

The Almanian

February 23, 1993

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 18

Williams provides new outlook on Civil Rights

By Supriya Saxena
Freelance Writer

"People often tend not to see themselves as leaders," said Juan Williams during his speech in Dunning Memorial Chapel last Wednesday night. Williams, a political analyst, writer for the *Washington Post* and author of the book *Eyes on the Prize* related to the audience stories of civil rights activists, such as Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King Jr..

Williams argued that many people often assume civil rights activists are special people who were predestined to be leaders in the Civil Rights Movement. However, Williams claimed, in many instances this is not the case.

These leaders, according to Williams, were simply ordinary citizens who were concerned with civil rights violations. He spoke of Mandela, who, according to Williams, "has come to personify the struggle for freedom world-wide," relating accounts of how Mandela originally wanted to maintain a law practice, but found civil rights violations so pressing that he fought against the apartheid system and was jailed for 27 years.

"He made some civil rights leaders seem more like ordinary people," said first-year student Bill Pourcho.

Williams also related the story of Jackie Robinson, who broke the color barrier in baseball in 1947. He also spoke about Rosa Parks, who had refused to sit in the back of a segregated bus because she was African-American. He told of how African-Americans were designated a seating area on the bus by the use of chicken coop wire, comparing the treatment of them with the treatment of animals on a farm.

The audience was captivated with William's story of Emmatill, a young boy from the north who went south for a visit during the 1950's. He told of the murder of this little boy and the violence he faced for making a seemingly harmless comment to a white woman in a candy store. He told how the lawmakers in the county conspired to cover up the details of the beatings and murder to the boy's mother, but how when the information was released, it caused national outrage among both black and white communities across the nation.

Moreover, Williams criticized rap music, arguing that "it is extremely socially irresponsible and feeds on the stereotype that young black people are more violent and more sexual." He claimed that it is these influences that encourage the stereotype that African-American people are dangerous and should be treated with less respect by society.

Few know of the reluctance Martin Luther King had towards originally joining the civil rights movement, Williams told the story how King eventually came to the head of the Civil Rights movement. At the time King was approached to become involved in the movement he was working at his first job out of divinity school and working to obtain his doctorate. It was only after two phone calls, within the span of two hours, that King was encouraged to join. Thereby, according to Williams, grabbing "his moment in history," which led him to become one of the greatest Civil Rights activists of the century.

Williams discussed the Montgomery bus boycott and how its origins were inspired by the denial of a seat to a young pregnant 16-year-old girl named Claudette

Clomson. The leaders of the movement did not use her case as a justification for the protest though, because she was unmarried and pregnant and leaders of the movement against desegregation could argue that she didn't deserve the seat anyway. However, when Rosa Parks, whose character Williams described as being known in the community to be "sterling," was denied a seat on another segregated bus, the protesters felt they had ample justification to hold a boycott, which served as a significant landmark on the road to achieving equality.

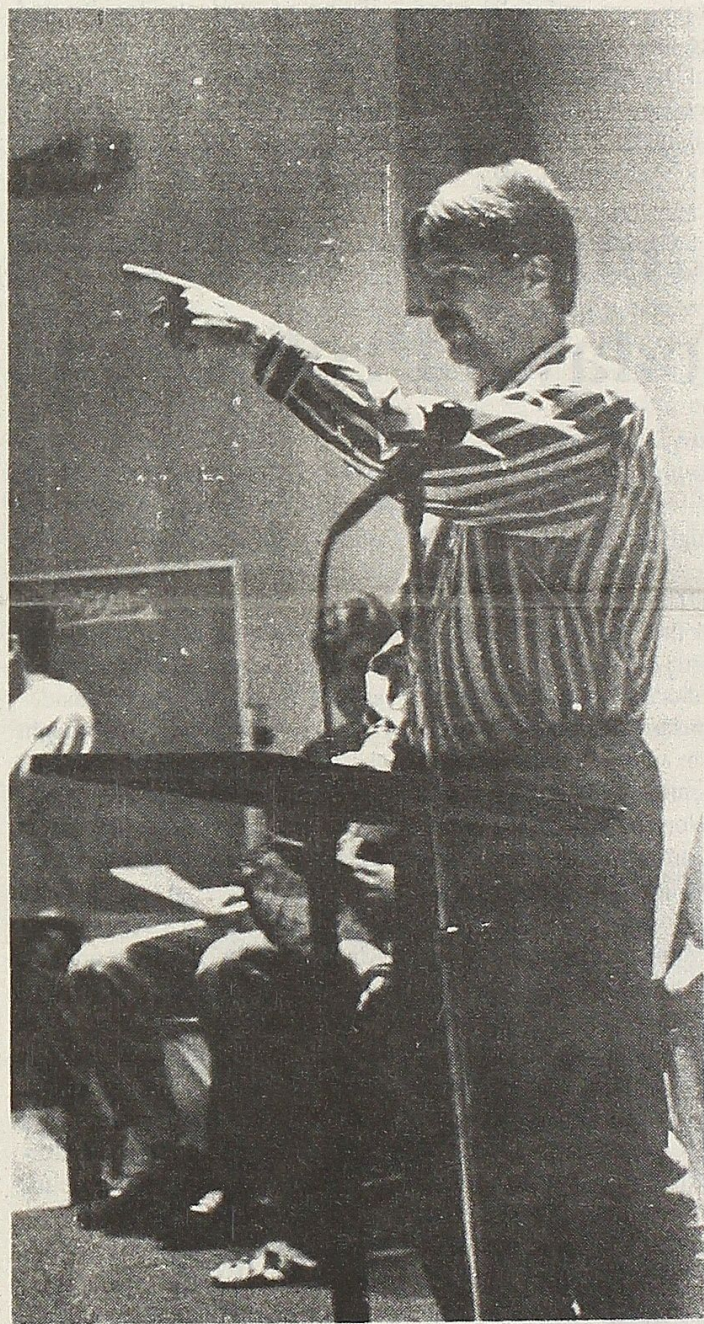
Criticizing the media's portrayal of King, Williams argued that they stereotyped him as a "milk toast huggable warm figure" rather than as an adamant activist for civil rights. He also criticized the selling of posters by some organizations with King's picture on them as motivated by profit and claimed they were "robbing us of King's legacy" with their distorted portrayal.

"I agree with Williams," said first-year student Susan Elliot. "However, I appreciate the posters and feel that the businesses are sincere."

Most students found Williams to be inspirational. "I think he was an excellent speaker," said Jacob Kanjaparambun, first-year student. "Everyone can achieve their potential if they work hard enough."

"The idea of equality is something we have been struggling for for all times," said Williams. He encouraged students to continue to struggle and become involved so that "as our moment in time comes we are able to see it clearly—I hope you find it and capture your moment in American history."

Students and faculty compete to raise money for African Fellowship



Spanish professor Carl Mentley calls off the items at the 1993 Africa Fellowship Auction last Friday. Photo by A. Jeschawitz

Three professors honored with Emeritus status

By Brett Powers
Staff Reporter

What do Alma College professors receive if they serve the College faithfully for several years? A firm handshake and pat on the back? A brand-new black BMW? Somewhere between the handshake and car lies the honor Professor Emeritus status.

Three Alma College professors will be given Emeritus status upon retiring this spring, as decided by the Board of Trustees Friday, Feb. 12.

Charles Gray, professor of exercise and health sciences, and Philip Griffiths, chairperson of theater and dance, will both become professors Emeritus, while Hal Slater, associate professor and chairperson for mathematics, will become associate professor Emeritus. All three professors came to Alma College in the fall of 1965.

"Being given Emeritus status is an honorarium for those people that have been here exceptionally long and have given the College faithful and loyal service," said President Alan J. Stone.

No financial gain comes with the award, but Emeriti do get a library carrel, are invited to faculty parties and are listed in the catalog as Emeritus professors.

"We usually have about one [Emeritus professor] a year; this is unusual to have three in the same year," said Stone.

The Faculty Personal Committee (FPC) recommends to Stone retiring professors who they feel deserve the award. Stone then makes a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. The Board makes the final decision. "I don't ever remem-

ber anyone not getting the award who had put that many years of time in," said Stone.

"I am looking forward to being recognized with a long impressive list of Emeriti; this award will be appreciated," said Gray. Gray, who has been involved in every aspect of the athletic department in his many years at the College plans to retire here in Alma. "I have a stamp collection that I have neglected for about 40 years, plus I really want to do some traveling," said Gray.

"Well, even though there is not

a monetary reward involved, it will be great to have the Emeritus honor. Doesn't it sound great after one's name?" said Griffiths. As reported in the last issue of *The Almanian*, Griffiths and his wife will be moving east after graduation. "I'm really sorry I won't be around to use the great library facilities that are granted to me as an Emeritus," said Griffiths.

"I'm looking forward to being an Emeritus; it feels fine," said Slater.

Feb. 23, 1993

Marriott addresses student requests with change

By Denise C. Vittitow
Freelance Writer

Beginning in June, Marriott Food Service will incorporate various, exciting new changes in student dining service in the Alma College Hamilton Commons. Among the upcoming changes are more food selections, remodeling of the Commons interior and faster service.

The decision to make major changes in the food service came about as a result of the student survey taken in October. "The students want to see changes in the current program, and we're going to make those changes," said Director of Dining Services Liz Beck.

The endeavor will cost Marriott approximately \$300,000. The College will be required to sign a five-

year contract with Marriott because of these expensive changes, and, if broken, will pay \$60,000 per year remaining on the contract.

Changes are part of a "Renaissance program" that has been instituted in 14 of the 450 schools that Marriott services. According to Beck, "Students have really liked the program where it has been previously instituted."

One major change will be the variety and types of food offered. Current menus are made by Marriott and distributed nation-wide. Future menus will be constructed by a menu committee on campus consisting of students, faculty and Marriott staff.

"Most of the menus will be customer driven, what the students want," said Mark Schultz, manager Marriott Food Service.

Along with changing the menus, Marriott will add a pizza oven and grill to Hamilton. These additions will both be located where the deli bar currently stands. The deli and soup bars will be moved to the current location of the ice cream. Also being moved are the microwaves, they will return to a more visible location towards the center of the dining hall.

The additions will not compromise availability of seating.

"I think it's great that they're are going to offer more variety," said first-year student Becky Shelly.

Freshman Jen Cosbey said, "Adding the pizza oven and grill is a really good idea because I think that's why a lot of students go to Joe's instead of Hamilton."

Marriott will also change the decor to give an overall new look. The new carpet will be dark blue and counters will be white speckled with blue.

When asked how she felt about the changes, first-year student Tammy Watson responded, "All the changes sound great, but I hope they focus more on improving the menu than the interior because if the food's good, it doesn't really matter what the dining hall looks like."

Many of the changes will result in more efficient service. Almost all food will be self-serve. Marriott is also considering purchasing a pizza oven that cooks 315 personal pan pizzas in just one-half of an hour. Students will have the opportunity to top their own pizza the way they wish to have it, then

hand it to the employee working the counter to cook. Another possibility is offering pre-made sandwiches at the deli for students who are in a hurry.

Other changes will be made as far as how Marriott manages its employees. According to Beck, they "will be working more like a team in the future. The employees that work in the dining hall hear students' comments and are able to communicate students' likes and dislikes to us."

A manager's desk will be located out in the dining hall, allowing the manager to be available to students for questions or ideas.

In the near future Beck plans to have blueprints available in the dining hall for students to examine.

Gamma Delta Alpha sponsors 'Today's Professional Woman'

By Cathy DeShano
Staff Reporter

Although the Year of the Woman has ended, women everywhere will continue to push for their rights and demand their opinions be heard. On Saturday, Feb. 20, Gamma Delta Alpha, the Women's Honor Society, sponsored a women's professionalism workshop in the Heather Room entitled "Today's Professional Woman." The workshop involved presentations by Jonieta Stone, Ginna Holmes and Nancy Gallagher as well as discussion about women's concerns in the workforce.

As part of the first presentation, Stone discussed the importance of making good first impressions. First impressions are almost entirely based upon appearances and, as Stone expressed, people need to make sure they portray themselves confidently. She noted the importance of standing tall, making eye contact and speaking at a moderate pace. In addition to these qualities, women can also appear more confident by doing the following: avoiding hesitating before speaking, accepting compliments and lis-

tening more.

"We've been taught not to accept compliments, but to put ourselves down. Women do this in a variety of different ways. Accept the compliment. We've been taught to take second place. Don't step behind all the time. Accept a compliment by saying 'thank-you,'" said Stone.

