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Senior Challenge Committee expects to surpass goal with 'Switch-a-Day' Raffle

New college entrance sign within sight

By Brett Powers
Staff Reporter

The Senior Challenge Committee for the class of 1993 is nearing its monetary goal. The committee plans to construct a sign to welcome people to Alma College, located diagonally from Evan's Drug Store on the corner of Superior St. and Wright Ave.

The committee needs to raise \$3,000 for the project. So far \$2,901 has been pledged.

"We've had a terrific response. A large number of seniors have pledged all or part of their security deposits, 'plus a number of gifts from organizations and individuals," said Pam Eldridge, associate director of annual giving.

The idea for this year's Senior Challenge was developed and explored by the 14 specially selected seniors on the committee. Seniors 'Scott Schoessel and Sara Slater serve as co-chairpersons.

"The committee researched a couple ideas before deciding on the new sign," said Eldridge.

The Committee has tried several different approaches in raising the money. "There was a telethon and a direct mailing" said Eldridge

direct mailing," said Eldridge.
"We have a Skip-a-Meal planned

for Friday, Feb. 26, and a Switcha-Day Raffle coming up," said Schoessel.

The raffle, which goes from now until the drawing on Feb. 5, is a chance for any student who buys a ticket to switch roles with the President Alan J. Stone on Feb. 9.

The winner will not be able to hang out in the Egypt room of the Stones' house or make long dis-

"A large number of seniors have pledged all or part of their security deposits, plus a number of gifts from organizations and individuals."
--Pam Eldridge

tance phone calls from Stone's desk. They will be too busy running around campus fulfilling the duties of the president.

"Whoever wins is scheduled to attend a staff meeting with all the vice-presidents of Alma, take a hard hat inspection tour of the new performing arts building, take his secretary, Jane Hall, out to lunch, meet with the head of the Physical Plant to discuss the placement of the new weight room, and open the mail for the day, to name a few of the duties," said Schoessel.

Schoessel continued, "If you win, the president will attend all your classes, go to lunch in the dining commons and maybe even hang out in your dorm."

Tickets for the raffle can be bought from any Committee member for \$1.

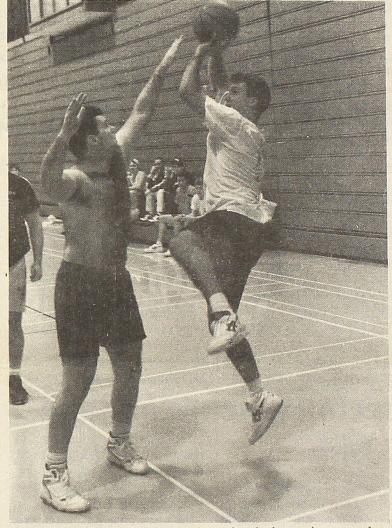
Senior Challenge exposes students to supporting an institution in a philanthropic activity.

"The purpose for the Senior Challenge is to teach the students how to give back to the college; how to be positive alumni in the future," said Eldridge.

Construction on the sign should begin in late spring or early summer.

"The final plans are being drawn up now. They want to have the sign done by next fall so that we seniors can see it when we come back for homecoming," said Schoessel.

I.M. basketball hits the courts



Junior Jason Robertson goes up for a shot during an intramural (I.M.) basketball game Monday, Jan. 25. I.M. sports draw a large number of male and female participants and run year round. While volleyball and softball boast co-ed teams, basketball is instead divided by gender and in three classes. Photo by M. Stargardt.

Alma students give gift of life to community

By Denise C. Vittitow Freelance Writer

On Jan. 21, Gelston Hall Council and the Theta Chi (Θ X) fraternity sponsored a blood drive in Jones Auditorium. Donations totalled 146 units, 26 from first time donors and only four short of the drive's goal.

"I'm extremely pleased with the results of the blood drive and grateful for all the help supplied by the volunteers from the Theta Chi fraternity and Gelston Hall," said Mary Jacques, American Red Cross drive coordinator.

Junior Jennifer Jarrard chose to give blood because, "It feels good to be able to help someone recover from illness or surgery who might otherwise remain ill without a transfusion."

Just one unit of blood can help three or four people. The whole blood donated is often broken down into blood products. Only five percent of the people receiving transfusions need whole blood. The other 95 percent receive blood products such as plasma, white blood cells, red blood cells, and platelets.

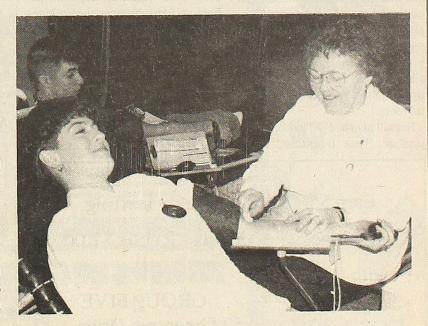
The Great Lakes Regional Blood Services supply blood to 34 counties and nearly 60 area hospitals. They are able to do this through the thousands of donations given each year by high school students, college students, and other community members throughout the Great Lakes area.

The projected goal is 147,000 units of blood for 1993-1994. The American Red Cross hopes to meet

this goal by running over 2,000 blood drives in the Great Lakes area throughout the year.

Although the Alma College campus supplies Gratiot County with 18 percent of its blood donations, this figure could be greater. Only 13 percent of the students on campus participated in the most recent blood drive. This is a relatively low percentage, considering 97 percent of all Americans receive at least one transfusion of blood or blood products by age 75.

The Alma community will again have the opportunity to donate blood Feb. 8 at the Alma Community Center and on campus Mar. 25 in the Jones Auditorium



Junior Jennifer Yirsa prepares to donate blood Thursday in Jones Auditorium, while sophomore Scott Steiding waits. Photo by P.

Sandberg.

Interview added to resident assistant selection process

By William S. Hull **News Editor**

The Student Affairs Office has modified the process for selection of next year's resident assistants (RAs). This year, each applicant must go through two interviews instead of one.

The deans, hall directors, and assistant hall directors held a meeting and decided two interviews would make choosing new applicants easier for both parties.

"The hall directors were the source of the change," said Kridler.

The new interview will be conducted as an in-hall interview by the hall director and RAs from that hall. It was added to alleviate bias.

"As long as resident assistants with biases are not included in the interview, the process will be okay," said junior RA Matt Zayko.

"Since the resident assistants are actively involved with the student body, it will be beneficial to have them included in the selection process," said junior RA Teri McDowell.

The in-hall interview replaces the group experience used in past years. Exercises in values clarification and ethical decision making were used in the group experience. They tested applicants on their decision making during certain situations. The inhall interview will cover similar exercises with questions testing the applicant during certain situations.

"It [the in-hall interview] will give the selection committee a better idea of what the person is like," said McDowell.

Selection of next year's RAs be-

percent. Resident assistants working during Spring Term receive oneeighth of their salary.

Applications will be available starting the following morning (Jan. 29) in the Student Affairs Office.

Applicants will apply for one of

to fill the open positions at the end of Fall Term," said Kridler.

Applications, resumes and recommendations for these positions are due Feb. 10. The Dean's Staff and Hall Directors will then go through and weed-out all the applications not meeting qualifications. Applicants failing to meet qualifications will receive a letter explaining why Fcb. 15.

In-hall interviews will run Feb. 17 until Feb. 25. These meetings last approximately 30 minutes. Results are due to the Student Affairs Office by 9 a.m. Feb. 26. Notification of the results will come in the mail on

Applicants receiving positive notification must quickly call the Student Affairs Office on Mar. 8 to arrange an interview with the Dean's staff and hall directors. They can set up interviews for Mar. 9 through

Applicants will receive their Status of Candidacy letters on or before Mar. 19. Selected applicants will have a group training exercise on Sunday, Mar. 28 at 4 p.m. in Van Dusen Fireside Lounge.

"We are trying to encourage people who are at all interested to apply," said Kridler. He concluded, "We are trying to hire the best people we can from the applications we

Tentative resident assistant selection schedule, Winter Term 1993.

Jan. 28 Informational Meeting, 7 p.m., Tyler Rotunda

Jan. 29

Application packets available in Student Affairs Office Feb. 10 Application,

resume, and recommendations due by 4 p.m. in Student Affairs Office

Feb. 15 First cut letters due to candidates Feb. 17-25 In-hall interviews

Feb. 26 In-hall results due to Student Affairs Office by 9 a.m.

Mar. 8 Students receive results of In-hall interviews Candidates make appointments for Dean's Staff/Hall Director interviews

Mar. 9-15 Dean's Staff/ Hall Director interviews and selection

Mar. 19 Status of Candidacy letters due Training Mar. 28 exercise for new resident assistants at 4 p.m. in Fireside Lounge

Feb. 10. The Dean's Staff and Hall Directors will then go through and weed-out all the applications not meeting qualifications. Applicants failing to meet qualifications will receive a letter explaining why Feb. 15.

Applications, resumes and recom-

mendations for these positions are due

gins Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. in Tyler Rotunda with an informational meeting to answer questions of possible applicants and to discuss what being an RA entails. Kridler usually fields questions of salary quite early in this meeting. First-year resident assistants receive 75 percent of their room rate, second-years receive 85 percent, and third-year receive 95 the approximately 21 positions opening up for next year (14 female positions and seven male positions). Six to eight alternates are also selected each year. All alternates usually receive positions sometime during the next year.

"This year we used all of the replacements again, and then had to go back and hire two more women

Bechill teaches on tape

By Chris Hayes Freelance Writer

What happens when a professor can't make it to the first day of class? Verne Bechill, professor of sociology, made a video appear-

Bechill, recently hospitalized for treatment of an infection of one of his heart valves, is scheduled to return the first week of February. To fill the gap, he decided to take a high tech approach to informing his students of the situation.

