidents, stated it is a group where, "people with a common cause can get together." Kristina Edgerly thought the group would be, "ideally a place for people to come together to talk about art."

Although it has no formal status on campus, the Art Society is

working on a constitution and Guigar hopes the group will, "by next year be off the ground and running."

Right now, Guigar said, "It (the organization) serves as an avenue for free lance art." People needing art work done may contact either of the two co-presidents, Brad Guigar or Mike Barnes, who can put them in touch with a student who would be willing to take on the project. Jim Ledyard, a participant, said that members have done designs for the Annual Fund, and a few members are currently working on a logo design for the Center for Student Development.

The group has varied future objectives. According to Ledyard, the Art Society would like to, "promote artistic awareness on campus." One idea that Ledyard would like to see implemented is a student art fair, giving fellow students the opportunity to purchase art work.

Edgerly wants to sponsor a show

for area high school students, and Guigar would like to back showings and organize trips. The trips would be a lot like the one the art department is sponsoring to the Detroit Institute of Art for the annual Michigan Print Show. However, the Art Society has not been able to do any of these things because of lack of funding. Currently, Edgerly stated, "the group supports trips like the one to Detroit," through attendance by many of the group's members.

Guigar said of the group, "It's a good place to reach base." Since the group occasionally does critiques of work, Guigar also claimed it is great to, "talk to people who know what they are talking about." Ledyard stated that the critiques are a major benefit because members, "support each other's work."

"The Art Society provides an opportunity for not only art students, but all creative people to get together and discuss contemporary concepts and ideas," said Ledyard.

"Not Without My Daughter" is a must-see Movie tells of American in Iran

Movie: "Not Without My Daughter"

Starring: Sally Fields

Producer: Brian Gilbert

The differences between the Western and Middle Eastern cultures are made apparent: chanting is pumped onto the streets via a second-rate stereo system; religious/political icons loom over street vendors; incense is burnt, a calf sacrificed. This is a tripped-out-acid nightmare between religion, culture and government. These scenes from the new film, "Not Without My Daughter," seem to render the gap between Western and Middle Eastern culture insurmountable.

In the film, Sally Fields stars as the real-life, Alma-born Betty Mahmoody, wife to Iranian doctor Mahmood Mahmoody (played by Alfred Molina). With the revolution over and Iran an Islamic state, Mahmood decides he must visit the family he left ten years earlier. With some initial doubts, Betty finds herself in Tehran, enveloped by both the power of the culture and the deceptions of her husband.

Slowly, Betty becomes aware that the two-week vacation is really a ploy for a lifetime of second-class status in Iran. Mahmood, through the encouragement of his family, rescinds his decadent Americanism for the asceticism of the Koran. Betty becomes swept up in a wave of anti-American/anti-Christian sentiment which leads to her inevitable beating and her eventual escape from Iran.

The title of the film refers to an Iranian law that precludes maternal custody of the child after a divorce. Betty does not want her child to grow up in Islam, and therefore stages this fantastic escape.

The movie not only becomes a testimony to one woman's courage through a toxic culture shock, but also becomes a political statement for today.

The movie depicts Iranians as humans. There is a scene in which a missile explosion narrowly skirts an elementary school. Children scream with the look of mortal panic in their eyes. Parents come running, from what seems to be nowhere, to protect them. There is compassion.

In a day and time in which U.S. majority sentiment looks with soap opera eyes at Middle Easterners as Islamic devils, it is both fresh and alarming to see them as who they are — human beings.

This film is a must-see for those who are caught up in the media's confused rendition of an ancient people. It gives us a glimpse of how little we really understand other peoples and cultures.

William Robinson, Staff Writer

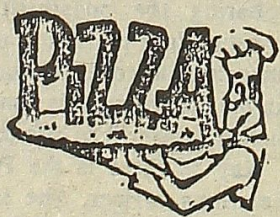
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Tuesday,
February 12, 1991

EVENTS CALENDAR

Week of Feb. 12-17

On Campus:

Contemporary Native American Art
from Jesse Besser Museum
Tuesday, Feb. 12 - Friday, March 15
Clack Art Center,
Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery
Reception Tuesday, Feb. 12, 7 - 9 p.m.

Prints and Handmade Books Exhibit
Pati Scobey
Tuesday, Feb. 12 - Friday, March 15
Clack Art Center, Lounge Gallery

Naomi Tutu
Speaking on "South African Liberation?"
Wednesday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m.
Dunning Memorial Chapel

Alma College Kiltie Band Concert
with Dr. Raymond Riley
Thursday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m.
Dunning Memorial Chapel

Chestnut Brass Company
Friday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m.
Dunning Memorial Chapel

ACUB Film: "Moonstruck"
Friday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 17, 9 p.m.
Jones Auditorium

ACUB Film: "Wild Orchid"
Friday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 17, 9 p.m.
Jones Auditorium

Alma Symphony Orchestra
Sunday, Feb. 17, 4 p.m.
Dunning Memorial Chapel

Mt. Pleasant:

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Jazz Weekend
Friday, Feb. 15
Warriner Auditorium,
Central Michigan Univeristy
Central Air Jazz Band, 12 p.m.
Jazz Lab Award Concert, 4:30 p.m.
Feature Jazz Concert, 8 p.m.

Central Michigan University
Symphony Orchestra Concert
Tuesday, Feb. 19, 8 p.m.
Warriner Auditorium,
Central Michigan Univeristy

Lansing:

Ice Capades
Featuring: The Simpsons and Barbie
March 13 - March 17
Breslin Student Events Center,
Michigan State Univeristy
Tickets on sale now
Breslin Center Box office: 336-1440
Area Ticketmaster outlets: 484-5656

Ann Arbor:

The Replacements Concert
Thursday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m.
Hill Auditorium
Thayer and N. Univeristy, Ann Arbor
Tickets available at all Ticketmaster outlets

HR (Human Rights)
Reggae music at the Blind Pig
Thursday, Feb. 21
Doors open at 9:30 p.m.
208 S. First St., Ann Arbor
For club information call 99-music
Tickets: \$10.50 in advance

Auditions:

For Gratiot County Players Spring production "Same Time Next Year"
Saturday, Feb. 16, 1 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m.
Gratiot County Playhouse in St. Louis
Call Susan Fabus: 847-4775 or Christy Frick: 463-1839

Classifieds

Classifieds must be turned into The Almanian office by Friday at 5 p.m. to be printed in the following edition. They must be 50 words or less or will be subject to editing. Classifieds will be published on a first come first serve basis.

200-500 Summer Camps Positions Available

Staff Referral Services provides a network of camps, now hiring, from the "Keys" to Wisconsin-Minn. One application reaches all camps. Applications at the Student Employment Office.

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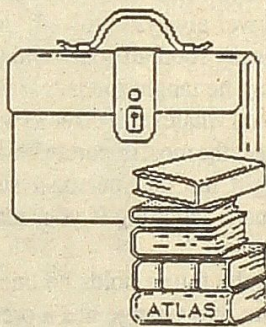
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Categories are:

Radio/Video

Script or tape for use on campus in such categories as news/information, feature, etc. No entries over 30 minutes.

