

# The Almanian

April 6, 1993

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 22

## Institution of new four-year plan draws near

### July 1 picked as starting date

By Anthony Siefker  
Freelance Writer

The new four-year evergreen plan for Alma College is scheduled to start July 1 and will take over where President Alan J. Stone's original five-year plan concludes. Faculty, staff, students, trustees, parents and alumni have all had a hand in developing the College's future through the new four-year plan. The main shapers of the new plan have been the President's Advisory Council and executive staff, along with Student Congress.

"It raised our sights," said Stone, referring to the old five-year plan's goals being met in four years.

The new plan is a three part proposal.

A "Vision Statement" for the future of the College constitutes the first section. The "Vision" addresses three major areas: the character of the College, program enhancements and resources (funding).

From this "Vision Statement" the next portion was developed—a list of goals. Stone referred to this portion as "a blueprint of the goals and objectives we hope to accomplish over the next four years."

Concluding the plan are the monetary goals for Alma over the next four years, including budget planning and tuition increases.

The full three-part document will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval on May 7.

According to the current draft of the budget projections for the next four years, there will be some increases in spending and tuition.

College employees' salaries will increase at the same rate as tuition—five percent per year for the next four years. There will also be slight increases in student aid each year, in the form of College-awarded scholarships.

The goals and budget figures are still in the drafting stages, and may or may not be changed in the final

proposal. The planning committee does, however, foresee its goals being met.

Some highlights of the plan include cable or satellite television installation in residence hall rooms, wiring rooms for access to the College's computer system and new computer resources.

Other items on the list are increased campus lighting, library roof repairs and the upgrade of underground utilities.

Over 20 specific goals are laid out in the plan, but some depend on large gifts through foundations or donors. A training center (intramural building), new computerized classroom facilities and a library addition are possible options on which any monetary gifts could be used.

This plan has been in development for the last year and is now nearing completion. Most, if not all the items on the current drafts will remain on the final proposal.

## Residence halls shorten switch hours due to lack of funds

By Cathy DeShano  
Staff Reporter

You've decided to do laundry one Spring Term afternoon but need quarters. You run down to switch to make change only to find it's closed. You could have sworn you'd used switch hundreds of times before at this same time of day. You probably did. Beginning this Spring Term, all switches will experience a cut back in the number of hours they remain open.

The money to run switch has, in the past, been taken out of the Student Affairs' budget. Although Dean of Students Jim Kridler believes his budget was partially reimbursed for the switch funds, he discovered this fact not to be true.

"The switch workers are paid out of institutional funds. There was some confusion between myself and the financial aid office in that I thought some of that was being paid by work-study for switch work-study workers. That was not

the case because there is no work-study money available for switch workers," said Kridler.

Because switch workers don't receive any work-study money, the switch budget has exceeded its funds for the last two years. Work-study provides a very appealing option for various departments on campus to use when paying students; unfortunately, this program can't cover everyone.

"Everybody wants work-study workers because it only costs 20 percent of the \$4.25 we pay students. But there is only a limited amount of that money on campus. The government allocates work-study based on usage the prior year. With the whole funding issue for higher education up in the air, you never know from year to year how much money you'll receive," said Kridler.

Cutbacks will be made beginning this Spring Term when switch hours change to 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., as opposed to

the current 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. hours. Although initial cutbacks will reduce switch hours by four hours, switch will function for eight hours next year. Resident Assistants in each hall will be expected to work switch from 8 to 10 p.m. the nights they are on duty as part of an effort to make them more visible.

Nevertheless, the reduction in hours will affect students in several ways.

"The main thing that will make a difference is people getting their quarters to do laundry and people who want to buy stamps. I think it will just take some time to adjust to it," said Amy Schuesselin, Bruske Hall switch supervisor.

Schuesselin continued, "I think it's too bad there won't be someone down there more if people from other places come in and aren't sure of where to go."

## Explo '93!



Prospective students and parents for the class of 1997 gather in the gym for one of the many activities offered to them on Saturday as a part of Explo '93.  
Photo by M. Stargardt.

## Clifton to receive honorary degree

By Char Vandermeer  
Freelance Writer

Poet and author Lucille Clifton will receive an honorary degree at Saturday, Apr. 24, 1993, during Commencement. She will also have the opportunity to read one of her poems to the graduating class.

"These degrees are given to honor people for either their support and achievement with Alma College or their accomplishments within their field," said President Alan J. Stone.

Only two to three honorary degrees are awarded each year. This year two will be presented at commencement.

"It is a way of saying thanks for what she's given to the commu-

nity," said Stone.

Art instructor Jan White-Arvanetes nominated Clifton for the degree. The faculty then voted on the list of nominees where Clifton received a majority of the votes.

Clifton has spent a great deal of time on the Alma College campus conducting seminars, poetry readings and workshops. Students and faculty alike feel the weeks she has spent on this campus have allowed her to impact and influence the workings of this campus and the perception of current issues concerning Alma.

"She has affected a lot of students and faculty," remarked Associate Professor of English William Palmer.

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## International program student finds trouble in Mexico

By Brett Powers  
Staff Reporter

During the past week *The Almanian* received a letter to the editor from Marie Ortiz, a Mount Holyoke College student, concerning Alma College's overseas program. We investigated the situation to see if the international program is running a muck.

Ortiz went to Mexico last term through Alma College. She applied to Alma, was accepted, and although she never set foot on the campus, was considered an Alma College student. Many people from across the nation go overseas through Alma College each term.

Ortiz had to leave the program in Mexico early for personal reasons, but she got permission from her professors to take her exams before she left. When she got her grades, they were not what she expected.

"I can't tell you specifics, but I can tell you out of her five classes, she got three F's," said James Buschman, director of international studies.

Having her F's turned into Incompletes is what Ortiz

wants to happen, and she wants Alma College to help her do this.

"The policy with this and all our overseas programs has always been to put the grades on the transcript that the other program gives us. If a student wants to appeal a grade, that is their right and they are entitled to," said Buschman.

But Ortiz must get her grades changed at the Mexican City program for it to change on her Alma transcript.

"If we get a notification from the partner program that her grade has changed, we will change it: that is the policy, [and how it] always has been," explained Buschman. "This is the first time something like this has happened."

Buschman was contacted by Ortiz earlier this term and asked about what she could do about her grades.

"I told her that we could not really help her, that this is between her and the program down there; she has to contact the program in Mexico," said Buschman.

"She did not get any authorization from the proper people," he said.

## Alma senior fights for minority women's rights at national conference

By Supriya Saxena  
Freelance Writer

La Prensa Nacional, a newspaper based out of Toledo, Ohio, has a new reporter from Alma College—senior Teresa Morris.

Morris, a Spanish major with a communication minor, recently traveled to Washington D.C. to cover the first national Hispanic women's summit on Feb. 6.

When Morris first learned of the conference, it sparked her interest as an event she would like to cover.

"I thought if I could write an article that could motivate younger Hispanic women, it might encourage them to climb the ladder of success," said Morris.

She attempted to get press credentials in order to cover it for *The Almanian*. However, she was denied because she was not representing a major national paper. Morris then contacted La Prensa Nacional, the weekly bilingual paper which has a readership of about 20,000 people, and they agreed to sponsor her.

Morris attended the conference along with Hispanic women from some of the top corporations in the country, as well as those who had obtained higher degrees in their respective fields, and those who held positions with state and local governments across the country.

According to Morris it was a hectic day. "It made me understand what pressures and time constraints journalists must work under," she said.

The conference addressed a vari-



Senior Teresa Morris is a reporter for a Spanish newspaper based out of Toledo, Ohio. Photo by R.J. Webber.

ety of aspects concerning Hispanic women in society from cultural conflicts to political activism. Within 10 minutes the group was able to raise \$10,000 to take out an ad in the *Washington Post* to addressing President Bill Clinton's lack of Hispanic representation in his administration. The conference also addressed issues such as the media's portrayal (or lack of portrayal) of Hispanics and Hispanic culture.

The conference also addressed the issue of the "glass ceiling" that many argue all women must face. "Hispanic women can't just climb the ladder rung by rung, they must utilize a zig-zag approach and go around various barriers such as cultural baggage, sexism, and even the good old boy's network," said Morris.

She continued by arguing that,

"The amount of sexism that is so prevalent in Hispanic society and traditionally within the culture, have made it so that men have had to prove themselves at the expense of their female counterparts."

Other issues of concern included the lack of real historical documents and information on the history of Hispanics in general. The lack of mentors and role models also has an effect on the furthering of women in Hispanic culture.

According to Morris, the conference also served to forward the cause of Hispanic women by bringing attention to the issue.

"It made me aware of the 'catch-22' that women who are also members of minority groups must face, if they are to become successful in the traditional Anglo-male society," said Morris.

## Alma places third in math competition

By Steve Rummel  
Freelance Writer

On Saturday, Mar. 13, 26 teams from nine different colleges met at Alma College to compete in the seventeenth annual Lower Michigan Mathematics Competition (LMMC).

A team from Calvin College took first place with 93 points and a team from Hope College took second place with 82 points. The highest placing team from Alma took third place tallying 74 points. Team members of the third place team were senior Bob Gemrich, sophomore Ray Ostrowski and junior Damen Peterson.

Stan Wagon, a well-known problem solver in mathematics circles from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, was selected to create and grade the test as an independent source. The test entailed 10 problems

worth a total of 100 points. The problems consisted of some proofs, puzzles and brain-teasers.

"I was very impressed with the performance of the top three teams. A stellar performance," commented Wagon on the score summary sheet.

"The scores ranged from a high of 93 to a low of zero, but after the first four places, the scores dropped dramatically," said Tim Sipka, chairperson of mathematics/computer science.

The fourth place team received a score of 70 points, while the fifth place team dropped to a score of 29 points. Alma placed teams 3rd, 7th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 20th and 21st, with a total of 19 students representing the College. Two teams from the University of Michigan-Flint tied for last with scores of zero.

Other students representing Alma were first-year students

John Parker, Robert Hertenstein, Phil Allmen and Carrie Milne; sophomores Keel Amundsen, Lara Nickson, Jason Watkins, Melissa Teachman, Jennifer Lovegrove, John Schonmeier, Jay Slotnick and Jason Collier; juniors Lisa Buege, Mike Mazurek and Rick Wiltse.

"This competition is like the NCAA tournament, in that it has a different site every year," continued Sipka. Last year's competition was held at Kalamazoo College where Hope College claimed the LMMC title.