The 20-minute videotape emphasized the importance of the course, Sociology 353—Sex, Gender Roles and Relations. The tape included an outline of the course and also emphasized how the class will deal with very personal issues and a need exists for his students to be open in class. Bechill even gave the class the telephone number of his hospital room.

Bechill also had the students vidcotaped. They introduced them-

selves and described their lives in relation to the class. Bechill stressed to his class the necessity of being open and keeping what was said inside the class.

"He wanted very personal experiences from our lives that we could use in class," said sophomore Deana VanBuskirk.

Some may think that an absent professor creates a great deal of stress on the department and the Provost's Office. However, Alma College is used to filling the gaps of missing professors when they go on sabbaticals. Finding substitute professors follows a standard routine. Short term replacements generally come from within the department. For long term absences, the College consults lists of qualified professors kept on file by individual departments.

James Julian, associate professor of sociology, temporarily took over both of Bechill's classes (Soc. 353 and Soc. 301, Methods of Social Research).

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Large class produces few rushees Percentage of students signing rush lists drops

By Supriya Saxena Freelance Writer

"Go Greek!" exclaimed the signs around campus encouraging students to sign up for Winter Rush last week.

Dry rush officially started for men last Friday at 7 p.m. and remains in effect until Runouts on Saturday, Jan. 30. For women, dry rush started as soon as rushees signed the rush list two weeks

sistant Dean of Students Anne meet. Rathjen pushed the change to avoid excessive alcoholic rushing over the weekend. Dry rush keeps fraternities and sororities from serving alcohol to rushees while trying to coax them to join one group over another. National Panhellenic rules already forbid the use of alcohol or narcotics in any official rush setting.

Eighty-nine women and 86 men signed the rush lists. Figures show a slight downward trend over the past few years, particularly for women, but percentages of students rushing tell the real story. Despite the exceptionally large incoming class, rush numbers failed to increase proportionately.

Rathjen highlighted some of the positive aspects of the Greek

life, such as forming a network of friends and the opportunity to develop a variety of leadership skills within an organization. She also included the opportunity for alternative housing off campus as an option drawing some people to rush.

"I wanted to rush to meet more people and develop a support system of friends within the Greek system," said first-year student Phil Allmen.

Regardless of whether or not they pledge, many students feel rush is a Starting dry rush on Friday is a good experience and a good way to change from past years, when it meet new people they would not began the following Sunday. As- otherwise have the opportunity to

"It gave me an opportunity to understand the system and meet many people," said first-year student Erin Bush.

"I thought it was a good experience," said first-year student Heather Dean. She continued, "I met a lot of people and had a lot of fun doing it."

Although all students participating in rush may not elect to become part of the Greek system, Rathjen feels rushing is something everyone should experience.

"I would encourage everyone to go through Rush," she



Junior Tony Catania chats with first-year student Greg Giverson at the Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) smoker Sunday night. Photo by M. Stargardt.

Clinton Administration brings financial aid reform

By Cathy DeShano Staff Reporter

Wednesday, Jan. 20: new direction, hope, change. President Bill Clinton promised such things and more. How far will his agenda extend? Can the younger generation hope to share in a piece of these dreams?

As a new administration takes hold of the federal government, college students everywhere may find reforms in federal aid programs for college expenses. During Clinton's campaign, the President discussed several ideas concerning higher edu-

"It appears he has two initiatives.

One is to review the current body of law and make some changes. Congress just went through the reauthorization process and there is some talk of his administration looking at this reauthorization and reauthorizing it," said Tom Freeland, director of financial aid. "The number two thrust seems to be a national service component as either a requirement for receiving financial aid or for forgiving loans. Proposals on this might be quick in coming, within the next year or two."

Such public service programs could play an important role for students who owe money. Studies have shown an increase in students borrowing larger sums of money for their education. Although an increase in the total money students may borrow has occurred, the amount of federal grants and scholarships has decreased. As a result. fewer low-income students may attend college than do currently. Public service programs could prevent a decline in the number of lowincome students enrolling in col-

"I think Clinton's proposal of paying off loans through community service would be valuable and beneficial to both the community and the individual. The community can benefit because when you contribute to better the environment. schools, anything you do to volunteer can make a difference. A lot of people don't realize what a couple of hours can mean. By giving this as an option as a way-of forgiving loans, it can take the fear of starting a debt out of students," said firstyear student Gwen Downs.

Yet another way the Clinton administration may help college students is by loaning money directly to the students instead of using a middleman, such as banks. According to Freeland, the federal government hopes to conduct a pilot program to determine the effectiveness of direct loan availability. The pilot program will have a total of \$500 million to loan to students at 250 to 300 schools.

"We've investigated applying for being a direct loan pilot school. They will want to balance what schools get money so that every type of school is represented," said Freeland.

Direct loans should also cut out paperwork, making the application process easier for schools and students.

"I think it would be an easier process to cut out the middlemen. For example, I took a loan out through a Lakeview bank and then they transferred me to a bank in Virginia. Now all the paperwork has to be sent to Virginia where as before I could just go to my local bank," said sophomore Mike Jura.

Sabbatical allows faculty research Option not supposed to short department offerings

By Steve Rummel Freelance Writer

Alma College actively participates in a faculty sabbatical program, with supported work available every seven years. Five faculty members begin their sabbaticals this term, while two began last Fall Term.

Sabbatical participants this term include Nicholas Dixon, assistant professor and chairperson of philosophy; Kay Grimnes, assistant professor of biology; James Mueller, associate professor of economics; James Schmidtke, professor of history; and Joseph Walser, professor of religion. Eugene Deci, professor of physics, and Melissa Strait, assistant professor of chemistry, began their sabbatical work last term making a total of seven instructors missing from classes this term.

Strait spent time in Oregon com-

pleting the results of research with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) concerning the concentration of elements in meteorites. She is teaching in a temporary position at the University of Minnesota-Morris, expanding her expertise in the field of environmental analysis this term.

Qualified replacements are found within the faculty or hired from without on a temporary basis.

"There is no strain on the remaining faculty members, with the replacements," said Provost Ann Stuart. "It is a great enrichment opportunity for the person, and the faculty profits as a whole," she

Sabbaticals do not affect student to faculty ratios, according to Stuart. Reduction of the student to faculty ratio has come into the limelight as a wish for the new four year plan.

The revitalizing of the economics major and minor two years ago brought struggles to the surface in the department. The restructuring increased the number of students enrolled in the major from ten to fifty. While class size and class load increased, the number of faculty remained constant: two full-time professors and one part-time profes-

"When we submitted our fouryear plan to the College, we requested an increase from essentially two-and-one-half instructors to four full-time faculty members," said George Choksy, associate professor and chairperson of economics.

Replacements were not found for all the professors leaving on sabbatical. The economics department did not receive a replacement for James Mueller. Both Choksy and Jacquelynne McLellan, instructor of economics, had to add classes and condense some introductory courses into fewer sections.

Departments are currently working to fill seven positions—three replacements and four new positions-for the next academic year. Feelings exist on campus that even more positions should be opened for new instructors.

"We would like to hire an additional full-time member to our staff to divide the elective sections and introduction courses into smaller classes, and to be able to rely less upon part-time members," said James Hutchison, professor and chairperson of chemistry.

"I feel the benefits [of the sabbatical program] outweigh the shortterm difficulties, and in the long-run it makes the department stronger... Whenever a faculty member leaves, it creates a more difficult situation, but if the person is replaced by a qualified person, both parties attain benefits," he concluded.

Keeping You Informed

Senior Challenge sponsors Switch-a-Day Raffle

Raffle tickets are now on sale; the chance to run Alma College for the day is at everyone's fingertips. Senior Challenge committee members have convinced President Alan J. Stone to switch roles for a day with the winning student. Stone will attend all of the student's classes, while the student assumes the role of president for a day.

Tickets went on sale on Jan. 20 and the Committee will choose a winner on Feb. 5 during dinner. The winner will assume the presidency on Feb. 9. Tickets cost \$1 and are available from any Senior Challenge committee member. All profits go to the construction of an archway at the corner of Superior St. and Wright Ave.

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Scholarship recipients honored at Trustees dinner

By Cathy DeShano Staff Reporter

Most of us at one time or another wonder if our hard work and perseverance will pay off. Will that Saturday night of staying home and studying give us the extra edge in the end? As Trustee Honor Scholarship recipients found out Wednesday, Jan. 20, at a dinner held in Van Dusen, extra effort can indeed help.

The Trustee Scholarship is an award based upon such qualities as a superior grade point average, high test scores, extracurricular activities and other outstanding achievements. The Board of Trustees helps in determining what groups of incoming first-year students will receive one of Alma's most prestigious scholarships. Each year, a dinner is held honoring Trustee Scholarship recipients with a Board member serving as guest speaker.

This year's speaker, Dr. Dean Boles, currently serves as President of Interlochen schools and five years ago spent one week at Alma College for the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship. Boles' speech, "1993: A Cauldron for Cultural Change," focused on the changes associated with

a new party controlling the Presidency and the importance of adapting to this and other technological and cultural changes. With Clinton in office, Boles expects areas such as creative and performing arts to witness important changes.

"There has been a conservative movement in the country and a concern for obscurity in the arts. There has been discussion about funding for the arts. One would guess that with the new administration there would be greater freedom, experimentation will be alright. I assume that for those people in the creative arts, there will be an openness. The statement Alma College is making with the Performing Arts Center is an extraordinary point to make. Alma College is talking about an important aspect of its life," said Boles.

Those who attended the dinner had mixed feelings about Boles' speech, but felt some of his topics deserved consideration.

