

Jesse Jackson  
visits Mt.  
Pleasant.  
Page 2

Theater department  
presents "Our  
Country's Good"  
Page 4

Swimming set  
for winning  
season.  
Page 7

Confused about  
NAFTA.  
Page 10

# The Almanian

November 16, 1993

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Issue 9

## Levine fights for war on drugs

By Cathy DeShano  
News Editor

The drug problem continues to plague America, despite apparent government efforts to control the amount of drugs which are brought into the United States. On Wednesday, Michael Levine, a former drug enforcement agent for the United States federal government, discussed his experiences with the Alma College community.

An undercover narcotics agent for 25 years, Levine believed his "undercover" experiences began as a child growing up in the South Bronx of New York City during the 1950's. As a teenager, Levine had a drinking problem and was arrested twice before the age of 16. To help straighten himself out, Levine joined the Air Force. As a result of these situations and a near brush with death while in the Air Force, Levine looked towards a career in drug enforcement.

"How I got here was because of the fear of reaching my final day and saying the words 'I wish I had,'" said Levine. "I wanted to experience everything life had to offer."

Levine graduated from Hoekstra College after his time in the Air Force and took his first job with the Internal Revenue Service as an undercover agent dealing with gamblers. It was during this time that

Levine discovered his younger brother was hooked on heroin. His brother later died from his addiction.

"I wanted to go to war. If there was a war on drugs, I wanted to be in on it. I wanted to get the guys who were killing my brother," said Levine.

Levine took a job with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms because he was unable to get into the Bureau of Narcotics immediately.

"I went out undercover and got the guys who had guns and dope. I would use the firearm laws to get the dope dealers. I didn't care about the gun," said Levine. "In one year, I locked up something like 60 dope dealers. I hated those drug dealers."

Eventually, Levine was transferred to the hard narcotics smuggling unit. Unfortunately, he didn't find the American war against drugs as honest an effort as he'd believed it to be.

Levine's first experience with realism occurred as a result of a drug arrest he made on July 4, 1971. After arresting a man in the United States, Levine travelled to Bangkok, Thailand to arrest the man's contact. However, before he was able to make the arrest, the U.S. government pulled Levine off

the case.

A similar event occurred years later. Levine had been working on a drug case in Columbia, South America in which he eventually arrested some of the biggest drug dealers in the country. However, the American government dropped the charges against the drug dealers. After writing a letter to a Newsweek reporter suggesting that illegal activities were occurring in the American government and the Central Intelligence Agency, Levine suffered severely.

"I started to notice people following me. I knew my phone was tapped. My house was bugged. I left the country," said Levine. "When I got back, two internal security inspectors from the U.S. questioned me. Therein began an intensive personal investigation where everything that could be done was done to try to put me into jail."

Levine left the Drug Enforcement Agency soon after. In an effort to inform U.S. citizens of the treason he believes the American government has committed against its citizens, he has written several books and tours the country speaking to audiences.

## Our Country's Good debuts



The cast of *Our Country's Good* rehearses for their upcoming performance. Photo by A Torrence

## Fraternities practice stricter party policies

By Kristin Allen  
Staff Reporter

The scenario seems all too familiar to Alma College students: out and about on a Friday or Saturday evening, a small group of friends wander up the steps of a fraternity house and are greeted at the door by a member who asks for their invite.

"Oops," they reply. "We left them in our rooms."

Sound familiar so far? Now picture the conclusion to this story: the group is turned away, left to entertain themselves for the rest of the evening.

Due to the stricter enforcement of already existing Interfraternity Council party policies, this scene will become more prevalent, as fraternities agree to control their parties while protecting themselves and those in attendance.

"This is not a change; the rules have always been in place, they've just never been strictly enforced," said Anne Lombard, Assistant

Dean of Students and IFC advisor.

According to Lombard, fraternities will begin adhering to the existing invite policy; that is, fraternities can invite 150 people not counting their members. Those receiving the invites must bring them to the party in order to gain admission.

"Invites are not pamphlets; they

run each party by the book. Because of the risks of liability problems, IFC, the governing body of each fraternity, is making a conscious commitment to be proactive rather than reactive to problems that may arise.

Watkins explained that in the past, fraternity parties have been free-for-alls—anyone could get

risk management is concerned."

Watkins and the entire IFC executive body worry that the existing fraternity insurance policies would not adhere if something were to happen.

"Insurance companies don't want to pay when something goes wrong," said Keel Amundsen, IFC Vice President. "If something were to happen and they could prove we didn't throw

been taken for granted as a free social outlet for the campus," said IFC treasurer Aaron Howald.

The system will be self-regulating: each fraternity will serve as a check on each other. A party patrol consisting of an administrator and either the president or an IFC member of each group will continue to make official rounds to each house.

"It will take a real effort on the part of everyone involved, just because it goes against what's happened in the past," said Howald.

Members of IFC believe that although this process is a slow, gradual one, it will eventually help the Greek system.

"Nearly 90 to 95 percent of the campus is Greek on the weekends," said Amundsen. "Hopefully receiving an invite will now be more of a privilege."

"We're not trying to prevent anyone from having a good time," added Lombard. "We just want to enforce the existing policies before one incident threatens the entire Greek system."

*"Invites are not pamphlets, they are invitations. These houses are our residences, and the better we monitor who's coming to our houses, the easier it is to control what people do."*

*--Interfraternity Council President  
Jason Watkins*

are invitations," explained IFC President Jason Watkins. "These houses are our residences. The better we monitor who's coming to our houses, the easier it is to control what people do."

The one local and four national fraternities on Alma's campus are taking gradual steps to eventually

in.

"The Greek system has taken too much responsibility as a social outlet on this campus," said Watkins. "We have the most open party policy of any school around. We are not attempting to turn our backs on the campus; we just need to be more careful where

a legal party, the chapter would be held responsible and the members would probably pay for the rest of their lives."

Amundsen explained this would affect not only the individual chapter, but the entire Greek system and ultimately, the school.

"In some ways, we feel like we've



## Families key to positive society

By Leslie Theisen  
Investigative Reporter

Tragedy continues to strike American society and families today. Daily newspapers speak of teenage suicides, pregnancies, and killings. Barbara Whitehead, a keynote speaker in a series of presentations by Alma College's Service Learning Program, addressed this year's theme, "The American Family in Crisis."

Whitehead is a Research Associate at the Institute for American Values, a non-partisan organization in New York.

"Her particular research centers on families with children. Her most recent article, entitled 'Dan Quayle Was Right,' appeared in the April issue of *The Atlantic Monthly* and set a record newsstand sale," said Joseph Walser, who introduced Whitehead to the audience.