The schools participating in the LMMC are smaller colleges located in the lower-part of Michigan. Participants included Calvin, Hope, Kalamazoo, Adrian, University of Michigan-Flint, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Lawrence Tech and Alma.

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## College participates in exchange program Japanese transfer students to study at Alma

By Denise C. Vittitow  
Freelance Writer

In the fall of 1995, the Alma College campus will have some new faces around—Japanese transfer students from Lewis Clark State College in Idaho.

The Pacific International Institute has recently established a program which allows Japanese students to attend college in the United States.

The program begins with students coming to the U.S. to Lewis Clark State for a "pre-freshman" year. During this year students will sharpen their English skills and study U.S. culture. The "pre-freshman" year will be followed by two additional years of college classes at Lewis Clark State.

At the end of their sophomore year, students will decide whether

to return to Japan, stay at Lewis Clark State, or transfer to various other selected colleges in the U.S., including Alma.

Alma was the first college to be considered for the second phase of

people will make a trip to Idaho to talk to the Japanese students. They will discuss what Alma has to offer and most importantly the possibility of them transferring to Alma. If they decide to transfer, the next

*"I hope this program will open the door for other programs which allow overseas students to come, then maybe we can have some real genuine diversity at Alma."*

-- James Buschman

Director of International Studies

the program.

"I hope this program will open the door for other programs which allow overseas students to come, then maybe we can have some real genuine diversity at Alma," said James Buschman, director of international studies.

During the next year one or more

step involves their transfer of credits.

The students may visit Alma during the 1994 Spring Term. This visit would give students a chance to meet Alma faculty and students and tour the campus and Alma community.

This year the first group of 20

students attended Lewis Clark State for their "pre-freshman" year. Subsequent years will bring approximately 106 new Japanese students to Lewis Clark State University each year to begin their American education.

Buschman believes some of the reasons Japanese students want to come to the U.S. to study include the possibility for them to return to Japan and make a good living teaching English and so their future business leaders can learn about American culture and be better able to aim their product markets toward American consumers.

"If recruitment of these students goes well, we can expect to see about five of these students arriving on campus in the fall of 1995," concluded Buschman.

## Keeping You Informed

### Alma streets safe for parking

Despite the snowfall last Thursday, Alma city streets were once again legal to park on as the city's ban on overnight parking ended. The ban made it illegal to park on city streets from 2 a.m. until 6 a.m. from Nov. 1-Apr. 1.

### End of year brings residence hall deadlines to students

Lofts must be down and removed from residence hall rooms by Wednesday, Apr. 14. Also at this time, rooms must be returned to original, beginning-of-the-year status with all furniture and room items accounted for. Resident Assistants will check and enforce these College policies so plan accordingly.

### American Cancer Society undertakes 1993 door-to-door fundraiser

Local volunteers will go door-to-door distributing life-saving cancer information and asking for donations for the local American Cancer Society. The American Cancer Society raises more money each year with this drive than any other; it has traditionally been the backbone of their fundraising efforts.

Concern for solicitations not reaching their proper destinations have arisen in past years. To rectify the problem, the local American Cancer Society has issued each volunteer a pin with a special "Sword of Hope" insignia printed on it.

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the fundraiser, or having any questions about the fundraiser as a whole can contact Susan Emfinger at (517) 463-5999. She will answer any questions concerning their crusade. The American Cancer Society asks that everyone remember "Nothing is Mightier Than the Sword" in the fight against cancer.

## Greek fundraisers serve community well

By Cathy DeShano  
Staff Reporter

If you've ever been to an event sponsored by a fraternity or sorority on this campus, chances are you've donated money to an organization whether or not you were aware of it. Maybe you've wondered exactly where the money went and how it gets there. Proceeds from fundraisers sponsored by Greek organizations go to a variety of organizations.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Gratiot County currently serves as the leading recipient of Greek fundraiser money; Gamma Phi Beta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Tau Kappa Epsilon, Theta Chi and Zeta Sigma have made it their primary charity.

"We probably get chosen more often because so many students on campus are involved as Big Brothers and Big Sisters," said Anne Lambrecht, coordinator of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Gratiot County.

"We usually choose just one organization to donate to for about five years and then switch. Big Brothers/Big Sisters has been our primary organization. We usually have Taverna in the fall with proceeds going to them, and then we have a fundraiser in the winter with our pledges. We also donate things from the house when they

get old such as the VCR we recently donated," said Jennifer Lambert, Gamma Phi Beta philanthropy chairperson.

The remaining organizations donate their money and time to various groups. Alpha Gamma Delta sends the majority of its proceeds to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. Alpha Xi Delta donates money and requires each member to spend at least one hour each semester for Alternative Choices in Education. Kappa Iota donates money to the Gratiot County Women's Aid Shelter.

The type of fundraisers vary from group to group as does the amount of money raised. All of the sororities hold dances from which the profits go to charity, while the fraternities have various activities to raise funds.

"We have Derby Days which raises money for both. Our proceeds from River Boat go to different charities. Over the past three years, we've raised over \$8,000," said Sigma Chi President Tom Moore.

While many of the Greek organizations have a charity affiliated with their national charter to which they must donate money, most choose to also give to local groups. These groups may or may not be informed about a fraternity's or sorority's intentions to donate money.

"We aren't always aware of funds coming in. It depends on the fraternity or sorority. Sometimes a group will come in ahead of time and other times we'll receive the proceeds after-

wards," said Lambrecht. "It's helpful when people call us ahead of time because if we know about the donation, we can inform the community."

Sometimes organizations encounter problems after the fundraiser and are unable to give the money to their chosen organization right away. They may not be able to collect money from all their sponsors or face other obstacles.

"About one week after we had TKE On the Town, we had office elections and it took our former treasurer about two weeks to balance the checkbook. Once our new treasurer took over, it took him a while to get matters under hand. I finally took the check to Big Brothers/Big Sisters last week," said junior TKE member Michael Shehab.

When the money reaches the charities, they may spend it in a variety of ways. Big Brothers/Big Sisters offers the organizations the opportunity to specify how the money should be spent and then proceeds from there.

"It can be designated towards something such as camps. If it's a general donation it goes into general operations such as the money involved in making matches and maintaining the office. It could also go towards sponsoring an event or activity such as roller-skating," said Lambrecht.

*continued from page 1*

"The Doctorate of Letters is an honorary degree that people who are held in high-esteem receive. It's a way for Alma College to recognize the three weeks she spent as the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writing Fellow," said Palmer.

Clifton is the author of several poetry anthologies including *Good Woman* and *Next*. She is also the author of several children's books dealing with the life of a black child in Harlem.

"I can't imagine it going to anyone else. She has affected a lot of students and faculty," said Assistant Professor of English Roseanne Hoefel.

Clifton is the Distinguished Scholar and Professor of Humanities at St. Mary's College, Maryland. She is also Poet Laureate of Maryland. In both 1980 and 1988, Clifton was the runner-up for the Pulitzer Prize.

Clifton's writing focuses on life as a black woman, race and even her own body. For example, "Homage to my Hips," describes her hips in blunt and affectionate detail.

Carol Bender, assistant professor of English, best summarized most everyone's feelings about Clifton's worth to Alma, saying, "She's had such an impact on the entire College, not just the English Department."

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## Students learn first hand the power of positive thinking

By Brett Powers  
Staff Reporter

They are some things every parent worries about, and students never give a second thought: serious accidents. Coming like a thunderbolt out of a clear blue sky they hit unexpectedly and hard.

Two Alma college students, Mary Kay Ecken and Dustin Snell, have been hit by this terrible experience. Both tell how support from friends and family, along with denying the limitations doctors put on them, helped them recover from their horrific brushes with death.

"I got so much mail—cards and letters from all different people. And it was especially nice to get notes and things from people you don't expect stuff from. All that support really helped me," said Ecken, a sophomore.

Ecken's accident is a nightmare. "I was coming home from a track meet my freshman year of high school, and it was late at night. The bus went past our house, so we had to walk behind the bus. My sister was in front of me, so I was not

really watching where I was going. I saw some head lights reflecting off the side of the bus, and the next thing I remember was lying on the side of the street with people all around me," said Ecken.

a lot." The next fall she ran cross country, in the winter played basketball, and in the spring ran track. "Then in my junior and senior years, beside the other sports I played softball in the spring as well," said

The brain surgeon that operated on Snell was the same doctor who operated on James Brady, shot during the attempted assassination of former President Ronald Reagan. "I got real lucky. Dr. Fields is the

changed their minds. "They treated me like I was dumb. I did well on all my tests; it was really frustrating," said Snell.

Snell came back to school the fall after his accident, and in the spring played tennis. "This year I played soccer, basketball and tennis," he said.

Both Ecken and Snell were changed by their experience. Ecken, an exercise and health science major, decided to go into physical therapy after her experience in the rehab room. She also contributes some of her academic success to the accident. "I learned that you can do a lot more than people think you can; it was a good learning experience to have to come back from something like that," said Ecken.

Snell, a math major going into secondary education, now appreciates every part of life. "I don't take anything for granted anymore. Any day you wake up in the morning is a good day. I'm really thankful for the luck I had in pulling through," he said.

*I don't take anything for granted anymore. Any day you wake up in the morning is a good day. I'm really thankful for the luck I had in pulling through*  
--junior Dustin Snell

The car that hit her was going 50 miles per hour. She spent three weeks in the St. Mary's Hospital in Saginaw with a pin in her knee to help her broken tibia heal correctly, and her body in traction because her pelvic bone was broken in five places.

"The doctor said I would never be able to run again, that I might walk with a limp. But what he said didn't have much bearing," said Ecken.

She went back to school five weeks after the accident using crutches "which I left in my locker

Ecken.

Snell, a junior, had a car accident in the spring of his first year here at Alma. "I was driving through Grayling to meet my dad for lunch when the accident happened," Snell said.

"All kinds of people came to visit me in the hospital—the tennis team, basketball players and friends from high school. It meant a lot to me to have them all visit like that," said Snell.

"They used the jaws of life to get me out of the car. I was flown by plane to Saginaw where they immediately operated," said Snell.

best; he did amazing things with my injuries," said Snell.

Snell suffered severe head injuries when his car rolled over three times, his right ear was all but detached, and the bone underneath his eye was cracked. "I've still got three tiny screws in that bone to keep the pressure off my eye nerves," he said.

Snell's doctors at first told his parents that he would never be able to go back to school. But after seven weeks in the hospital, and spending most of the summer going to rehab twice a week, his doctors

## Hospitals respond to mind-body research

By Katie Novak  
Feature Editor

Does the mind possess the power to heal? That's a question American researchers have focused on in the last few decades. While it remains a controversial issue, the increased attention to the mind-body connection has helped many medical facilities change their methods of care. Hospitals across the country have implemented treatment programs that allow the patients themselves to play more active roles in their medical care.