Newspaper

Stories suitable for inclusion in a college newspaper, in such categories as informative news articles, newsworthy first person narrative, "literary journalism," features, editorials, or columns.

Photography

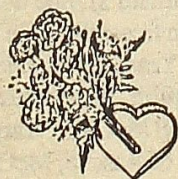
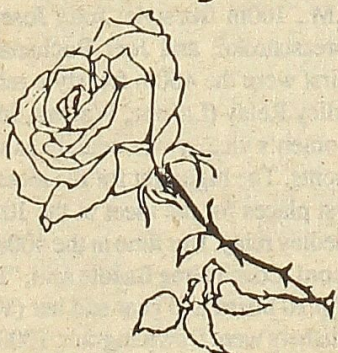
Subjects suitable for campus publication. Both negatives and prints required.

Multiple entries should be entered as a portfolio and will be judged as a unit. Deadline for entry is March 29, 1991. Submit entries in a manila envelope to the Communications Committee, c/o Student Affairs Office. Names should not appear on front sides of any typed or printed material or photos. List titles of entries and name of entrant on a card and enclose in the envelope. Judges reserve the right to withhold awards in any category if in their estimation no entries are of sufficient merit, or to declare ties if entries are judged to be of equal merit.

Limited to Alma College students.

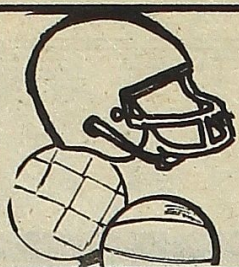
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Athlete approaches end of senior season

Grange reflects on basketball career

By Shannon Nichols
Sports Editor

Senior athletes add more than statistics to a team's success, they add leadership, experience, and a guiding hand. They are there to lend support to the younger players and to teach what they have learned. Senior Paul Grange does that and much more. Along with his leadership skills attained from four years as a varsity player, Grange also averages 15 points a game, six rebounds, and three assists. Leadership is important, but in the final score those kind of statistics are also keys to the win column.

Grange is an experienced veteran in the arena of athletics, he came to Alma from Gaylord St. Mary's High School where he played football, basketball, and baseball. Basketball was his claim to fame in high-school earning him all-conference honors for three years and all-state honors for two years. When the search for colleges began for Grange, the thing that stuck out most in his mind about Alma was the beautiful campus and the high academic standards. The attraction to division three athletics was also a big pull for Grange. He said, "I love the competition in division three, if I couldn't go division one then I wanted three. The crowds are great and the level of play is extremely high."

As a senior reflecting on college life, Grange said, "I wish someone would have told me how important it is academically to get your priorities straight right away when

you get here. The most important thing is academics and getting a good education."

And now that he is in the position to give advice, he said, "I would tell them (young college athletes) to focus on how to set aside individual goals for the goal of winning a league title. If you put the team first you are more apt to gain personal achievements, because if your team does well then the league will look at what the individual players did to make it happen."

As the senior class approaches their final months of school, it is a good time to look back at what has been learned. Grange said, "I have definitely learned more about dealing with people, and I have learned how to deal with situations through adversity."

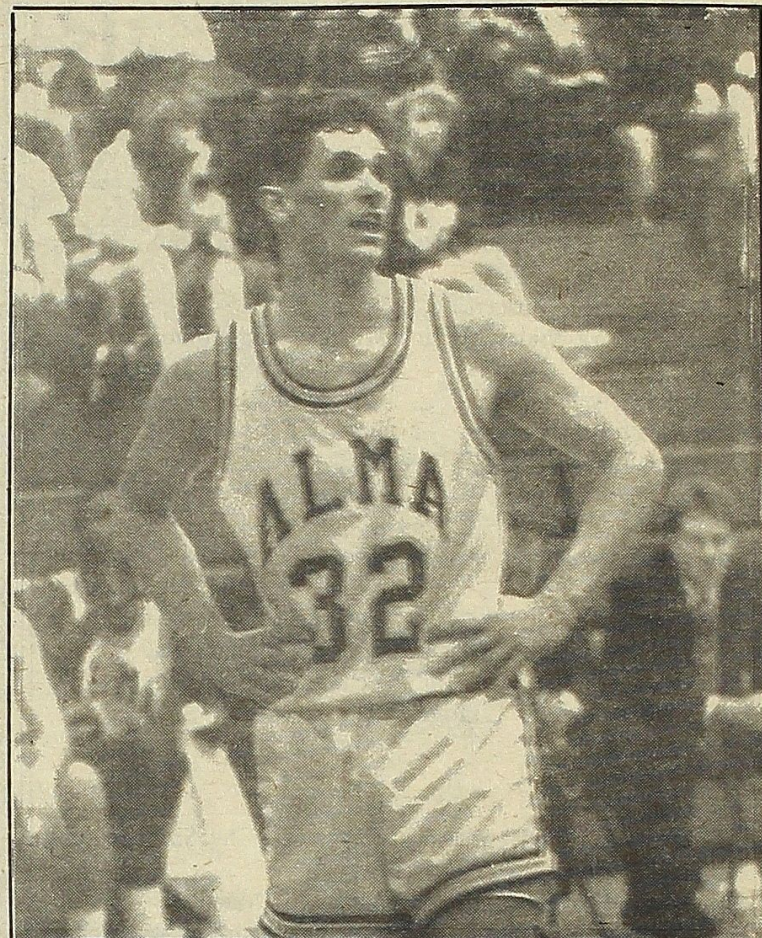
Adversity has been a key phrase in this year's basketball season. The team has had its ups and downs and this is one of those down times for the Scots. Grange realizes the struggle to stay motivated in a season of disappointments and has found a way to keep himself going as the season winds down. He said, "I think you have to throw everything else aside and make yourself as a player happy. I don't mean individual stats, I mean we have to push ourselves to play up to our full potential for the rest of the season. We have to win the rest of our games and push ourselves right up until the last game."

When a season is winding down and the league title is out of reach it is a time to reflect on the past year and look forward to the next season and according to Grange the look ahead is very positive. He said, "I

think the loss of five seniors will be a big one but it will not devastate the team, they have the ability to be great. The coaching staff will be a big factor in the success of the team. A lot of the responsibility will fall on the shoulders of Mike Bachman, who has the ability to be an all-conference player, if not more than that. If the team sticks together behind him they have a great shot at being a very good team. I think with the seniors leaving, the team will lose a lot of leadership but will gain opportunity. Some of the guys who have been sitting on the bench waiting for their chance are going to step right in and do a great job."

As Grange nears the end of his college basketball career it is not only time to look back at the career, but the people that helped it all happen. Grange says the people that influenced his life the most were his parents and when it came to sports his dad was always involved, "My dad was my football coach and the one thing he taught me is that you have to do whatever it takes to win, winning is the most important thing. He taught me that personal stats don't mean anything if your team isn't the best."

What the future holds no one is ever sure, but Grange has a pretty good idea, he wants to teach. Grange is an elementary education major who says he has never really wanted to do anything else. When I asked why he was so set on the idea of teaching he said, "I want to teach young kids because I believe that teaching is an occupation that touches more people than any other. Kids are so vulnerable, they are forming their personalities and if



Senior Paul Grange shows leadership on the basketball court.

Photo by M. Stargardt

you can have a positive affect on them at that age then your influence will last forever."