"I didn't like the fact that Dr. Boles said he was going to talk about 1993 and spent three-quarters of the time talking about the past. I thought some of the things he said about technology made us think

about the future and realized how important an education is," said first-year student Jennifer Stoepker. Many Trustee Honor scholars felt pleased with the opportunity to gather at the dinner.

"I see the banquet as an opportunity to meet people with more of your abilities and recognizing the fact that there are other students who have high achievements. I don't feel a lot of competition with the people because the scholarship isn't a competitive-based scholarship because once you earn it, you earn it," said sophomore Jeff List.

Other students agreed that the dinner allowed them a chance to meet with students who shared in the desire to succeed, but that there was little attitude of competition present.

"I always expect myself to do well in everything so receiving the scholarship didn't add any pressures. I don't think there is an attitude of competition at the dinner, rather a binding experience. You know that the people there share common attitudes and abilities by merit of their sharing the same distinctions at Alma College," said first year student Matt Beacon.



Senior Keith Erwin enjoys his last Trustees dinner at Alma College Wednesday, Jan. 20. Photo by Michael Stargardt.

Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar connects photography and memory

By Katie Novak Feature Editor

Yale University's Alan Trachtenberg, a Neil Gray Jr. professor of English and American studies, will discuss the association of photography and memory in a lecture titled "Photography and Cultural Memory in America" on Thursday, Jan. 28, at 8 p.m. in Dunning Memorial Chapel. His speech, which will include a slide presentation, is part of the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Program.

Trachtenberg, once a professor at Pennsylvania State University, has been on Yale's faculty since 1969, where he serves as chair and director of the graduate programs in

American Studies. Trachtenberg has also fulfilled visiting positions, including Fulbright professorships at Leningrad State University and the Kyoto American Studies Seminar at Doshisha University, Japan; the Caroline Werner Gannett Professorship in the Humanities at the Rochester Institute of Technology; and a professorship in the Science, Technology and Society Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Trachtenberg has been a fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences and of the Woodrow Wilson Center, Smithsonian Institution.

In addition to teaching, Trachtenberg has spent much of his scholarly life writing and editing

books. He received the Smithsonian Institution's Charles Eldredge Prize for outstanding scholarship in American art for Reading American Photographs: Images as History, Mathew Brady to Walker Evans. His other books include: Brooklyn Bridge: Fact and Symbol and The Incorporation of America: Culture and Society in the Gilded Age. Trachtenberg has also published

essays on Ameri-

can cultural history, concentrating on topics such as literature and technology and urbanism.

According to Joseph Walser, professor of religious studies and president of Alma's Phi Beta Kappa chapter, the Visiting Scholar Program provides 12 to 13 distinguished educators who visit approximately 100 colleges and universities, meeting faculty and students, participating in classroom discussions and giving public lectures. "The purpose of the program is to contribute to the intellectual life of the campus by making possible an exchange of ideas between the visiting scholars and the resident faculty and students," said Walser.

Other 1992-93 scholars include: Allen J. Bard, Hackerman/Welch Regents Chair in Chemistry at the University of Texas; Joel E. Cohen, professor of populations at Rockefeller University; Hubert L. Dreyfus, professor of philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley; Donald E. Stokes, professor of politics and public affairs at Princeton University; and Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz, professor of history and American studies at Smith College.

Trachtenberg will be on campus through Friday, Jan. 29, meeting with faculty from various departments and visiting classes. Before his lecture Thursday evening, he will dine with both faculty and student members of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society.

Africa Fellowship lets students teach, learn

By Cathy DeShano Staff Reporter

When people think of exploring the world, European tours, Carribean cruises and Australian hikes come to mind. Alma College wants students to consider frica,

The Africa Fellowship program allows students who are currently juniors to apply for a position at the Mayflower School near Ikenne, Nigeria. The selected student studies, teaches and travels in Africa for one school year,

"There are a million cultural differences," said Tammy Wrench, 1989-90 Africa Fellow. "As a female I found a lot. Here, women can do whatever men can do. There, women aren't respected. Here, teaching is a respected job; there, teaching is something people do if they can't get any other job. There are fewer modern conveniences; for example, I couldn't just pick up the phone and call someone because it was so expensive. I had a shower in my room but it was cold water."

Previous Fellows found themselves able to communicate, cooperate and exchange knowledge. English is the primary language at the boarding school. Past Fellows found their experiences allowed them opportunities to give insight into our culture and to enhance personal qualities.

"I got so much out of the program," said senior R.J. Webber, 1991-92 Africa Fellow. "A gaining of knowledge and understanding of other cultures and ideas gave me tolerance. I got a lot of satisfaction from helping others and knowing what I was doing was right,"

"Thope I gave them an understanding of our culture. The United States is viewed as a wonderful land and it was good for them to find out that we do have problems. I think the exposure to someone from a different culture really helped them," said Webber.

While in Africa, students spend a large percentage of time working with the children at the school. A typical day consists of morning assembly, four hours of teaching classes, a couple hours for lunch, a mandatory study time for the children, dinner, silent reading time and recreation activities. Former Fellows also took time to travel to the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Western and Northern Nigeria.

Applications must be picked up at the Provost's Office and returned by Feb. 15. All expenses, including round trip air fare, housing and food, will be paid by Alma College.

"Don't ever think of it as sacrificing a year or sacrificing anything. You can find out all these things about people and other cultures. I'd just say do it. It's incredible. You just need to think about if you want to take a year to be in a foreign land to teach and help people learn. It's very worthwhile," said Webber.



1992-1993 Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Alan Trachtenberg. File photo.



Students find it hard to get off-campus approval

By Sara Groves Staff Reporter

According to the residence hall policy statement, "Alma College is a residential college committed to the social and personal, as well as the intellectual development of the students." Yeah, right.

Okay, I'll buy the residential and intellectual parts. But, the rest is a little shaky. Alma College is committed to my social and personal development??? I mean, come on.

If Alma College is so committed to my personal and social development then it might consider letting me live off campus. But apparently learning how to take care of myself in a completely unstructured environment doesn't fall under the personal and social development category. If I want to develop socially and personally off campus at Alma College, then nine chances out of 10, I must do so by living with my parents or guardian. One hundred forty-nine students were living off campus during fall term. James Kridler, dean of students, estimated that over 100 of those students were living at home or with a guardian.

"I didn't want to live in the dorms anymore and there was no feasible way for me to get off campus except to live with a guardian," said Jen Cook, a senior. "I didn't fall under any of the categories for living off campus, and there was no medical reason for me to have to live off. So, although I am 22-years-old and perfectly capable of living on my own,

I must live with a guardian for the time being."

What is this anyway? Does the College feel that we are too irresponsible to survive by ourselves in an apartment or a house? Are the administrators worried that our arteries will clog because the only food we are capable of preparing is macaroni and cheese?

main living in the residence halls (i.e. people who actually enjoy living there.)

"I was sick of the hassles with RAs and I was tired of being told what to do all the time when I lived in a dorm, so I applied to live off campus," said junior Brad Engel. "Also, with my brother now attending college here, it would be more financially sound

went to four juniors," said Engel.

Although there really aren't many small housing options available, Kridler thinks there are plenty of choices. He also believes that these choices address the main concern of the majority of students interviewed who desired to live off campus.

"With the small housing and other on-campus living arrangements,

from childhood to adulthood, and the housing options and the atmosphere of the dorms do not foster this transition."

"Alma College doesn't necessarily have to take care of that (becoming more independent). There are other options available to students such as the overseas programs and the Philadelphia program which take care of that," said Kridler.

Now hold on just a minute here. Did I hear Dean Kridler right? Alma College doesn't necessarily have to help me become a more independent human? But doesn't that residence hall policy statement say that "Alma College is a residential college committed to the social and personal, as well as the intellectual development of the students." And, wouldn't you say that social and personal development means becoming a more independent person? I always thought so.

Becoming more independent is not exactly a laugh-a-minute. "Cooking for yourself isn't that much fun," said Kridler.

Okay. Now I get it. I have to live on campus (even if I hate it) or live with a parent or guardian because the College isn't really concerned about my social and personal development. That's just something they put in formal letters and releases to make themselves look good. They really want me to have a good time. That's so great of the College administration. I'm really glad that they're looking out for me like that.

"I didn't want to live in the dorms anymore...I didn't fall under any of the categories for living off campus, and there was no medical reason for me to have to live off. So, although I am 22-years-old and perfectly capable of living on my own, I must live with a guardian for the time being."

-- senior Jen Cook

"The juniors and seniors are showing the first-year students the ropes of living in a dorm," said Kridler. "The older students are there as role models. A lot of education occurs while living in a

So I'm forced to live with another person in a room that measures 12' by 12' so I can be a good role model? It seems to me that first-year students would get the hang of it without us upperclass people around. I don't think there would be a mad rush for all upperclass students to live off campus. There certainly isn't enough housing available in the area; that reason just doesn't fly with me. It seems that the first-year students would learn just as much from the upperclass people that would re-

for me to live off campus."

The school, however, didn't see it that way. Engel's application was turned down.

"Dean Kridler told me that there were small housing options available if I no longer wanted to live in a dorm," said Engel. "But what small housing options are there available to non-Greek, non-foreign language speaking men? None."

When Engel was applying to live off campus last year, the apartments on Superior Street were not yet a small housing option. However, when that option was made available, Engel and his friends applied to live there.

"We were told that the apartments would go by seniority. We had three seniors and one junior apply. We were turned down and the apartment there is the option to be more independent," said Kridler.

More independent? Now, in my book, more independent would mean having to pay your electricity, gas, water and phone bills every month. It would mean having to cook for yourself every day. Not only cooking for yourself, but making sure that you have food to cook. But the small housing options provide all of this independence for us. Students who live in small housing don't have to pay bills and many are forced to be on a full meal plan.