"Mind-body medicine recognizes that emotional distress should receive active treatment as a complement to standard medical care, and that people can be active agents in preventing or easing the course of illness by taking steps to manage their own emotional states," said Daniel Goleman, Ph.D., *The New York Times* health and behavior investigative journalist.

At a California hospital, Long Beach Memorial, the patient-friendly programs resulted from an "experiment." Medical personnel became "patients" for 36 hours complete with false names and diagnoses and later discussed their experiences. "That the residents were put through this experience signals a new sensitivity of the medical profession to the role that a person's feelings play in the course of healing," Goleman said.

To promote psychological as well as physical healing, another facility, Commonweal Cancer Help Program in Bolinas, California, hosts week-long retreats for patients and their families. "Our goal is to help individuals find their own personal pathways to healing in an effort to optimize their chances of recovery," said Michael Lerner, Ph.D., president of Commonweal. "Even when recovering physical health is unlikely, the psychological healing that can transform the experience of illness...can be profound," he said.

Although programs such as these emphasize the realities of illness and the obviously prominent biological factors, they insist on the need for active mental treatment—from the patient, the family and the caretakers.

According to James S. Gordon, clinical professor of psychiatry and community and family medicine at the Georgetown University School of Medicine, "Participating in our own health care and healing can not only make us feel better physically but it can also make us feel more hopeful about ourselves."

(Information for this article was taken from "Healing and the Mind," *Newsweek*, Feb. 29, 1993.)

## Senior Art Majors exhibit work in Clack



An opening reception Saturday kicked off the Alma College student Art Exhibition showcasing the work of senior art majors. Works included those of seniors Jason Reed, Kerrie Kempermyr, Erik Davidson, Andrea Mull, Chris Bishop, Lisa Hronec, Drew Larson, Tricia Carney, and Reza Lankerani. The exhibit is in the Flora Kirsch Beck Gallery from now until Saturday, April 24. Senior Steve Moore views one of works above. Photo by T. Campbell



## Stillman exchange enables student to experience diversity

By Rebecca Murray  
Freelance Writer

"There's only one phone on the hall. So when you call, just ask for the white girl," she said.

Those were the instructions I was given last semester by my friend, Laurie Hickman, when she studied off-campus as part of the Alma College-Stillman College exchange program.

Stillman is a small liberal arts college with 900 students in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, similar to Alma in many ways except that its student population is historically African-American.

"Everywhere I went, people I didn't know would say, 'Hi Laurie.' I really stuck out. By the end, I felt like I blended in. I was a part of the campus," Hickman said.

Hickman's decided to participate in the program for a variety of reasons. "I wanted to learn more

about other people, races, cultures, etc.... In order to better any race relations, we need to have contact with and knowledge of each other.

I strongly believe that the only way to learn these things is by being exposed to them," she said.

According to Hickman, her experience greatly increased her passion and interest in African-American studies and race relations. "I learned so

much that can't be taught from textbooks. I learned about myself, others and a totally different culture," she said.

However, Hickman also did a lot of classroom learning. Of her five classes, three were unavailable at Alma. They were Afro-American History, Modern Black Fiction and Comparative Cultures.

Hickman was not only a student, but also a teacher. "Some of my closest friends at Stillman never had a white friend before me," she

said. "I showed people that not all whites are prejudiced and that many (whites) are interested in destroying racism."

Hickman felt it was much easier for her to be accepted at Stillman College than it is for minority students to be accepted at Alma. "I will never truly understand what it is like to be an African-American in our country, but this experience is the closest I'll ever get to understanding what it's like to be in the minority," she said.

The junior said her experience was very positive and strongly encourages other students to take advantage of the program. She believes the experience can be very beneficial and change a person's perspective, only if they enter it with an open mind and few expectations.

A sociology major, Hickman hopes to become a social worker. Ideally, after graduation, she would like to join the Peace Corps.

Applications for the Stillman exchange program are available in Reid-Knox.



Junior Laura Hickman.

## Newberry Hall sponsors program with international flair



Sophomores Aida Ndouta and Dena Hughes perform an African-American dance above, at the Newberry Hall Cultural Festival Friday, Apr. 2. Guests enjoyed international food and entertainment, including the Highland Dancers—all for a fifty cent admission. The event, held in Van Dusen Student Center, was part of the 1992-93 Newberry Hall programming activities. Photo by M. Stargardt.

### Health beat

## Weather changes spur seasonal allergies

By Cathy DeShano  
Staff Reporter

Steps to Take to Avoid Severe Allergy Problems

Spring time, the season when Cupid plays magic. Birds are chirping, flowers are blooming, and there's love in the air. You finally met the person of your dreams at work earlier this week and can't wait for your date tonight. As you get ready to hop into the shower after running to get ready for the evening, it hits. Ker-choo! Your eyes start to water. In just a few short minutes they turn a bright, bold red. By the time your shower is done, your eyes look like tiny slits as your pupils are barely visible. Your throat starts to...ker-choo...itch and you can't stop sneezing. If you're one of the many people suffering from allergies, this scene may be all too familiar.

People suffer from allergies year around. Some are allergic to food, others to animals. Yet it seems that spring and summer bring with them a tremendous amount of allergy provokers, such as pollen and dust.

If you have problems with allergies, you don't need to constantly carry Visine around. Check with your doctor to find out if any medicine will help or if shots are available. In addition to this, find out what steps you can take to avoid severe reactions. (Information provided by the Wilcox Medical Center.)

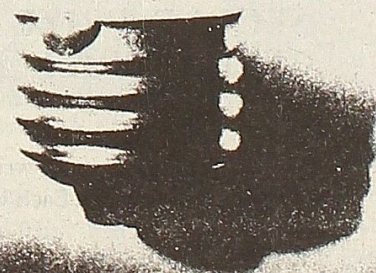
If you're allergic to dust, you should:

- \*Cover pillows and mattresses with zippered, dust-proof covers.
- \*Dust and vacuum furniture, drapes and rugs regularly.
- \*Store clothes in zippered garment bags to cut down on the amount of dust which accumulates.
- \*Change your bed linens often if allergies are extremely bad.

If you're allergic to pollen, you should:

- \*Keep your windows closed with the air conditioner on during spring and summer.
- \*Limit your amount of contact with pets who have just spent a lot of time outdoors until they are cleaned; pets carry pollen on their fur.
- \*Take an antihistamine 30 minutes before you go outdoors to help reduce problems.
- \*Limit your outdoor activities to late afternoon or evening if you're experiencing severe symptoms. Plants release pollen in the morning so the lowest levels occur at night.
- \*Wash your hair after coming indoors.
- \*If you plan a vacation, think about going to the seashore. The wind is virtually pollen-free when it blows in from the sea.

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Apr. 6, 1993

## Calendar of events

### April 6-10

#### ON CAMPUS:

Tuesday, April 13

Student Honors Recital  
8 p.m., Dunning Memorial Chapel

Thursday, April 15

Honors Convocation  
11 a.m., Gymnasium

Friday, April 16

Alma College Dance Co. presents Orchestis  
8 p.m., Alma High School

Saturday, April 17

Alma College Dance Co. presents Orchestis  
8 p.m., Alma High School

Sunday, April 18

Alma College Dance Co. presents Orchestis  
3 p.m., Alma High School

#### ANN ARBOR:

Wednesday, April 7

Reggae Spring Splash:  
Black Uhuru, Andrew Tosh  
7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater  
603 E. Liberty

Monday, April 12

The Samples: reggae band  
7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater

## Congress urged to strengthen Endangered Species Act

By Katie Novak  
Feature Editor

Sixteen of America's leading scientists urged Congress to reauthorize and strengthen the Endangered Species Act, during a news conference held by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

"We believe that a strong Endangered Species Act is critical to our Nation's environmental and economic well-being," said 16 senior scientists and members of

America's most respected scientific institution, the National Academy of Sciences, in an extraordinary public statement of their support for the Act.

All 16 signed a letter to members of Congress who have begun deliberating changes to the premiere legislation for preserving America's biological heritage.

"Seeing these 16 signatures on this letter proves that our nation's debate over protecting endangered species and biodiversity now has transcended emotion," said NWF

President Jay D. Hair.

"Today's demonstration of scientific consensus demands an equally strong political consensus," said WWF President Kathryn S. Fuller. "We are calling on Congress to conserve this nation's biological legacy by reauthorizing an even stronger and more effective Endangered Species Act."

The world is now experiencing the greatest extinction spasm since the disappearance of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago. Unlike the extinction of the dinosaurs, how-

ever, the loss of species today is due almost entirely to human-caused environmental disturbances.

According to E. O. Wilson, professor at Harvard University, the extinction of species is "an irreversible loss that will deprive humanity of enormous values for medicine, agriculture, industry, recreation and our spiritual well-being."

The NWF believes the change in power in Washington will help their efforts. "Endangered species conservation was stymied for years under the Bush and Reagan administrations. Environmental organizations such as the NWF and WWF believe that, with a new Congress and administration, there is an unparalleled opportunity to strengthen the Endangered Species Act during its 20th anniversary year."

#### NWF Action Agenda:

##### 1. Getting Ahead of the Extinction Curve

- \* give priority to listing species that will also benefit other candidate species;
- \* establish a national inventory of biological resources and identify ways to protect them;
- \* provide greater protection for species that are candidate for listing;
- \* grant the same protection to threatened and endangered plants on federal lands that is given to other listed species and strengthen enforcement of plant protections;
- \* restructure federal programs that currently subsidize destruction of biological resources to instead encourage long-term

sustainable environmental and economic stability.

##### 2. Saving Endangered Habitat and Ecosystems

- \* move to fulfill the ESA's original purpose of conserving ecosystems, as well as individual species, by putting greater emphasis on saving endangered habitats and ecosystems;
- \* ensure that critical habitat is designated and protected to further the survival and recovery of threatened and endangered species.

##### 3. Recovering Species From the Brink of Extinction

- \* in order to better protect ecosystems, give priority to measures which benefit multiple listed and candidate species in recovery plans;

- \* seek the assistance and cooperation of state fish and wildlife agencies in the recovery plan process and inventories of biological resources;
- \* set a two year deadline for completion of recovery plans and direct federal agencies to implement those plans.

##### 4. Investing in America's Biological Heritage

- \* significantly increase appropriations to implement the ESA;
- \* provide financial incentives to private landowners to promote the recovery of listed or candidate species; and
- \* establish a revolving loan fund to finance the development and implementation of habitat conservation plans.