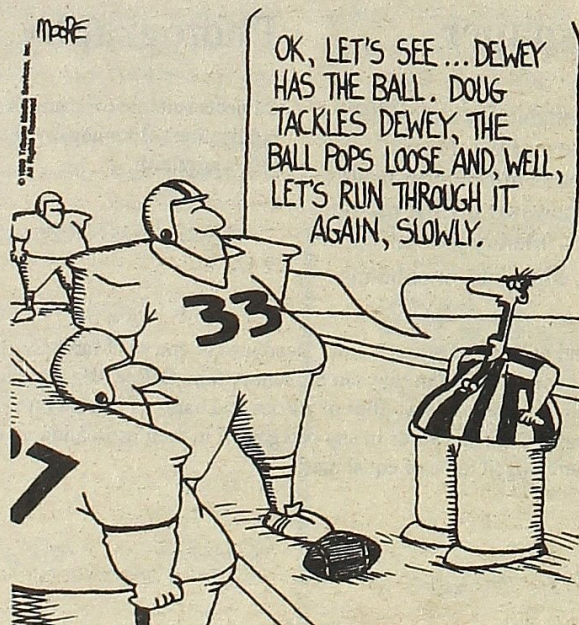
For someone who has been so involved in sports and who is entering the teaching field a logical step seems to be the added benefits of coaching, but Grange is not sold on that occupation. He said, "I do not think I would like to coach, I know I do not want to coach basketball. If I was going to coach which I may have to in order to land a job, I would like to coach football. In the years that I have been playing sports I have learned that teaching the team concept is not an easy task, but I believe it is easier to teach it to

football players. I think the reason is that in football you are not seen, you are a faceless number on a far away field, but in basketball the crowd is right there and everyone can see you which makes it difficult to set aside personal goals and egos."

To end this interview I asked Grange what his definition of success was and it reflected a personality of confidence which has probably played a key role in his success as an athlete, "My definition of success is being able to look at yourself and be happy with yourself and what you are doing, because you are the only person you have to prove anything to."

IN THE BLEACHERS

by Steve Moore



Instant replay in the days before videotape

Sports Calendar

Men's Varsity Basketball
Wed. 13 @Hope
8:00

Women's Varsity Basketball
Wed. 13 Hope
8:00
Sat. 16 @Aquinas
1:00

Men's JV Basketball
Wed. 13 @Hope
6:00

Womens JV Basketball
Wed. 13 Hope
6:00
Sat. 16 @Aquinas
3:00

Swimming and Diving
Wed. 16 @Olivet
6:00

Alma swims to victory Adrian falls to Scots

By Scott Rea
Assistant Sports Editor

The Alma College men and women's swim teams both took home wins on Saturday from Adrian College. The men improved their duo record to 2-6 by a score of 89-47. The women easily took the Bulldogs 128-78 improving their duo record to 5-4.

The men took first place in 9 out of 10 events. First place swimmers were Matt LaJune, 100m Back; Bret Powers, 200m freestyle; Gui Ferreira 400m I.M., 100m freestyle; John Josephson 100m fly; Grant Walters, 100m breaststroke; and Joel Buchanan, 500m freestyle. Relay teams taking first were the 400m freestyle relay (Scott Phillon and Buchanan) and Medley Relay (LaJune, Walters, Josephson, and John David).

The women's victory was equally as sweet with the Scots taking 10 out of 13 events. The highlight for the meet was when Selena Williams took three first places for the meet in the 100m freestyle, 400m I.M., and the 200m medley relay. Her time in the 400m I.M. was 5:09.31 which is a new team record. Coach Greg Baadte said, "It was our goal to put 50 new times on the top 10 board this year and her (William's) time did it." Other first place finishers were Dawn Ingram, 1000m freestyle; Julie Boltman, 200m freestyle, 100m breaststroke; Jennifer Yrasa, 50m freestyle; Adriana Rasche, 100m backstroke; and Colleen Smith, 500m freestyle. First place relay teams were the 400 freestyle of Cheryl McClure, Katy Hamtak, Amy Zulke, and Yrasa; and the 400m medley of Rasche, McClure, Williams, Zulke.

The women will finish their conference schedule traveling to Olivet College this Wednesday, Feb. 13. Both teams will be traveling to the MIAA championships at Calvin on Feb. 21-23.

Tuesday,
February 12, 1991

Alma Scots fall farther behind in league standings

By Bret Henderson
Staff Writer

The Alma College men's basketball team ended the week almost where it began. The Scots won a close one at home against Albion College 94-88 in overtime on Wednesday, and then lost to Olivet College (87-74) in a fight-marred game on Saturday. The weeks split left the team in fourth place in the MIAA. Road games with 1st place Hope, Adrian, and 3rd place Kalamazoo remain on the schedule. The week's effort was as delighting on Wednesday as it was disappointing on Saturday.

Wednesday brought the Albion College Britons to the Caepert Memorial Gymnasium in a match-up of teams with only one game between them in league standings. Though the game remained excitingly close throughout, the intensity kicked up a notch as the clock ticked inside of 1:24 in the second half. With Albion up by five and time slipping away, the Scots were going to need help from a couple of heroes. Though Paul Grange had paced Alma all night with an incredible 31 points and 9 rebounds, guards Andy

Mangin and Mike Bachman stepped up to drill two 3-pointers to send the game into overtime and the crowd into a frenzy. According to Coach Bob Eldridge, "Our conditioning was the difference in the last seven minutes of regulation and especially in the overtime. We could have folded with less than a minute and a half to go but we hung

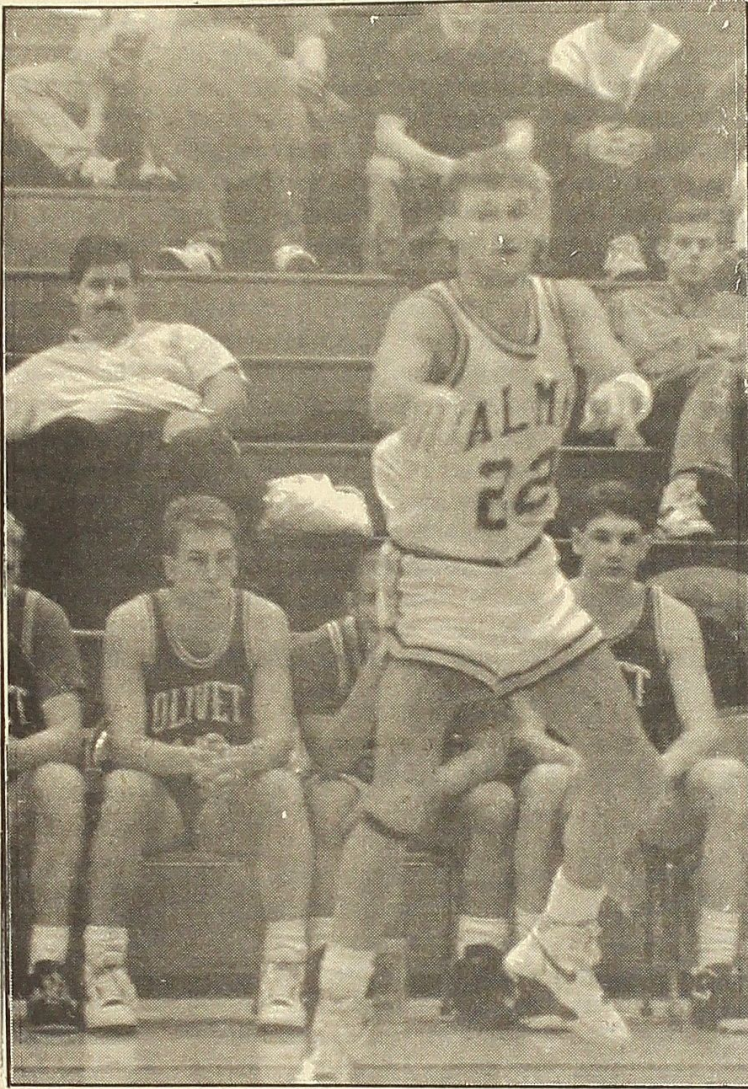
points from Todd Kulawiak, the Scots pulled away in the overtime to win by six, 94-88.