The magazine, which usually sells about 40,000 copies, sold nearly 80,000 copies of the issue containing Whitehead's article, he said.

"She has also served as an advisor to the National Commission of Children," said Walser.

Whitehead, a Wisconsin native, earned her B.A. at the University of Wisconsin and a Ph.D. in American

history at the University of Chicago.

Currently residing in Amherst, Massachusetts, Whitehead has three children.

"Children today are not doing better than their parents; they're doing worse," said Whitehead.

Whitehead informed the audience of demographic changes which have had negative consequences for children both nationally and in Michigan.

According to Whitehead's reports, numbers of teen pregnancies, babies born out-of-wedlock, juvenile crime and violence, poverty, single-parent families, and children in foster care have increased dramatically since the 1970's.

"If you step back a bit from some of these social indicators, what you see is a larger pattern that is uniquely disturbing. One of the crucial challenges of any society is to help children make the transition from adolescence to adulthood. In American society today, that capacity is breaking down," said Whitehead.

"Instead, more and more of our teenagers are spinning out of control. They're killing themselves, they're killing each other, and they're having babies long before they're ready to care for children,"

she said.

The well-being of a child can be accounted for by his or her physical environment and the social investment in that child, according to Whitehead.

Whitehead claimed society needs to invest in its people to have a positive functioning society.

"The smaller component is public investment; the larger investment is private—or to be more accurate, parental investment in children," said Whitehead, emphasizing the needs for more government spending on programs for children and for more quality time with caregivers.

"A fundamental reorganization of the American family has taken place in the last 20-25 years," said Whitehead, pointing out that children today lose a parent more commonly through divorce than by death.

"Many children in single-parent families will see their families break up not once, but two or three times," she said.

Whitehead asked members of the audience, especially students, to be responsible about forming their own family relationships, devoting time and care to the needs of their children.

## Seniors interview in Chicago

*Annual trip, organized by the Center for Student Development, gives students the opportunity to look for jobs and internships*

By Ganesa Wegienka  
Editor-in-Chief

The Bulls. The Bears. The Cubs. The White Sox. Thirty-eight Alma College students.

What do these five things have in common? For three days last week, they were all in Chicago.

At noon on Wednesday, 37 Alma College seniors and one junior loaded massive quantities of luggage into the small college bus and two college vans. Their destination, the Windy City.

The students were partaking in the semi-annual Chicago interview trip. The trip was organized by Ginna Holmes, Becky Kalthoff and Robert Perkins of the Center for Student Development.

Every year in February and November, the Center organizes the trip for interested seniors and juniors. The Center plans interview schedules for qualified students. Some of the interviews are actual job interviews in which a person may be called back for a position or at which further interviews may be requested. Informational interviews are also set up allowing students to speak with professionals in their field. Students are able to obtain practical information and guidance.

Sometimes students can interview for internships.

At the beginning of the school year, interested students met with Holmes and Kalthoff. The students received instruction in resume and cover letter writing as well as a list of companies who were participating in the interview program. The students turned in resumes to the Center before the Oct. 6 deadline. Cover letters for the companies the students were interested in were due one week later. The Center then submitted the cover letters and resumes to the participating companies, who then granted interviews to the students they selected. Staff members of the Center then worked like maniacs to arrange schedules for the students.

Senior Bethany Marshke praised the staff of the Center: "The Center was fabulous in helping us set up the interviews. I could not have done it without them."

The students arrived in Chicago around 5 p.m. on Nov. 10 and quickly readied themselves for a program at 6 p.m. that same evening. Members of the Chicago Tartan Club, a group for Alma alumni in Chicago, were present to speak to the group. A panel of 1993 Alma alumni also made a presentation of interview, apartment finding and

social tips for the students. After the program, the students had some free time to explore the city.

On Thursday and Friday, the students received their final schedules and were basically turned loose on the city. The students were given directions to their interviews and it was up to them to find their way utilizing taxis, busses and trains.

A wide-array of companies granted interviews this year ranging in scope from Citibank to Hewitt and Associates to Starbucks Coffee. Although no students were offered positions on the spot, many students felt that things had gone very smoothly and thought there was some hope for possible second interviews.

Senior Carol Ostrom said, "The trip was a fantastic learning experience. It taught me the realities of a job search."

"It was a great experience because I was able to gain interview experience. I'm glad that I started my career search so early," said senior Rebecca Murray.

The Center did a fabulous job for the Alma College students. The next interview trip will take place in February. Students should contact the Center for more information about the trip offerings.

## Jackson addresses racial issues at CMU

By Kristen Miquel  
Staff Reporter

Jesse Jackson, a former Presidential candidate and civil rights activist, spoke to a packed crowd at Central Michigan University's Rose Arena, last Tuesday, Nov. 9.

Nicholas Dixon, Assistant Professor and Chair of Philosophy and three of his students—Lawrence Potter, Takisha Thomas, and Eric Walton—were among those in the crowd.

Jackson's visit was prompted by an incident at CMU last year during which a basketball coach used racial slurs with his team. Jackson was asked to speak to the campus in a peace-making attempt. He geared his speech toward education and the value of multi-culturalism and cultural diversity on college campuses.

Jackson spent the morning in Detroit speaking to high school students explaining to them that they must take responsibility for their actions; they shouldn't blame poverty or society for their problems. He continued with this theme in his speech at CMU.

"He (Jackson) surpassed my expectations," said Thomas. "His message was spectacular and uplifting."

Potter felt much the same way. "I expected a powerful message and he was more powerful than I expected. He really surpassed the typical Jesse Jackson. You could scarcely hear a pin drop due to the attentiveness of the audience."

Jackson also spoke about the mixed feelings concerning Central's Chippewa mascot. He said that it's all very well for people to cheer on a team. However, Jackson claimed that this enjoyment ends when it causes some people pain and hurt.

*"He (Jackson) surpassed my expectations. His message was spectacular and uplifting."*  
—Junior Takisha Thomas

Jackson also addressed the issue that the majority of the world are not middle class, white, nor do they speak English and that a white middle class campus doesn't fully prepare a student for the world.

Not only did Dixon find interest in Jackson's message, but he also took interest in Jackson as a speaker and as a

communicator.

"I was interested in his technique," said Dixon, "He started off slow, deliberate, and quietly, then built up to crescendos. He was great for emotional appeals."

Jackson was late to his speech. However, the wait allowed for a dynamic entry according to those who attended.

"Some people could see him on the side and they stood up and started yelling and then the whole crowd got up, standing and yelling," said Dixon. "I wish he would have spoken for longer than 45 minutes though."

"Jesse Jackson is one speaker I've always wanted to see because I've long admired him," said Dixon. "I was expecting a dynamic speech. It was an exciting occasion and there was definitely electricity in the air."