## Pool hall becomes newest Alma attraction

By Dan Boyer  
Freelance Writer

There's too much to do in Alma. A dazzling array of Italian restaurants, "rave" clubs, movie and live theater, musical revivals, ballrooms, ice-rinks and giant aquariums baffle wide-eyed college students. In this something-for-everyone college town, typically it will be tequila at Hernando's (the center of the lively Latin music scene) one night and the observatory the next.

For some weeks I had seen a sign on an empty building on State Street: "Coming Soon—The State Room—Billiards." I looked forward to its opening with visions of a smoke-filled room, juvenile delinquents and an excuse for staging "The Music Man."

When, after break, I finally went there last Thursday night, I was disappointed to find it was anything but what I had envisioned. It has plush carpeting, a defining antique globe, and, fortunately, some top-of-the-line and eminently level pool tables. Smoke is at a minimum; even at peak hours, it is more families with little kids than high school hoods, and the snarks with their cue cases were mysteriously nowhere to be found. The atmosphere is more English men's-club than pool hall, I guess in keeping with its name, but I found myself playing for the first time in months. There's nothing per se wrong with the wholesome, friendly atmosphere; it just takes some getting used to.

Even the brilliant Italian filmmaker Angelyn Taliaferro, plotting another brilliant documentary on the drug subculture, will not be showing up any time soon. With The State Room, Alma finally gets the pool hall its "Coming Soon" revealed we so desperately needed.

## RESEARCH WRITING CONTEST 1992-1993

Prizes will be awarded for student research writing submitted for Alma College classes during the academic year 1992-1993.

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 under-graduate courses in the discipline for which it is submitted.

Students in all academic disciplines are encouraged to enter this contest. However, no student may submit more than two papers or more than one paper in an academic discipline or academic division of disciplines. Judges will be drawn from all academic divisions.

FIRST PRIZE \$100  
SECOND PRIZE \$75  
THIRD PRIZE \$50

**Deadline:** April 16, 1993. Submit the writing(s) to the Office of the Provost in a manila envelope. Each writing should have a detachable title page and a signed verification from a faculty member that it has been submitted for a course at Alma College during the 1992-1993 academic year. The student's name should appear on the title page but not in the text of the writing.

Awards will be announced as soon as the judges have made the determinations of winners.

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## Track teams fight elements to give impressive showing

### Women dominate against Albion and Olivet, winning all but three events

By Danielle Salgat  
Freelance Writer

After teasing the anxious men's and women's track teams with a beautiful spring day on Tuesday, Mother Nature decided to greet them with anything but favorable conditions Wednesday at their first outdoor conference meet against invading MIAA foes Albion and Olivet. The thermometer dipped and the wind was unrelenting as the women easily ran away with a team victory; the men had to settle for second behind an experienced Albion team.

"The women only lost three events," said Coach Dan Gibson. "We dropped the baton in the 4 x 100 m relay and didn't have anyone entered in the triple jump."

The women defeated Albion by an impressive team score of 109-35.

There were three women who finished with two first-place showings. Among the double winners for the Scots were first-year student Wendy Bovee who placed first in the long jump (15'7"), and then tied with fellow teammate senior Amanda Paul in the high jump (5'). Junior Helen Greene excelled with her two victories in the 100 m (13.19) and the 200 m (27.18), and first-year student Tori Edwardson won

the 400 m (1:08.5) and 3000 m (12:05).

Dominating the field events and capturing three firsts was senior Kim Vennard, who powerfully won the shot put (38'73/4"), discus (134'8") and javelin (109'5") to reign over her competitors. Vennard's discus throw was good enough to make her an early national qualifier.

"It wasn't a good day for times because of the weather, but the team did well and it was a good meet to prepare for Hope and Calvin," said sophomore Amy Doucette who captured the 1500 m (5:15).

The men split their dual meet action. The Scots lost to Albion 92-62, but then came back to top Olivet 129-23. Although the men fell to a tough veteran Albion team, they still managed to show a few bright spots.

"The weather was bad and they (Albion) are a very experienced team," said Gibson. "Anything that required speed they beat us in, and that really killed us."

But the bad weather didn't hold everyone back, and first-year student Darryl McCray jumped an impressive 6'4" to win the high jump. The dynamic distance duo of senior Mike Holik and sophomore Adam Burhans excelled as well. Holik took first place in the 3000 m



Sophomore Amy Doucette helps Alma defeat Both Albion and Olivet Wednesday. Photo by P. Sandberg.

run (9:26.6) and 5000 m run (16:14), and Burhans captured the 1500 m run (4:15) and the 800 m run (2:08.5). Junior Joel Reed also showed his leadership and speed by placing first in the 400 m run (51.10) just edging teammate Sean

Toomer (51.20). Toomer, a junior, ran for victory in the 200 m (23.05).

"We need to work harder and make some improvements," said senior sprinter Chris Mansur. "Some unexpected things happened and didn't fall into place, but we

are going to go after them (Albion) in conference because we are a strong team."

The Scots travel to Hope on Wednesday for their next conference meet.

## Scots fall twice to Adrian in softball home opener

By Jennifer Cosbey  
Freelance Writer

Wednesday's season and league opener for Alma's softball team turned out to be a disappointment. The Scots dropped both games in their much anticipated home doubleheader to Adrian. They lost the first one in close 3-2 fashion and the second in an embarrassing 8-3 landslide.

Coach Denny Griffin said, "We played fairly well even though we lost. It was our first time out since Florida and it took a little bit to get going."

In the first game sophomore hurler Julie Hoffman took the loss, despite giving a strong performance on the mound. She had a total of seven strike-outs in the game.

The contest really came alive in the fourth inning. In the top on the inning Adrian senior Karen Baird singled with two outs. Teammate Lisa Ruhl then lofted a pop fly out past second that fell in due to the windy conditions, sending Baird home for the first run of the game.

The Scots countered in the bottom of the fourth to make the score 2-1. Sophomore Holly Barnett singled to start the rally and then stole second. Jen Ludlum, a first-

year shortstop, walked to put runners on first and second. Hoffman then singled to left. Lisa Knowles, a junior, followed suit again driving the ball to the left. Adrian committed an error allowing Ludlum to score. Junior Chris Snyder then hit a single, sending Hoffman home.

Adrian tied the game up in the top of the seventh. Baird walked and ended up scoring the tying run on an Audrey Seymour dribbler down the first baseline.

Adrian went ahead in the eighth with the winning run. With two out Baird singled; Ruhl followed with another single. Tanya Weaver hit into a fielder's choice, which, with the error, scored the winning run.

The night cap also turned out to be a tough game for the Scots. Beth Aulerich, a sophomore, took the mound loss.

Griffin commented that the game was "back and forth, nip and tuck the whole way."

Baird scored the first run for Adrian in the second making it a 1-0 ball game.

In the fifth, the Scots scored one run. Sophomore Deb Quackenbush got on base with an error. Senior Lisa Shoemaker singled to right. Junior Rachel Butler then slapped a double to right, sending

Quackenbush home and tying the game up at 1-1.

Alma again rallied in the sixth inning, giving the Scots a 3-1 lead by scoring two runs. Snyder started it up with a drive out past second base. Junior Julie Kirchoff sacrificed Snyder to second on a bunt. Sophomore Jeannine McWilliams then sent Snyder home with a single. Shoemaker followed with a double over the centerfielder's head sending McWilliams home to score the second run of the inning, and put the Scots up 3-1.

Adrian turned the game around in the seventh, though, for a final time, by breaking through for seven runs and sealing its own victory. Four hits and two errors allowed Adrian to come ahead and win. With the bases loaded, Adrian had a single, an error, a walk and then another error scoring four of its seven runs. Adrian was unmerciful as it continued its onslaught with two outs and the bases loaded. Ruhl hit a triple, scoring the last three runs of the game before the end of the inning.

Griffin commented, "I know the character of the team. I know what they have to do, and they know what they have to do—crawl, scratch, or bite. We are going to



Sophomore Deb Quackenbush scored the tying run in the fifth. Photo by P. Sandberg

take it one game at a time. As a team they are capable of doing better."

Ludlum said even though they lost, "We kept up the enthusiasm the whole game. No one ever sat on the bench. We have a lot of spirit and never really gave up."

She continued saying, "We are a strong team, a little young, but we are going to really improve throughout the year. I think we'll do well in the conference. We have a great team concept and all get along. That should be a great asset."



April 6, 1993

# Women blanked in tennis action, 9-0

By Lisa Shoemaker  
Sports Editor

The women's tennis team had a rude awakening last Wednesday when it traveled to Kalamazoo to face the Hornets. The Scots were blanked by the two-time defending MIAA champions 9-0.

The loss dropped the Scots' overall season mark to 5-3.

"They (Kalamazoo) had just come back from Hilton Head," said Coach Deb Mapes. "We had only been able to get outside for two days before the match, so we were put at quite a disadvantage."

Junior Jennifer Jourdan had the toughest draw of the day at number one singles facing Kalamazoo's Jackie Aurelia, who was a national qualifier in 1992 and a two-time MIAA Most Valuable Player. Jourdan lost to Aurelia 6-0, 6-4.

"It was a good match, despite the score," said Mapes. "Jen really hung in and played tough the second

"I played against Jackie in high school," said Jourdan. "I knew it was going to be a tough match going in. She is an excellent player."

Junior Melanie Mayer (6-1, 6-1), and first-year netter Sarah Gabler (6-0, 6-2), were defeated at number two and three singles, respectively.

"Kalamazoo's 1-2-3 players are excellent," said Mapes. "They have a lot of depth."

Senior Carrie Roth (6-3, 6-3), senior Tracie Ripper (6-0, 3-6, 6-0)

and sophomore Leslie Powell (6-1, 6-3) were likewise defeated in the number four through six singles flights. Ripper was the only Scot to take a set away from the Hornets all afternoon, grabbing the second set of her match against Kalamazoo's Jennifer Holmes.

Doubles action was equally dominated by the Hornets. Alma's tandem of Jourdan and Mayer was defeated (6-2, 6-2) by Kalamazoo's Aurelia and Billee Lightvdt in the number one flight.

At number two doubles, Alma's duo of Roth and Ripper was able to take its opponents Allison Frye and Betsy Hobbs into a tie-breaker in the second set, but eventually fell (6-4, 7-6). The Scots also lost at number three doubles when Gabler and junior Kim Kraai were defeated (7-5, 6-3) by Kalamazoo's Holmes and Stephanie Smith.