Mangin finished with 16 points (including 4-4 from 3-point range) and six assists. Bachman followed right behind with 15 points and 5 assists. Kulawiak and freshmen Colon Lewis dropped in twelve points and five rebounds a piece to round out the Scots in double figures.

The win against Albion left high expectations heading into Saturday's final home contest of the year against conference foe Olivet. Parent's Day, also Saturday, brought mom's and dad's to Alma College to honor their sons, especially Alma's five seniors: Andy Mangin, Todd Kulawiak, Paul Grange, Jerry Czarniecki and J. Shriver.

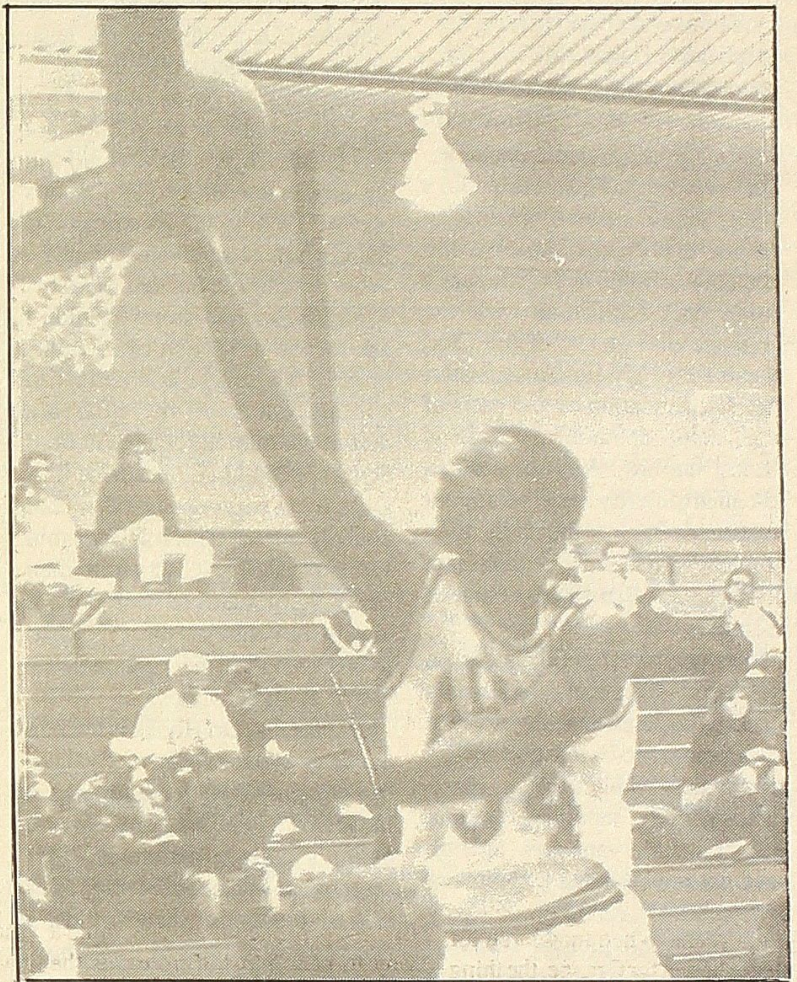
The seniors stepped forward to answer the call in their final home game as Alma College Scots. Czarniecki put down 21 points and pulled down 12

rebounds. Mangin added 17, Kulawiak 14, and Grange 10. Though



Senior Todd Kulawiak passes to open teammate.

Photo by J. Reis



First year player Colon Lewis moves to the basket while teammates look on.
Photo by M. Stargardt

the efforts were notable Alma couldn't overcome three crucial factors that eventually dealt them a 87-74 loss. The combination of Alma's 36% shooting (only 25% in the second half) and Olivet's impressive 56% clip, coupled with a controversial fight that sent Alma's Grange and two Olivet players out of the game was enough to make the difference.

Coach Eldridge called the fight and subsequent ejection "The turning point of the game." He said, "We were up by seven at that point and we didn't respond well to losing Paul. They did. Going on

a 19-2 run on us over the next 8 minutes." Eldridge also said, "We are an offensive minded team and when we don't shoot well we don't play well. It was a disheartening loss, especially for the seniors, but we will bounce back next week."

With two very tough road games sandwiching a trip to last place Adrian, the Scots won't have anymore time to dwell on Saturday's loss. The team realizes the importance of the games remaining, and as freshman teammate Reggie Reed said, "A win over nationally ranked Hope would be a great end to the season."

Students suffer from NCAA's lack of responsibility

By Scott Rea
Assistant Sports Editor

The NBA dedicated its All-Star weekend to the "Stay in School" charity. The festivities included a record breaking three point shootout, an electrifying slam dunk contest, the old timers game, and of course the All-Star game itself. Also included was a one hour program dedicated to young people with the message to "Stay in School." Look at the NBA as a whole, or most any other professional sport organization, and one can see that not all professional athletes have followed this advice. It is not uncommon to see an athlete who has not finished college and who performed below

college norms. Is this their fault? No.

I believe that the blame lies more on the colleges. These students are essentially majoring in football, basketball, baseball, hockey, etc. These athletes are not playing the college game the same way that the other students are, they have their own set of rules. The colleges have overemphasized athletics as a means of fund raising and recruitment. This rule for athletes tend to be loose and barely enforced.

There have been restrictions, mainly aimed at Greek organizations, that have been passed by almost all colleges to protect the student's welfare and to uphold the ideals of the college. These restrictions are made to force the student to perform academically before being allowed to participate

in extracurricular activities. Should athletes be above this?

No.

Colleges need more consistency. Alma College is currently scheduling practices that begin at midnight and last until two o'clock in the morning. This seems a bit ridiculous, and perhaps could even be considered a form of hazing. These practices are scheduled to make the athletes better players, but are they making them a better students? For a player to have practice till two in the morning and then possibly have an exam at 8:30 the next morning is bound to affect performance.

Alma currently lacks a set eligibility requirement for its' athletes, but yet has a set standard for Greeks. Why should certain organizations be targeted with grade requirements and athletes be treated differently?