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Nov. 16, 1993

## Alma places high at programming contest

*Alma teams place 18th out of 77, continue tradition of programming excellence*

By Anne M. Buyze  
Staff Reporter

On Nov. 6, the local chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) traveled to the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada to compete in an annual programming competition in which Alma College students took 18th out of the 77 schools participating.

Alma's two-team group competed in the East Central Region against colleges in Ohio, Indiana, West Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and Ontario. Members of the A team were Clay Brehm, Ray Ostrowski, and Chad Jenkins. B team members were Jason Collier, Martin Mazanec, and Mark Wendt.

In the past, Alma has always done well in this contest, taking ninth last year and winning their division several years ago. This year the tradition continued and they edged out schools like Michigan State University, Notre Dame, Kalamazoo College and Hope College.

The competition consists of three members in each team given eight mathematically based problems to

solve. Throughout the five hours of the competition, the teams are being constantly updated on their rank according to who has the most problems correctly completed. The winners are those who finish the most problems in the least amount of time and the two top teams get to compete in the international competition.

Jenkins, a sophomore member who attended the competition last year, said, "The problems were much tougher. They were not tough in the sense of what am I going to do and how am I going to make this work, but in the time consumption that it takes."

Ostrowski, a junior, said, "[The contest] was laid back. I thought it was going to be this big thing where everyone is just rushing to type everything in, but it wasn't like that. It was like just look over the problems and see what you can do."

Myles McNally, in his second year of leading the group, chooses the members. "I try to pick people who are usually math majors or minors," McNally said. "They must also be good programmers and problem solvers and be able to work well

under pressure."

The members joined for different reasons. Wendt, a junior, said, "It sounded pretty fun. It was also an opportunity to go to Canada and see other computer science programs."

The contest is more than just competition for prizes and international slots, but it has several other advantages.

"The benefits of the contest are that it gives you something to talk about at interviews. It's not exactly experience for the work place, but it helps you to think under pressure," said Brehm, a senior.

Also, being a national member has its perks. Jenkins said, "The benefits of being in the ACM are that you can say you were in the ACM. With the local chapter of the ACM you get the inside track on what's going on in the computer science department and in computer services."

"The best thing I gained was experience for next year. I have a real thirst to win next year and I've already started practicing," said Wendt.

## Keeping You Informed

KYI

On Wednesday, November 17 at 4 p.m., Linda L. Romejko, an art therapist, will present a lecture about her field in the Clack Theater. Romejko has worked with adults, adolescents, and children in various settings such as a mental health center, a hospital, a treatment center for chemical dependency, and shelter for victims of domestic violence. For more information contact ext. 7220.

Dr. Stuart Pimm, an ornithologist at the University of Tennessee, will present a talk for the general public on Tuesday, November 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Dow L1 entitled "Species Extinction: Why Should We Care, What Should We Do?" He will also be presenting a specialized research speech in Dow 122 at 4 p.m. entitled "Predicting Species Ex-

tinctions."

The final performances of "Our Country's Good" will be Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. For tickets contact ext. 7130.

The American Cancer Society's 17th Annual Great American Smokeout is November 18. Smokers are encouraged to quit smoking for 24 hours, and hopefully forever. The Cancer Society acknowledges benefits of quitting as early as just one to nine months after quitting such as the following: coughing, fatigue, and shortness of breath decrease; lung infections decrease; and the body's overall energy increases. For more information concerning quitting smoking as well as the Great American Smokeout, call the local County Unit of the American Cancer Society or the Society's Cancer Response System at 1-800-ACS-2345.

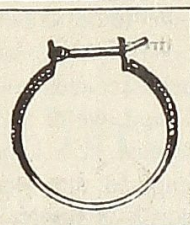
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Look for the drug use  
survey next week in  
Hamilton Commons.

## World

The Senate reached an agreement last Wednesday on dealing with a crime-control bill, brightening prospects for the passage of the so-called Brady bill, a separate piece of legislation which would establish a five-day waiting period and criminal background check for people interested in purchasing handguns. President Bill Clinton feels the Brady bill will pass. In a separate but related issue, Senator Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) has proposed legislation which would tax certain forms of ammunition. The revenues generated by the tax would be used to offset costs related to health-care reform.

In an important and timely case, the Supreme Court made it easier to prove on-the-job sexual harassment. The court reversed lower court rulings which had thrown out a Tennessee woman's lawsuit against her

former boss. The lower courts ruled that the women did not prove her employer's actions had caused "severe psychological injury."

Gay rights advocates have called for a boycott of Cincinnati after residents there voted to repeal a law protecting homosexuals from discrimination. The boycott is similar to the one called for against Colorado last year after residents there passed an anti-gay-rights amendment.

A high court in Nigeria declared the interim government, appointed by the Nigerian Army, illegal last week. The ruling resulted from a suit brought by businessman Moshood Abiola, who won a popular election in June which was later annulled. The interim government is already under attack for a number of other reasons, including high fuel

prices.

Police in California arrested a 17-year-old in connection with the recent wildfires which burned two dozen homes and 19,000 acres in Southern California early this month. Investigators are searching for other youths who may have been involved. The 17-year-old confessed to setting fires. Officials believe 19 of the 26 fires resulted from arson.



## News

Second-ranked and undefeated Notre Dame upset top-ranked Florida State University 31-24 in football Saturday. The most recent polls have Notre Dame as the unanimous number one team in the country. The victory puts Notre Dame in the driving seat to claim the mythical national championship at the end of the season.

On Wednesday, the House of Representatives will vote on the North American Free Trade Agreement. Consequently, Clinton is moving to garner enough Congressional votes to pass the bill. Experts predict the measure will pass in the House, but the vote in the Senate could be much closer. Labor unions are making a concerted effort to block passage of NAFTA.

Investigators are looking into allegations of fraud in the recent New York mayoral race, where Republi-

can candidate Rudolph Giuliani edged out incumbent Democrat David Dinkins. Both candidates have complained about intimidation tactics on the part of supporters for the other side. Also being investigated are reports that voting machines had registered votes for Dinkins before the polls opened.

Researchers are warning that one-third of the world's population may face water scarcity in 30 years if present trends in water consumption and population growth continue. In 1990, almost 10 percent of the world's population lived in water-stressed or water-scarce countries, including 28 African and Middle Eastern states. Researchers stress recycling, more efficiency in water use, and family planning as methods to combat increasing water shortage.



# Alma Players take audience on a trip to Australia

By Tim Ketel  
Staff Reporter

"People who can't pay attention should not go to the theater," Rob Douglas stated forcefully Friday night. Douglas and his fellow members of the Alma College Theater Company, however, had no problem capturing the attention of their audience with their riveting production of Timberlake Wertenbaker's play *Our Country's Good*.