Women have also been taught that their place was in the home and that juggling a career and family should occur only if it's financially necessary for the woman to work. Nancy Gallagher, mayor of Alma and a vice president for the Bank of Alma, addressed issues concerning women who work and have a family. In order to maintain a happy life, Gallagher stressed the importance of maintaining a sense of humor. She also encouraged women to stand up for their decision to work and not apologize for their lifestyle. As discussion evolved, women shared their concerns about dealing with people, family members in particular, who felt that the best place for a woman was in the home.

Yet another issue raised involved the prominence of sexual harassment in the job arena. Holmes, as-

sociate director for the Center of Student Development, helped to first define sexual harassment and then refute misconceptions people held regarding the frequency with which it occurs. Many people believe these acts play a small role in the work place; unfortunately, Holmes informed the group that 42 percent of working women will encounter sexual harassment at one time or another during their careers. The best way to end this, according to Holmes, is to confront a supervisor about the situation every time it occurs.

"I think the issues about sexual harassment were important because I think there is a lot of misconception about it not being as prevalent as it is. I think just being confronted with it before going out in the workforce will help me be able to speak out against it if it happens personally to me," said Meagan Johnson, a junior.

Those who attended the workshop felt it presented key topics regarding working women. They hope to continue seeing such learning opportunities made available and want greater attendance to help educate more people.

Alma College Faculty and Staff
Many of your fellow employees have taken advantage of

MEEMIC
(Michigan Educational Employees
Mutual Insurance Company)
You should too!

Auto and Homeowners Insurance.
Low Rates And
Excellent Claims Processing

Exclusively For School Employees!



For A Quote Call:
John or Pam Knowlton
463-5347 or
1-800-783-0817
Located in Alma



Also offering Life, Boat, Motorcycle and Commercial Insurance



Michigan Educators Ins. Agency

POSITIONS FOR 1993-94 ARE NOW AVAILABLE

- * *Almanian* Editor-in-chief
- * *Scotsman* Editor-in-chief
- * WQAC General Station Manager

Applications are available at the Student Affairs Office beginning February 19th and must be turned in by 5:00 P.M. on March 12th.

It's That Time Again...

Alma College Students!

Levi's

GUESS

b.u.m. equipment

EDWIN jeans

FREE LAYAWAY

Boys 8-14 Juniors
Students 25-30 1 Petite-15 Reg. & Long
Mens 28-54 Misses 4-16

martin's

OPEN 7 DAYS

Barber's Hair Studio 463-5883 Family Alterations Shop 463-5885

Pet problems concern Greeks, administration

By Anthony Siefker
Freelance Writer

Playful puppies and curious kittens are at the heart of an issue currently being discussed by the Alma College Interfraternity Council (IFC).

Many fraternities have expressed interest in having pets in their houses, but current Alma College policy states that no pets, with the exception of fish, are allowed in any student housing provided by the College.

This interest has prompted action within IFC and has brought the issue to light.

"The issue is in its infancy. It was discussed last year and now the IFC board is looking at it again," said Jason Watkins, IFC scholarship chairman.

Watkins saw interest in the issue and brought it to the attention of the IFC board in hopes of initiating some action concerning the matter. The prospect of changing the College policy faces many obstacles. Discussion and agreement by both IFC and the Panhellenic Council (Panhel) must come together before the proposal may be passed on to the administration.

Panhel President Sally Wilhelm said, "We have not discussed it at this point in time."

Once both of these councils have discussed the issue, and if they decide to pursue it, they must convince Dean of Students James Kridler to support their proposal. From that point, the issue will then go on to President Alan J. Stone and the executive committee for discussion and voting.



Some Greeks want pets in their houses. Photo by M. Stargardt

Kridler said, "We would consider the proposal if it was sent to us," but went on to list the concerns that must be addressed to receive consideration.

Kridler cited liability, waste and damage as some of the most important problems that must be solved.

Physical Plant Director Duane Knecht also expressed concern with having pets in fraternity and sorority houses. "It creates not only sanitary problems, but destruction problems," he said.

Illegal pets in the past have been left in houses over breaks and have made maintenance workers who encounter them uncomfortable.

Nevertheless, the fraternities on campus think they can handle pets and manage the problems set forth by the administration.

Sigma Chi President Tom Moore

said, "I think we can manage a pet within our own house. It's just a matter of keeping it under control and managing it."

Junior Tom Jager spoke for the Zeta Sigma fraternity saying, "We think we should be allowed to have pets. We are fully capable of taking care of them."

If a rule change is to take place it will involve many hours of discussion and an agreement with the administration.

"We will have to build a proposal addressing each point concerning the issue," said Watkins.

The proposal has a long way to go. Its success rests in the hands of the students and how well they can convince the administration of their trustworthiness to properly care for pets.

Benefits abound from summer work-study

By Denise C. Vittitow
Freelance Writer

Work-study internships in public health and employment programs will be available to students during the summer of 1993. Employment sites will include Detroit, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Saginaw and Flint. These internships offer students a chance to make money while earning anywhere from two to eight credit hours in history, public affairs and political science.

The internships will begin July 1 and finish at the end of August. Participating students can earn approximately \$1,530. Tuition expenses range from \$280 for two credit hours up to \$1,120 for eight credit hours.

Students will earn more benefits than money and credit, including job experience.

"Several benefits exist. College credit is one, but even more importantly they get experience in their career area which may prove to be invaluable when applying to graduate school," said Edward Lorenz, associate professor of history and political science.

Professors will hold mandatory two to three hour classes once a week in the areas which students are doing their internship.

The internship program has been started in response to a report sent out by Senator Harris Wofford written to outline the job locations of students participating in work-

study, how the job relates to the students' educational or vocational goals, and if those jobs serve the needs of low-income individuals.

The results of the report show that almost 95 percent of students' work-study earnings were from on-campus jobs. Although working on-campus at the library, in admissions or at Marriott is not against work-study guidelines, it was not the initial idea behind the work-study program.

Work-study was originally intended for students to work in and among the community through service projects, at such places as a women's shelter or at a low-income child care center. It is also preferred that students obtain work-study jobs that are somehow related to their educational or vocational pursuits.

After reading the report Lorenz, and other faculty members set up a program using work-study funding as it was initially intended; they would allow students to work in areas outside of Alma College that run programs aiding low-income individuals.

Interested students should attend the informational/organizational meeting Thursday, Feb. 18, at 9:30 p.m. in SAC 109.

"It's not just another 'summer job'; the knowledge students will gain from this experience surpasses by far the knowledge that can be gained in a classroom," said Lorenz.

Retraction

End of "Switch-a-Day" article from 2/16/93 issue

The Almanian apologizes for the inadvertent omission of a portion of Maria Stephens' article "Switch-A-Day proves to be learning experience for all" in its Feb. 16 issue. The remainder of the article is as follows:

Stone also attended Hamtak's oil painting class, taught by Associate Professor and Chair of Art & Design Bob Rozier, whom he praised for his individual attention to each student's work.

"I painted a bowling ball, which is about the extent of my artistic talent," said Stone.

Stone and Hamtak had lunch together with the City Manager of Alma and the President of the Alma Chamber of Commerce concerning the Senior Challenge Committee's proposed entrance welcome sign, toward which the city will also contribute. They also attended a Gratiot County economic planning meeting, and concluded their day with dinner in Hamilton Commons.

"I'm really glad I did it—it allowed me to see some of the long-range direction of Alma College," said Hamtak.

"The most valuable aspect of the day for me was getting to be among students and talk to them about many things," said Stone. "It was definitely worthwhile."

The Senior Challenge Committee sold 118 raffle tickets at a dollar each for the event, which will go to

the fund for the Senior Challenge project, a new Alma College sign.

"[The raffle] put the Committee over the top of their goal, which was \$3,000. It was a fun fundraiser that the Committee did a good job promoting and that the President was willing to help out with," said Pam Eldridge, director of Annual Giving and coordinator of the Senior Challenge Committee.

LAMERSON'S
SHOES INC.

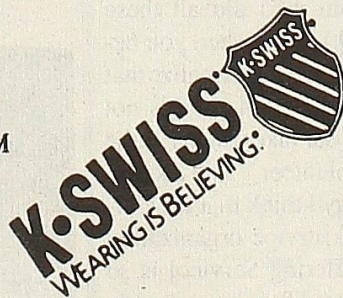
"YOUR HOMETOWN FAMILY STORE"

HOURS:

MON. - WED. 9:30 - 5:30 PM
THURS. 9:30 - 8:00 PM
FRI. 9:30 - 9:00 PM
SAT. 9:30 - 5:00 PM

105 W. SUPERIOR ST.
DOWNTOWN ALMA

(517)463-1865



PARTNERSHIP FOR A DRUG-FREE AM

Feb. 23, 1993

Auction raises funds for Africa Fellowship

By Cathy DeShano
Staff Reporter

When students at Alma College think of the most enjoyable College-sponsored events, they mention ACUB events such as the All-Nighter, Irish Pub or Mock Rock. However, if you haven't yet attended an Africa Fellowship Auction, you're missing out on a small treasure.

The annual auction raises money for the Africa Fellow. Each year, donations are made by students, faculty members, the college and people in the community. Provost Office Secretary Becky Everitt, the organizer for the program, began preparing for the auction several months in advance by gathering donations, establishing the date it was to be held and contacting people to be auctioneers.

At this year's auction on Feb. 19, over 150 items were donated in addition to cash contributions. For those who enjoy spending money,

the auction was a shopper's heaven. Items ranged from a jar of Carol Bender's cookies to hand-crafted heads brought back from India. Those who knew how to wheel and deal found themselves able to take advantage of many hand-made items at relatively low prices.

"I purchased a Santa Claus for my mother for Christmas next year," said senior Sarah Slater. "It's good to know my money is going to a worthwhile cause. It's really a unique fundraiser which involves faculty and the students. Although I'm a senior, this is my first time and I'm glad I didn't miss it."

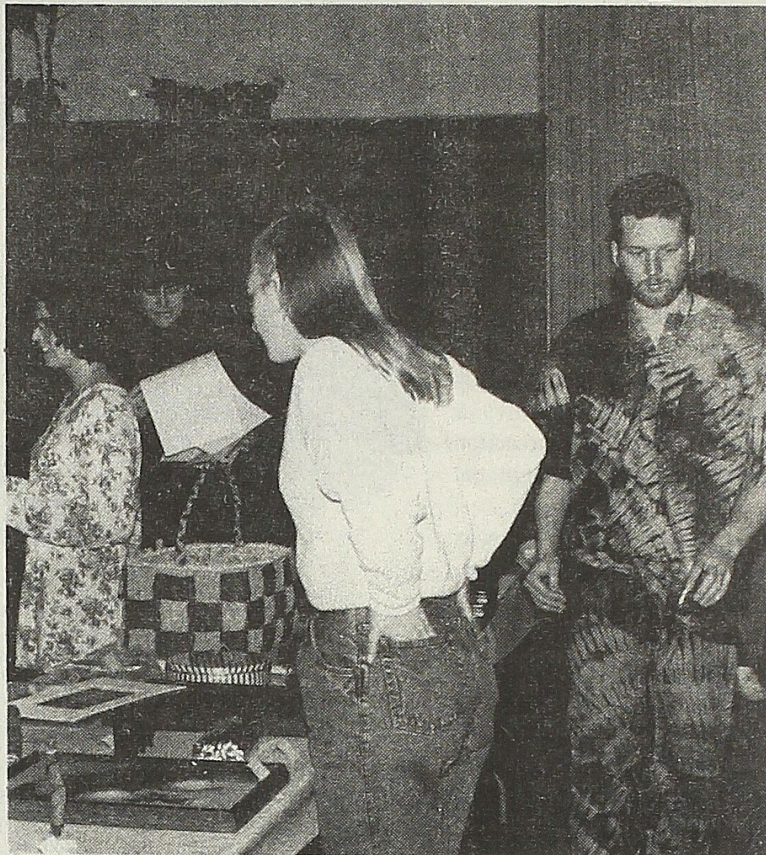
The auction occurred in the relaxed atmosphere of Jones Auditorium and allowed students to view their professors in a different light. Student and faculty auctioneers donated their time to help the program. The two teams competed to see who could raise more money, sometimes going to extreme measures for high bids. For instance, Spanish Professor Carlos Mentley

offered his students triple extra credit for purchasing an item.

While bidding took place, people were free to move around to view items, many of which sold at relatively low prices (between \$10 and \$30). For people happening to drop in, a "charge" system allowed them to make purchases by just signing their name to their bid.

The auction plays an important role in the Africa Fellowship. The Africa Fellow buys items in Nigeria and brings them back to sell at the auction, raising funds to pay for the program.