"We were not very well prepared going into the match," said Jourdan. "They (Kalamazoo) were just com-

had been outside playing for a whole week. I really don't think we would have lost 9-0 if the circumstances had been different."

The Scots returned to action on Sunday against Saginaw Valley State University. Scores, however, from the match were unavailable. Alma returns to action today at Hope College. They will be home Wednesday to host Adrian in a rescheduled match.



Junior Melanie Mayer defies the weather and works on her game under the shelter of a gym roof.  
Photo by K. Kraai.

## Men's tennis wins in shortened match

By Bill Ballenger  
Freelance Writer

With the Kalamazoo Hornets reigning atop the MIAA tennis standings for 54 consecutive years, the longest such streak among each of the three divisions, the larger question is who will finish second in the final MIAA standings.

The 1993 season promises to be as tight and competitive of a race as the previous one, when both Hope and Calvin stood in the Scots' way of a runner-up season. But the Scots, according to Coach Brian Zimmerman, are capable of improving on last year's fourth place standing. "I think there is a good chance that we could finish second. Calvin and Hope will be tough again, but I think we can do it," said Zimmerman.

Based on their overwhelming non-league victory over Grand Rapids Baptist last Wednesday, a game in which the Scots over-

came wind gusts of over 30 miles-per-hour, the Scots appear ready for today's MIAA debut against Hope. Junior Dustin Snell, playing in the absence of number one junior Cliff Hodgman, was defeated in a tight opener, 6-4, 5-7, 2-6, but it was all Grand Rapids Baptist could amass in the win column.

Junior Matt Zayko, despite jumping up to the number two spot, shelled his opponent, 6-3, 6-1, setting a precedent for the ensuing four individuals. First-year student Chris Stacey sleepwalked to victory, 6-1, 6-2, followed by clean 6-0, 6-0 sweeps by seniors Daren Hill and Dave Lee. Junior Matt LaJune prevailed in the sixth and final match, 6-2, 6-1.

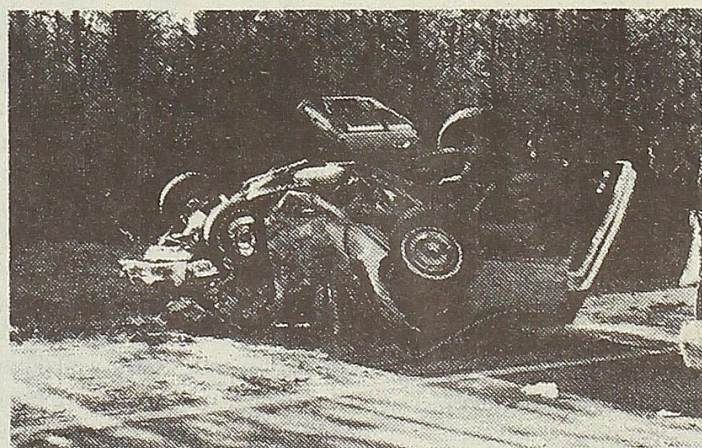
The two coaches, with the Scots having already won five of the standard nine matches, agreed to skip the three doubles matches. The win improved the Scots' record to 3-4 and extended their win streak to two games including their 6-3 triumph against the club team of Saginaw Valley State University.

The doubles teams are Snell and Hodgman at number one, Zayko and Hill at number two and Stacey and LaJune at number three.

"We're pretty deep in singles," said Snell. "We're guaranteed at least three and usually four wins in singles. We just have to make sure we come through in doubles."

"But so far we're looking really good at doubles," Snell continued. "Our number three team especially looks good (LaJune and Stacey), and our number one and two teams have done pretty well so far, too."

The Scots have a busy week ahead of them with four matches in five days. Alma is home today and tomorrow when they host Hope and Grand Valley State University, respectively. On Wednesday, the Scots travel to Olivet, and then return home Saturday to host Spring Arbor.



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## Senior Profile

## Mansur supplies spirit, leadership to men's track

By Lisa Shoemaker  
Sports Editor

Senior athletes are always expected to take on a leadership role within their respective teams. Some are successful and assume the role, while others simply reject it and don't take the responsibility. Senior Chris Mansur has both wanted and assumed the leadership role on the men's track team.

"As the captain, I try to keep the team focused," said Mansur. "Through my work ethic and dedication, I want to show the younger guys what it takes to win."

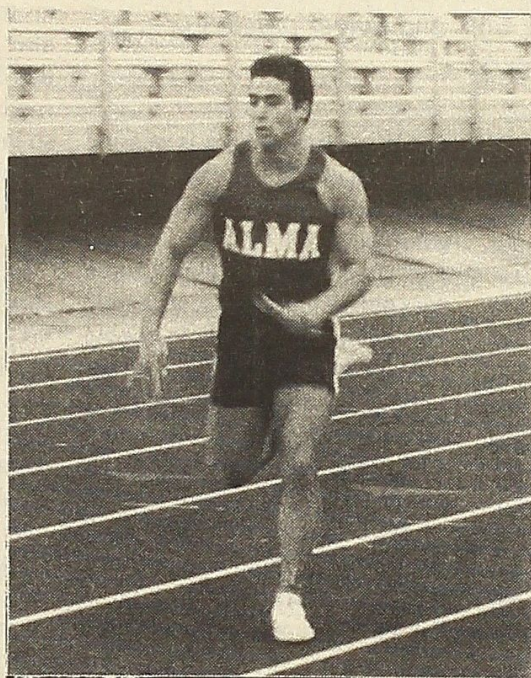
"It is important for us to always remember that we are not only individuals trying to fulfill individual goals, but a team trying to win a league championship," he said.

Leadership is not the only thing that Mansur contributes to the track team. He is coming off his best year in 1992, when he was crowned MIAA champion in the 100 meter (11.08). This season Mansur will be running the 100 meter, 200 meter, and 4 by 100 meter relay.

One of his foremost goals this season is to win the league championship, a feat he feels this year's team is capable of accomplishing. "We are a pretty strong team," he said. "The freshman class has added depth to our line-up. We should be very competitive this year."

He also lists defending his 100 m crown, and having his 4 X 100 m relay team of first-year

student Darryl McCray, and juniors Joel Reed and Sean Toomer qualify for nationals as other important individual goals for the season.



weightroom everyday," he said. "The weights give me the strength and power that I need to compete on the collegiate level."

He says the key to running a good race is maintaining one's mental focus. "I always visualize the race from start to finish the night before a meet," he said. "If you are focused, then you are relaxed."

In terms of other competitors, Mansur says he runs faster against better competition. "You always run better when someone is pushing you in the next lane. I don't try to intimidate people...I just let my legs do the talking," he said.

One of the reasons he is so respected among his teammates is that he has overcome serious knee problems, including two surgeries, in order to compete.

"I have hardly any cartilage left, and my anterior cruciate ligament in my knee has been damaged," he said. "I have just learned to run over it."

Aside from his achievements on the track, Mansur is also a respected scholar/athlete in the classroom. Next fall, the history and political science major will attend the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

"I have dreamed of going to law school since I was eight years old," he said. "It has always been something I have been working towards. I feel prepared for law school...Alma has given me the critical thinking skills that I will need."

"One of the highlights of my season last year was traveling all over trying to qualify our relay team for nationals. We just missed out," he said, referring to the North Central qualifier in which the team broke the school record, but failed to qualify by a fraction of a second.

Mansur, from St. Clair Shores, Michigan, describes himself as a "power" runner. "I am not a naturally talented runner, so I have to work twice as hard as everyone else," he admits.

Mansur says the key to his success has been his work ethic. His daily workout during track season includes training with the mid-distance runners for endurance purposes, block starts and weight training. "I spend about two hours in the

## Sports Stats

## Women's Track 3-31-93

## Alma 109, Albion 35

## Shot Put

- (1) Vennard (Al) 38' 7 3/4"
- (2) Kohler (Al) 33' 3"

## High Jump

- (1) Bovee, Paul (Al) 5'
- (3) Ostruski (Ab) 5'

## 5,000 M

- (1) Adams (Ab) 21:02.46
- (2) Basney (Al) 21:05.08
- (3) Lang (Al) 21:18.85

## 4 X 100 Relay

- (1) Albion 55.40
- (2) Alma 58.38

## 1500 M

- (1) Doucette (Al) 5:15
- (2) Morgan (Al) 5:46
- (3) Ojala (Al) 5:50

## 100 Hurdles

- (1) True (Al) 17.05
- (2) Albright (Ab) 17.06
- (3) Bovee (Al) 17.07

## Long Jump

- (1) Bovee (Al) 15' 7"
- (2) True (Al) 15' 3 1/2"
- (3) Gulczynski (Al) 14' 6 3/4"

## Discus

- (1) Vennard (Al) 134' 8"
- (2) Kohler (Al) 101' 1 1/2"
- (2) Marsh (Ab) 86'

## Men's Track 3-31-93

## Alma 129, Olivet 23

## 3,000 M

- (1) Holik (Al) 9:29.6
- (2) Rice (Ol) 9:36.36
- (3) Gray (Al) 9:50

## 1500 M

- (1) Burhans (Al) 4:15
- (2) Lauzon (Al) 4:29
- (3) Hamilton (Al) 4:46

## 4 X 100 Relay

- (1) Alma 44.31
- (2) Olivet 47.26

## Discus

- (1) Reagh (Al) 148' 7"
- (2) Kelly (Ol) 130' 8 1/2"
- (3) Clarkson (Al) 128' 5"

## 110 High Hurdles

- (1) Mills (Al) 15.76
- (2) Thompson (Al) 16.24
- (3) Mazanec (Al) 16.67

## 400 M

- (1) Reed (Al) 51.10
- (2) Toomer (Al) 51.20
- (3) Huddleston (Al) 53.47

## Long Jump

- (1) Demarest (Al) 20' 11"
- (2) Luc (Al) 20' 10"
- (3) Lengemann (Al) 19' 11"

## 100 M

- (1) Sefa (Ol) 10.95
- (2) Mansur (Al) 11.04
- (3) McCray (Al) 11.39

## 800 M

- (1) Burhans (Al) 2:08.58
- (2) Lauzon (Al) 2:15.23
- (3) Hamilton (Al) 2:16.07

## High Jump

- (1) McCray (Al) 6' 4"
- (2) Lengemann (Al) 6' 0"

## Pole Vault

- (1) Bowers (Ol) 13' 0"
- (2) Black (Al) 12' 0"
- (3) Simmons (Al) 11' 6"

## 400 Hurdles

- (1) Mills (Al) 57.49
- (2) Rowe (Al) 59.12

## 200 M

- (1) Toomer (Al) 23.05
- (2) Mansur (Al) 23.06
- (3) Handzo (Al) 24.18

## Shot Put

- (1) Clarkson (Al) 44' 8"
- (2) Mazanec (Al) 43' 4 1/4"
- (3) Oke (Al) 41' 3"

## 5,000 M

- (1) Holik (Al) 16.14
- (2) Rice (Ol) 16.27
- (3) Gray (Al) 17.01

## Triple Jump

- (1) Demarest (Al) 43' 5"
- (2) Lengemann (Al) 40' 9 1/4"

## 4 X 400 Relay

- (1) Alma 3:34.3

## Javelin

- (1) Reagh (Al) 142' 10"
- (2) Tackett 119' 2"
- (3) Ostyn 113' 9"

## 100 M

- (1) Greene (Al) 13.19
- (2) Mills (Al) 13.47
- (3) Snell (Al) 13.93

## 400 M

- (1) Edwardson (Al) 1:08.5
- (2) Maxan (Ab) 1:13.6

## 800 M

- (1) Wruble (Al) 2:25.23
- (2) McDowell (Al) 2:27.