The play, based on the novel *The Playmaker* by Thomas Keneally is more than just a play; it is a play about a play.

The scene is Sydney, Australia, 1788-1789; the characters: a collection of prisoners and military officers.

The country of Great Britain wanted to do something to dispose of their numerous criminals. They came up with the ingenious idea of simply sending them to the newly discovered island of Australia which, at this time, was inhabited solely by the primitive natives.

The play moves on as several prisoners were then organized by Lieutenant Ralph Clark of the Royal Marines for the purpose of staging a play. The play they intended to perform, entitled *The Recruiting Officer*, was met with bitter opposition from the soldiers. The prisoners persevered, coming closer together and learning about themselves, and eventually putting on their play.

The majority of the cast, as was instructed by the playwright, acted two separate parts. Even this detail did not hinder the players, who performed a magnificent

show, enticing a standing ovation when the play sadly came to an end.

The first cast member is Mark Harris Andrews, who doubles as Captain Watkin Tench and John Arscott, an unbelieving officer and an absorbed convict-turned actor. Dan Baker acts the parts of Captain David Collins and Robert Side-

passionate Midshipman Harry Brewer but lives on as the annoying Captain Jemmy Campbell. Stephen Sobieski beautifully portrays the characters of the seemingly cold-hearted Major Ross, and the unhappy hangman Ketch Freeman. Theresa Ann Spera serves well as Lieutenant George Johnston, and moves the audience

the *Evening Standard* Most Promising Playwright Award.

The play went on to New York, receiving critical acclaim on Broadway in 1991. *Our Country's Good* has only recently begun being performed across the United States.

This was the first play to christen the new theatre in the newest addition to Alma College, the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts. It has been a year of transition for the Alma College Theatre Company, having to adjust to not only a new building, but to all-new faculty as well. This year's faculty include Joe Jezewski, Director; Christopher Townsend, Set and Lighting Design; and Kenn McJames, Costume Design.

*Our Country's Good* was chosen to initiate the Heritage Center because of its theme; it is a play about theatre, about people having

their lives changed by doing a play. In these spirits, the theater crew is hopeful that the presence of theater here at Alma College will change people's lives.

Two thumbs up to the cast who put on a spectacular show, well worthy of applause. The audience loved it and the two-and-a-half-hour show seemed to just fly by. An excellent performance, it was the first of many that are sure to grace the stage of our new performing arts center.

The next production by the Alma College Theatre will be the musical *Dancing at Lughnasa* on the weekends of Mar. 18-19 and 25-26, 1994. But first, make sure you catch one of the two remaining shows of *Our Country's Good* on November 19 and 20, 1993 at 8 p.m.

*This was the first play to christen the new theatre in the newest addition to Alma College, the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts. It has been a year of transition for the Alma College Theatre Company, having to adjust to not only a new building, but to all-new faculty as well.*

way, a hearty soldier and an even heartier prisoner. Rob Douglas concentrates on his central role as Lieutenant Ralph Clark, the daring officer who led the convicts in the play.

Elizabeth Edwards is sweet Mary Brenham, the shy and ashamed young prisoner who finds herself happier thanks to the play. Sarah James beautifully portrays both Liz Morden and Reverend Johnson, an impossible young lady and a "morally correct" priest. Christopher Kukla becomes Captain Arthur Phillip and John Wisehammer, an officer who supports the play and a love-hungry young prisoner with a lust for words.

Carrie Nelson gives us her all as Meg Long and Will Dawes. Laura Rice radiates in the roles of Dabby Bryant, a loud young lady with an urge to return to her homeland and Lieutenant William Faddy. Jason Schultz dies an unhappy death as

in the form of Duckling Smith as she makes sobbing vows to her dying lover, Harry Brewer.

*Our Country's Good*, based on actual historic events and individuals, showed that even seemingly hopeless criminals have a side of themselves that is not often seen...a sometimes stunningly beautiful side. The play also emphasized the fact that any group of individuals, even those with such opposite roles as prisoner and soldier, can be brought together harmoniously in order to fulfill a dream.

When Wertenbaker and some of her associates saw a production of "The Love of a Good Man," performed in a long-term prison in England, they were amazed at the power of theater to bring out the beautiful, seldom-seen qualities in the prisoners. Inspired by their experience, they went on to perform at the Royal Court Theatre in London in 1988, winning the Laurence Olivier Play of the Year Award and



Rob Douglas (foreground) and Jason Schultz (background) in *Our Country's Good*. Photo by A. Torrence.

## The Violent Femmes 'Add it Up' with new album

By Chris Sienko  
Freelance writer

Put away the trumpet fanfare; it's not a new Violent Femmes album. Rather, the violent ones have scraped out their vaults and have dished out a hefty (70 minute) portion of Femmes faves and unheard music, which they have dubbed *Add it Up (1981-1993)*.

Gordon Gano (Guitar, vocals), Brian Ritchie (Bass, vocals), and Victor DeLorenzo (Drums, vocals), have spent the last decade playing an uncompromising blend of folk music, footstompin' rock and roll, and a healthy dose of punk (heavy on the teen angst, please). Over the course of five albums in ten years, the Violent Femmes have managed to become the Grateful Dead for the Alternative/College radio generation. Who in this audience can't sing every word to "Blister in the Sun?" (Or at least recognize it within the first three seconds that it comes on.) After this many years of breaking boundaries and trashing conventions, it seems only fitting that the grand old men of the Alternative scene put out a compilation to

indoctrinate a whole new generation of Femmes fans.

As anyone who has seen a Femmes show knows, these guys are truly at their best when they are standing in front of (or in the middle of) a group of people, hammering away on their instruments and feeding off the vibes of the people watching them (People at the MSU Auditorium last Friday had the chance to experience this as the Femmes played their only all-ages show of their *Add it Up* tour). That is why it's such a welcome pleasure

to see the inclusion of live tracks on this album. "Lies," in particular, contains a great jam at the end of the song, ("Oh no, I closed the song without us getting a chance to JAM!" wails Gano near the close of the song, "Let's do it now!") featuring some fantastic sitar work by Ashwin Batish, as well as the typically brilliant bass work of Ritchie. Sadly, not all of the live tracks have quite this much fire, but they provide a nice sampler until the Femmes put out an actual live album.