"The money is important but even more important than the money is telling people the program is out there," said Tammy Rench, a past Africa Fellow. "Fellows always bring things back so there are authentic articles from Nigeria, and professors who go on sabbatical also bring pieces back from their far-away destinations. The auction is starting to pick-up, a lot of people are getting involved."



Senior R.J. Webber, last year's African Fellow, surveys the collection. Photo by M. Stargardt

Gelston and Bruske offer contrasting programs

By Christy DeBurton
Freelance Writer

Gelston and Bruske Halls held programs of widely different impact last week. While Gelston Resident Assistants (RAs) conducted an informational session on sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), Bruske RAs administered personality surveys to students.

The Gelston event began with an awareness test enabling students to evaluate themselves. According to Hall Director Becky Spartz, there were a lot of surprises regarding what people knew or thought they knew about STDs.

After the test, co-facilitator and Gelston RA Katy Hamtak gave a short talk about STDs—which are most common, how do you avoid getting them. Hamtak shared information she learned about AIDS, HIV and other diseases from an internship with the Mid-Michigan Health Department last summer.

"I feel pretty strongly about sharing this information with people," Hamtak said.

The program ended with a question and answer session. Spartz felt this part of the program was good because "it was all students, so people were pretty open." RAs distributed free condoms to those attending.

Noreen Lyall, the other co-facilitator, found the program enlightening. "It really cleared up some big differences between being HIV-positive and having AIDS," Lyall said. "Being HIV-positive doesn't mean you have AIDS. Katy did a really good job, and she taught me a lot. We really wanted to promote some more awareness."

Bruske RAs Matt Zayko and Stacie Herriman sponsored a "Personality Survey with Mrs. Stone." This 45-minute presentation allowed students to determine their personality types according to the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). This survey illustrates the differences in people that result from where they focus their attention, how they take in information, the way they decide and the kind of lifestyle they adopt.

According to the MBTI, to determine your personality, you must ask yourself four questions: Where do you prefer to focus your attention, internally or externally? How do you acquire information, through sensing or intuition? How do you make decisions, by thinking or feeling? How do you orient toward the outer world, by judging or perceiving?

Stone gave the students lots of examples of what these kinds of people would be like, and, from these examples, everyone could determine their own personalities and find out a little bit more about themselves.

"It was fun, but you learned a lot," said Zayko.

Sophomore Ian Lytle said, "I found it very interesting how people can be placed in a limited amount of categories and how everyone fits into those categories. I never thought of being placed in a category that was so specific because I never really thought about what type of person I was until I was shown examples of the different personality/behavior types."

Stone establishes name in Alma community

By Maria Stephens
Freelance Writer

"People don't believe me when I say this, but when [President] Alan [Stone] first began interviewing at Alma, I knew this was the place, even before I'd visited here. And I did love it right from the beginning," said Jonieta Stone, Ph.D.

In her fifth year at Alma, a variety of service activities have settled Stone into the Alma community and continue to keep her, and thus, the College, "connected" with the community.

"Volunteering is something I did a lot in high school and college, but then when I moved around a lot for a while I couldn't do it," said Stone. "Now I have the opportunity to do it again."

Stone's activities include serving as Vice-President of the Board of Trustees of Gratiot County United Way, and serving on several committees of the Alma Chamber of Commerce.

One of the Chamber of Commerce committees Stone is involved with is the Keep Alma Beautiful Committee which, among other projects, plants flowers in downtown Alma each year.

Stone shared an experience with a high school student who was helping with the flower-planting project. "[The student] said, 'I never thought about who did all these things.' And I think when you begin volunteering you do realize that someone has to do it—if it's not paid for by your taxes, then it's the work of a volunteer," said Stone.

"That's why I think that the College student service organization [Students Offering Service] is so important," said Stone.

"You are also able to get to know people through community service, and get a feel for what's going on in a community—you are connected,"

she continued.

Stone's prior involvements included the Alma Symphony, and before she came to Alma, the YWCA. She also lectures at various campus events, such as the Women's Professionalism Workshop this past weekend sponsored by Gamma Delta Alpha, the Women's Honorary, and at a Bruske Hall function last week.

Although her doctorate is in education, her interests and knowledge span a range of topics on which she's asked to speak. Stone has consulted for small colleges in a variety of areas, and also worked for a publishing company, in addition to her post-secondary teaching.

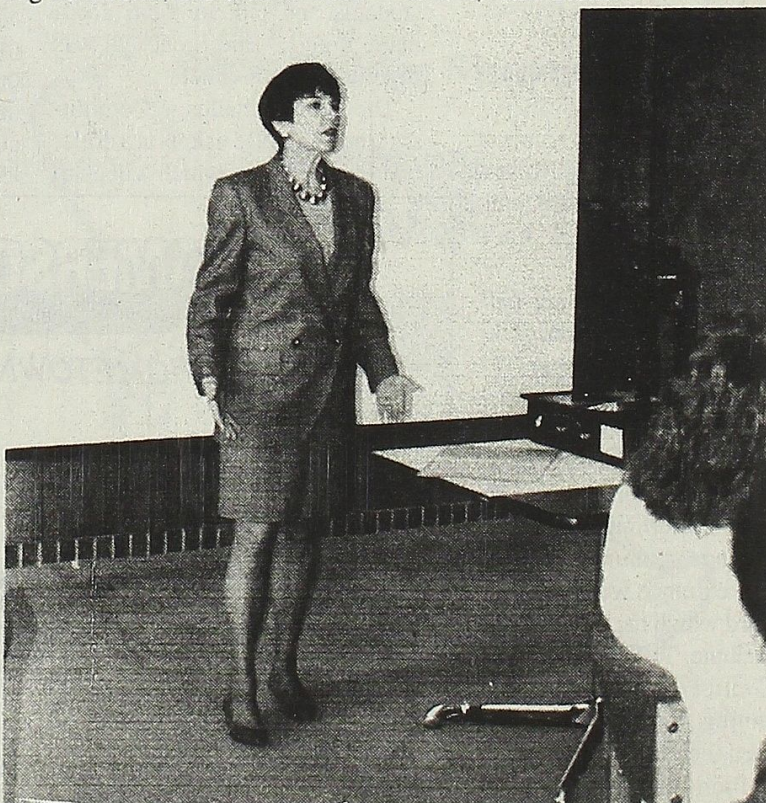
Now, Stone works part-time teaching undergraduate and graduate-level education courses. She teaches an undergraduate course at Central Michigan University during Fall Term, and a three-week-

long intensive graduate course at a program in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Some of the topics she covers include cultural awareness in the classroom and reading instruction.

"That [teaching] keeps me in touch with what's happening out there in education. Things change very quickly—it's hard to keep up. I also get the best of both worlds—contact with undergraduates, and also contact with teachers who are teaching right now and doing graduate work," said Stone.

Stone insists that the "adjustment" from the large Chicago suburb where she and her husband formerly resided, to "tiny Alma," has not been difficult, and her involvement in community service has aided the transition.

"Life in Alma is very easy—you can go to the post office to the store to wherever in five minutes. I think for married people it is ideal; I just love it," said Stone.



Jonieta Stone gives a presentation as part of her community involvement. Photo by P. Sandberg

Health Beat

Take steps to insure healthy tanning

By Sara Groves
Staff Reporter

How many of us have looked down at our naked bodies while bathing and thought it was scarier than the shower scene in Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*? It's that time of year again, the time when our bodies are whiter than the snow outside.

What are we going to do about it? There are three options. We can do an all-body make-up job (though it won't solve the shower problem). We can go and artificially tan our skin at a tanning salon. Or we can head South (or even West) over spring break. The latter two choices have caught on in a big way here at Alma.

"I don't think it's feasible to ask people to stay out of the sun all of the time," said Bill Clark, director of health services at Wilcox Medical Center. "Some dermatologists want people to keep their entire bodies covered when they will be exposed to the sun. But small doses of sunshine will not do irreparable harm to a person's skin."

If a person is exposed to the sun for eight to 10 hours a day, day after day, the skin becomes seriously harmed. Also, because of the continuous exposure, the skin does not have time to regenerate and repair, a necessary healing process after being burned or even exposed to

ning booth and in modest doses, artificial tanning is not any worse than actual sun," said Clark. "Things such as home booths are not safe, because the filters get jiggled around while the booths are being moved and then your skin is not as well protected."

gerous. But how do you protect yourself?

Do not stay in the sun for extended periods of time. If you will be in the sun, always wear a sunscreen of at least SPF 15 on your body and SPF 20 on your face. Although protection levels go as

the skin along with other topical agents such as Roulicain, Topicain and Roulagel. Also, if you can stand the smell, vinegar diluted with water causes a chemical reaction which reduces the pain and helps the skin to heal faster. You can also apply fragrance-free moisturizers, but be sure they are fragrance-free; otherwise they can cause a serious rash when applied to a burn. If that doesn't work, take Benadryl. That's right... Benadryl. This will also help block the pain.

If you get burned, do not go back into the sun for at least 48-72 hours. This time is necessary to allow the skin to regenerate and heal. You should also drink a lot of water to replenish the fluids you lost while out in the sun. No alcohol should be consumed for at least 24 hours since this will just put your body of the necessary replenishing fluids.

Finally, if your burn is so bad that you are suffering from side effects such as vomiting, headaches, severe pain and muscle weakness, seek medical attention immediately. These signs could point to heat exhaustion.

People who live in climates like ours have less chance of developing skin cancer until much later in life, while people who live in warm climates year around, develop skin cancer at much younger ages. However, it takes only one serious burn for a person to develop skin cancer later on in life.

the sun for long periods.

Clark suggests staying out in the sun for 30-45 minutes at a time while wearing a sunscreen of at least SPF 15. This varies with skin tones. A person with dark skin may stay in the sun for much longer than a person with very fair skin. However, nobody should stay out in the sun for hours on end.

But what about tanning booths? Clark doesn't feel that a tanning booth is any worse than actual exposure to the sun. Once again, artificial tanning is as safe as natural light—in small doses.

"As long as it is a reputable tan-

To dermatologists' dismay, Clark suggests people should go to tanning booths to get a base tan before heading off to Florida or Arizona where they will be laying in the sun for hours and hours. He doesn't condone going to a tanning booth to obtain that golden bronze look good enough for snagging babes in your bikini the first day of break.

"I encourage people to go to a tanning booth for a few times just to get a base and to keep themselves from burning," said Clark. "I don't, however, encourage getting a tan just to look good."

You know tanning can be dan-

high as SPF 50, dermatologists feel that people don't gain much protection after SPF 30.

Skin cancer can happen to people our age. People who live in climates like ours have less chance of developing skin cancer until much later in life, while people who live in warm climates year around, develop skin cancer at much younger ages. However, it takes only one serious burn for a person to develop skin cancer later on in life.

If you get burned even after following the advice in this column, there are methods to ease the pain. You can apply cool compresses to

Players prepare for Shakespeare

By Katie Novak
Feature Editor

Hard work and creativity mark the preparations for the Alma College Players' Winter Term production of William Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* scheduled to open Friday, Mar. 19, at 8 p.m. at the Gratiot County Playhouse in St. Louis.

The 18 cast members, along with director Philip Griffiths, have challenged themselves in the past weeks of rehearsal. The production has an intriguing twist. Rather than the medieval setting of Italy, *Much Ado* has been moved to the wild, wild west of the 1850s.

While the adapted costumes, music and Mexican adobe set design capture the western theme, the play itself remains true to Shakespeare's comedic combination of love, gossip, mass confusion and marriage through a variation of the archetypal storyline—an innocent woman falsely accused of wrongdoing, scorned by her lover and eventually reunited with him.

Much Ado chronicles the relationship of Hero, the governor's daughter, and Claudio, the young lord of Florence, who stand against the calculated actions of Claudio's malcontented brother Don John. This story combines with the witty subplot of Beatrice and Benedick, characters who conceal their love through out-

ward displays of distaste for each other.

The extensive student cast includes junior Rob Douglas as the proud soldier Benedick, first-year student Sarah James as the fiery-witted Beatrice, junior Molly DeLind as the calm and lovely Hero, first-year student Stephen Sobieski as the debonair Claudio, sophomore Kimberly Whitson as the motherly Antonia, senior Fred Feleppa as the fatherly Leonato, junior Sharilee Hines as the loving and concerned Ursula, first-year student Patrick Cotner as the devilish Don John, first-year student Julie Johnston as the bawdy Margaret, junior Chris Kukla as good-hearted Don Pedro and first-year student Todd Kettler as the trouble-making Borachio.

Other cast members are: senior Brad Weidemann, wise Friar Francis; sophomore Mike Jura, Sexton; junior Daacon Schiller, Conrade; senior Jeremy Evans, Verges; first-year student Drew Pike, first watch/messenger; senior Scott Schoessel, Dogberry; and first-year student Brian Corrigan, second watch/Balthasar.