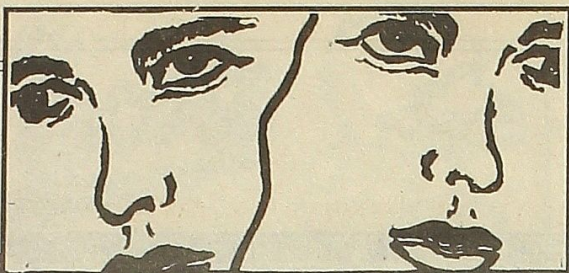
They shouldn't.

The NCAA is also to blame. Being the governing body of college athletics, the NCAA has the power to set down any restriction on athletes as it feels necessary. Unfortunately, this year the NCAA could not pass a proposal to require freshmen to have a 1.6 GPA and seniors a 1.9 GPA. So even an outside agency could not see the requirements as necessary.

The colleges have the duty to educate their students. There should be a bigger effort to show athletes that an education could prove to be very useful. This is especially true with athletes because an athlete, in a fraction of a second, can go from a star to a wheelchair and be forgotten. I would call on the NCAA to pass a comprehensive eligibility

program. The colleges and universities should de-emphasize sports as a source of income so that the athletes and coaches need not feel that pressure. Colleges and universities should maintain the academic and social integrity of all students, athletes included. Not only would this improve the student-athlete, it would also improve administration-student relations. Lastly, the professional sports organizations should make efforts to demand that athletes graduate.

I believe that unilateral improvements would be extremely beneficial to all of the parties involved. The colleges would be under less pressure financially, and from the student body, and that are Finally, an athlete could always know that if things don't work out in the professional sports arena, they could always fall back on their education.



Opinion

Tuesday,
February 12, 1991

Are minority scholarships above the law?

by Thomas A. Perry
Indicated Columnist

The recent Department of Education ruling which sent the so-called civil rights leadership into a frenzy should have become one of the cornerstones of United States education policy. The Department's ruling only reaffirmed what the language of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 so clearly states; that discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin is against the law. Why then would so-called minority leaders come out so strongly against the application of a law which many of them (are you listening Ben Hooks?) helped to enact.

The Department of Education via Assistant Secretary Williams recently declared that the practice of awarding race-based scholarships was against public policy. Many legal scholars, including Derrick Ball of the Harvard Law School, have declared that the Department of Education's ruling could easily have withstood judicial scrutiny. Similarly, there has been no outcry from the legal community attacking

the legality of Williams' policy statement. It seems that the legal community understands the concept of applying the various laws of our country equally to all people, not just to specific groups. I would call the application of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to all Americans as being a type of intellectual honesty. What defines intellectual honesty? It means that one group shouldn't ask for the protection of its rights under a law unless it is willing to submit itself to the possible detriments that may occur within an equal application of that same law. Does it not seem unusual then that civil rights leaders such as Benjamin Hooks of the NAACP cry foul when one of the arguably more important laws of our country is simply applied to blacks in the same fashion that it would apply to whites?

It seems that Dr. Hooks is leading minority students down a yellow brick road of resentment and perhaps increased racial hostility on the nation's college campuses. This resentment will undoubtedly result as a by-product of the President's decision not to follow Mr. Williams' findings. This resentment and animosity may manifest itself in the

form of racial hostilities at college campuses where race relations were somewhat amicable. However, if Hooks truly believed in bettering the racial climate in the United States, he could have spoken a thousand words simply by uttering nine, "I support the ruling of the Department of Education." Yes, uttering these nine words may have altered the college plans of hundreds if not thousands of black and other minority college students, but it would have also sent a message. The message sent to millions of Americans would have read "blacks and other minorities can be intellectually honest even when it hurts." Hooks, however, chose not to send this message.

President Bush also failed to seize this opportunity to stand up for fairness. The result of the President's lack of leadership means that for the next four years minority students would be able to receive scholarship monies for which non-minority population on most college campuses will not have a chance to compete. If I were a non-minority college student, I would be madly upset at the fact that I did not have the opportunity to compete for the

same scholarship that was awarded to a minority solely based upon race. Do you want to get a clearer picture of what non-minority students may be feeling? Put yourself in the shoes of the non-minority college student. Your family has realized that it cannot afford to continue financing your education. Imagine walking into the financial aid office at the university you now attend. Upon inquiring about financial aid opportunities, you are told that the only financial aid that remains is designated specifically for minority students. Wouldn't you feel a certain amount of animosity towards the next minority student you came in contact with.

The so-called civil rights leadership regularly issues inflammatory statements detailing how either public or private actions and/or policies will result in a backlash of racism. One should wonder whether the so-called civil rights leadership has recognized that its actions will cause a backlash of racism. Many Americans, who genuinely want to provide equal access to education for all, and who believed, if not participated, in the

civil rights movement, will stop supporting the traditional civil rights organizations such as the NAACP, PUSH and the Urban League. I believe that many God-fearing Americans will do just this because now it is clear that these so-called civil right leaders no longer want equality. Now these so-called leaders want to have their respective groups placed above the law. The American people, college students included, will not stand for this.

Civil rights leaders have used the Civil Rights Act to protect myriad Americans from the "vestiges of racism which pervade this country." However, these leaders now feel that minorities should be excluded from the class of Americans to which the Act applies. Benjamin Hooks and others are making a mockery of the system and are certainly diminishing the earnest efforts of leaders across the country who truly want equal rights for all. Many thanks go to Ben Hooks and to other so-called civil rights leaders for showing Americans that people of color don't want to be judged by the content of our character but rather by the color of our skin.

Distributed by The Forum Syndicate

Video reveals alleged U.S. Government conspiracy

by Tim Herbst
Staff Writer

"With God and patriotism on our side, we will prevail!" shouted a Contra after raping and murdering foreign civilians.

The video from which this scene was taken from, Cover Up, probes in-depth the conspiracy

behind C.I.A. covert operations in both hemispheres over the past several decades, culminating in an examination of the Iran-Contra affair. The chilling facts of our government's activities are enough to appall even the most right-wing observer.

C.I.A. operations have never been considered to be completely ethical. Any remaining respect for

this organization is shattered as this film details the drug-running activities of the virtual shadow-government of our country. C.I.A. involvement in the affairs of other sovereign states is appalling. This organization appears to have been engaged in a historically continuous trade of drugs for arms during conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, and

Nicaragua. Most recently, during the rebel war in Nicaragua, our government has sold arms at extremely high prices to Iran; proceeds were then used to finance the Contra's rebellion.

That the U.S. involves itself in the affairs of foreign states is deplorable enough, but when further facts come to light, one is chilled to the bone. According to the testimony of a former campaign worker in the Reagan-Bush campaign of 1980, the Reagan-Bush campaign was very scared of the release of hostages by Iran prior to election day, 1980. Apparently, Khomeini offered the Reagan-Bush team an offer they couldn't refuse. Bush met with a top-ranking Iranian official in Paris in the summer of 1980 and it is believed that he offered to sell Iran all the weapons they could buy for the Iran-Iraq war in exchange for delaying the release of the captives held in Tehran 56 days — until Reagan was in office (while we supplied Iraq with weapons, as well).