Although this is pretty much billed

as a "Greatest Hits" package, a good majority of the album consists of rare, and/or unreleased tracks, thus insuring that they can snare both the completists and the newcomers in the audience. Unlike many "Rarities" albums, most of the unheard material on this album is quite good. Among the standouts are "I hate the TV," (Stupid, but catchy) "America is," and the real surprise, "Dance, M.F., Dance!" The latter shows the Femmes ability to "Rock" in the traditional sense, playing a rather ska-like beat, backed by a horn section that sounds like a dead ringer for Mustard Plug (not to mention some amusingly nasty lyrics).

The biggest drawback, as is generally the case with collections such

as these, the album lacks cohesion. It feels like a batch of songs rather than an album, if you catch my drift. On the other hand, the fact that the songs are in a rough chronological order allows us to see the evolution of the bands sound, which has gone through numerous changes and upgrades. The addition of such unnecessary arcanum as a radio plug for the Femmes, an introduction by a drunken emcee, and a phone message by Gano give this album a *Having Fun With Elvis on Stage* feeling of utter cheesiness. But that's okay. As anyone who has given any serious attention to the lyrics to "Blister in the Sun" knows, the Femmes have no problem with being good naturedly goofy once in a while.



The Violent Femmes. File photo.

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Nov. 16, 1993

## Alma to host international dancers

By Kristen Miquel  
Staff Reporter

Hailed by New York Times columnist Jack Anderson as an "ambitious and talented company", the Ann Arbor Dance Works will bring their talent and creativity to Alma this Friday, November 19.

Founded in 1985, the troupe is comprised of four choreographers: Gay Delange, Bill DeYoung, Jessica Fogel and Linda Spriggs, all of whom are faculty members of the dance department at the University of Michigan; musical director, Stephen Rush; lighting designer, Mary Cole and numerous dancers.

This season, the company is showcasing international guest artists. Two dancers from the Costa Rica National Dance Company, Sandra Torijano and Marvin Santos will be featured in the Alma Program.

"The concert will be just thrilling," said Carol Fike, associate professor of dance, "They're a modern company and should have something new and challenging for the audience to look at."

The group is dedicated to presenting classical modern dance as well as innovative new dance works.

"They have performed all over," said Fike, "They use very current

Rock and War as well as showcasing new and repertory works by members Fogel, Rush, and Spriggs. Dance works choreographer Delange is also staging Dutch choreographer Lucas Hoving's tribute to composer Erik Satie called "Satiana".

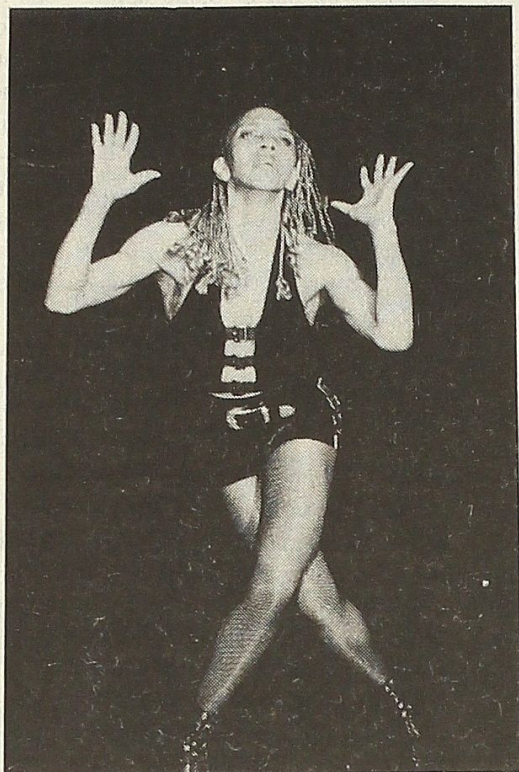
"This promises to be a wonderful show," said Fike, "They're coming in with some wonderful work."

Along with their performance on Friday, they will also be conducting a master class on Thursday from 3-4:30. The class will be held in the new dance studio of the Heritage Center and will provide the chance for Alma dancers to work with a professional dance company.

The performance begins at 8 p.m. in the concert hall of the Heritage Center. A reception will follow the performance in the Heritage Center lobby.

Admission is free for Alma College students and those younger than college age. All other tickets are \$5 and may be purchased in advance from the Heritage

Center box office by calling 463-7130, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



The Ann Arbor Dance Works performs this Friday in the Heritage Center. File photo.

events and state of the art work."

The company will perform both solo and group works featuring such artists as Sweet Honey in The

## Sudents prepare for Scotland Spring Term

By Brooke Hansen  
Feature Editor

Alma College Spring Term. For most of us, the phrase denotes a break from the norm of stressful exams, papers and meetings; a full term with only one required class and plenty of time for a social life. This spring term, however, the phrase means something completely different for a number of Alma students: a full month off campus set aside entirely for cross-cultural learning.

A three-week trip to Edinburgh, the capital city of Scotland, is among the overseas spring terms being offered this year. The course, listed as STC 3, is a cross-cultural program in which students will be placed into positions relevant to their career orientation.

For instance, one of the students traveling to Scotland is majoring in engineering and will therefore be placed with a Scottish supervisor in the engineering field. Students will spend the day at their job site

and working with their Scottish supervisor. During the afternoon, they will frequently go with the rest of the group on historical field trips and the like. Students also have personal time to spend doing things they would like to do.

The group who will travel to Scotland consists of 12 students from various fields who were chosen out of 35 applicants. The application process required the students to submit a recommendation from their advisor as well as a recommendation from another faculty person. The students also had to write an essay about themselves and another expressing why they wished to travel to Scotland.

John Putz, associate professor of Math and Computer Science, along with his wife, Melinda, will be directing the program as advisors. Putz and his family spent a year in Edinburgh during Putz's sabbatical leave. Putz studied at the University of Edinburgh in the area of artificial intelligence and his wife taught English at a high school in

Edinburgh.

Putz remembers the Scottish people as being "very warm and more laid back than we (Americans) tend to be. They take work a little less seriously and realize that there are more important things in life."

Sophomore Julie McKinstry will be traveling to Edinburgh in May. "I've always wanted to go to Scotland and when I found out that I had been selected, I was happy that my trip would be in the near future. I've heard so much about Scotland and its people and customs that I'm curious to find out how much of the hearsay is a myth."

"Scotland has so many cultural characteristics; it will be a wonderful place to visit. Also, I've never been to Europe. I especially want to see where Mary Queen of Scots was born," said sophomore Anna Kadish.

Senior Heather Genson is also taking the non-departmental course. "I'm so excited about the trip and about learning about a different culture. I'm also taking highland dance right now, so I've been hearing a lot about Scotland. It's exciting to know I'll be seeing what I've been hearing about."

Putz's ultimate goal for the participants in this cross-cultural learning experience is to "know and understand the people of a culture different from our own and come to some understanding of how another people sees the world. It is to broaden the students' world and extend their sensibilities."