The cast will perform five additional productions: Mar. 20, 25, 26 & 27 at 8 p.m. and a 3 p.m. matinee Mar. 21. Tickets may be reserved in advance by calling 463-7130 afternoons during the weeks of performance. Prices are \$5 for adults, \$4 for high school students and \$2 for Alma students.

TOP TEN MOST BOGUS THINGS ON EARTH

10. The Donut Diet.
9. Cars that can talk.
8. "Do Not Remove Under Penalty Of Law" tags on mattresses.
7. Pop quiz on Monday following major weekend.
6. 1-900-DEBBY.
5. Lawn flamingos.
4. Imitation cheese.
3. Referee in Professional wrestling.
2. Did we mention the pop quiz?
1. Drugs.

PARTNERSHIP FOR A DRUG-FREE AMERICA

Feb. 23, 1993

Helpful Hints

Tips for midterm stress relief

By Cathy DeShano
Staff Reporter

It happens twice a year every year. Coffee pots percolate at undogly hours of the night, radios hum softly and Sam barrels up the stairs delivering pizza. Some call it cramming, some call it last minute studying, others call it hell. Back by popular demand, it's time for mid-term exams!

Perhaps professors enjoy sitting up late at night, watching Letterman while grading papers; or maybe they enjoy seeing students bounce off walls because they're on a caffeine high. In any event, mid-terms piled one on top of the other can create stress in even the sanest of persons. There is a method in which you can avoid the stress factor: don't study!

Boycott mid-terms. Now is your opportunity to say "no." Think about it: if you don't know the stuff by now, you probably never

will. You've gone to class every day (almost). And you take excellent notes. Except for maybe those 10 pages you can't read, you've got a real understanding for the material covered in the class.

And there are so many other things you could be doing, like watching *Beverly Hills 90210*. After all, isn't it more important to know who Dylan has finally decided to go out with rather than knowing each of the characters in William Shakespeare's *Henry IV*? Shakespeare has been dead forever; what more can be said about him?

Or maybe you want to hang out at the Highlandaur. You know, sit back, drink a few pitchers with your friends, shoot some pool. They say alcohol loosens your inhibitions; maybe you'll become so uninhibited that some great inspiration will hit you the next day and you'll have a history essay which fills an entire blue book.

If these two ideas seem a little

risky, and you know you just can't totally blow off tests, then fake it. Pretend you're studying. Call up a few friends in your class to get together and study. Sit around and talk about the good old days like when gasoline was only 90 cents a gallon, or when mom and dad really believed you were throwing up in the morning because of a 24-hour stomach flu, or when high school teachers used to feel sorry for you so they postponed the test a week. Toss around a couple of statistics as to the rate the ozone layer is depleting and why, just to make it look and sound like some thinking has taken place.

Whatever method you choose, make sure it's the one for you. Try out a couple of them until you figure out which one fits. Whatever you do, abstain from cramming; it can cause premature aging and take away from quality party time.

O'Shea captures 1992 Research Writing Contest

Winners of the 1992 Alma College Research Writing Contest were announced Tuesday, Feb. 9, by Eugene Pattison, professor of English. The contest invites students to submit papers written for classes during the current academic year.

Judges representing the three divisions were James Mueller, associate professor of economics, Ted Hertzog, associate professor of mathematics and computer science and Michael Selmon, assistant professor of English. Carol Bender, assistant professor of English, served as contest coordinator.

First Place (\$100):

Sharonne O'Shea, 1992 graduate, for her essay, *The Sinking of the Panay*.

Second Place (\$50):

Deanna Bergdolt, senior, for her paper, *The Relationship Between Exercise and the Frequency of the Menstrual Cycle*.

Third Place (\$25):

Aaron Munderloh, senior, for his paper, *The Effects of Isokinetic Training on Wastus Medialis and Semitendinosus Muscles*.

Calendar of events

February 23-26

CAMPUS:

Tuesday, Feb. 23

Chemistry/Biochemistry Bi-weekly Seminar Series
7 p.m., Dow L-2

ACUB Coffeehouse: Teresa
8 p.m., Van Dusen

Thursday, Feb. 25

Gelston Hall Program: Body Image
7 p.m., VanDusen Fireside

Saturday, Feb. 27-Sunday, March 7

Winter Term Recess

OFF-CAMPUS:

Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant:

Tuesday, Feb. 23

Poetry presentation:

Detroit history

7 p.m., Lake Superior Room of Bovee University Center

CMU Symphony Orchestra
8 p.m., Warriner Auditorium

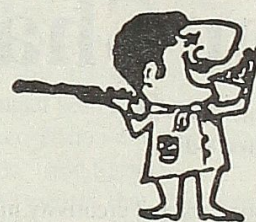
The Orchestra presented the Young Artists Competition Concert



Junior Kelly Marino performs at the piano during the Alma Symphony Orchestra's concert Sunday afternoon in the Dunning Memorial Chapel. Photo by A. Mull

For Alma's best pizza call...

**PIZZA
SAM'S**



463-3881

463-3910

Open:

Weekdays at 3p.m.

Sat. & Sun. 12p.m.

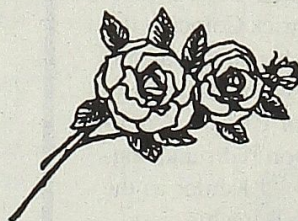
*Send That Special Person
In Your Life A Flower*

FROM

BOB MOORE

463-3333

123 E. Superior St.



1 9 9 3

HOMECOMING

COMMITTEE

POSITIONS

AVAILABLE

* Dance

* Parade

* Publicity

* Special Events

Applications can be picked up from Gelston Hall Director, Becky Spartz - Ext. 7600.

Interviews will be held during the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th week of March.

Deadline for Applications:

Thursday, February 25th

Earn \$500-\$1000 weekly stuffing envelopes. For details - RUSH \$1.00 with SASE to:

GROUP FIVE
57 Greentree Drive
Suite 307
Dover, DE 19901

**Church
Jewelers**

Celebrating Our 60th Anniversary

**Reliance Watches by Croton
SPECIAL 50% Off**

113 E. Superior
463-5012

Women fall short, drop from first to third place

Scots must win MIAA tournament to defend national title

By Lisa Shoemaker
Sports Editor

Last week's games against league leaders Calvin and Adrian were billed as the biggest of the year for the women's basketball team. They entered the week in charge of their own destiny. Victories against Calvin and Adrian would have handed Alma College a repeat MIAA title. But as has been the Scots' Achilles heel all season, they were again unable to convert in the "big" games.

In Wednesday's first-place match-up against Calvin, the Scots fell victim 62-61 to the Knights. Saturday, Alma entertained Adrian in a game that would determine second place in the MIAA. The Scots saw their lead evaporate in the last two minutes of the contest, however, as Adrian pulled-out a 76-74 victory before a stunned Cappaert Gymnasium crowd.

"We just have not been playing well," said junior Kelly Jaster. "We just seem to be going in spurts."

"We have to convert our offensive chances," continued Jaster.

On Wednesday, Calvin posted a 36-23 halftime lead spurred by six three-pointers. Alma came back from its lackluster first half to out score Calvin 38-26 in the second; however, the Scots were never able to get closer than two points. Senior Lauri LaBeau's three-pointer in the waning sec-

onds closed the margin of defeat to 62-61.

The Scots were led by Jaster with 14 points on 6-11 shooting from the field. LaBeau added 13 points including three assists and three steals, and junior Katie Mans chipped in with 10 points.

On Saturday, Alma had the unfortunate opportunity to encounter Adrian's Sarah Ruete. Ruete, a sophomore from Plymouth, was Alma's nemesis as she broke out for 25 unanticipated points, on 8-13 shooting (3-4 from three-point range).

The first half was nip-and-tuck as Adrian headed to the locker room with a 31-28 halftime lead. The Scots exploded in the second half, however, surging to a lead as large as seven points when senior Colleen Wruble converted a three-point play to make the score 68-61 with 4:07 remaining. But, from this point on, an Adrian onslaught pulled the Bulldogs back into the fray.

Adrian went ahead for good 72-71, with 1:12 remaining. At the :40 mark Alma was forced to foul sending Adrian's Karen Baird to the line. She converted making the score 74-71. Alma got the ball back with :24 seconds but Wruble's shot fell short from the top of the key.

Alma again got the ball back with :08 seconds, but sophomore Michelle VanDamme's three-point attempt charomed off the rim. Ruete was fouled, and con-

Women's MIAA Standings

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Calvin	11	1	16	7
Adrian	10	2	18	6
Alma	9	3	14	8
Albion	6	6	11	12
Hope	3	9	8	14
K'Zoo	3	9	6	17
Olivet	0	12	0	22

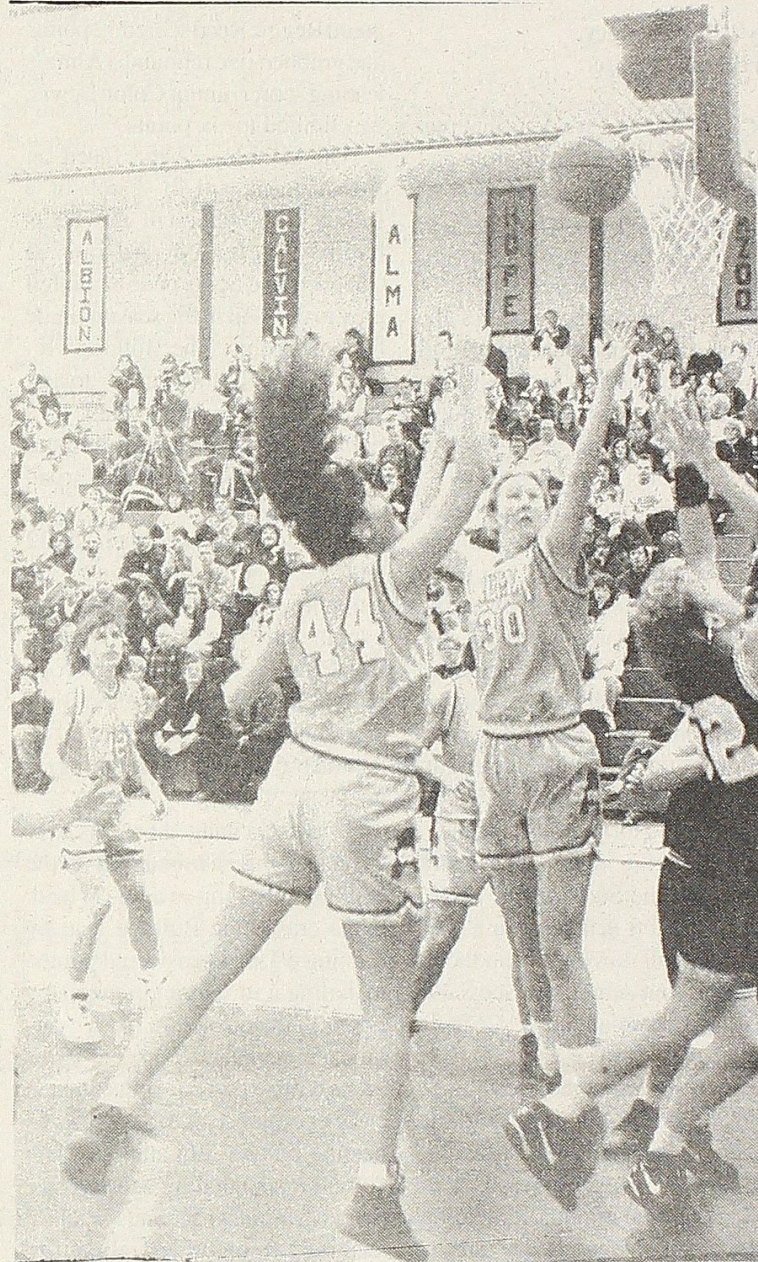
verted two free-throws to ice the game for Adrian. LaBeau hit an uncontested three-pointer at the buzzer to cap the scoring 76-74.

Now that the league title chase is over, the Scots must now regroup and focus their attention on the conference tournament. In order for the Scots to defend their national championship, they *must* win this week's MIAA tournament to receive an NCAA tournament invitation.

Winning the tournament will be a formidable task for the Scots, especially since it appears likely that they will again have to face perennial foes Adrian and Calvin (both on the road) in order to win the tourney.

"Calvin and Adrian are playing at the top of their game right now," said Mans. "Our team likes to be the underdogs though. We play better when our backs are against the wall. It is all or nothing for us right now."

"All that really matters is next week," said junior Susie Kieffer.