According to junior Laurie Hickman, "I think there are definite restrictions (when living in a dorm or small housing) which keep you from becoming fully responsible for yourself. College is supposedly a place where you make a transition

New Trustee provides parent's perspective to Board

Memmer adds local touch

By Cathy DeShano Staff Reporter

Trustee Nancy K. Memmer began her service on Alma College's Board of Trustees in the fall of 1992 and will be serving a three-year term as a representative from the Alma College Parents Association. Memmer is a seventh grade teacher at Alma Public Schools who, along with her husband, Larry Memmer, serves as co-president of the Parent Association. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Michigan University.

Q. What do you do as a Trustee, of the Board?

A. As I said, my husband and I are Parent Board representatives so my job is to represent the parents. I'm on a sub-committee called the Annual Giving Committee. Because I've only been on the Board a short time, I don't know whether any other projects will be coming up.

Q. How and why did you become involved in this higher education aspect?

A. We became involved when ourdaughter, Cathy Tloczynski, was

a freshman. We joined the parents organization because we've always been interested and things have evolved from there; they eventually asked us to serve as co-presidents of the Parents Association. As presidents, one of us must attend the Parents meetings, my husband goes to these, and I serve on the Board of Trustees. As members of the Alma Community, we've always been interested in Alma College and having a student attend there pushed that interest more.

Q. Where would you like to see the College in the next four years, and what issues are immediately important to you?

A. I really feel Alma College is a quality higher education institution. I think we need to continue to recruit good students. I think they need to continue to encourage students to look at all aspects of life and become the best person they can be. We may need to look at more opportunities to get students involved in real world experiences through such programs as internships. I'm very pleased with Alma College, so it's hard for me to find much wrong with it.



Nancy K. Memmer, new Alma College Trustee. File photo.

Biographical Sketch

- -Native of Memphis, Tennessee
- -First-year member of the Board of Trustees
- -Serves as Parent Representative on Board
- -Co-president of Alma Parent Association, along with husband Larry
- -Attended Memphis State University and Aquinas College; received BS at Eastern Michigan University (Major: Home economics. Minor: Science and Social Science)

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Calender of events

Feature

January 26-31

CAMPUS:

Tuesday, Jan. 26 Chemistry/Biochemistry Biweekly Seminar Series Dow L-2, 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27 Co-Cur Speaker: Joe Steffan Military Discrimination

against Gays Dunning Memorial Chapel, 8

Thursday, Jan. 28 Yoga demonstration by Tracy

MacCurdy House, 7 p.m.

Phi Beta Kappa Speaker: Alan Trachtenberg Dow L-1, 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29

WIAB Luncheon/Speaker: Jill Hebert

"Starting Your Own Business"

Sunday, Jan. 31 Spirit Plus Greek Wear Sale Tyler VanDusen Rotunda, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

MT, PLEASANT:

Friday, Jan. 29 CMU Speaker Series: Bernice Johnson Reagon Moore Hall Kiva, 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 CMU Speaker Series: Ysaye M. Barnwell "Singing in the African Tradition"

MIDLAND:

Saturday, Jan. 30 Midland Symphony Orches-

Moore Hall Kiva, 1 p.m.

Guesteellist Nathaniel Rosen Midland Center for Arts Auditorium, 8:15 p.m.

Movie review

Alive captures emotions of survivors and viewers

By Katie Novak Feature Editor

Alive: I was glad to be it after watching this film. Based on the true story of 16 people who survived a plane crash in the Andes mountains in October 1972 (a plane carrying the Uruguayan rugby team), this movie rates nothing less than outstanding. It's action filled; it's gripping; it's intriguing.

From the book of the same name by Piers Paul Read, director Frank Marshall (whose wife Kathleen Kennedy co-produced Alive) captured the young men's desperate struggle for survival, a 72-day struggle that included below-zero temps, near-starvation and numerous brushes with death.

Part of this chilling tale included the emotional and moral dilemma facing the hungry, emaciated survivors: whether to eat the only available source of food—the corpses of their 21 fellow passengers who died in the crash. Directors and producers handled the cannibalism issue delicately and effectively; it defi-

> The attention to detail in the film's setting and portrayal of events made for many moving scenes.

nitely was not as gruesome as most viewers had expected. Rather, viewers found themselves feeling and struggling along with the survivors.

setting and portrayal of events made for many moving scenes. According to a New York Times interview, both Marshall and Kennedy spoke with the actual survivors in Uruguay and explored the crash area in the Andes. The staging of the crash itself exemplified the quality of the cinematics with the crisp snapping of plane parts and fearful crying of the passengers. Viewers frequently cringed and some even screamed in this, as well as many other segments, of the film.

The quality of the acting proved no less exceptional. Ethan Hawke portrayed the emotional, intense survivor Nando Parrado, who served as the film's technical advisor. Josh Hamilton was equally as strong in playing a medical student who grappled with the moral aspects of their plight. Vincent Spano added depth to Alive as the team captain.

If you are ever feeling boggeddown by life's "major" problems, go see Alive and find out what struggling is really about.

ALIVE:

The Triumph of the Human Spirit

Based on the true story of the 16 survivors of a 1972 plane crash in the Andes and their 72-day struggle against below-zero temps, an avalanche and starvation.

Starring: Josh Hamilton Ethan Hawke Vincent Spano

Directed by: Frank Marshall

The attention to detail in the film's

Environmentally speaking

Council sees trees as an oasis of peace

to the wild animals that were hunted for food.

From the World Peace Council **News Review**

Every time I see or think of a tree, I perceive it as something pleasant and beautiful that refreshes our thoughts. Nevertheless, the more aware we become of the aggression nature suffers at the hands of its worst enemy, civilization, the more we realize what a wonderful gift nature offers us with its forests and plants.

This oasis of peace, tranquility and freshness has for millions of years been man's provider of everything from basic necessities, such as firewood to keep warm, to fuel for more complicated purposes, to the wild animals that were hunted for food. The living forests also contribute to better food and livestock production by providing fodder and shade, and to the protection of the environment, the struggle to hold back the accelerated process of ecological destruction.

Taking into account the fact that there are 500 million people who suffer from malnutrition, 15 million of whom die from it or related illfood comes directly from the for-

This calls for a list of the food that comes from the forests: the leaves, fruits, seeds and nuts; the saps and resins. One interesting statistic is that, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 336 million tons of fruit were consumed in 1989.

This oasis of peace, tranquility and freshness has for millions of years been man's provider of everything from basic necessities, such as firewood to keep warm, to fuel for more complicated purposes,

nesses yearly, our civilization's problem of malnutrition in a world of 5.4 billion people, which is expected to increase to 8.5 billion in the first two decades of the next century, can be appreciated in all its seriousness.

These figures drive home the full importance of the immense task of feeding and providing hygienic living conditions for this enormous population, above all when we realize that three-quarters of it lives in the so-called Third World.

This is the situation that calls for all more intensive care of trees. There is virtually no place in the world where the products of trees, whether cultivated or growing wild, are not consumed. That is precisely the situation in the Third World, where between 50 and 60 percent of

When we think of trees we must also remember the wood that provides work for millions of people in hundreds of thousands of industries. The problem's seriousness lies in the irrational exploitation that is exhausting forest reserves, against FAO recommendations that these resources be managed in a more systematic way, in order to ensure lasting benefits.

In 1989, the lumber trade brought 13.4 billion dollars to underdeveloped countries. Firewood is still the main source of fuel for cooking and preserving the food of two billion people. Nevertheless, uncontrolled deforestation has put us into a situation where, by the end of this decade, 1.3 billion people will be unable to satisfy their need for the precious resource. There are countries like India, for example, that are encouraging compost production in order to produce biogas and decrease the use of firewood.

In many of the world's inhospia table zones, trees become forage of the flocks of some 30 million nomadic shepherds, who have approximately four billion head of cattle, sheep and goat.

Furthermore, forests protect the topsoil from wind and rain. When there is no such protection, these elements annually wipe away millions of tons of useful land, turning areas where there was once vegetation into desert or semi-desert zones. The most efficient way of fighting, this deterioration of the earth is to plant trees or long grass. It is known that in some countries, China form example, grain production has increased by 20 percent thanks to such wind shields. Furthermore, the trees that are planted as protection againsterosion can also provide fruits, forage, shade and firewood.

For many years the farmer saw trees as an inconvenience, an obstacle—as they definitely are at times—as competition for receiving the sun's rays and nutrients, or as a breeding ground for plagues. These days, agro-silviculture teaches us to rationally integrate trees with agriculture and cattle farming. Trees not only provide shade for the flocks, they also fixnitrogen in the ground.

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Women stretch winning streak to four

By Chris Mansur Freelance Writer

The women's basketball team is still on a roll, with two victories this week extending its winning streak to four games. The MIAA race still remains deadlocked, however, as Alma, Calvin, and Adrian are tied for first-place with 4-1 records.

At Aquinas on Wednesday, the Scots dominated the game from the opening tip off. Junior Katie Mans led the Scots with 20 points and 11 rebounds, while senior Colleen Wruble chipped in 10 points.

The Scots shot an uncharacteristically good 88 percent from the free throw line as they hit 22 of 25 from the stripe. Aquinas shot only 42 percent from field-goal range.

On Saturday, at Cappert Gymnasium, the Scots returned back to MIAA competition as they faced league foe Albion. In a game riddled with miscues totaling a whopping 44 turnovers (Alma 20, Albion 24), Alma was able to pull out a resounding 58-45 victory.