## Neil Diamond: 'Hello Again'

By Shannon M. Garrett  
Opinion Editor

"Were any of you out there born in 1967?" screamed the performer on stage. "Well so was this song!"

1967? My mother hadn't even graduated from high school in 1967, let alone given thought to my conception. So why did I know the words to this song?

Because the performer was Neil Diamond, perhaps the greatest live artist since Elvis.

Neil Diamond is a breathing anachronism;

a rare combination of glitter and flamboyancy hard to find in contemporary performers this side of Wayne Newton.

Diamond's 1993 Christmas Tour performance on Nov. 11 at the Palace in Auburn Hills was a sell-out. From the woman in the angora sweater, pearl necklace and well-coiffed hair sitting in front of me to the overweight, sweaty, drunken man shaking his hips to "Brother Love's Travelling Salvation Show" in the front row, Diamond attracted a widely diverse audience.

Diamond acknowledged the diversity in his thank you to the audience: "This show is for everyone. Black or white, rich or poor, man or woman, gay or straight — this show is for you!" (Neil's a politically correct man of the '90's, you understand.)

The two and a half hour show offered something for everyone. Playing "in the round," there was no way for anyone to miss the spectacular laser light show, the enormous Christmas tree with its continuously color-changing lights, the back-up choir of six members ("with the voices of sixty" — Neil) or the pelvic-grinding, finger-pointing, hip seventies dance moves of Diamond himself.

The show included every one of Diamond's greatest hits as well as a few cover tunes off his latest album *Up On the Roof*. Among others, Diamond remade "You've Lost That Loving Feeling" by the Righteous Brothers, Cat Stevens' "Morning Has Broken," and a version of "River Deep, Mountain High" that would make Erasure blush.

The Christmas set appealed to all ages with "White Christmas," "Little Drummer Boy" and an extended re-mix version of "Silent Night, Holy Night" heading a list of Yuletide tunes. Having appeased his Christian fans in

the audience, Diamond also performed a song "for my people," "Hava Nakia."

A few members of the Alma College community were in attendance and their reaction to the show was obvious. Fran Groves, secretary of the Heritage department, was spotted sporting a lighter during "You Don't Bring Me Flowers."

*There was no way for anyone to miss the spectacular laser light show, the enormous Christmas tree...or the pelvic-grinding, finger-pointing, hip seventies dance moves of Diamond himself.*

Senior Leslie Theisen was on her feet throughout the entire performance. And word has it that Alma band, Buddy Rhu-barb, will be changing their entire format because their lead singer, first

year student Matt Groves, was caught imitating Diamond's fancy footwork in the parking lot after the show.

"Dig it," was the only response coming from junior Andrea Balliet.

Overall Diamond presented a flashy, energetic, exhausting show that worked the audience harder than the Blues Traveler ever could.

From the upbeat "Cherry" to the soulful "Love on the Rocks," not a single hit was forgotten. Some of the songs even brought back memories long lost to the past.

Senior Sammy Jager emotionally remembered humming "Turn on Your Heartlight" for months after Diamond recorded the song in dedication to the blockbuster hit *E.T.* "When Neil sang that ['Turn on Your Heartlight'], I almost cried. I haven't thought of *E.T.* in years. God, that was a great movie."

"Hello Again" was another sentimental moment for the audience. Diamond was not even two words into the song when lighters ignited all around the stadium. Couples moved a little closer and the older women in the crowd got a far away look in their eyes as Diamond pined away for his lost love.

But the lighters were soon cooled down and replaced with banners and cries of "We love you, Neil" as Diamond got back to business with "Forever in Blue Jeans" and "Sweet Caroline."

From the unfurling flags during the opening "America" to the echoing chorus of "Song Sung Blue," Diamond's show pleased all who came. The experience was indescribable — all lasers, glitz, glamour and drama. All Neil Diamond.

After a show like Diamond's I have only one question on my mind: "Sprechen Sie Sassy?"

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## Calendar of Events

### Week of November 16

#### On Campus:

##### Tuesday, November 16

The President—Faculty Discussions, VanDusen Fireside, 4 p.m.

##### Thursday, November 18

High School Counselor Visit Day, Admissions

##### Friday, November 19

Alma Players Fall Production, *Our Country's Good*, Heritage—Free Form Theater, 8 p.m.  
Co-Cur Event—University of Michigan Ann Arbor Dance Works, Heritage, 8 p.m.

##### Saturday, November 20

Alma Players Fall Production, *Our Country's Good*, Heritage—Free Form Theater, 8 p.m.  
Gamma Phi Beta T-Bird Tavern, VanDusen, 9 p.m.

##### Sunday, November 21

ACUB Movie, Jones Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

##### Monday, November 22

Foreign Study Orientation Meeting, VanDusen Fireside, 7 p.m.

#### East Lansing:

##### Wednesday, November 17

Anita Hill, MSU, 5 p.m., Tickets \$ 10

#### Ann Arbor:

##### Thursday, November 18

I.R.S. Recording Artist Kirsty MacColl with special guest David Gray, The Blind Pig, 10 p.m., Advance Tickets: \$7.50

##### Saturday, November 20

from Boulder Colorado, Big Head Todd & The Monsters, Michigan Theater, 8 p.m., Reserved Seats: \$15.50

#### Detroit:

##### Friday, November 19

Zoo Recording Artist Matthew Sweet with special guest Hollyfaith, St. Andrew's Hall, 9 p.m., Advance Tickets: \$14.50

##### Saturday, November 20

Atlantic Recording Artists Inner Circle with special guests Rise Robots Rise, The Majestic, 8 p.m., Advance Tickets: \$14.50

## Alma student tours to 'change the world'

By Kristin Allen  
Staff Reporter

To change the world. We've all given that response at some point in time when asked what our goal in life might be. Many of us have aspired to make the world a better place, however, rarely are we met with the opportunity to challenge that goal head on.

Yet for one Alma College student, this goal is about to become reality. Beginning in June, Anne Marie Hiltz, a first year student from Monroe, MI, will tour for 13 months with the group "Up With People" while inspiring thousands of audiences around the world.

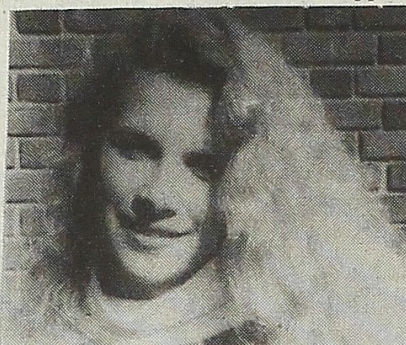
"Up With People" is a program of intercultural education, service and performance which aims to build an understanding among nations and equip young adults with a global perspective as well as lifelong leadership skills. The program is divided into performance casts which tour the entire world—singing, dancing, inspiring.