Juniors Kelly Jaster and Tara Sherman leap for the ball while sophomore Amy Doucette looks on. Photo by P. Sandberg

Danca sets his diving sights on Nationals

By Brett Powers
Staff Reporter

Radu Danca is not your typical Alma College student. Origin-

nally from Romania, the sophomore has qualified for the NCAA Division III nationals in diving for the second year in a row.

Danca, along with swimming and

diving coach Greg Baadte, will be traveling to Atlanta, Georgia the second weekend in March for the diving nationals. "It is being held at Emory University. It is the same pool that will be used in the 1996 Summer Olympic games," said Danca.

In order to qualify for nationals a diver must get above 435 points in 11 dives at two different meets.

"The first time I made the cut-off was at the Christmas Invitational. I was not trying to make nationals; I just had a very good meet. It was my best meet of the year," said Danca.

"He [Danca] qualified for the second time, on Jan. 29, at the Hope meet," said Baadte. Since Danca qualified twice on the three-meter board, he is also now eligible to dive the one-meter board at nationals.

Last year, Danca placed 22nd on the one-meter board, and 25th on the three-meter board at nationals. "Last year was a great experience for Radu. He was one of only a few first-year students to make it there," said Baadte.

"I really got a chance to see the kind of dives I have to do to place well at nationals. Last year, I just did not know enough dives to do great at the national meet," said Danca.

Danca's performance this year has been excellent. He has won all of his matches this year except one, which Baadte attributed to "an off day."

"He is already way beyond where he was last year. We are hoping for him to place in the top 16 this year. That way he will receive enough points for the team to have a national ranking," said Baadte.

To be more competitive at nationals, Danca has incorporated more difficult and complex dives into his repertoire that will, if done correctly, produce a larger point spread based on the margin of difficulty. "I learned a back two and one-half and a reverse two and one-half. This should help me to get into the top 16," said Danca.

But before Danca can worry about nationals he has to compete in the MIAA conference meet this weekend. Danca said, "I really hope to finish at least second at the conference meet."

Danca is an EHS major, with a possible psychology minor. "I hope to go on to grad school and become a physical therapist," said Danca.

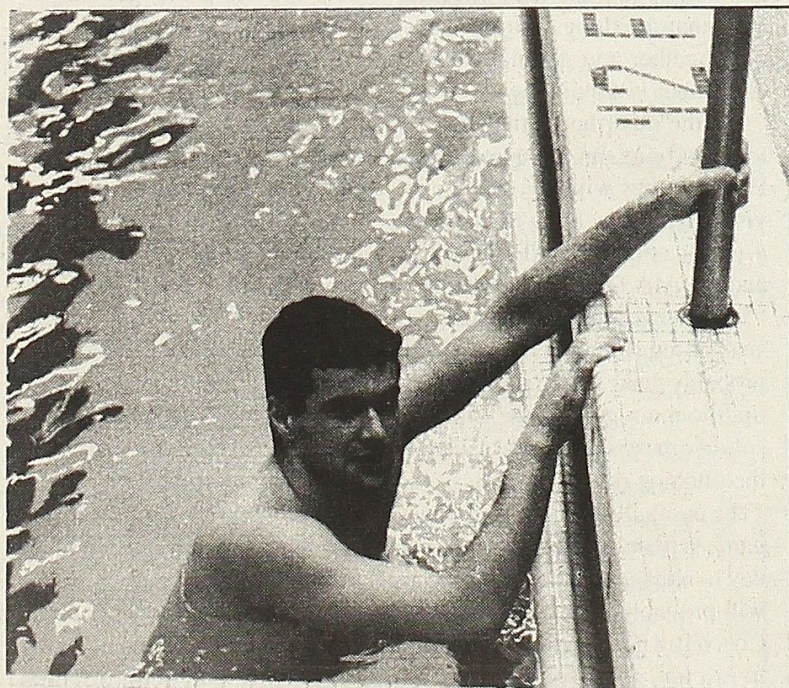
Danca came to America during high school from Romania. He now lives in Chesterfield, Mich.

Danca came to Alma with a limited diving background, which mostly consisted of training he received in Romania up until the age of 12. "When I came here last year, coach [Baadte] said that if I practiced hard I had enough talent to go to nationals; I guess he was right," said Danca.

"He is a very hard worker, and he has incredible concentration and focus. That is how he has come so far so fast," said Baadte.

Danca does not just dive during season, but also works at his sport off season. During the summer he dove a couple times a week with a club team, but he has different plans for this summer.

"If I want to be really competitive at the national level, I have to dive all year round. This summer I hope to stay here at Alma so I can dive every day," said Danca.



Sophomore Radu Danca trains for his second NCAA Division III appearance. Photo by J. Johnson

Feb. 23, 1993

Scots drop final two regular season games

By Bill Ballenger
Freelance Writer

Going into last week's final two MIAA contests versus Calvin and Adrian, the men's varsity basketball squad had an opportunity to improve on their 4-6 league record and gain a favorable seed in tomorrow's opening round of the MIAA conference tournament. But the Knights, fighting to remain atop the conference, and the Bulldogs, determined to avoid a winless season, had plans of their own.

On Wednesday, Calvin clinched a share of the MIAA crown with an 86-68 victory over the Scots. Even Cappaert Gymnasium—where the Scots accumulated a robust 4-1 league record—wasn't enough to knock off the 1992 Division III champions. The Knights would later win the conference outright, dumping the upset-minded Kalamazoo Hornets in overtime.

Sophomore Matt Lotterman's basket put the Scots ahead 17-10, with 13:10 left in the opening half. But it was all downhill from there, as Calvin out scored the Scots 29-9 to take a commanding 39-26 half-time lead.

Calvin stretched their lead to 22 points at the 13-minute mark of the second half. The Scots valiantly cut the deficit to eight points with just under nine minutes remaining but were unable to get any closer.

Sophomore forward Todd Blomquist led Alma with 18 points and eight rebounds, while junior

guard Reggie Reed scored 12 points and grabbed five rebounds. Alma's leading scorer, junior Colon Lewis, was limited to six points.

On Saturday, Alma faced an Adrian team still in search of a league win. Although the Scots handily defeated Adrian at Cappaert, the Scots once again fell prey to the road in the season finale for both teams. The Bulldog victory extended the Scots' losing streak to three, dating back to a Feb. 13, loss at Kalamazoo, and dropped the Scots' MIAA road record to 0-6.

The Scots extended their 29-22 halftime edge to 48-36 with 9:34 remaining in the second half. But over the subsequent 3:12, as coach Bob Eldridge put it, "all hell broke loose." During that span, the Bulldogs out scored the Scots 21-2, behind 6-6 three-point shooting, to go ahead, 57-50.

The two exchanged baskets over the ensuing three minutes, with the Bulldogs clinging to a 66-60 lead. Alma erased the Bulldog lead by running off six unanswered points, including a turnaround jumper by Lewis at the buzzer, to force overtime at 66 apiece.

Lewis provided the Scots with an early overtime lead, 70-66, by connecting on two shot attempts. But Adrian responded by scoring five points in as many seconds to take a lead they would never relinquish. Lewis drained a three-point shot as time expired, to draw the Scots to within one, 76-75.

Men's MIAA Standings

	Conf.		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Calvin	11	1	21	2
K'Zoo	9	3	19	6
Hope	7	5	17	7
Albion	7	5	16	7
Alma	4	8	9	15
Olivet	3	9	7	17
Adrian	1	11	7	17

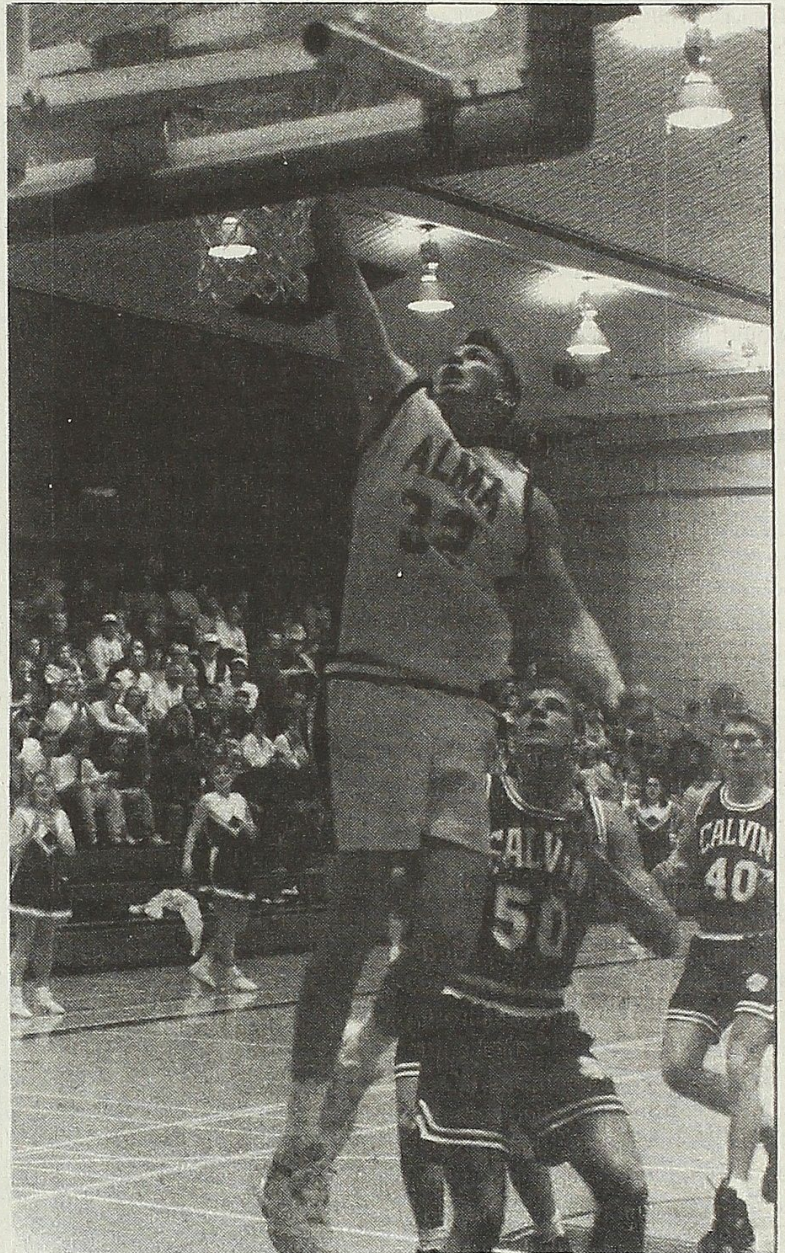
Alma (9-15 overall, 4-8 MIAA) had four players score in double figures. Lewis connected for 30 points, Lotterman added 12 and Blomquist finished with 10 despite fouling out with five minutes left in the second half. First-year player Hedlun Walton came off the bench to score 10 points. Lewis also snagged nine rebounds and assisted on six occasions.

"It was a game we had in the bag," remarked Lotterman. "We let it get away from us."

"It happens every time we play on the road," Walton said. "We play well except for five minutes and end up losing."

"We were in total control of the game until they hit six consecutive three pointers," said Eldridge. "I have never seen a game when we were in total control of the tempo and pace and then all hell broke loose."

"I haven't seen such a drastic turnaround in such a short span of time in my 21 years of coaching," said Eldridge.



Sophomore Todd Blomquist lays up an easy two points while two Calvin defenders observe. Photo by A. Torrence

Spring sports travel south for sunshine training

By Jennifer Cosbey
Freelance Writer

"Florida or bust!" This is what is on the minds of many spring sport athletes this week. Baseball, softball, tennis and track all have at least some members of their teams heading down to the "land of sun and fun" to get in some extra games and practices.

Fundraising is essential for Alma College athletes to make the spring trip. Each athlete is responsible to fund a portion of their trip, whether it be transportation costs (air fare) or meal money. This financial commitment on the part of the athlete is intrinsic to Division III programs.

Both the men's and the women's tennis teams are going to be spending their days in the Orange Lake Resort. They will be playing a total of five matches, in addition to several scheduled practices.

The tennis teams will be competing against NCAA Division II schools. Women's tennis coach Deb Mapes commented

that the teams are looking forward to the "outstanding competition." Mapes and Brian Zimmerman, the men's tennis coach, are very optimistic despite the tough schedule.

Zimmerman said, "Practice time is really limited up here due to the facilities, so this is a great opportunity for us to play a lot." He continued, "This gives us a chance to really build up some team unity and gives us and excellent start on the season."

Along with the games and practices, the tennis teams hope to get in a trip to Disney World, Epcot and MGM Studios. If not, the area they are staying in offers a golf course and a lake for a little rest and relaxation when time affords.