Sophomore guard Amy Doucette sparked the Scots by coming off the bench with 12 points. Junior Kelly

Jaster lit up the three-point line hitting 3 of 6, scoring 11 points and seven rebounds. Senior and team captain Lauri LaBeau added 10 points.

For the game, Alma shot 42 percent from the floor on 22-52 shooting. Tough defense was once again a mainstay for the Scots as they limited Albion to just 35 percent from the floor (12 percent from the three-point line). The defense produced 15 steals, and Alma held a 38-31 rebounding edge. Sherman (8), Jaster and Mans (7) were the leaders clearing the boards.

Improved free-throw shooting once again benefited the Scots. They were able to convert 8-11 from the stripe for 72 percent. Albion was equally tough from the line shooting an identical 8-11.

Wruble commented, "We did not play well. We need to improve on offense, but we played tough."

LaBeau said, "Now that the first round of MIAA play is over, we can concentrate on one game at a time."

The Scots will continue in their title quest next week as they face MIAA foes Olivet and Hope.

"Keeping the team to-

gether, especially this year,

has been my main duty."

-senior Lauri LaBeau



The Alma College women's basketball team huddles during a previous game. File photo.

Senior Profile

LaBeau lends leadership, intensity to Scots

By Lisa Shoemaker Sports Editor

Some players are winners, some leaders, and others champions. Senior basketball all-star Lauri LaBeau is all three

LaBeau is a rare type of player—one who can combine pure athleticism and natural leadership abilities into a dynamic package of success. Certainly, no one can rival her performance in *big* games, as was evi-

denced during last winter's drive to the NCAA Division III National Championship. Her selection as MVP of the Final Four culminated a banner season for the 5'6" guard.

LaBeau is the undisputed leader of the women's basketball team, both on and off the floor. Her leadership abilities have already

resulted in a three-year tenure as team captain. She credits a direct approach as being the essence of her leadership style. "I am honest with everyone, both players and coaches," she said. "I think people respect me because I am not afraid to say what I think."

She says that her role as captain is her most important contribution to the team. "Keeping the team together, especially this year, has been my main duty," LaBeau said. "I can't tell you how many sleepless nights I've had worrying about our problems."

But those early season struggles for the team seem to be over, as the Scots currently post a four game winning streak and have boosted their record to 9-6 overall (4-1 MIAA). "Playing like we did in the Calvin win really helped us. We were so hot there was no way we were going to lose," she said, referring to the Scots' 85-70 victory.

"Earlier in the year, the National Championship just hung around our necks. We were afraid to make mistakes. It was really all psychological," she said.

"The pressure is off now; we have nothing to lose,"

she said. "We are underdogs, and once again have something to prove."

When asked, LaBeau described herself in three words that seem to capture the essence of her personality - competitive, stubborn, and confident. "I am always intense out on the court," she said. "I always try to play hard, no matter the sport. I do get up for the big games, but I don't always think I need to take control because our team has so many good players. My role is usually to just be the floor leader."

She credits her father, a high school coach, for having the most influence on her athletic career. "Whenever I have a problem with the team, I call my dad," she said. "I respect him and the advice he gives me because he has experienced these things with his own teams."

She adds that it was her father that taught her the proper fundamentals. "I don't think I am athletically that superior, but I know that I am fundamentally sound. I am still not satisfied with the way I am playing; it is just so hard in college to find time to really work on your game."

Regardless of what happens this season, LaBeau and her teammates will surely have numerous memories of last year to recall. Perhaps one the most special will be what they shared in the locker room during halftimes in the tournament. "It is really quite indescribable what happened to us during the Adrian game," she said. "We were sitting in a circle at halftime as we always did, but this time we had all joined hands. None of us even realized we had done it. It was as if we didn't have a care in the world, we were not worried or nervous."

It is these types of memories that LaBeau will be taking into her new career as a real estate agent. She will be going into business with her mother's company, LaBeau & Co., in the southern Detroit area.



Senior Lauri LaBeau drives in for ashot. File photo.

Blomquist, Lewis lead rally over Bluffton

MIAA standing falls to 1-4 after defeat at rival Albion's hands

By Bill Ballenger Freelance Writer

The men's varsity basketball squad split last week's contests, defeating non-league Bluffton College and falling to arch-rival Albion College. Their record currently stands at 6-12 (1-4 MIAA).

On Wednesday, the Scots recorded a dramatic 64-61 come-from-behind victory versus Bluffton. Bluffton extended its 35-34 halftime lead to 50-37 with 10:30 remaining. But Alma forwards sophomore Todd Blomquist and junior Colon Lewis sparked a furious 14-0 rally to put the host Scots ahead, 51-50, with seven minutes left. Blomquist and Lewis scored eight and six points respectively during the surge.

Despite the momentum shift and the animated crowd, the Scots were unable to put the opposition away and with two minutes remaining a Bluffton free throw knotted the score at 61 apiece. Lewis then added a free throw to give the Scots a slim one-point edge with 0:21 left.

Although Bluffton had possession of the ball and was in a position to win, the Alma defense was in no mood to drop another close one as they have many times this season. With six ticks to show on the clock, junior Reggie Reed made an open

court steal and was immediately fouled out of desperation. His two foul-line conversions concluded the scoring.

"I think this was another game that we played at the level of our competition," remarked Blomquist, who finished with a team-high 22 points on 6-9 shooting.

"They came in here and tried to put us to sleep..." said Coach Bob Eldridge, "and for thirty minutes they succeeded in lulling us to sleep. But for the final nine and a half minutes, we woke up and played great basketball."

On Saturday, the Scots headed south to challenge Albion, who at week's end was in a first-place tie with Calvin. The Scots led 24-20 until a 15-0 Albion run put the Britons on top, 35-24. The Scots scored six consecutive points, drawing within five points, but an Albion three pointer in the closing seconds stretched the lead to 38-30 at intermission.

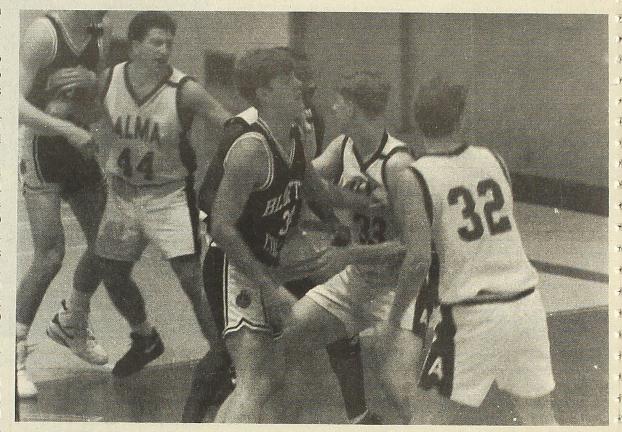
At the twelve minute mark of the second half, Reed canned a three-point shot to give the Scots a 44-43 lead. The two teams exchanged baskets for four minutes until Albion convincingly reclaimed the lead, 66-54, after a 13-0 surge. The Scots made a valiant comeback,

closing the gap to 70-66 with 1:46 remaining, but the Scots were unable to score from then on, and the Britons added nine points from the stripe, en route to a 79-66 final.

"We played well for thirty-five minutes," observed sophomore cen-

ter Matt Lotterman. "But we didn't play well for the other five."

"We played a good game," confirmed junior Dustin Snell. "Except that we had two lulls, one in the first half and another in the second, that really hurt us." "There is no way that anyone would know that one team was 6-11 and another team was ranked number five in the nation," commented Eldridge. "It was a game of two evenly matched teams."



Junior Reggie Reed (44), sophomore Matt Lotterman (33) and sophomore Todd Blomquist (32) struggle for position against Bluffton College. Photo by J. Dial.

Smith puts Alma College sports on the air

By Brett Powers Staff Reporter

Picture this: a small town public access TV station gives a bright young man his own show which becomes a vehicle for his success, and launches him on the road to

fame and fortune. Yes, Wayne's World has come to Alma.

The young man is not Wayne Campbell, but Alma College senior Doug Smith. And the show won't feature two funny looking, long-haired dudes in extreme close ups, but rather Smith reporting on

the Alma College sports scene.

"It will be about a 15-minute show with me as the anchor. I will re-cap what has happened in Alma sports over the week, and then show some video highlights of the events," said Smith. He plans to do 10 shows.

The public access forum is on

channel three of the local cable system. It has public access TV for three hours from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. every day. "I'm not sure what time or day I'll be on yet; the station just moved and everything has not quite been settled yet," said Smith.

Smith hopes to get footage on as many sporting events as he can, plus interviews with coaches and players. Smith said, "If someone has a great week, or if they are a senior captain I hope to interview

"I will re-cap what has happened in Alma sports over the week, and then show some video highlights of the events."
--senior Doug Smith

them to get their view."

Smith uses the school's camera and does all the recording, editing and writing for the show himself. After taking a class at the public access station, Smith is certified as a public access volunteer. "Between what the school has and what the station has, I pretty much have all the equipment I need. All I have to buy are the video tapes," said Smith.

Smith's production of this show is part of a practicum for his major, speech communications, which the college no longer offers. Smith explained, "I had a hard time picking a major, but all my best grades were in speech classes, and then I took 'Broadcasting in Speech Society' and loved it."

A fifth year senior from Garden, Michigan, Smith hopes to go into broadcasting when he leaves Alma. "I don't know if I will go into TV or radio; I suppose wherever the jobs are," said Smith. He hopes that this practicum will not only give him experience, but that he can also use the video to build a resume tane.

He said, "Broadcasting is not like other fields where you just turn in a regular resume. We have to have examples of our screen work."