The proceeds from weapons sales were used to finance the Contra War in addition to the sale of cocaine shipped into this country by the C.I.A. On the one hand, the U.S. is engaged in a very costly drug war, on the other, our government runs a war on democratically elected communist governments financed by drugs.

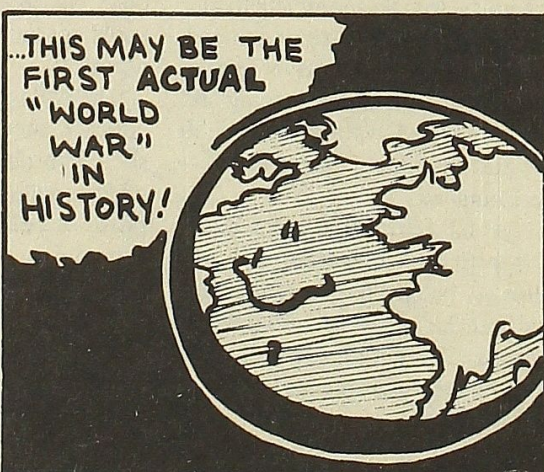
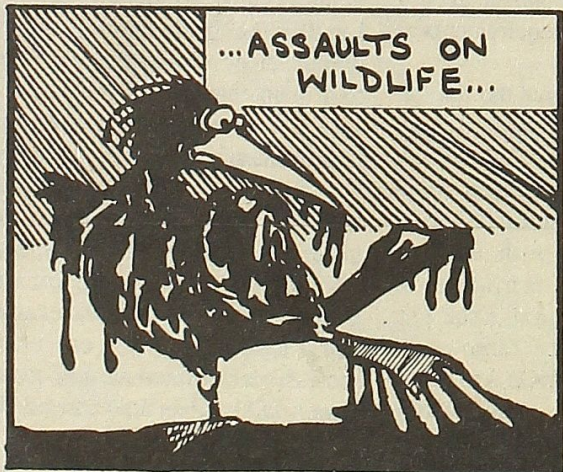
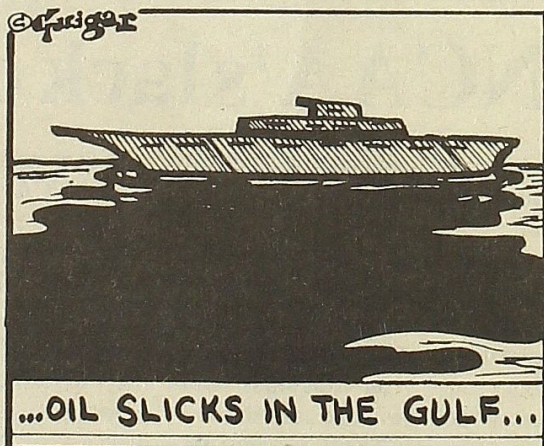
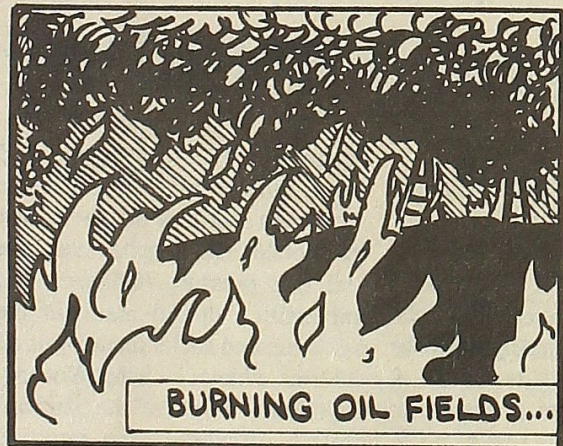
The documentary has until this point shown the U.S. meddling in the affairs of other countries with

minimal effect on middle-America. However, the tone now changes. The documentary now moves to the involvement of ultra-right wing elements in the function of our own government and the life of everyday people. The information is shocking and disturbing. During the 1970's there were a few outspoken critics of the C.I.A. in our own Congress. These people were all beaten at their next election, as obscene amounts of money mysteriously appeared in the coffers of their opponents. Carter, too, was outspoken against the C.I.A. and attempted to get rid of many of the less ethical parts and persons of the C.I.A. Many of the people he fired worked on the Reagan-Bush campaign and were reinstated after Reagan's election. The policy of the C.I.A. in foreign affairs continued to be the overthrow of peaceful, democratically-elected communist governments because they were ideologically communist, without any regard for the self-determination of nationals.

This documentary must be seen by every American who wishes to determine the future of their own life and desires to live in a free country. As citizens of a so-called democratic country, it is our job to police our leaders and to hold them accountable. This video gives a necessary base for a healthy skepticism and questioning of our leaders — a questioning which is imperative if we are to remain free Americans.

Guigar

by Brad Guigar



U.S. priorities are unclear in Gulf War

Presence in Middle East is unjust

By Andrew J. Kartsounes
Staff Writer

Once again in last week's *Almanian*, my views and strongly held beliefs were called senseless and confused, while my last response was buried in a corner of the last page. Well, I'm sick of my intelligence being insulted by articles that are filled with ignorance and incorrect interpretations of anti-war views. Hence, in this editorial I'm going to let my emotions respond to you blind patriots whose closed minds and illogical nationalism has allowed people to die, the flame within them snuffed out in the name of oil.

This is not a war for peace. It really has very little to do with maintaining peace in the region.

Rather, this war seeks to give the U.S. control over oil and the politics of the Middle East. After our little war, the only peace that will be achieved is that which can be held at the barrel of a gun. Have you really been fooled by the seeming idealism of a President who believes in the politics of the moment? A regime whose foreign policy changes weekly according to what goal is in place at the time? Bush has no intention of opposing aggression as he claims we are doing now. If he did we would be fighting ourselves in Grenada, Panama, El Salvador, Nicaragua and the Soviet Union. Bush has stood by and allowed the Soviet crackdown on the Baltics while sacrificing our peers to stop aggression.

Don't be fooled. The members of our generation are nothing more than a pawn in a political chess

game. A piece that can be easily sacrificed attempting to achieve some other objective. Your friends and mine are dying in the desert while people older than our parents decide our fates. Why is it that young people fight wars while old fools start them? It is called power. We have very little. Many of you didn't vote in the last election and probably didn't even bother to vote in the last Presidential election. The U.S. has become a country where a minority of the electorate can choose a path of the country and it is your fault. It is your apathy that has driven us to this end.

You pray in your Christian churches to Jesus Christ, who tells you to love your enemy and turn the other cheek, and then you praise our "leaders" for going to war. Then you wonder why some accuse church-going Americans of

hypocrisy. Why even Bush uses God in his speeches. Jesus stopped Peter from fighting the Roman troops who sought to arrest him. Do you really believe he would like Bush invoking his name to bless a war?

Where are our priorities? 40,000 children die every year in our country and rather than help them we spend millions on military systems. Our "defense" spending vastly outweighs what we spend on the education of our young. Live in ignorance America, at least we have the capabilities to destroy, maim and kill!

Does any of this affect you? Do you feel sorry for the dead? Do you weep for the dead? Does your soul scream out in anguish with every needless death? Perhaps you don't think about it. Maybe you don't even think of the dead as people just

like you and me. Politics over life, the good of the nation state over the rights of the world to live in peace.