The tennis teams have been doing fundraisers for this trip throughout the school year. Their primary source of revenue included the sale of 50-50 tickets at football games. Both teams are planning to sell Alma College clocks in the spring to further their fundraising efforts.

Meanwhile, the softball team is headed for Fort Myers, FL. Here they will be playing a total of 12 games in six days. Due to the full

schedule, coach Denny Griffin doesn't anticipate having any scheduled time for practices.

The majority of their competition will be Division II and III schools. However, they have one game scheduled against a Division I opponent—the University of Oklahoma.

All the sites for the softball games are ten minutes from the team's hotel, at the same complex used by the Minnesota Twins. Having the complex so close allows for the addition of more games to the schedule.

When the team doesn't have games, they are hoping to get some "sun time." Other things planned for their free time include a karaoke night sponsored by the parks and recreation organization, which is putting together the game schedule. Attending the dog races and a major league exhibition game are also recreation possibilities.

The main fundraising activities for the softball team have included working the concession stands at home football and basketball games. Team members have also held a car wash, parked cars for

high school playoff games and sold candy in order to raise money.

Griffin said the trip, "Let's us get out early and play some softball, and helps bring the team together more than anything. Getting everyone together and getting to know each other is a major key."

On the other hand, the baseball team is flying out to Panama City, FL. Here they will play mostly Division III teams, but will also play a junior college, a NEIA college and a NAIA Division I school.

Since a majority of the team consists of returning players who will probably make up the starting lineup, the main goal of the trip is to solidify these starters and establish the pitching rotation.

The baseball team has a very busy game schedule, but does have one day to relax and recover. The team will probably go to the beach, but Coach Bill Klenk really wants them to rest up.

Raffles, car drives and upcoming alumni contributions and a baseball garage sale comprise the majority of the team's fundraising. This fundraising will pay for the majority of the trip, but the players

will probably have to pay some of it on their own.

Coach Klenk said, "This is a great chance for us to get out and play baseball, and get out of Michigan." He continued saying, "The trip will give us a chance to evaluate ourselves as individuals and as a team. We have a better idea of where people fit into the program, but until we get down there and play we can't be sure about playing time."

Finally, only a few members of the track team will head to Florida. Usually the whole team goes during the break after Winter Term, but this year they have an important meet. Instead, some of the runners are taking it upon themselves to go down to Florida and train, making it more of an individual trip.

All the coaches seem to agree that these trips are not only good for practice and getting settled into playing, but also serve as a good bonding experience for the teams, allowing them to get to know each other better and increase their team spirit and unity.

Sports Commentary by Brad Engel

The luster of baseball returns with spring

Sunshine. The smell of freshly cut grass. Sunshine. The "whack" of wood meeting leather. Sunshine. Tobacco and sunflower seeds. Sunshine. The opening of spring training for Major League Baseball.

Ah, yes, baseball has thrust its head up from a winter's hibernation. Sleeping since October, it awakens once again to signal the advent of warm summer breezes and nights at the ballpark.

Baseball always has a way of making one forget about the problems and complaints levied against the sport after the World Series ends. There is something about the sport that captures the imagination and awe of the young and old alike. Forgotten are the outcries against the million-dollar salaries of career .213

hitters and pitchers with E.R.A.'s above 5.00. Washed away are the bad sentiments against the owners who have "lost touch with their fans."

Yes, baseball, in all its splendour, can even cleanse the racist comments of Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott from the palate of the loyal fan. But what is it about the game that completely captivates the American public?

Is it the superstars who pull in multi-millions a year? I don't think so, most of these guys have whined and cried so much that they have totally separated themselves from "Joe Fan."

Is it the new expansion teams in Florida and Colorado? Possibly this is exciting in Florida and Colorado, but the rest of the country doesn't really want to see teams

with 25-139 records.

Could it be the remodeling of old ballparks and the construction of new ones? Naw, it's fun to go to a stadium for the first time, but in the end you don't go to a game to marvel at the amazing layout of the bathrooms.

It has to be the game itself, right? It's just the good old-fashioned game of baseball that keeps people coming back, year after year. Wrong! With games dragging out to over three hours, fans often forget just exactly what they came to watch.

Sunshine! The answer is sunshine! The reason baseball is so popular in America is the sunshine at the games. The people of this country are so tired of being couped up all winter watching *Wide World of Sports*, that they

come out in droves to the ballpark when the teams come to town.

Realistically, there is nothing better than the feeling of sitting at the ballpark on a warm summer's night. The smells of fresh popcorn and peanuts meld with voices of vendors peddling their wares. The whole effect of the ballgame is much stronger than the game itself. Just being out in the open air with all the activity and commotion makes the action on the field secondary.

To "take in a game" is to do more than buy a ticket and a program and just watch the game. It means watching, listening and hearing all that goes on in connection with the actual athletic contest. To do anything less would be a crime.

*** A final note on the Cappaert Crazies—the 10 or so wild and crazy guys who have remained loyal to the men's basketball team throughout the year. Even though the high-ranking athletic officials at Alma College seem perfectly content with a crowd that sits on its hands, and does everything but cheer and watch the game, the Crazies remained loyal. They continued to cheer at the Calvin game last Wednesday even though the aforementioned officials made repeated attempts to silence them. I think these officials should loosen up a ton and let the fans have a little fun. I bet there isn't one player on that team that approves of this high ranking behavior.

SID providing media exposure

By Danielle Salgat
Freelance Writer

Most people know Greg Baadte as Alma's swim coach, but few know about another interesting and important title he holds. Baadte is also the Sports Information Director (SID), and along with the assistance of several student interns, accomplishes many tedious but yet significant tasks that tend to be overlooked.

Baadte has been the SID for two and a half years, and his work load is shared with one assistant and approximately five to seven statisticians per sport season. They are chiefly responsible for creating rosters and programs for all home games. Also, they handle press releases and the recording of all the statistics and records for each game. These tasks involve a great deal of time, but thanks to a very fast and efficient computerized system the work load has been greatly reduced in the switch from hardcopy to computer software.

"We made the whole SID program automated to handle any statistic," said Baadte. "We keep a very good database of stats." Public relations writer and photographer Skip Traynor also uses the program.

"It is fantastic... everything is right there," said Traynor. Baadte credits him with helping handle a lot of the duties, such as press releases on athletes and their achievements.

"Alma has a different approach than the other MIAA schools,"

said Traynor. "They have full-time SID's that are responsible for everything, but here the jobs are split up."

The busy position includes a lot of interaction with other MIAA schools which is one reason it is closely linked to public relations. "We do a lot with public relations, basically that is what SID is," said Baadte.

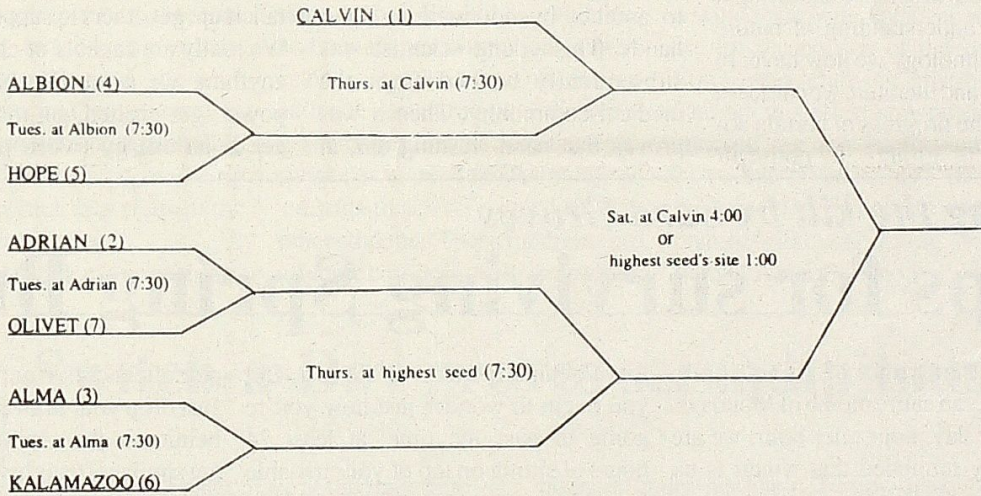
The duties of the sports information director can not only be described as busy and demanding, but also full of responsibility. That responsibility extends to student statisticians such as junior Helen Greene. She is the statistician for all football and basketball games. Her duties involve keeping records of everything that happens, whether on the court or on the field.

"I have assists, rebounds and all the stuff in between," said Greene of her current work in Cappaert Gymnasium's pressbox. "If I don't make it to the game they don't have stats."

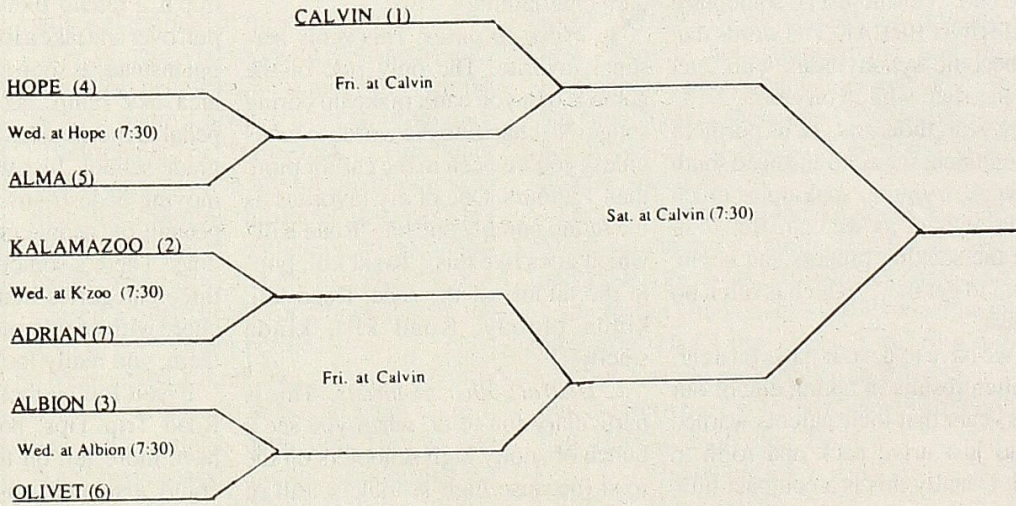
"I have a caller, and type in all the stats play by play," said Greene, who is in her third year as a statistician. "After the game, we distribute the stats to the radio stations, coaches, newspapers and even parents."

There is obviously a multitude of tasks involved in being a sports information director. It is because of the efficiency and accountability of Baadte, Traynor and their various statisticians that Alma has such a successful and productive program.

WOMEN'S MIAA TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS



MEN'S MIAA TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS



Gold-N-Gems Jewelers

110 E. Superior St.
Downtown Alma
463-5891

Full Line Jewelry
& Watches
Complete Jewelry
Repair



HELP WANTED

* EXTRA INCOME "93" *

Earn \$200-\$500 weekly mailing 1993 UWTI travel brochures. For more information send self addressed stamped envelope to: Travel INC., P.O. Box 2530, Miami, FL 33161

Feb. 23, 1993

Don't rock the boat

Do not be afraid to question authority

By Jason Ricks
Freelance Writer

Here in college we are supposedly learning to enter the real world, the "professional" world. To become "professionals," we should currently practice "professional" activities. What "professionalism" entails is a quasi-stringent, yet often inconsistent, code of ethics which requires us to follow the rules, conform to protocol, follow societal standards, avoid controversy...in other words, **DON'T ROCK THE BOAT.**

Alma College is defined as a Liberal Arts school. At this Liberal Arts school we get to attend classes that cover a variety of subjects. In these classes we have the opportunity to learn many different things; from science and math to literature and society. One of the most important, but often underlying, themes in nearly all of our classes is progress.

Progress in science has brought us the understanding of nature and technology we now have. In history and literature we can learn about the progress of certain societies or groups. In political/

sociological courses we can learn about the progress of governments, law, economics and, again, society.

In nearly every single example of human progress, some individual or group of individuals has achieved something new or has improved

fact, greatly reduce infection rates in hospitals.

Where would we be now if people would not have fought for desegregation, women's suffrage, free speech and every other freedom, privilege and piece of technology we presently enjoy?

and effectively channeled).

If you think someone is wrong, tell him/her so and tell him/her why. Back up your claims with rational arguments. If things go wrong, make a choice. It is often said, "No pain, no gain." That is occasionally true. Progress usually

dent, your student newspaper, tell any and every resource you can. Get supporters. If enough people join your cause, **YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.** Don't stand idly by or think your hands are tied by petty politics.