## 400 Hurdles

- (1) Gulczynski (Al) 1:13.71
- (2) Albright (Ab) 1:20.0
- (3) Ecken (Al) 1:20.57

## 200 M

- (1) Greene (Al) 27.18
- (2) Mills (Al) 27.45
- (3) Snell (Al) 28.46

## Triple Jump

- (1) Glover (Ab) 30' 10"
- (2) Wolf (Ab) 28'

## 3000 M

- (1) Edwardson (Al) 12:05
- (2) Dickman (Al) 12:16
- (3) Morgan (Al) 12:30

## 4 X 400 Relay

- (1) Alma 4:29.89

## Javelin

- (1) Vennard (Al) 109' 5"
- (1) Reagh (Al) 142' 10"
- (2) Tackett 119' 2"
- (3) Ostyn 113' 9"

## Albion 92, Alma 62

## 3,000 M

- (1) Holik (Al) 9:29.6
- (2) Gray (Al) 9:

## 1,500 M

- (1) Burhans (Al) 4:15
- (2) Minock (Ab) 4

## 4 X 100 Relay

- (1) Albion 43.10
- (2) Alma 44.31

## Discus

- (1) Reagh (Al) 148' 7"
- (2) Gilbert (Ab) 141' 6 1/2"

## 110 High Hurdles

- (1) Borich (Ab) 14.98
- (2) Russell (Ab) 15.38
- (3) Mills (Al) 15.76

## 400 M

- (1) Reed (Al) 51.10
- (2) Reason (Ab)
- (3) Toomer (Al) 51.20

## Long Jump

- (1) Cowan (Ab) 21' 11"
- (2) Reason (Ab) 21' 3/4"
- (3) Demarest (Al) 20' 11"

## 100 M

- (1) Robinson (Ab) 10.52
- (2) Cowan (Ab) 10.

## 800 M

- (1) Burhans (Al) 2:08.58
- (2) Thibert (Ab) 2:09.16

## High Jump

- (1) McCray (Al) 6' 4"
- (2) Prall (Ab) 6' 2"

## Pole Vault

- (1) Black (Ab) 12' 0"
- (2) Simmons (Al) 11'

## 400 Hurdles

- (1) Borich (Ab) 56.27
- (2) Mills (Al) 57.49
- (3) Rowe (Al) 59.12

## 200 M

- (1) Robinson (Ab) 21.99
- (2) Cowan (Ab) 22.68
- (3) Toomer (Al) 23.05

## Shot Put

- (1) Gilbert (Ab) 45' 6"
- (2) Clarkson (Al) 44' 8"
- (3) Mazanec (Al) 43' 4 1/4"

## 5,000 M

- (1) Holik (Al) 16.14
- (2) Minock (Ab) 16.22

## Triple Jump

- (1) Gilbert (Ab) 43' 11"
- (2) Demarest (Al) 43' 5"
- (3) Lengemann (Al) 40' 9 1/4"

## 4 X 400 Relay

- (1) Albion 3:30.8
- (2) Alma 3:34.3

## Javelin

- (1) Gilbert (Ab) 182' 1"
- (2) Reason (Ab) 163' 9"
- (3) Castele (Ab) 147' 9"

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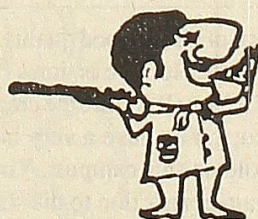
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*Lifting the kilt by Sara Groves*

## Why would anyone want to look like a WASP?

Okay. I recently ran out of clean underwear so, despite the fact that I had two papers due the next day, I decided to take a little shopping trip and buy some new ones. (At the time, it seemed less time consuming than doing the seven loads of laundry that were spread about my room.)

I drove to the nearest mall (as we all know too well that since we are stranded in the middle of a corn field, the nearest mall is an hour away) and walked into Hudsons where I almost immediately stumbled over a croquet mallet that was left out from the night before.

But as I recovered from my near fall, I looked around and realized that I wasn't suddenly in the middle of the Hudsons croquet course, but instead in the middle of the Ralph Lauren Polo display. I could tell this from the big horse saddle, polo sticks and other rich WASP-type items that surrounded me. Also, the sign which said Ralph Lauren Polo was a dead give away.

Now, Ralph Lauren has made about a trillion dollars off of his

rich WASP image that he has worked so hard to cultivate. But my question is, why would anyone want to be a rich WASP? Besides the obvious reasons of having

Boon's Farm here) and swanker about their perfectly tailored yard. My yard, on the other hand, is full of stripes and zig zags and longer patches of lawn from a few too

logne, feature men on horses. And these are not just any men, but rich WASP men dressed up to look like cowboys. And the horses are usually bucking, probably because the

ticle of clothing is a T-shirt, I was immediately drawn to the T-shirt section. (Also, because I figured I could afford a Ralph Lauren T-shirt. I mean, the average T-shirt costs about \$10. Certainly Ralph's would not go above \$25.)

I found a white cotton T-shirt. It was the same kind of T-shirt that I would mow the lawn in after drinking a few beers or that my mom would use for a dust rag after it had gotten a little old. But this T-shirt had on the front the same bucking bronco that I love so much from the ads. And this T-shirt cost \$46. That's \$36 above average T-shirt market price.

So, I threw down the T-shirt in shock. (Actually, I folded it up very carefully, fearful that I might tear it and have to shell out \$46.) And I walked away, thankful that Ralph Lauren doesn't make women's underwear, since he would probably charge \$52 a leg hole. Then I went directly to my favorite French designer store, Jacques Pennais, where underwear is a mere \$1.99 a shot on a good sale day.

*Now, I am of WASP descent, but I am a far, far, far cry from being a rich WASP. And that is the difference here. Because while my family gets a kick out of drinking a few beers and then chasing each other around with a running lawn mower, rich WASP families partake in no such heinous activities. Rich WASPs sip wine (I'm not talking Boon's Farm here) and swanker about their perfectly tailored yard. My yard, on the other hand, is full of stripes and zig zags and longer patches of lawn from a few too many beers.*

money and a guaranteed easy life, it is my impression that rich WASPs are boring people. I mean, come on. I can think of a few more things that get my blood pumping than a rousing game of croquet.

Now, I am of WASP descent, but I am a far, far, far cry from being a rich WASP. And that is the difference here. Because while my family gets a kick out of drinking a few beers and then chasing each other around with a running lawn mower, rich WASP families partake in no such heinous activities. Rich WASPs sip wine (I'm not talking

many beers.

Not that I have ever even known a rich WASP. But I have seen the Ralph Lauren Polo ads and that must count for something.

These ads are full of people who look like, I assume, rich WASPs. Each man has that rugged, chiseled outdoorsy look and they are usually meandering about on the lawn of the 18th century Cape Cod mansion that has been passed down for generations. And they are playing croquet.

My favorite Ralph Lauren ads, the ones which advertise his co-

rich WASP on his back is wearing too much of that cologne.

But the best part of Ralph Lauren is not his ads, but his prices. As I am sure we all realize Ralph Lauren does not fix his prices so that mere average bathroom bacteria like me can afford his clothing. Oh no. Vermin like me would bring a bad name to Ralph Lauren. So his prices are fixed so that mostly rich WASP people can wear his stuff.

Just to make myself realize that I am a far cry from being a rich WASP, I decided to check out a few things. Since my favorite ar-

## RAs: overworked, underpaid

By Lisa Knowles  
Freelance Writer

To the Alma College Administration:

I am one of the elite persons on this campus. I am a leader. I am responsible, dedicated, compassionate and perceptive. I am a role model. I am a Resident Assistant.

Last spring I eagerly accepted a position as an RA. I trained last summer to be an effective RA. I introduced myself to the women on my corridor as their Resident Assistant. I became an RA. The transition from a Resident Assistant—a person—to a RA—a thing—did not happen overnight. It took a lot of hard work and often unpleasant tasks. One night "on duty" I knocked on a "noise-violator's" door and heard, "Quiet—it's the RA." A few days later I overheard a heated discussion and one person said, "All the RAs in Gelston suck." I realized I was no longer Lisa Knowles on this campus; I am an RA. This title entails many enuities: liaisons, referral, counselor, listener, programmer, disciplinarian—the list strings on like a child's wish list. For these responsibilities, my newly acclaimed identities, and further effort-filled duties, I humbly ask that a pay increase for all Resident Assistants be instated as soon as possible.

Almost everyone is aware of the "known" duties of an RA, but few conceptualize the "hidden" duties

given to RAs. The majority of people connect R.A.'s with discipline, on-duty shifts and hall programming. True these responsibilities are inclusive in the life of an RA, but so are the endless training sessions, weekly staff meetings and drawers of paperwork.

Recently, residents in my hall were asked to fill out a survey rating my ability as an RA. Items such as my R.A. "...is a good role model...is supportive of all residents...is available...is approachable," were included on this survey. All of these areas of concern are not established in a nine-to-five work schedule; these are 24 hour responsibilities. My listening skills, counseling skills and discipline skills have also been called upon at the wee hours of the morning. I claim these highly demanding positions deserve better compensation.