Hiltz's first contact with the program began when the group performed for her hometown.

"It was unbelievable," Hiltz said. "The emotion generated between the performers and the audience was amazing. To see the perfor-

mance is something you'll never forget."

Hiltz decided she wanted the chance to be a part of this experience and began the long application process which ultimately chooses 700 out of 8,000 appli-



Anne Marie Hiltz. Photo by A. Crum.

cants. The application procedure consisted of writing in-depth essays and being interviewed at length by cast members and casting directors.

From the moment she opened the envelope which declared her a part of the program, Hiltz was ecstatic.

In June she will fly to Denver, Colorado for a five week training session after which she will be placed in one of five casts and begin her year-long tour around the world. For the next year, Hiltz, along with her cast of 140 young adults from all over the world, will

tour over fifty-two countries, stay with over 100 host families, and perform in front of thousands.

Although a bit scared, Hiltz is anticipating the experience. "I find culture differences fascinating. I can't wait to travel all over the world and experience all of the countries."

The shows perform all types of music—from rap to reggae to jazz—on a variety of topics relevant to world issues. The show is inspirational, yet not religious; it attempts to bridge the culture gap while entertaining.

In addition, "Up With People" allows opportunities for service learning and exposure to all types of worldwide career opportunities. In the past they have performed in front of royalty, presidents and, most recently, at the 1993 Super Bowl with Michael Jackson.

Although Hiltz is unsure who she will perform with this year, she looks forward to visiting her many relatives all over the world while making new friends and enjoying the experience of a lifetime.

"I hope to come back with a better understanding of the world," said Hiltz. "I want to make a difference, and if I can look out into the audience, smile, and see someone smile back, I will know I have done just that."

## Epic sponsors second in poetry series

By Leslie Theisen  
Investigative Reporter

"Poetry is a spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings: it takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquility," said Wordsworth in his preface to *Lyrical Ballads*.

Approximately 25 students and a few faculty members attended a poetry reading in the Clack Art Gallery Tuesday at 8 p.m. to express such feelings as Wordsworth described.

The reading was the second planned by Epic, the English Club, this term.

"Generally, the poetry readings we host offer members of the campus community an opportunity to celebrate an art form in a casual and comfortable setting," said Kristin Soldan, president of Epic.

Many students who read shared poems they wrote for their creative writing course. Some read their favorites by other poets.

"This poem was written in honor of black individuals who have not been able to express themselves orally or through writing or any aspect. I call this poem 'The Negro Speaks,'" said senior Lawrence Potter, who volunteered to read first.

"I have been a slave./ Caesar told me to keep his doorsteps clean./ I brushed the boots of Washington," read Potter.

Junior Adam Burhans read five of his poems, prefacing each with a

short explanation.

"The morning blinks/ The ends of arrows show up in the field's heart," read Burhans, reciting his poem called "Arrows in the Field."

Burhans also entertained the au-

time. Among them were juniors Angela Jawors, Jessica Van Slooten and Jason Hamilton, sophomores Maggie Taylor and Tamara Leonard.

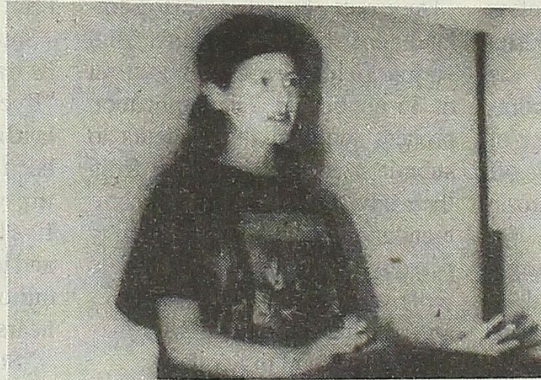
Students showed creative strengths in a range of poems about different subjects.

Leonard read a found poem about a solitary word: heritage. Taylor shared a poem called "Happy," about her mother. Hamilton read "Down with the Barn," a poem which captured the memory of his grandfather's old barn.

Sophomore Brooke Hansen closed the reading with two poems of her own, both untitled, as well as

"Those Times," her favorite poem by author Anne Sexton.

Epic will host two more poetry readings during the winter term.



Maggie Taylor read at poetry reading last Tuesday. Photo by A. Crum.

dience with a poem entitled "Mystery Novel," in which he drew an analogy between an unfaithful lover and a murder mystery.

Many students read for the first

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Nov. 16, 1993

# Strong swimmers set stage for super season

By Tim Ketel  
Staff Reporter

Looking at the final scores, one would think the Alma Swimming and Diving Team had a losing meet Saturday, Nov. 13, 1993, against Hope College, but all things considered, it was a winning meet for the Scots.

The Hope Swimming and Diving Team, whose men's squad was ranked third in the nation last year, and whose women's squad came in seventh, outscored the Scots 115-93.

Alma had a very strong meet full of great swims. There were several personal best times and one all-time team record.

First-year student Danielle Sullivan set the Alma record in the 200-yard freestyle race with a time of 2:01.73.

"I was really surprised, I didn't think I could go that fast this early in the season," said Sullivan.

"She's one of our stronger women, a very hard worker," said coach

Greg Baadte.

Sullivan has great expectations, as one of the fastest first-year students ever recruited by the Alma team. Her performance Saturday was strong, and there is no doubt that she is going to improve even

meets the team has ever had," praised Baadte. "Probably the best start of a season this team has ever had."

"The meet was so good because everyone attacked their races," he continued. "Everyone swam to the best of their ability. Our goal was to

same time last year."

The women's sole diver, sophomore Christine Hamacher, did a wonderful job on Saturday, looking good on both boards.

Men's diver Radu Danca had an absolutely amazing meet. Danca

Medley, and by senior Salena Williams in the 1000-yard freestyle. Williams swam as fast in this meet as she swam at the end of last year's season.

For the men's squad, first-year student Geoff Guy had a very impressive comeback in the 100-yard breaststroke, edging out two opponents with only seconds to go and finishing second with a 1:04.42.

Also swimming a strong meet was first-year student Alex Gordon, getting his lifetime best in the 400-yard Individual Medley with a time of 4:27.37. Gordon came in first in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 0:58.40.

The Scots hope to finish high in the MIAA. The women's team is looking at second place, while the men's team aims at fourth place.

The Scots have their next competition at the MIAA Relays next Friday, Nov. 19, 1993. This will be followed the Tuesday after by a dual meet with Grand Valley State University at Grand Valley State.