This College, its students, its faculty, its policies and its administrators are not perfect. If you find a flaw, do something about it. We are urged, usually subtly, to go with the flow, but if you hope to benefit or benefit others by changing someone's decision, a rule, or even someone's position, you have to question it/them. Ask why. Sometimes change comes with little effort, sometimes it just takes that one person to say that one tiny word—"WHY?"

Don't be afraid to question authority. Challenge it! Make people answer for their actions; ask them why. Challenge the complacency and apathy of people on this campus who affect your ability to fulfill your job requirements or affect your personal life. This challenging is how to become "professional"—by standing up for what you believe; not by relenting to practices or actions with which you disagree.

Are you afraid to rebel or reveal the truth because you need a letter of recommendation or you need to remain in someone's good favor? Think about it. Should your questions or testimony really go unheard just so you can get a better job next year, whether it be on or off campus?

something by doing something differently. These people did not conform; they broke the rules. They went against the norm and did something controversial.

They rocked the boat.

And once they rocked the boat, they had the gumption to stand behind their causes. For example, in the late 1850s, physicians were appalled at the suggestion of a young scientist that doctors may spread infections from one patient to another by not washing their hands. This young scientist was subsequently banned from the medical community. Then it was proven that hand-washing did, in

Don't be afraid, Alma College (students and faculty/administrators). Rules and norms are not infallible dogma. They can change. Rules and societal standards are merely guidelines of how to live, not explicit instruction manuals. If you think you've got a case, fight for it! Fight for what you believe in!

So you did or believed in something controversial. If it is something you truly believe in or desire, talk it up, get others to support you. We really are capable of changing anything we want. We have the power; get excited, get mad—anger is an energy (when properly

requires some degree of sacrifice.

Are you afraid to rebel or reveal the truth because you need a letter of recommendation or you need to remain in someone's good favor? Think about it. Should your questions or testimony really go unheard just so you can get a better job next year, whether it be on or off campus?

If you disagree with some policy or an individual's or a group's way of doing something (or not doing something), then plead your case. Tell your friends, your RA, your hall director, your professors, your advisor, your boss, your dean of students, your provost, your presi-

Lifting the kilt by Sara Groves

Tips for surviving Spring Break

It's that time of year again. February...an entire month of Mondays. Day after day, hour after hour, we are constantly reminded that winter is no where near being over with. Surrounding us is nothing but slush and grey and yellow snow. Not what I would call very pretty reminders.

But then, the two words that we learned to live for even as young children remind us that winter does not have to end. We will just go someplace else. SPRING BREAK. The words that have become synonymous with "get out of the state while you can."

Every year, thousands of us northern college students pack up and head south for a week, trying to soak up as much sun and alcohol as we can. But first, before the soaking process can begin, we have to get there, which is often no easy task.

First we have to get our paws on a car. This often results in taking one of our friends' cars that their parents warned them to just drive back and forth to school. Usually this is a compact little sucker that you try to fit as many of your friends into as possible. Although this is more economical, because not only do you save money by riding in a Chevette, you also have seven people chipping in for gas. You do, however, discover sides of your friends that you never knew existed before.

After beating the world's records for fitting as much as possible in a car, it is time to head off into the land of palm trees, sun and sand. As you pull out of the parking lot with the bottom of your car scraping cement, you are glad to

leave behind the land of the lost. But you begin to wonder just how you're going to pass the time...at least 24 hours of sitting on top of your irritable friends.

So, I have taken the liberty of compiling a little *Vacation Road Trip Tip Sheet* (say that 3 times fast). All of the suggestions have been road tested by none other than moi, and dare I say, not only do they pass the time, but they are darn entertaining.

1. *Make up songs.* This is my personal favorite. The only rule of the game is that you can't make up boring songs. No changing the words to tunes unless you've been in the car for more than 15 hours. One of my favorites is the future number one hit, "Road Kill" which goes like this: "Road kill, lyin' in the middle of the road. Road kill, kinda bloody. Road kill, kinda smelly!!!"

2. *Distract other motorists.* This is particularly fun to do when you see a bunch of snotty high schoolers on the road (because high schoolers, full of raging hormones, are under the mistaken impression that they are *it* and deserve to be knocked down a few pegs). Pull up next to a car and have your passenger lean out the window and point at the enemy's tire. Then have everybody in your car start screaming, "Tire! Your tire! Your tire is flat!!!" Then laugh as you watch them waste valuable vacation time checking for flats.

3. *Moon other motorists.* I admit this is not the most mature thing to do to pass the time. Maturity levels dissi-

pate after hours in a cramped Chevette. Just drop your drawers and hang your heinie out the window. Women can get similar effects by just driving placidly along with no clothing on top. Tres chic and very European. O.K. Maybe not, but it's a good line to tell the cops who pull you over.

4. *Drive through rest areas at top speeds.* So your car doesn't go over 50. The rest area speed limit is 15 m.p.h. Pretend like you're going to pull over and take a little driving break, but instead, as soon as you hit that rest area exit ramp, accelerate. Put the pedal to the metal as we used to say in grade school. Just watch out for slow moving pedestrians and animals, especially old people, children, and small dogs. There's something about those three categories that really strikes a chord with people and if you hit any of them, you really look like a jerk.

If you follow these little Vacation Road Trip Tips, not only will you have more fun on the road, but you could also end up in jail. Which, granted, is probably not the best place to soak up the rays, but it sure would be a good story to tell your grandkids someday. But remember, breaking the law is actually a pretty good way to pass the time (not that I'm condoning breaking the law or anything, President Stone). I'm just saying that you should have fun every second of spring break, even while you're on the road. And if that means dropping your drawers in front of other motorists or driving through rest areas at top speeds, then so be it.

Opinion Porpourri

by J. Spalding

Do you know where your 'Pig Book' is?

The Alma College *Facefinder*, better known as the "Pig Book," states on its first page, "Alma College does not make the Facefinder available to persons or organizations outside the campus community." Now, I know it is possible, even probable, that Pig Books are released by Alma students to different sources, but while I was paying a parking ticket at the Alma Police Department I saw an interesting sight. One of the officers was browsing through a Pig Book on the desk. I guess I have a hard time believing that any student would give a Pig Book to the police (no pun intended in the last sentence!). Anyway, I wonder who did give the *Facefinder* to the Alma Police Department?

Are bowls the most used item in Marriott or what? It seems like a person can never get one when they need one...

I thought the toilet paper antics at the men's basketball game against Calvin were pretty cool. I know some people will complain about the technical foul and ensuing three-pointer that Calvin made—what amounted to a five point play—but I'll go on record as believing that the whole incident shook the Calvin players up—at least for a little while. Don't worry Coach Eldridge, I'm sure toilet paper throwing won't become a game ritual at Alma College...

The only thing I was worried about when throwing the toilet paper was killing someone with the hard, coarse grade of tissue they give us here at Alma College...

Is anyone else counting the days to Spring Break? I swear that I've had a cold for about four weeks now. I just want to go somewhere warm and replenish my spirit and recuperate my body...

Well, here is my quote for this issue. I think it's a good one. I don't know who it's by, I got it from a book I read on John Kennedy. "There are three things in life which are real: God, human folly and laughter. The first two are beyond our comprehension, so we must do what we can with the third." Sometimes we can't answer all of life's questions, and sometimes we cannot always explain the things that happen to us, but we can always laugh them off and enjoy our own and others' humor...

Alma campus in need of more non-alcoholic events

By Amy Havens
Freelance Writer

An estimated 7,500 violent crimes have been reported on national college campuses for the 1991-1992 school year. These crimes, including rape, accidents causing death, assault, robbery and vandalism, usually involve alcohol. As a first-year student, I can begin to understand why these crimes occur far too frequently. The thought of totally removing alcohol from America's college campuses is far too impossible of an idea to ever realize; however, making sufficient non-drinking options to both drinkers and non-drinkers would help control the problem. While Alma College does not advocate drinking on campus, it indirectly endorses alcohol consumption by failing to offer adequate alternatives to drinking parties and local bars.

As all first-year students at Alma College, I spent 10 days on campus for Pre-term. I was very impressed with the effort put forth by the College to entertain its first-year students. We were given an opportunity to attend a Pre-term dance. This involved a majority of students and relieved some much-needed stress from the academic workload. I also attended the "Night at the Races" sponsored by the Alma College Union Board (ACUB). I remember meeting many people that night and having a really great

time. However, once Fall Term began I noticed a major shift of entertainment to drinking parties. For me, this change was a major disappointment. Being a non-drinker I felt alienated and wished that non-alcoholic activities would be offered.

campus, Karen A. Leonard, assistant director of student activities at the University of Notre Dame, feels that the option to attend a non-alcoholic social event is essential and part of the school's responsibility to its students. Another college, Baldwin Wallace, has also

ing and substance abuse have begun to change. A study performed by Henry Wechsler and Nancy Isaac reported that while drinking to get drunk is on the rise, abstinence from substances is also much more popular today than 12 years ago. America seems to be in a health

parties, they fail at promoting student interaction. This area is where the College has failed to provide for its non-drinking population.

Numerous additional activities could be offered on campus to both deter students from drinking parties and also offer an option to those students who prefer a non-alcoholic atmosphere. Dances and theme parties could be held in Jones Auditorium or VanDusen. Activities like "Night at the Races," live game-shows, scavenger hunts, pool parties or even campus-wide "Twister" games could give students more of a choice on the weekends.

I don't want to deprive anyone of their right to celebrate the end of the week in the way they choose, but I hope someone will realize the need for non-alcoholic stress-relieving functions. This is our place of living, learning, working, socializing and having fun. Too many times drinking and having fun are directly correlated, and non-drinkers are alienated from the social scene.

It is about time the College takes a stand to provide a place to socialize for the portion of the student body who chooses abstinence. Though this effort may be slow to succeed, the new interest in health is bound to encourage the new movement. I just hope that the change will occur during my days here at Alma College.

I don't want to deprive anyone of their right to celebrate the end of the week in the way they choose, but I hope someone will realize the need for non-alcoholic stress-relieving functions. This is our place of living, learning, working, socializing and having fun. Too many times drinking and having fun are directly correlated, and non-drinkers are alienated from the social scene.

Alma's alcohol policy, as outlined in the *Student Life Handbook*, upholds Michigan legislation. But since the College can hardly enforce these laws behind closed doors, illegal drinking occurs frequently on campus. I feel offering non-alcoholic alternatives would deter some students from drinking. This suggestion is not to say that parties should be eliminated from campus entirely. Especially on the highly stressful campus of Alma, parties offer an outlet from the week's academic tension; however, it is not just drinkers who need to release this tension.

Other schools have realized this need. Even after a failed attempt at opening a non-alcoholic club on

recently attempted to open a non-alcoholic club on campus. This club is a renovated women's gym which offers live music on weekends, annual theme parties, dancing and a non-alcoholic atmosphere for its customers. Even though the college still competes with the bar/fraternity scene for customers, the club usually has 80 visitors on the weekdays and 200 on the weekends. Although this may not seem encouraging to economic minds, the students who visit the club greatly appreciate the chance to enjoy themselves in surrounding where they do not feel personally threatened, which they claim, is the case in a bar or party.