Smith is also involved with broadcasting high school basket-ball games on the radio. He and fellow College senior Brad Engel team up together on WFYC doing live play by play. "That's how Bob Costas got his start; he did play by play for the University of Missouri," said Smith.



Fifth-year senior Doug Smith fills the airways with his sports broadcasts. Photo by M. Stargardt.

Swimmers set records, despite loss

By Gwen Downs Freelance Writer

Surpassing expectations sums up the men's and women's swimming and diving teams. Yes, the Scots were defeated Saturday by rival Kalamazoo. However, more was at stake than winning and losing in this league meet. The Scots proved that they were competitive with Kalamazoo, a team that, along with Hope, has completely dominated the MIAA swimming and diving scene. In the men's competition, the Scots were defeated 135.5 to 91.5. The

women were likewise handed a 132-108 defeat by the Hornets. However, the Scots were encouraged by the fact that several records were broken, as well as personal and season bests.

"We never have beaten Kalamazoo before," said a pleased Coach Greg Baadte. "The women had a realistic shot, taking them down to the last relay."

The highlight of the meet for the Scots centered around the 200 medley relay team of first-year student Melissa Wuchte, junior Colleen Smith, sophomore Jen Turnbull,

and sophomore Karie Bergin, who together swam 201.01 to break a ten-year old school record.

"I was just counting points when the relay was finishing," said Baadte. "I saw they were taking first. When I matched them together I didn't predict this."

Alone in the 50 Free, Bergin sprinted to first with a time of 26.75 for the Scots. Turnbull swam 222.36 in the 200 IM and 220.00 in the 200 Fly. Wuchte came through with a time of 221.7 in the 200 Back.

Although the 400 Free relay team of first-year student Jen Bondy, jun

ior Salena Williams, sophomore Tia Green, and Bergin placed second, their time of 356.10 broke a team record.

Some special performances are worth noting. Williams had her season best in the 1500 Free. Green celebrated her personal best times in the 1000 Free and 200 Fly.

An eye injury also did not keep first-year swimmer Sandra Hansen from posting personal bests in the 200 Free, 200 Back, and 100 Free. "I've been out of the pool for two weeks," said Hansen. Though she was a little surprised at her times,

she said, "I didn't lose strength, just endurance."

The men's 400 Medley relay team of first-year student Christian Betz, junior Scott Philion, sophomore Edward Davis, and sophomore Paul Schmidt swam a season best of 352.90. First-year tanker Marc Richardson had his personal best in the 200 Fly with 214.73. Other personal bests included Philion with 53.8 in the 100 Free and Betz's 207.10 in the 200 Back.

The Scots will be back home on Friday, when they face league powerhouse Hope in a 6 p.m. clash.

Club sport added

Men's volleyball makes Alma College debut

By Jennifer Cosbey Freelance Writer

What do Joe Oesterling, Joel Reed, Ryan Hardy, John LaRue, Kent Miller, Jon Tuttle, Justin Webster, Doug Smith, T.J. Staley, Daren Hill, and Coach Carlos Toro all have in common? They have started a new team here on campus that will soon be gracing the Alma College courts...the *volley-ball* courts.

"We started playing at the end of November, early December," said Staley. "A group of us started playing with [soccer Coach Carlos] Toro a couple times a week and it all just happened from there"

The team now has club volleyball status, and joins the ranks of other MIAA teams as the newest member of the the club league. Being a club team they are not sponsored by Alma College. They have to come up with their own funds for t-shirts and travel costs.

Their season consists of a schedule of games and tournaments with all the members of the MIAA, except for Olivet and Calvin (who have not formed teams). Since the team formed so late, their game schedule is a patchwork of various dates. The season could conceivably last up until the end of

the semester.

At present, the team is concentrating on learning how to play court volleyball. "Most of us are more beach volleyball types, we play two-on-two sand volleyball in the summer, so this is very different," Staley said.

Since this is the first year, the team isn't looking to conquer the league. LaRue said, "The first year is going to be a struggle. Next year it will be easier because it will be more organized...A lot of people have never played before, we know the basics, now we just have to work on our technique."

The team practices every weekday at 2 p.m., but since they started late there are many conflicts with team members' class schedules. "Whoever can show up to practices does," said LaRue. "I think we have a lot of potential talent," said Staley. "Our ultimate goal is to eventually get a real team with a regular season, try-outs, and everything." Plans are for the club volleyball teams to become a varsity sport in two years

Their first game was this past Sunday against Albion. The team faired well for their first formal competition. They won against the B-team, yet lost to the A-team. Toro commented, "For a first game we played very well. Especially since we usually only have five or six people practicing at any one time. It's a lot of fun though."

Their next game is tonight at 7:30 at Kalamazoo. After that they are home playing Hope at 1 p.m. on February 7.

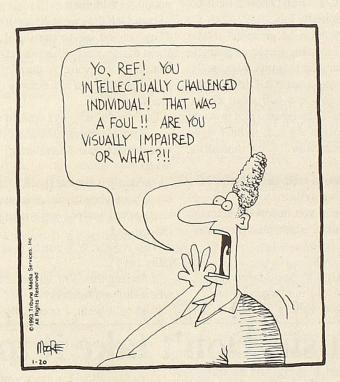
Team Roster:

Ryan Hardy, Daren Hill, John LaRue, Kent Miller, Joe Oesterling, Joel Reed, Doug Smith, T.J. Staley, Jon Tuttle, Justin Webster

Coach:

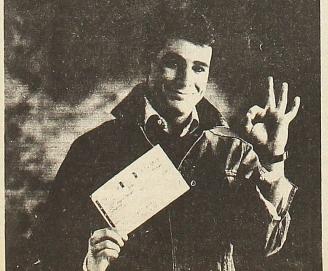
Carlos Toro

In The Bleachers by Steve Moore



Politically correct heckling

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Lifting the Kilt by Sara Groves

Internship proves money can't by friendship

Tucker. Bradley. Archer. Ann-Margaret. Margaret-Ann. Margie. Bopsy. Flopsy. Bunny. Skip. Trip. Chip.

Imagine my horror. There I was, stranded for the semester away from all of my friends. And who was I surrounded by on all sides? People who got their names straight from *The Official Preppy Handbook*.

It was my worst nightmare. I was sitting in a bar on the first day of the Philadelphia program, waiting for the festivities to begin, and in they walked.

Never mind that it was about 110 degrees with 100 percent humidity. These people were dressed to kill. Decked out in dress pants and nice, ironed Polo long sleeve shirts, they sauntered in the bar like they owned it. And, for all I knew at the time, they might have.

"Oh no," I groaned. "These nightmarish people are going to be on this program with me."

I could sense it. Okay, maybe sensing is a bad word choice here. I just figured that it would be about my luck to have to be friends with J. Crew models for the term.

Two of them paraded up to the bar where I sat.

"Are you one of the students on the Philadelphia program?" one asked.

"Yeah."

"Hi. I'm Ann-Margaret."

"And I'm Margaret-Ann."

I sat waiting for them to say,

"And we're the Sweeney sisters!"
They just looked at me.

"Oh. I'm Sara. It's nice to meet you."

"My goodness, Sara. You're awfully tan. Where did you summer this

My worst fears were confirmed. Anyone who uses "summer" as a about 10 people who didn't consider Ralph Lauren one of their close and personal friends, but yet the number of Ann-Margarets and Margaret-Anns was overwhelming. It was almost impossible not to mingle with them somewhat.

The first week that we moved into our apartments, my friends and I

Margarets buy potholders, they also hired an interior decorator.

They had furniture, something Hillary and I would not acquire for another two weeks. They had beds. And not only did they have beds, they had blankets, pillows and comforters. I was using a towel as a blanket and a pillow that I had

housewarming gift.

Hillary and I decided that we were going to have a housewarming party too. And we were definitely going to invite the Margarets and Tucker and the rest of the Ralph Lauren gang. We needed some good stuff and these people would never dream of going to Value Village. We needed chairs and a couch and some pots and pans. I wanted a bed and a dresser. Hillary needed some clothes for job interviews.

As the weeks wore on, the Margarets' friendship with me drifted apart. They joined a Polo club and went to crew races on weekends. I hung out with my friends and made fun of the Margarets on weekends. But the last day of the program, the Margarets came up to me.

"I'm so glad we got so close over the term," said one of them.

"Huh. That's funny," I thought to myself. "I haven't even seen the Margarets in over two months."

"We really want to keep in touch. So, here's my daddy's card. You can fax him with your address and he'll get in touch with me," a Margaret said.

Now I'm back. Back with a fax number. And back to my friends with names like Jen and Laurie and Mike and Jason. Back to people who wear cut-offs. Back to people who don't have furniture in their apartments. It's good to be home.

On the way over, my roommate, Hillary, and I swung by Value Village and picked up a set of potholders off of the clearance table. A perfect housewarming gift. We had just moved in two days ago. Who would have bought potholders?

verb has got to be trouble.

"I summered in a cornfield. I worked doing research on corn pollination," I told them.

I could tell they were disappointed. They wanted me to say that I had spent the summer in Nantucket or at Martha's Vineyard. A cornfield is not high on the list as a dreamy summering spot.

Then one of the guys walked up.

"Ann-Margaret, Margaret-Ann, who's your new friend here?" he asked.

I suddenly had a flashback to nursery school when my mom wanted to know who I was playing with on the playground.

"This is Sara. Will you look at that killer tan?"

"I noticed that. I'm Tucker. Now, where did you summer?"

And so it went. I eventually met

were invited to a housewarming party by Ann-Margaret and Marga-

"We really have everything we need," one of them told me. "Just bring a bottle of nice wine or something."

"Nice wine?" I thought to myself. The only alcohol I was going to bring was a six pack of cheap beer for myself.