Obviously, as one of the "elite" on this campus, I maintain and take great pride in my position. Thus, the duties assigned to me are successfully and promptly completed. That is what is expected—expected too often. The Resident Assistants are taken for granted. They are sup-

posed to be "wonder women" and "super men" because the administration has instilled this assumption upon them. This fantasy theme has gone too far. The Alma College administration needs to be aware of the humanness found in each RA and also needs to stop taking ad-

*I am now comfortable with my identity as an RA, but I am not thoroughly content with my annual income. I do not believe the RA staff is rewarded throughout the year with any type of staff development or personal development. So I hope this recommendation is considered carefully; I also hope it will evoke a change that will at least financially recognize the outstanding efforts put forth by the leaders on the campus—the RAs.*

vantage of all the good quality RAs do possess. Numerous times I have heard, "You (RAs) are the cream of the crop...You have a very important role on this campus...You are the main connection to the student body...We could not function without you." All of these ego-boosting compliments are gratifying, but believe me, it is time to financially recognize the RAs for their twenty-four hour service.

My final point is of great con-

cern, if not urgent. By calling a few colleges around the state, I found that Alma College's RA wages are demeaning in comparison to competitive schools such as Hope, Albion and Central Michigan. Hope pays their first year RAs \$1,715 per year and second year RAs receive \$1,950. Albion's wages are \$1,424 per term for a total of \$2,848 per year for their first year RAs plus a \$50 raise each additional year. Central Michigan covers their RAs room and board expenses totalling \$3,724 each year.

Alma's wages, based on a percentage of the room fee, is misleading and inadequate. This year, for example, a first year RA actually receives 75 percent of his/her room fee. The room fee this year is \$2,000 and 75 percent of that equals \$1,500: the RA ends up paying board plus \$500 for a room. Because, however, the room rate usually increases each year, the RA wages also increase. So, if the room rate increases to \$2,100 per year, the R.A. would seemingly receive a \$75 per year raise based on the 75

percent figure. This does not occur because the RAs room rate also increases. Therefore, each R.A. gets paid \$1,575 instead of \$1,500, but also has to pay \$525 instead of \$500 for his/her room, resulting in a \$50 raise which boils down to about \$0.18 per day raise. This seems like a better deal than it really is.

A competitive pay increase is needed for the Resident Assistants on this campus. Although I do feel privileged to possess this highly regarded position, I believe my \$5.83 a day wage deserves to be increased for the amount of time, work and energy put into making my residence hall successful. For it is the residence halls where much outside learning takes place; teachers and classrooms are only one part of a college education. Keeping competitive with other colleges has always been an important goal. Therefore, competitive wages should not be over-looked.

I am now comfortable with my identity as an RA, but I am not thoroughly content with my annual income. I do not believe the RA staff is rewarded throughout the year with any type of staff development or personal development. So I hope this recommendation is considered carefully; I also hope it will evoke a change that will at least financially recognize the outstanding efforts put forth by the leaders on the campus—the RAs.



# America needs to address rape problem

By Heater Blaesing  
Freelance Writer

Date rape. We see it on TV, in magazines and in movies. We hear about it on the news, on campuses, and in classrooms. It is an issue given much lip service these days, but I do not know how much is being listened to. The reason I question that is *it's still happening*.

I cannot really absolve anyone anymore. Contrition cannot restore someone's self-esteem, personhood, trust or virginity. Repentance is also hard to come by in this situation; it goes without saying that the blame too often is placed incorrectly, whether on friends of the perpetrator, society or the victim herself.

I remember writing a paper on date rape for an ethics class three years ago. The professor gave us an example situation to use in the writing: both people were at a party, the woman dressed to kill and slightly intoxicated, the man just as drunk and being pressured by his friends to "get some action."

I completed my assignment and did not mention the hypothetical "friends." The professor found that to be a weakness in my paper, his marginal comments criticizing the omission. Yet I had omitted them

consciously and deliberately. Why? Because I did not feel they should be a factor in that or any rape. They were not on hand when the incident occurred. They did not do it or put a gun to anyone's head to do it.

Persecuting someone for not having sex is not a demonstration of

sion himself than push an unsure woman into an act that she may not want. But that's just TV; how much about right and wrong do we learn from television in today's society? The answer, my friends, is much. Once it becomes common knowledge for the general public—not

rape is but one of them. This does not excuse it, but explains it. We are Americans, a people who have not had a war on our soil in over a century; what is our excuse for the frequency of rape in the United States?

This victim-blaming thing we've

in that it came from a woman.

What do I think of that? Nonsense. Assigning blame to a rape victim—regardless of her blood-alcohol level—is akin to assigning blame to victims of war, not drunk drivers. "They knew there was a war on; they should not have been there." I am sure if the Jews and other minorities in the Holocaust had been warned about Hitler they would have converted to Christianity or moved or both.

But why should a person not doing anything illegal or wrong be made to conform his or her actions because of an outside threat? They should not. Why should women have to pay diligent attention to the alcohol consumed to avoid an ugly situation while men have the liberty to drink as much as they please? Why is the woman forced to alter her behavior to protect herself from a menace that should not exist in the first place? Why are women under any circumstances looked at as targets?

When we as a society have answers to these questions, when half the human race is no longer seen as objects to affirm the masculinity of others, when the crime of rape ceases to exist, our society will have taken an immeasurable step toward true civilization.

*Our society, supposedly one of the most advanced in the world, gets up on its soapbox to talk down to the rest of the planet. We are horrified and appalled by the acts of the soldiers in Bosnia. What we fail to realize is war is a non-stop series of brutally ugly acts; mass rape is but one of them...We are Americans, a people who have not had a war on our soil in over a century; what is our excuse for the frequency of rape in the United States?*

maturity; pushing or encouraging a rape is less so. Is it a true man who uses another human being in such a manner to confirm his identity? I do not feel that one person should be so violated as a woman is in that situation so another can demonstrate his suffering lack of confidence. One should not be robbed of personhood so another can affirm his manhood.

It is slowly starting to seep into the media that it is better for a man to go home and alleviate the ten-

just counselors and crisis center workers, but computer operators and construction workers as well—that "no" means NO, we will all have taken a much needed step in inter-gender communication.

Our society, supposedly one of the most advanced in the world, gets up on its soapbox to talk down to the rest of the planet. We are horrified and appalled by the acts of the soldiers in Bosnia. What we fail to realize is war is a non-stop series of brutally ugly acts; mass

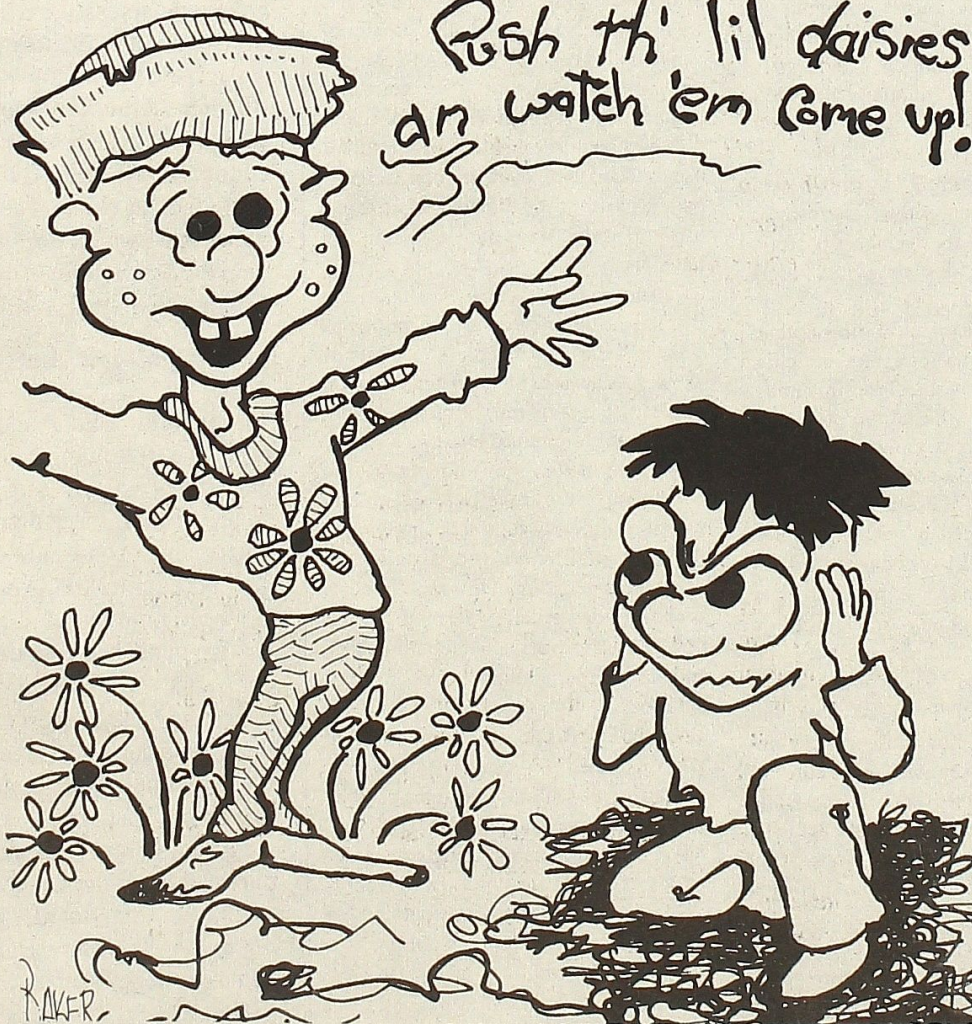
had in our society has got to come to a screeching halt. A friend of mine, in a fit of annoyance, cited me one of the worst examples I've ever heard: someone's comparison of a drunk driver with a drunk rape victim. The logic ran as follows: both the driver and the woman knew there were possible consequences when s/he consumed the alcohol; both should feel responsible for what happened and be held accountable for their actions. This viewpoint is all the more sickening

## Weird in a serious way

by Dan Baker

**YOU EITHER LOVE IT OR HATE IT**

Push th' lil daisies an watch 'em come up!



## Group affiliation determines seating in Hamilton Commons

By Sandra Hansen  
Freelance Writer

Eating a meal at Hamilton Commons seems like a normal, everyday activity. It may not be one of our favorites but out of necessity we join our fellow classmates in this ritual. We walk in, get our food, and compulsively walk to a table and sit down. Most people do not put much conscious thought into where they sit; however, since we first set foot into Hamilton, we are compelled to follow one very important, though unwritten, rule: Hamilton is divided into sections by groups and the invisible lines must not be crossed.