Wake up! We're not fighting for ideals. Your being lied to or at the best misinformed with every report. The Pentagon has you brainwashed into not thinking about war in terms of human lives, rather in terms of weaponry and success rates. War means death, in this case the deaths of thousands to achieve political aims.

I plead with you. Come to your senses. Place life above death. Stop the killing before one more death can be attributed to us. My friends, our generations hands are bloody with the dead of this war and nothing may ever make them clean again. Please help me stop the flow of blood before we drown in it. Please, may we have PEACE ON EARTH!!

Letters to the Editor

Communications major clarified

Dear Editor,
Meagan Karvonen wrote a good article about the new communication major in the February 5 *Almanian*, but a few things got jumbled in the editing process. First, it's officially called a communication (not communications) major - the singular indicating that the program addresses the process more than the separate industries. And despite the headline, students should know that Programs of Emphasis (POEs) remain available to anyone who wishes to shape individualized majors in any area. Most importantly, the major is officially available to students right now; anyone interested should consult me soon, before registration for the fall term.

John Ottenhoff
Associate Professor
English Department

Panhel defends dry rush rules

Dear Editors,
We are writing in regards to the staff editorial "Rush Rules Invite Infractions" contained in your January 29, 1991 issue of the *Almanian*. This is the second article concerning the Panhellenic Council and we appreciate the space in your distinguished paper; however, there are a few concerns about the articles that could have been cleared up had you contacted or listened to an officer of our organization.

To begin, the abbreviated form of the Panhellenic Council is written Panhel, not Pan-Hel, which has been written in both articles. The form that you have been using is reserved

for the groups of all black female sororities.

Secondly, there is a concern about your portrayal of new "dry-rush" policies. Dry-rush is not an idea initiated by the Alma College Panhellenic Council - it is a recommendation from the National Panhellenic Council. We are all active members on campus, and we haven't witnessed your exaggerated caution of people "rushing to set their drinks down and running over to the rushees." Have you stopped to think of the purpose of dry-rush? We will try to explain it; if you are still confused after this explanation, we would be glad to furnish you with the address of the National Panhellenic Council. Perhaps they could shed some extra light on the subject. The main purpose of dry rush is to prevent undue pressure from being placed on rushees from conversations which may not have occurred if alcohol wasn't involved. Dry-rush lasts for two weeks; if a rushee, who probably isn't 21 anyway, can't control their drinking habit for 2 weeks, do you really think that she will become a responsible member of your group anyway? We assume that following this rule all becomes a matter of priorities. Yes, we are aware that dry-rush may be inconvenient but isn't it a small price to pay to avoid a possible lawsuit?

Another large problem with your articles is your confusion of our "new" policy. This "new" policy was created in March of 1990. The policy concerns PLEDGES, actives and alcohol and stemmed from a possible pledge program infraction last year. To quote your article, "Pan-hel stated that this year no rushee was allowed to drink in the same room with an active." The new policy was created last year,

(this is 1991), and has nothing to do with rushees. Feel free to contact the President or Advisor of the Panhellenic Council if you would like a copy of our policy.

Finally, your point that the policy of dry-rush creates a problem pitting sorority against sorority is hard to understand. Are you aware of how many dry-rush infractions we had reported to the Council this year? NONE. Are you aware of how many violations of this rule we had? Our guess is probably that some occurred. However, we are not forming policies so we can be a police patrol. Policies, like the one formed last year, have been created because these "responsible adults with the ability to control themselves" acted irresponsibly and created huge liability risk for their chapter and their college.

Basically, the Panhellenic Council appreciated your coverage in the paper, but good journalism only mandates that you research the topic you are talking about. We create policies because of irresponsible action and many of our policies are mandated from the National Panhellenic Council. Panhel (notice the abbreviation) believes that Rush and pledging are serious times due to the large liability risks these days and are not searching for infractions but are looking to protect the sororities from committing an action that could put every sorority on our campus in jeopardy.

The Panhellenic Council

The Almanian Letter Policy
All Letters to the Editor must meet the following standards for publication: The letter must be signed and include the author's campus phone number and address, and it 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. It must be received by 5 PM the Friday before requested publication.
Address letters to:
The Editorial Board,
The Almanian,
Newberry Hall,
Alma College, Alma, MI 48801

Student support determines home court advantage

By Michael Stargardt
Assistant Opinion Editor

When I went to my first Alma College football game two years ago, I must admit I was disappointed. I suppose that after attending Michigan State football and CMU basketball games during high school I'd grown to expect a certain amount of crowd enthusiasm present especially in the student section. I wasn't particularly looking for half-naked people, torsos painted in maroon and white, shaking bagpipes menacingly at the opposition. However, I believe I was expecting the students to participate somewhat emotionally in the athletic event.

To my disappointment, the bleachers' occupants resembled those seated around the tables at Hamilton Commons. Most students' eyes were on each other rather than the game, engrossed in conversation while the athletes competed as representatives of Alma College. The cheerleaders tried in vain to spur the "fans" into providing support for the team, but were given only appreciative glances and an occasional weak round of applause. The people attending were comprised largely of parents and alumni, and their

I wasn't particularly looking for half-naked people, torsos painted in maroon and white, shaking bagpipes menacingly at the opposition. However, I believe I was expecting the students to participate somewhat emotionally in the athletic event.

enthusiasm often paled that of the students.

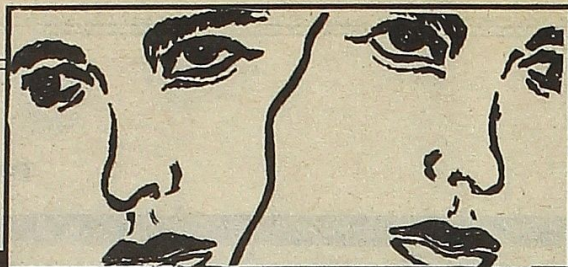
When basketball season arrived, I thought that perhaps student enthusiasm would commensurately grow with the increased fast-paced action, now indoors. Once again, attendance and enthusiasm were typically low, in particular for the women's teams.

What purpose does crowd involvement hold in athletics?

A very important one. The larger the enthusiasm of the spectators, the more intense the emotion in the competition. While for most athletes, the desire to win is found within the individual, as a team there is needed the support of the institution for which they compete. With increased emotional intensity and an increased desire to win as a team, athletes are much more able to perform to their best abilities. The spectators, particularly the students, are needed to provide this support.

The term "home court advantage" refers to the advantage a team has when competing in their own territory. The advantage comes both from the team being on their own physical practicing area, and from the increased crowd support.

Our athletic teams when playing here should *always* have the home court advantage. It can make the difference between winning and losing.



Staff Editorial

FAC system creates new problems

This past fall, Alma College students learned to adjust to the new phone system. While first year students need not become upset by the change, many upperclassmen found it ridiculous to be charged 8 cents per local call in addition to the rest of the expenses taxed upon us during a normal school year. Those who had no phone were also required to make a large deposit in order to use one from the Physical Plant.

The phone system was difficult to deal with then, but unfortunately it hasn't improved.