On the way over, my roommate, Hillary, and I swung by Value Village and picked up a set of potholders off of the clearance table. A perfect housewarming gift. We had just moved in two days ago. Who would have bought potholders?

But as we walked in to Ann-Margaret's and Margaret-Ann's, I knew the potholders were a big mistake. Because somewhere in the space of two days, not only did the heisted from the Holiday Inn. I couldn't believe my eyes. Their apartment that they had lived in for two days looked better than my house that my family has occupied for 10 years.

Then we saw the refrigerator. My jaw dropped in amazement. There were at least 17 boxes of cereal (and it was healthy cereal too...not the Cocoa Pebbles and Booberries that I would eat) on top of the refrigerator and the inside was another story. I didn't even know where a grocery store was, but they had everything. They had milk and eggs and bologna and cheese. They even had condiments. Hillary and I just loaded up on packages of ketchup and mustard when we went to Wendy's.

"Oooohhhh... potholders! I can't wait to use these!" a Margaret exclaimed as she opened our pathetic

Rush: Don't take it too seriously

By Heather Cummings Opinion Editor

Rush, rush, rush. It is time to go out, put on your best clothes and smile pretty. Female rush and male rush are very different. I am writing about the female one. You know the one. It is the one where appearance is judged. It is the one where you have to go through a three-week process, as opposed to the one week of smokers for the fraternities. The one where little by little, people are narrowed down and eventually dumped or given a bid.

I am in a sorority. I am proud of my sorority; however, I could do without voting. It does not seem fair to me that there are women who want to be a part of a group and are denied that wish. It seems to me that that person would be a positive asset. And really, what would it hurt to let someone in who is a little different than the rest? Think of it as a learning experience.

The other day I saw a woman crying because she did not get asked back to any spreads. This sight

disturbed me. What if someone is having a bad day when she show up for teas, spreads or desserts? What if someone cannot afford to wear the right outfit? Or even worse, what if someone just doesn't have the right genes?

I understand that getting to know females on this campus, as far as sororities go, is tough. If I were a male, I could go to the parties at the houses and really get an understanding of what the groups are like. Apart from the one local sorority, parties at sorority houses on this campus don't exist. They are national; liability is too high. So the three-week system is a way of getting to know everyone. This fact may be true, but why must we "chonk" people off the list?

Rush can be fun. It can be a time to get to know people, it can be a time to find out things about yourself. But if things get bad, and you feel you cannot find a group that is right for you, just do not do it. Greek life is not for everyone. And for those of you who did not get asked back: that is our loss, not yours. It does not mean that you are not worthy. It means that our system is cruel.

Inaugural events overshadow Clinton's first security briefing

Clinton inherits the 'Black bag'

By David Woodruff Freelance Writer

An amazing thing happened this past week in our country. America took pause as we inaugurated Bill Clinton as our 42nd President.

With much flair and festivities, America celebrated the transition of power in such a way that only Americans could. The concerts, the reunions and the inaugural balls are all unique to our political and pop-culture.

This, however, is not the memory that I will take with me of this week.

I watched much of the day's festivities on television. Of all the events that I saw and read about in the paper one simple event will stick out in my mind. It is of an event that went virtually unnoticed by most, and those that did probably do not realize its importance.

It was early Wednesday morning, Inauguration Day, in Washington D.C. when the outgoing National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft took a simple walk down the street. He walked, alone, from the White House to Blair House where Clinton and his entourage were staying. The two talked quietly for only a few minutes. It was there that Bill Clinton received his first daily security briefing, a ritual that he will enjoy each day for the remainder of his Presidency. In addition, Scowcroft explained to Clinton the workings of the infamous "black bag," which holds all of the launch codes for America's nuclear arsenal. After the meeting, Scowcroft fielded a few questions from reporters and the walked back down the block to the White House. There, he joined President and Mrs. Bush and others to wait out the remaining four hours of the Bush era. What is important about the exchange between these two is not necessarily what happened, but what did not happen. The leadership of the Western world, the control of the largest economy on the planet and the command of the strongest military history has ever seen was transferred with no violence. Scowcroft quietly and symbolically transferred the power of the government to Clinton. The two did not fight, their respective

armies did not attack each other and neither called for political foes to be assassinated.

There were no tanks in front of the White House Wednesday, there were no political allies lying dead in the street and there was no coup. We, as Americans, need to realize how truly lucky we are to live in a land which is free of revolution and unrest.

America has its own problems. We face crisis and malaise and economic hardships, but we must take time to realize that America, under a Republican or Democratic administration, is still a peaceful one, a prosperous one and a safe one. Instead of talking about Hillary Clinton's inaugural dress, we should remember and talk about this woderful and unique transfer of power in the most important position in the world.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am concerned, no fearful, after reading the Jan. 19 article regarding an alleged rape. Although I agree that it is important to deliver the news, it is inappropriate and unfair to allow members of your staff to perpetuate the dreaded "Grapevine" by insinuations and presumptions. Sexual misconduct strikes a particularly strong chord in us and we are easily outraged when incidents of assault occur within our community. However, the staff member, although probated, has not been proven guilty. Using his name in such an article can be considered slander and leads an audience to believe certain things that are not necessarily the truth.

It is not my intention to justify a possible assault, and I think that it is of key concern that the Alma administration might have some responsibility in not taking expedient steps towards insuring that safety of our students. However, our judicial system is still based on the assumption that the accused is innocent until proven guilty, and this assumption has been violated unnecessarily.

David S. Chmura Class of 1994

Dear Editor,

This is in response to the article and editorial in the Jan. 19, 1993 Almanian about the alleged rape incident on Jan. 3, 1993. These articles contained numerous charges and innuendoes about reported incidents which are inaccurate. I'm not going to respond to each of these inaccuracies since I suspect that others will. What I do want you to know is that no sexual misconduct complaints about Joe Cowdrey were received by anybody prior to the alleged incident. The complaints that were received related to being late opening doors, verbal sparring and proper key-in procedures.

Students with concerns about security guards have several places to go to register their concerns. They include Dean of Students, Director of the Physical plant and myself. Any and all matters will be responded to im-

mediately. Student safety is our foremost concern.

Jon Groteluschen Vice President for Finance shattering my life. Please remember, because I'll never forget!
Lauri Smeltzer
Class of 1994

"isn't your department." I feel

you helped the door stay open in

Dear Editor,

I'd like to give my deepest gratitude to many people on this campus for their support in what has been the hardest ordeal of my life.

First of all, I'd like to thank Dr. Stone for his quick action and Dr. Potter, Dr. Perkins, and Dr. Hoefel for their many kind words and continued support.

But mostly, I owe many friends a deep thank you and my sincerest gratitude, especially Sean Toomer, Colon Lewis, Calvin Woodard, Carric Roth, Jeff Pendall, Kurt Watkins, Jen Smith, Trista LeMasters, Erin Bush, and Holly Fenwick. An extra special thank you goes out to Corey Messner for making me believe in myself and to one of my greatest friends, Terre Smith. Without her, I think I would have given up before I started. And to anyone else I missed, your kind words will never be forgotten. You all are the reason I will learn to walk alone and hold my head high.

However, I want this letter to forewarn and educate those who feel invincible. I was one of those people who took this for granted and now my life is altered forever. I urge anyone who has ever had, or will have to deal with CSC to step forward. It's an uphill battle that will never be won until more women are willing to break the cycle. Help is available and friends are always there, but until ten out of ten women prosecute, these violent crimes will continue. It may not be you, and I hope it never happens to anyone again. However, it may be your mother, your sister or your best friend. These violators have no boundaries and they are there waiting to attack. PLEASE don't let this happen to anyone else. My pain and humiliation will eventually fade, but my fear never

Lastly, to the administrators and faculty who knew or were told about these complaints (you know who you are), I hope you act next time rather than pass them off because this Dear Editor,

In your Jan. 19, 1993 issue you published a story "Alleged rape by security guard raises questions." I personally take issue with the inaccuracies, insinuations, and accusations contained in your story.

First off, you make it sound as though Cowdrey was in violation of rules and policies by an "unauthorized after-hours game of racquetball in the Physical Education Center." It is my understanding the use of the P.E. Center is open to all Alma College employees (including Cowdrey) during regularly scheduled hours of operation. Cowdrey entered that facility on his offduty time, through unlocked doors to play a game of racquet ball that none of us are required to receive authorization to play.

Continuing, the article insinuates a meeting between myself and two female students was cancelled by me. You also made mention that one of the female students was the lifeguard. Since this report, I have had a number of people concerned about my cancelling of that meeting. Your article wasn't clear the meeting was cancelled at the request of one of the two female students. My office made an honest effort to re-schedule that meeting time as Christmas break created uncertain schedules. I have never known the specific concerns that these two students wanted to share with me.

You also blew out of proportion the entry into a (basement) room in Newberry Hall at 4 a.m. You should inform readers that Security and the Physical Plant had no record of any occupants authorized to be in that room, i.e., the Hall was closed. The last thing any security person is going to to do is knock on a door when he thinks there is an intruder on the other side of that door in a building that is scheduled to be empty and especially at 4 o'clock in the morning. The Physical Plant did receive a call of concern about this entry. We are, however, unaware of the other entry you referred to.

Your article also states that the

Physical Plant received a "twopage report" from the Athletic Department "voicing concerns about security." The Physical Plant has yet to receive that refcrenced report. It's my assumption you are attempting to tie this "report" to Cowdrey. If that is the case, your readers should also know the only complaints this office has ever received about Cowdrey were those of occasionally being late to unlock doors and once of being a little too verbal while attempting to settle a confrontation.