About a month ago, I entered Hamilton Commons for dinner and immediately noticed something different. No, it did not miraculously turn into a fine restaurant. The fine, invisible lines of segregation had been crossed. Sitting at one of the tables usually occupied by the Zeta Sigs, were group of TKEs. What struck me was not why they were sitting there, but why it should have surprised me. There are no signs forbidding people other than Sigs to sit at those tables; they had not planted their flag like the Americans had on the moon. Despite these facts, it is taken for granted that people sit with the same people and in the same area everyday.

few different groups, so I sit in different spots depending on who I am with. I seem to be the exception to the rule. I discovered this when a group of friends and myself were forced to sit in a different spot because Hamilton was unusually crowded that day. I did not particularly notice the difference, but one of my friends commented on it feeling awkward to sit in a different area. The only explanation for this seems to be the overwhelming resistance towards change that numerous people feel. They may feel out of place if they are displaced, even if only by a few yards.

Another explanation is pure habit. In the same way, some people sit in the same seat in class everyday, regardless of whether there is an assigned seating chart or not. Even this action must have begun somewhere.

Despite insight into a few of the motives behind sitting in the same place everyday in Hamilton, the phenomenon still remains a mystery. It is most likely to remain the same because next year, the first year students will arrive and quickly learn, by example, the seating assignments in Hamilton. It may not be written in the Alma College handbook but it remains the "Rule of Hamilton."



Apr. 6, 1993

## Staff Editorial

# Radio station unifies campus

After much hard work and hype, the Alma College radio station—WQAC, “The Duck,” 90.9 on the FM dial—is fully functional and broadcasting from its headquarters in the Tyler-Van Dusen Student Center. *The Almanian* would like to congratulate the radio staff for its dedication and determination in converting the long dead College AM radio station to FM and reviving the campus airwaves. Despite the numerous problems and delays encountered along the way, the station has proven itself worthy of the wait. Accolades to all involved in this improvement to student life.

Though it has only been on the air for a little over a week, WQAC has helped unify the Alma campus community. Students are able to tune in and hear their friends and professors DJ-ing, broadcasting upcoming news and events and trying out their own on-the-air personality and humor. Students all over campus are now able to turn on their radios and get the latest information on news, events, sports and weather through both direct reporting and general service announcements. Moreover, WQAC accepts requests and dedications, allowing even the most bashful of individuals to speak his/her mind, express his/her musical preference and say something to the one s/he cares about.

WQAC’s unity comes from its efforts to involve the entire campus community, the city of Alma and other surrounding communities. The radio station has accomplished this task through promotional offers of cups, t-shirts and free CDs, contests, and guest DJs. Furthermore, the variety of weekly talk-shows and musical programming offered accommodates the tastes and preferences of nearly every listening individual while providing a much-needed break from the local “traditional,” Top 40 and country stations. WQAC has even gone as far as surveying its audience, asking them what they like/dislike and want and incorporating those comments and suggestions into its programming. WQAC is definitely a radio station dedicated to serving its listening population.

*The Almanian* commends the efforts of WQAC staff members and wishes them continued support and success. We feel having an operational radio station, like WQAC, will only enhance our liberal arts education as students and faculty will be given opportunities to explore and try their hand in the field of broadcast journalism and strengthen our new communications major. Most importantly, WQAC will enhance the College’s reputation as a small, caring institution that seeks to provide the student body with a top-of-the-line education and an array of extracurricular activities.

## Letters to the Editor

To the editor:

This past semester spent at the Universidad Iberoamericana has truly been an “educational” experience. At this point, I am not sure if to be grateful or remorseful for having overcome my naivety concerning human nature.

My name is Marie Ortiz. I am a junior from Mount Holyoke College who studied abroad through Alma College’s program in Mexico City. I am writing now because of a series of mishaps which have left me with deep dissatisfaction with the way Alma College’s International Studies Office and the Universidad Iberoamericana’s Departamento de Extranjeros is run. I am also concerned with the manner in which Alma College’s International Department has responded to my grievances.

This letter is a formal complaint against both program and more specifically, the Directors Dr. James Buschman and Dr. Esperanza Wilson. Not only were they unwilling to listen to my complaint but were not satisfied with themselves until they became my biggest obstacles. This is especially surprising since they are both educators in areas which require compromises, understanding, but more importantly, open-mindedness and objectiveness! How can these two Directors promote the respective programs and represent their universities when they oppose the very values they are supposed to uphold?

The last and final straw to top the “perfect pesadilla” is having received “F’s” on my transcript (which only arrived a week ago for a program that ended in December), for having unwillingly missed my final exams (I was ill, completely mentally and emotionally exhausted, and had harsh financial problems). I was missing three class days. I had arranged with my professors to turn in my papers early and take my exams before leaving. My professors had agreed. However, when I went in to speak to the Director, to explain my situation, she exploded! I guess she felt I had undermined her authority for not having spoken to her first, etc. So because of those who conspired against me I have had to suffer the consequences. Ironically, in all four of my classes the final exam was 20 percent (30 percent in one), and for a

student who earned 100, 96, 83 (lowest) and 94 etc...How does that compute?

All I want is for the Alma College Director to speak on my behalf to have my F’s changed to incompletes. This seems more appropriate. In addition, I would like him to speak to Dr. Esperanza Wilson, the UIA Director, and have her ask my professors to allow me to make up my finals (dates, length, etc.. to be agreed upon by everyone—both directors, my professors and myself).

Marie Ortiz  
Class of 1994  
Mount Holyoke College

To the editor:

I sincerely believe Heather Cummings’ heart is in the right place, that she is a good and kind person who is advocating what she truly thinks is best, but her article in Mar. 30, 1993, edition of *The Almanian* does not go far enough, and supports a number of positions which contribute to maintaining some of the problems she decries.

To my mind she is absolutely right: there cannot be any question of supporting Governor Engler on this point. It would be catastrophic to simply abandon them to their fate. But what Cummings does not realize is that Engler is merely the *personification*, of the views of this society.

People on welfare who are “capable of working” deserve not our derision or our punishment, or to be a category of scapegoats who have their ranks swelled in line with abstract “conservative” theories—they deserve our support and admiration. As things are presently contributed, is all we have to offer them money, we still remain profoundly in their debt. Even if most-of them despite themselves, in the total ignorance of Surrealist theory this society has been only too happy to force upon them, they are true Surrealist revolutionary heroes who have had the courage to make their own life: a life lived in freedom. Politicians may talk of “freedom to work”; what we really need is freedom *from* work. Like the chief exemplar of progressive unemployment, Bugs Bunny, who has “the sort of adventures only a life of rigorously applied laziness can lead to,” as

Franklin Rosemont writes in the Catalog of the 1976 World Surrealist Exhibition, they are our wonderful models and teachers: *they* will show us the way.

This society does not shed any tears over unemployment—it *wants* a pool of unemployed poor who can serve as scapegoats for its failures and then bribe them out of revolution against it.

To those who decry the high unemployment rates this recession has given us, I say: We can do better! Progressive unemployment through ever increasing automation, socialism, and the total destruction of every sordid scheme to enforce the employment system!

Yes, the unemployment system: *that* is the crime. If we can pull the scabs from our eyes, our sight will become clear: schools are political reeducation camps for young people: their main purpose to dissipate their revolutionary tendencies—stronger among high schoolers than any other group—through wasting hours of their time a day, meaningless busy work of no practical use whatsoever, and consistent political indoctrination which, in my own experience, no one is allowed to question.

We do not need “constructive, positive brain power for our nation”; we do not need more people “interested in school.” It is only through a profound negative work that we assure futures with living.

The Surrealist poet Philip Lamantia has written a very interesting article on how elementary-schools destroy imagination. In high-school the project, by that time nearly complete, continues.

In the societally-accepted view, work is not a matter of economic necessity, but has assumed a sort of nebulous moral quality. I have never heard anyone, when pressed, explain precisely how working is a “moral” action; or precisely how laziness is a vice. The truth is that “hard work” is a manufactured virtue and “laziness” is a manufactured vice. For those particularly who would yoke their “work ethic” to “Protestant,” let us look to the Bible: Christ himself preached laziness in his Sermon on the Mount (“Look at the lilies of the field...”), as Paul Lefargue points out in his brilliant analysis *The Right To Be Lazy* (in it, written in 1881, he says that all needed or wanted goods or services could be made with a standard *three-hour workday, based on the*

*technology then available.*) On the basis of their own purported authority, they can stand self-condemned as hypocrites. The voice of God evidently cannot be heard outside their pocketbooks.

The owners and the workers have allowed themselves to become perverted, Lefargue argues, by the mania for work. “Life is not earned by work.” Breton wrote. This work is *destructive* to health; it tends to make “employees” sick and shorten their life spans. *In no single case is this acceptable.* The scope for the imagination, for human action, the already ridiculously short human life span, cannot be subsumed to the reactionary demands of capitalist production. Just as it is increasingly admitted that health is a basic, extra-economic right; so must it be admitted that a far more important right is the right to an imaginative life unencumbered by the “struggle to live.”

It is imperative that we realise that we are out of the jungle; we must not resort to the alibi of “Social Darwinism.” This is nothing but phony science; the attempt to excuse by the “natural” order which we must realise we have almost entirely subsumed. This may be regrettable, but one must see for what they are those engineers who have given us untold technologies resources merely to deny their use to those who, through their technology, used to consolidate and advance this imperialist stage of capitalism, they have disabled.

“Let no-one talk to me of work,” Andre Breton, the founder of Surrealism, writes *Nadja*; “I mean NOT continue to talk of work.” As he goes on to write, “the grim necessities of life” might require it, but there is nothing moral about it.

In May 1968 the students of the Sorbonne rose in rebellion, a rebellion which ultimately toppled the Fourth Republic of France. For twenty-five years the true nature of this rebellion has been shrouded in deliberate misinformation. It was a Surrealist rebellion first and last. “Imagination Seizes Power,” the rebels spraypainted on the staircase of the political-science building. “Here We Spontane.”

On the wall of St. Germain-du-Pres they wrote: “Ne Travaillez Jamais”: —“Never Work.” This inspiring slogan deserves our humblest salutes. Twenty-five years later, the promise contained in those three words deserves nothing but to be transformed into burning actuality. Dan Boyer  
Class of 1996

## The

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Opinions expressed weekly in the “Staff Editorial” reflect the views of *The Almanian* Editorial Board, which includes section editors, copy editors, and the editor-in-chief. These views in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community.

### The Almanian Letter Policy

All Letters to the Editor must meet the following standards for publication: signed, include the author’s phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published on a first come, first serve basis, up to three per week. We reserve the right to condense letters for layout purposes. Deadline for publication is 5 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. Address letters to: The Editorial Board, *The Almanian*, Newberry Hall, Alma College, Alma, MI 48801.