With the introduction of FAC codes, in order to dial off-campus one must first press 9, then the personal six-digit FAC code number, then the number desired. Primarily, dialing all these numbers is simply inconvenient. If any delay

is made between dialing the 9, the FAC code, or the number one wishes to reach, the connection is lost with a familiar, annoying, two-tone sound. When one uses a credit calling card, such as US Sprint, a total of 43 digits must be pushed. Assuming that the phone is a touch tone, the time it takes to place such a call through will be at least forty-five seconds. Of course, if the phone is the rotary type provided by the Physical Plant, the same call will take much longer. Rather than use a calling card, each individual student always has the option to bill a long distance call to their FAC code number, but many times numbers are "lent" to others in order that the call may be placed off campus to an operator for a different billing. These "others" are the students and guests of Alma College who do not have a FAC code for one reason or another. Either they do not attend the College, have not paid their phone bill, or they have never bothered to pick up their codes from the Physical Plant.

These people without FAC codes thus have no means of contacting anyone outside the College campus other than through the use of the

coin operated phones in every residence hall. The danger in this is the possibility of a crisis situation taking place after midnight in which all of those present do not have/cannot remember their FAC codes and cannot contact emergency personnel.

"Someone nearby should have a FAC code," said Carol Merchant, Office Manager of the Maintenance Dept. "I really doubt that there will be a time when anyone needs help and can't at least get Security." The only problem with this is that very few students know the number for Campus Security without calling Main Switch, which closes after midnight. Unfortunately, pay phones are not always nearby. If the FAC phone system is to remain, perhaps the College should provide stickers listing Security's number for all on-campus phones, in case this situation occurs.

The final problem with the phone system is the possibility of stealing codes. Approximately 900 numbers have been assigned, and there are a million possible combinations. Chances of randomly dialing someone's number are about one in

1,111. There seems to be quite a good chance that someone, with time, could find another student's code. According to Carol Merchant, there has been only one reported incidence of "FAC code stealing" so far.

In the event that someone is using a stolen FAC code, the Physical Plant's office "can, for the most part, find out who was using the FAC code by calling the number that was called," said Merchant. "The person who does not make the call does not have to pay the bill, and their FAC code will be changed immediately." If it becomes a popular pastime to push digits randomly into a phone, stolen FAC code numbers could appear with great frequency.

The efforts of the Physical Plant to improve the phone system are appreciated, and there definitely are benefits to the FAC system. It would be to the students' advantage, however, if precautionary steps were taken so that the problem situations mentioned above will never take place. Perhaps the best solution would be eliminating the FAC system entirely.

From the Editors

Student-Prisoner exchange program implemented

On Thursday, Feb. 7, approximately 35 education students made the first of six planned trips to the Mid-Michigan Correctional Facility in St. Louis. At the correctional facility, some prisoners are enrolled in a GED program. Each college student tutored a prisoner in areas which the prisoners were having particular difficulty: reading/literature, social studies, essay writing, science and mathematics. This tutoring project is a new feature which Lynda Markham, professor of education, added to the course Teaching Reading in Middle and Senior High School, EDC 346.

According to the syllabus, "The general objective of the course is for each student to demonstrate knowledge of secondary school reading problems both in remedial reading and in reading in the content areas and of teaching strategies and materials appropriate for dealing with these problems." In addition to the traditional lecture and seminars format, these students are required to demonstrate their capabilities as a teacher in a real life forum—a minimal security prison.

Should Alma College students be subjected to this environment as a requirement for a class? The question is debatable. When students signed up for the class, they were not aware that they would be tutoring in a correctional facility. They were not aware they would be asked to teach in a school surrounded by bobbed wire and security guards. They were not aware that they would be sitting across the table from someone who committed a crime.

On Thursday, the students toured the facility. They were led into the prisoners' living quarters, the courtyard, and the buildings dedicated to education. They were paraded around the grounds. To some, this was extremely uncomfortable and they felt as though they were being put on display.

Despite the awkward situation, I think the new program, implemented by Markham, has many attributes. Students are not forced to work at the correctional facility if they have strong objections. However, the prisoners will benefit from the students who tutor them and who bring in a bit of the outside world. The students are getting teaching experience and are working under special circumstances which may be experienced in the future. Ideologically, the exchange between the prisoners and College students should prove valuable.

By Kristine Lovasz
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Students entitled to more Spring Term choices

By Sara Groves
Staff Writer

Thursday morning I woke up at 8 a.m. I grabbed my spring course schedule and shuffled to the Registrar's office confident that I would get at least one of my top three choices for a class.

Five minutes later I was face to face with a secretary standing behind the counter. She took one glance at my sheet.

"Closed," she said as she pushed my sheet back at me. I was sure she meant my first choice so I shoved my schedule back at her.

"No, I have two more choices."

"Closed I said," she seemed to hiss at me.

I stood there for a minute dazed. And then I began to imagine myself standing in the registrar's office - with an uzi-submachine gun cradled in my arms.

"Well, OPEN SOME!" I scream as I throw back my head with a hideous laugh. I open fire and take out a few filing cabinets just to make my point.

Naturally the secretary does as I instruct and opens all the cool classes so everyone can take the spring term they wanted. I am the savior of the freshman class!! A hero in my own time!!!

Suddenly, I am taken back to reality as somebody shoves me out the way only to hear that their class is closed too. I shuffle back to my room cussing out all the upperclassmen. But then I realize that it is not the upperclassmen who are at fault. It is this school, and quite frankly, it's starting to make me mad.

I pay \$13,500 a year to attend school as do the roughly approximated 1,199 other students. That comes out to an even \$16,200,000...over \$16 million.

Now I realize that the college has bills to pay and scholarships are given out and supplies are purchased. But you think for \$13,500 I could at least get one lousy class that I wanted.

For \$13,500 I should have a private spa in my room, two servants and a bay window overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. Instead I have to share a bathroom with twenty other girls. The showers have no water pressure, and if the water is actually coming out so I can feel it, it is ice cold. All winter I have studied wearing a ski jacket and gloves. The windows in my room are oh-so-airtight that the billowing curtains have knocked over my plants, (which are dead anyway from frost). The only view I have is the other side of Gelston. The one good thing about this is that I get to watch other people without being too conspicuous. The bad part

is that they get to watch me.

For \$13,500 I should be served gourmet meals on silver platters. Instead I get turkey. Every single time I walk into Saga there is a new turkey invention - turkey divan, turkey lasagna or turkey burgers. What a selection! Don't even think they serve turkey because it's healthy for us...they serve it because IT'S CHEAP!!!

For \$13,500 I should have track lighting. There should be a glow that illuminates every dorm at night. But I have two lights supplied to me by the school. The fluorescent one above my desk has this annoying buzz that is slowly driving me over the edge. The light that graciously illuminates the area by the mirror does no good whatsoever. If I decide to put on make-up, I end up looking like a representative from Mary Kaye simply because I can't see what I am doing.

But I am becoming accustomed to turkey at every meal and the lack of hot water. And who knows, if the buzz of my fluorescent light really does drive me insane, and I have to sell Mary Kaye, at least I'll have the look down.

However, I only think it's fair that people get the classes they want and need. For \$13,500 a year, I don't think I'm asking for so much. And the sad thing is that they're raising tuition another 7.7% next year. But I don't expect things to get better.

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