And one last thing, in your Staff Editorial (same issue) you stated "Furthermore, isn't it odd that due to this incident Director of Physical Plant Duane Knecht met with all the security guards to review the College's expectations and job procedures?"

I couldn't agree more, holding such a meeting would really be "odd"; therefore, no such meeting was ever held. By the way, we do perform annual employee evaluations which includes the review of job procedures and the College's expectations of the employee's job performance. It just so happens, we are presently performing employee evaluations as they occur every January and February.

I don't mean to down-play the seriousness of this matter, because it is a very serious and sensitive matter. For the sake of both individuals, don't you owe them the right of accurate/factual reporting? I thank God our judicial system withholds judgement and sentencing until all the facts are known.

Duane Knecht, Director Physical Plant & Purchasing

Dear Editor,

This is in response to your cover story in last week's Almanian by Brian Haara. We feel the title of "investigation" reporter is certainly not deserved as he did very little investigation of the facts of the story. As a reporter, it should be and is his duty to follow leads and verify facts with all parties involved, especially when making reference about specific individuals and events.

It was reported in the article that a female student lifeguard complained to Greg Baadte, Aquatic Director, that Joe Cowdrey "was feeling my leg and told me I owed him some-

thing." She further stated that Baadte said "it was being taken care of."

Brian Haara's investigation failed to verify with Baadte the fact that these specific comments were never brought to his attention by the lifeguard. If Haara had been thorough in his investigation he would have found that when any incident occurs in the pool proper procedure requiring appropriate documentation (incident report) must be filed. No such report was ever filed with any member of the P.E. Center staff. This is clearly defined in the lifeguard manual given to all lifeguards at the beginning of each semester.

Had Haara contacted either Baadte or Bob Eldridge, Associate Athletic Director, he would have also found that the comments made by the lifeguard were made to Eldridge two days AFTER the alleged assault and not to Baadte.

Furthermore, the article stated that the lifeguard's comments came after Eldridge sent a"two page report to the Physical Plant voicing concerns about security." The only report filed was a one page memo dated Oct. 5, 1992 citing lateness of Cowdrey in opening the pool on numerous occasions. The report also indicated complaints by the lifeguards of arguments and general harassment with Cowdrey. At that time there were no complaints of sexual harassment given to Baadte or Eldridge. The lateness and general harassment were immediately reported, prompting the aforementioned memo upon no further complaints the P.E. Center staff felt the situation remedied.

The next time Haara or any other "investigative" reporter is assigned a story, remember that responsible and ethical journalism requires you to check and double check all sources of information before you print a story. That way you will have a more accurate accounting of events.

Sexual harassment is a very serious matter and should be treated as such. The safety of our students, faculty, and staff is paramount to a healthy campus environment. It is a top priority of the P.E.Center and Alma College to ensure the physical and emotional wellbeing of the entire campus community.

Greg Baadte
Bob Eldridge
Aquatic Director
Associate Athletic Director

Staff editorial

Alleged CSC incident inspires controversy

While it is not normally the policy of The Almanian to directly respond to Letters to the Editor, the editorial board has taken into consideration the volume and the outrage expressed in letters regarding the alleged criminal sexual conduct (CSC) article in the Jan. 19 issue of The Almanian. We find it necessary to comment on those letters.

First of all, Joseph Cowdrey's name is a matter of public record which has been documented in the police report and printed in the Alma edition of the Morning Sun. In no way was The Almanian trying to convict him without a trial as we, along with everyone else, believe in the Bill of Rights and the doctrine of innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Almanian plainly acknowledges that no formal complaints are on record, but that "[w]hile no formal complaints may be on record, various students have had problems with Cowdrey in the past." However, The Almanian did not focus on the Jan. 3 alleged CSC and did not attempt to imply innocence or guilt. We were merely reporting students' alleged problems and complaints concerning Cowdrey. Nevertheless, students don't always report incidents of CSC or harassment to the correct authorities, whether from lack of knowledge, embarrassment, fear of reprisal, or some other reason.

It is beyond our control that this incident sparked and inspired other students to come forward and voice their complaints and problems with Cowdrey, the alleged perpetrator. We specified that all charges were merely allegations, and it is our Constitutional right to print allegations from students who come to us and disclose sensitive information. We acknowledge that we should have confirmed the reports of all of the students mentioned with administrators, but the article was written implicitly referring to allegations.

Thus, in no way did The Almanian commit slander in our Jan. 19 edition. According to The American Heritage Dictionary, second college edition, "slander" means "the utterance of defamatory statements injurious to the reputation or well-being of a person." Furthermore, the article was in no means libelous as it was not maliciously written in such a way as to blacken Cowdrey's reputation or to expose him to public hatred, contempt or ridicule, or to injure him in his profession (Blacks Law Dictionary, fifth edition).

Moreover, we were given conflicting information when researching this article. Director of Physical Plant Duane Knecht's letter states that no meeting was ever held with all of the security guards to review the College's expectations, but President Alan J. Stone expressly told a co-editor-in-chief,

"Duane Knecht met with all guards and reviewed job expectations and procedures."

Knecht also states that "Security and Physical Plant had no record of any occupants authorized to be in that room, i.e., the Hall was closed," when referring to the unannounced entry of Cowdrey into a Newberry Hall room during the summer. The Almanian was informed that this student had been in that basement room since the end of Spring Term 1992

Knecht states, "...the article insinuates a meeting between myself and two female students was cancelled by me." This could not be further from the truth. The article did not mention who postponed the meeting and made no insinuations; it merely states information learned from Stone:

"[u]nfortunately, this meeting was postponed until Monday, Jan. 4—the day after the alleged assault." Thus, two interpretation of who postponed the meeting are possible based on individual biases. The important fact remains simply that the meeting was postponed.

The Almanian also takes offense to the personal attacks on a staff member throughout the letter by Aquatic Director Greg Baadte and Associate Athletic Director Bob Eldridge. The entire tone of the news article emphasized allegations made by both current and former students. The investigative coordinator was careful to state that all reports were merely allegations. Unfortunately, at some point during editing, "allegedly" was left out of the paragraph dealing with the female lifeguard who reported that Cowdrey had been "feeling my legs and told me that 'I owed him something."

This incident is merely an allegation and the proceedings following this alleged harassment were reported by the student lifeguard. She implicitly stated to The Almanian that she informed Baadte of the alleged harrassment, that Baadte in turn told her that "it would be taken care of" and that Eldridge had prepared a memo to Physical Plant—which she assumed would concern Cowdrey's behavior. While "allegedly" was mistakenly left out, we did emphasize that all statements were from the student lifeguard.

We agree with Baadte and Eldridge that "sexual harassment is a very serious matter and should be treated as such." Therefore, we are pleased with the various responses to the Jan. 19 article and the emotions expressed therein.

We also concur with Knecht that we should strive for accurate and factual reporting. This is why we were careful to emphasize that allegations concerning Cowdrey are just that—allegations.

Surrealism fights for life amid aesthetic questions, phony freedoms

By Dan Boyer Freelance Writer

Man lives, in this "modern age," trapped in a hope from which he his mind stages violent, desperate believes only the obsessive surrounding of himself with mundanities can save him. Apathetic about "philosophy," if he takes one at all it is the studied despair and moral relativism of existentialism, which is designed to engender only further apathy and confusion. He lives under the withering shadow of bourgeois society, which has inculcated in him, the monstrous idea that its ceaseless demands-school, the army, workare not only necessary but desirable. He happily believes that each new scheme for his enslavement is a fresh favour that, although society has done nothing for him and everything to him, he owes it his life. For the most part he is so preoccupied with the weather, the mortgage, the car payments, the children's education, that he does not recognize that he, has, little by little, lost any life to

put at their disposal.

Yet there are moments, albeit growing fewer every year, when revolts against the hypocrisies with which he is forced to live. He thinks of an inexplicable phrase (I was walking through my kitchen one day and the phrase "oregano battens" suggested itself to me. I was at a loss to know what it meant and had to look up the word.) He realizes that he could defy society for a beautiful woman. He is seized by a longing to be sexually adventurous that is not easily squelched. He wonders if this is all he has worked for all these years. He determines for a brief moment to quit his job. But his latent tendencies to revolt have been ground down by the imagination-destroying of bureaucrats he soon dismisses these as signs he is losing his mind. He does not understand them for what they are—the first weapons that will bring his freedom.

Surrealism is their arsenal. Never the artistic and literary movement, its enemies, have long pretended it was (and I should have put the last word in quotation marks), far from destroyed by the disingenuous obituaries and prostituting avant-gardisms designed to ruin it, undergoing radical transformation just before every bourgeois attempt to seize its threatening specter, Surrealism is far from being on its last legs. It is instead today at the height of its power. Spread to every nation on earth, it continues to produce its fruits of revolt, many of them "artistic," but such only as an expedient. Surrealism shrugs off every aesthetic question, preferring to such trivial academic squabbles the radical creation of a new way of life.

"Radical." The word is used advisedly. Beginning and ending with revolution, Surrealism is bitterly determined to end wage slavery. Marxist in its orientation, Surrealism, however, has little relation to what most people in this country think of Marx-

ism, and none to the revolutionary compromises and brute power plays so characteristic of the Stalinist, expansionist policies of the former Soviet Union. Yet its threat to American national security is every bit as real as that was. Surrealism was even thought important enough to be lied about on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Surrealism will fight not only for surplus value, but for life itself. It is intent on the capsize of this repressive society and the establishment of a new one based on freedom, desire, and imagination. Until the day when men and women are free to love, dream, dance and live, it will not tolerate a single one of the phony freedoms for which in this country are cynically forced even to die. The Surrealist voice will continue to proclaim its magic watchword, designed to triumph over all this society's empty slogans. "To each according to his desire."

The Almanian

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