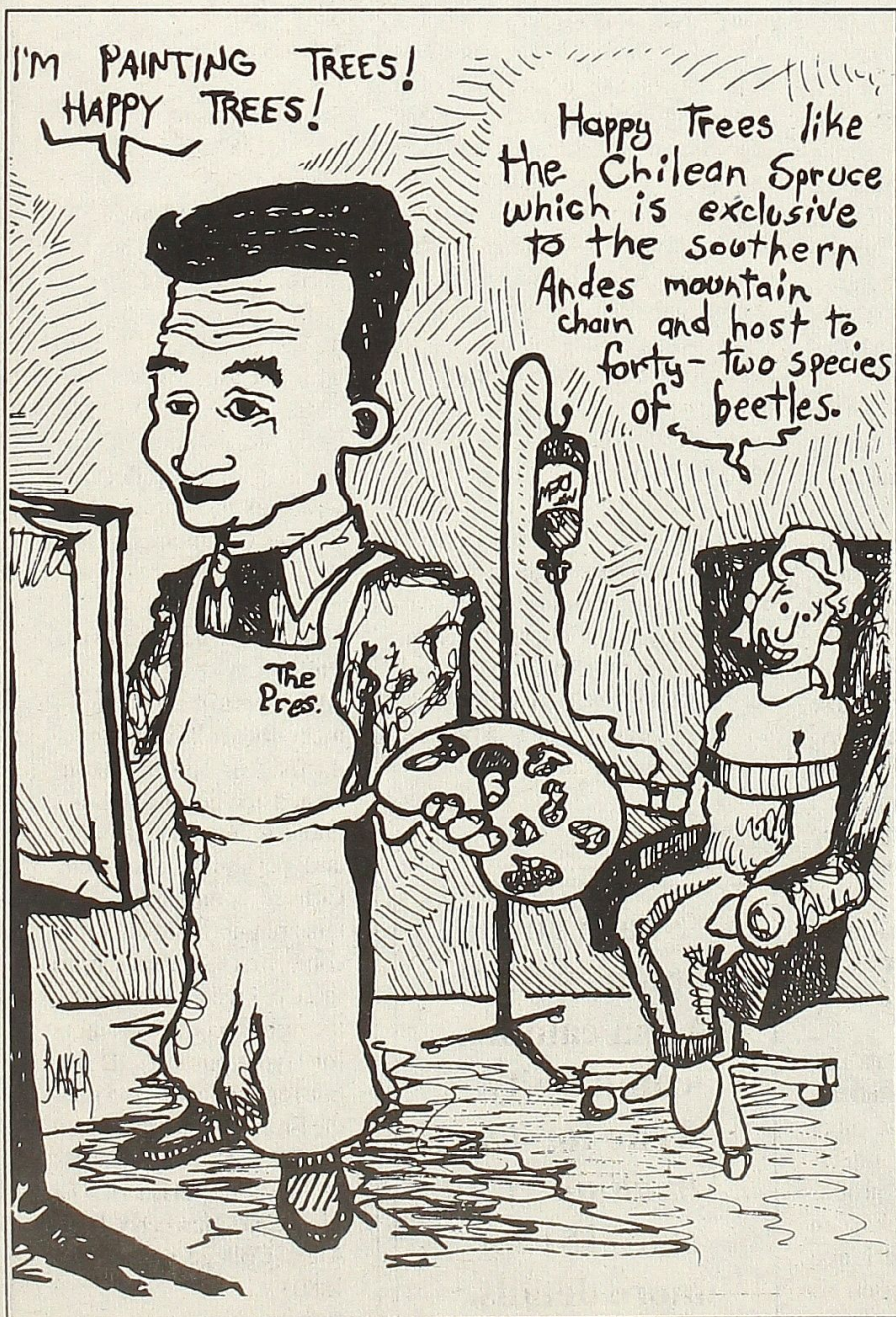
Recently, attitudes toward drink-

conscious craze. Now is the ideal time for our College to promote abstinence.

Our campus has various social events that allow students to socialize without alcohol present. ACUB offers bi-weekly movies and events such as Coffeehouse. BACCHUS, a substance awareness club, serves interesting non-alcoholic drinks at some campus functions where alcohol is available, and substance information to interested students. Alma offers free athletic events throughout the week.

The only problem with these activities is their inability to allow students to actively socialize with other students. These functions are all static entertainment, and, unlike

—Weird in a serious way by Dan Baker



Switch-a-Day proves serendipitous

Being in the right place at the right time—it is what artists count on. Luckily, I had the opportunity to observe Switch-a-Day in a very close way because of this principle. Namely, I was in Bob Rozier's, associate professor and chair of art & design, painting class on the fateful Tuesday when Alma College President Alan J. Stone traded places with a classmate of mine.

The student who received this opportunity is, as most people know, senior Katy Hamtak (whose name I always want to pronounce "Hamtramck" or "Hamstrack"). This honor was bestowed upon her for no other reason than her cunning business instincts, her charming brand of wry humor, her shoulder-length blond hair, and the fact that she purchased a raffle ticket for a buck during the 5:15 to 6:45 dinner period.

Personally, I think that we were the only ones to purchase tickets and from there it was just a matter of deduction. They looked at her, they looked at me and decided that she would be the least likely to leave all her clothes in various corners of The Presidential Office and dance naked on his desk to the tune of "Born To Be Wild."

To tell you the truth, I doubt that Katy thought about doing anything like that, but hey, seize the moment. Why not answer some questions that nobody else thinks to ask? Like weather or not Stone has a secret drawer full of yo-yo's, creepy crawlers and trick gum. Or maybe he has a panel in the floor that covers a large pit of Styrofoam to jump into. Are there marks in the ceiling where he habitually sticks pencils? Are there

boogers under his chair (I know it sounds gross, but we all do it at one point or another.)?

But Katy does not talk much about her stay in office. Although she does not look any different, since that day she has been a bit on edge as is indicated by the fact that she instantly sprints away at the mention of the word "booger." In all honesty and seriousness, I think they strapped her into the President's swivel chair, intravenously fed her concentrated Mountain Dew, and forced her to watch 10 hours of National Geographic specials.

On the other end of the bargain, President Stone was in my painting class for an hour and a half. I knew ahead of time that he would be there, but I had no idea that it would be in an apron! Had I remembered to bring my camera, I would probably be able to demand that the Heritage Center be renamed after my dad. Heck of a gift idea, Huh!

"Happy birthday, dad!"

"What is it?"

"A Performing Arts Building! Ha!"

However, to my pleasant surprise, President Stone is actually a pretty good painter. By looking at the fruits of his stay, you just knew that somewhere along the way, he picked up a brush and said, "Hey.... This is a brush."

So, I think that it was a good experience for all. Stone got a better appreciation of an Alma College schedule, and Katy, although she is now addicted to caffeine and knows the migrational patterns of 30 types of whales, can say that she was president for a day.

Feb. 23, 1993

Staff Editorial

Spring Term requirement misunderstood

Spring Term 1993 brings with it all the promises the administration made a year ago at this time. In the Jan. 28, 1992 issue of *The Almanian* Jon Groteluschen, Vice President for Finance was quoted as saying, "The extra \$100 will help pay for arrangements to pay the faculty, as well as to cover the enrollment, which has greatly increased in recent years."

The \$100 tuition fee has gone towards the addition of 22 new classes over the last two years. Professors now receive a paycheck for the four-week Spring Term. For fulfilling their obligations to the students, the administration and faculty deserve a round of applause.

The major jump in class numbers occurred last year, from 24 to 44 classes. At the same time, students were told they would have to pay the \$100 tuition fee beginning with 1993.

The addition of those classes opened many doors for students. More students had the opportunity to take a class they wanted to take, not just one they could get in to. The College effectively dealt with the need for more classes.

Twenty-eight classes closed during pre-registration this year, but only 10 were closed at the end of Wednesday, the day designated for sophomore pre-registration. Over three-fourths of Spring Term classes were still available for first-year students on Thursday.

As such, the \$100 tuition fee has gone to the right places and has done a world of good for the College. The fee has allowed for better instruction from more instructors and a much wider course selection.

Regardless of the \$100 tuition fee in addition to the \$273 board fee (based on last year's information)--a bargain price if you stop to think about how much one Alma College credit hour costs, first-year students have always complained about the system of pre-registration, designed to give upperclass students the opportunity to take classes required for graduation. However, with the addition of new classes over the past two years, first-year students have a better chance to get in to classes they want to take. So why do their complaints persist?

Probably the number one reason student complaints persist is the lack of knowledge regarding the College's intentions in requiring two Spring Terms to graduate. Spring Term allows faculty and students an opportunity to partake in classes not offered during the regular academic year. It provides a time for more exploration and the use of different course formats.

Moreover, Spring Term allows faculty to teach a topic that is of particular interest to themselves. Allowing faculty to have more freedom in their course selection/determination, brings a refreshing, enthusiastic look to teaching and encourages students to want to learn more despite having just completed a rigorous full academic year.

The College promotes Spring Term as an intensified course--a full term of knowledge and learning crammed into four weeks--that has many valuable and unique learning experiences attached to it. It is this educational opportunity that helps distinguish Alma from other midwestern liberal arts schools and serves to make the Alma graduate a well-rounded individual.

If you simply wanted to take courses in your major/minor and fulfill the College-required distributives, why did you even bother to seek out a liberal arts education, especially a school that further allowed you to expand your education into current topical areas and cultures through a Spring Term requirement?

Therefore, don't sit and complain about having to take two Spring Terms before graduation, unless you are a transfer student of sophomore standing or above in which case you are only required to take one, because you knew about that requirement when you made the decision to attend Alma. Take advantage of this opportunity to take a course, outside of your major/minor or distributive requirements, that intrigues you and sounds as if it would challenge you. Try something new and earn your liberal arts education; you never know when that Spring Term class may be useful down the road. Take a Spring Term and realize the long-term benefits for yourself!

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Hi, I'm Clay. You may not know me by name, but you've probably seen me around. Basically, I'm just another faceless heterosexual white male. Most of the time, I am content to sit quietly and watch things run their course. Recently, however, I have been a target of continual disrespect, and after reading the latest edition of *The Almanian*, I decided to do something about it.

Week after week, I am insulted and degraded by various members of *The Almanian* staff. Just this week, I was called apathetic and ignorant because of my failure to attend the marathon *Eyes on the Prize* showings. Another article labeled me as immature and irresponsible for reasons I have not yet been able to decipher. And of course there were the usual comments about my close-mindedness and insensitivity.

Has it occurred to any of the righteous combatants of oppression out there that insulting your audience is not the best way to make them sympathetic to your cause? The majority of *Almanian* editorials consist of someone insulting

someone else. Enough already! If, in the future, any of you decide that you've had enough of my apathy and ignorance, at least have the decency to say it to my face, instead of lumping me with the entire student body and thinking that I won't take it personally. Many of you who consider yourself champions of cultural sensitivity are guilty of the same stereotyping and name-calling that you claim to be fighting. This kind of behavior only serves to spark anger, which you should all by now know to be the biggest roadblock on the path to open communication.

Clay Brehm
Class of '94

Editor's Note: The article Brehm refers to in his first paragraph was printed in the Feb. 16 edition of The Almanian. It should be noted that the article entitled "Apathetic attitudes riddle diversity program," was written by Jeff List, a freelance writer, who is not a member of our staff. It should also be noted that only the Staff Editorial found on this page contains the collaborative opinion of the staff; opinion articles written by staff members are not reflective of the opinions of every member of The Almanian.

Dear Editor,

I agree with Maria Stephens that understanding non-European cultures will be imperative for our generation as we enter the working world in the "increasingly pluralistic United States." ("Distributive requirements should reflect cultural plurality," Feb. 16) I don't agree, however, that the way to do this is by requiring a non-European based distributive.

Such a distributive would be welcomed and enjoyed by many students, and for these students it would be beneficial. However, as Stephens pointed out in her article, these students already have options to choose from such as Eastern Religion and Women's Studies. Unfortunately, I feel many students would feel forced to take these classes, and may wind up resenting the group they have studied. I know this is an unpleasant scenario, but I feel that there are many people on this campus who are unintentionally close-minded. Such is the case when a friend of mine sees a black male student, and wonders what position he plays on the football team.

Such a requirement seems like such a good idea; it gives students the chance to read about other groups and to think they understand the problems these groups have faced. Endless books can never compare to experience though--isn't that the reason so

many professors stress the importance of internships? One can never truly understand the feelings of a minority group or any other that has been discriminated against until they can see and hear personal emotions. If you have trouble imagining this, think of Lucille Clifton. In person, her emotions and actions bring her poetry and literature to life. Currently, Alma College is showing its commitment to multi-culturalism through speakers and events including Joe Steffan, Geneva Smitherman and The Women's Resource Center. In conclusion, I would like to stress that I do agree that knowledge of non-European based cultures is important, even necessary for the success of our generation, but I feel this will be much more effective if each person who takes a class that offers this knowledge is doing so because he or she really wants to.

Jennifer Victory
Class of '96

Share your opinions with the Alma campus community. Write for *The Almanian*. Call ext. 7161 for more details.

The Almanian

Newberry Hall
Alma College;
Alma, Michigan
48801
(517) 463-7161

Editor-in-Chief:

Stacie L. Herriman

News Editor:

William S. Hull

Feature Editor:

Kathryn Novak

Sports Editor:

Lisa Shoemaker

Opinion Editor:

Heather Cummings

Investigative Coord.:

Brian Haara

Copy Editor:

William J. Johnston

Staff Reporters:

Cathy DeShano

Sara Groves

Brett Powers

Photo Editor:

Michael Stargardt

Photo Coordinator:

Jennifer McCann

Graphics Editors:

Robin Crumbacher

Brent Oeschger

Staff Artist:

Dan Baker

Business Manager:

Sarah Houghton

Office Manager:

Amy Joseph

Advertising

Managers:

Christine Perez

Stacy Schattschneider

Distribution Manager:

Amy Warner

Advisers:

John Ottenhoff

Eugene Pattison

Staff Editorial Policy

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.