*"The meet was so good because everyone attacked their races. Everyone swam to the best of their ability. Our goal was to swim technically and soundly, which I think we achieved."*

--swimming coach

Greg Baadte

more over the season and during her four years with the team.

The team was strong even against as strong a team as Hope.

"This was a pretty good meet for the team," said men's captain Paul Schmidt. "We had a lot of good swims against a team with a lot of good swimmers."

"This was one of the best dual

swim technically and soundly, which I think we achieved."

Junior Jennifer Turnbull, co-captain of the women's squad, felt the squad is doing very well: "Everyone seems to be putting their all into the swimming."

"Our team is doing a lot better than expected," she continued. "We're a lot further ahead this year than at this

came within about three points of qualifying for Nationals on the one-meter springboard. Danca and his teammates all seem very pleased with his performance and it seems that Danca is Alma's key to placing at Nationals this year.

Excellent swims were had by both first-year student Sara Rumsey and Turnbull in the 400-yard Individual

## Men's basketball team looking to be a contender

By Julianne Thomas  
Sports Editor

The men's basketball season will open with a two day tournament in Naperville, Ill. on Friday, Nov. 19. After working hard last season and losing no players to graduation, the team is more excited than ever about the season.

"We now feel we have a solid basketball team in terms of experience, size, and ability," said fifth-year head coach Bob Eldridge.

"I think we have a very young team. We have the potential to do great things. At times we will play above and beyond what we can," said senior captain Colon Lewis.

Key players in the season will be Lewis, a senior offguard, junior forwards Todd Blomquist and Matt Lotterman, junior center Chad Reagh, and sophomore guard Jim Elliot.

Another strong player, senior Reggie Reed, is in Tokyo studying and will miss the first six games, but will rejoin the team for the remainder of the season.

"I think we're going to surprise a lot of people and have a really good season. A lot of guys are back, and a lot of new guys are coming up," said senior Jeff Kren.

Rob Borden, Stan Schneider, and Phil Hansen will be assisting Eldridge in coaching the team. Borden has been coaching at Alma for nine years, Schneider for five, and Hansen for three. The four combine knowledge and love of the game to give the Scots the best chance for winning.

"I think with the players we have, the coaches do a really good job of getting us ready. They've developed a good style for us to play," said Kren.

The Scots were picked to finish fifth this year by the MIAA coaches, but the league is so strong, predictions will be hard to make.

"Our team is bigger and more physical than we've ever been. We are much more athletic, and quite experienced, but still young. We are on the verge of really challenging the league. The league is stronger though, too. It has more parity than ever before. Any team will be able to beat any other team on any given night. It should make for a very exciting season," said Eldridge.

"This is the best chance we've had since I've been here and in years to come of winning the league. I'm not looking past any other team, though," said Lewis.

One key to being a top finisher will be winning on the road, something the team had trouble with last season. Also, the defense needs to be strong and the team has to take control of rebounds.

"Points will be scored. If the other team can be stopped from scoring through strong defense and rebounds, we will be hard to beat," said Eldridge.

Eldridge feels that this is a close-knit, intense group of men, and is very excited about the depth of the team.

"The team believes that they can win. It is just a matter of taking care of the little things and an element of

luck. Everyone just wants to play and do as well as they can. They are very unselfish, and if that attitude continues throughout the season it will bode well," said Eldridge.

"Fan support would be greatly appreciated," said Lewis. "If the college community came out in full support, we'd give them what they came to see."

"The style we'll be playing will be a lot of fun to watch. We'll be playing a lot of good teams, some that are ranked nationally, and it should be a lot of fun to watch," said Kren. "It's always encouraging to see a lot of fans at the games."

Their first home game will be Nov. 23 in Cappaert Gymnasium. The J.V. game begins at 6 p.m. while the varsity game will begin at 8 p.m.

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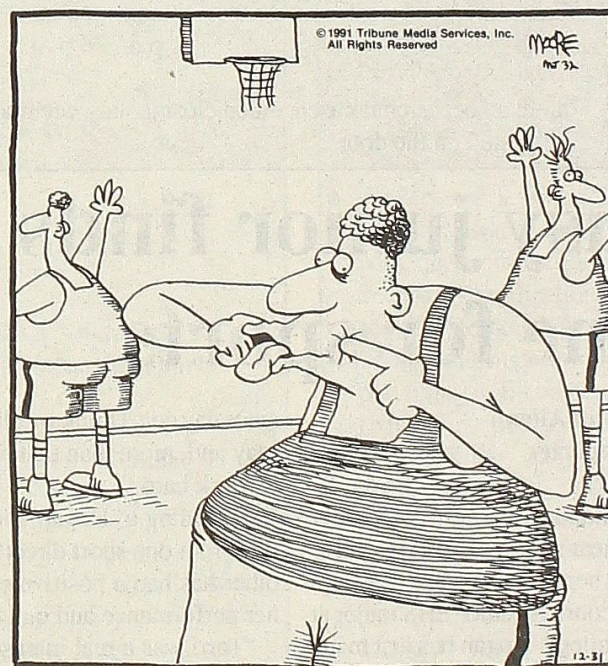
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## In The Bleachers

By Steve Moore



Norman commits another flagrant foul noise and is ejected from the game.

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## Gym Hours

Alma College P.E. Center Hours  
Fall Term 1993 (Nov. and Dec.)

### Gymnasium and Racquetball Courts

Monday & Wednesday	Noon - 10 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday	Noon - 8 p.m.
Saturday	Noon - 6 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

### Pool

Monday thru Friday	7 a.m. - 8 a.m. Noon - 1 p.m.
Monday thru Thursday	7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Friday	6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday	Noon - 3 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

### Weight Room

Monday thru Friday	7 a.m. - 8 a.m. Noon - 4 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	10 a.m. - Noon
Monday thru Thursday	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday	7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday	Noon - 6 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

note: the Weight Room will be reserved Monday - Friday 4 - 7 p.m. for athletic use only.

### Dance Studio

Monday thru Friday	7 a.m. - 8 a.m. Noon - close
Saturday	Noon - 6 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

### Track

Monday thru Friday	8 a.m. - 3 p.m. 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday	Noon - 6 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

note: an occasional unscheduled closing may occur and will be posted on the doors

## Aerobics classes help students stay in shape

By Anne M. Buyze  
Staff Reporter

Has college been a little stressful this year? Has your weight been a bit of a problem? The Alma College aerobics program can help.

First-year student Kim Erwin said, "Aerobics is exhilarating, upbeat, and fast-paced. It's a great way to get your nose out of those biology and psychology books and the best part about it is that it's an all around great time!"

Many students have found that aerobics is an easy way to relieve stress, lose weight, and meet new friends. Senior Molly Delind especially likes the program.

"It's inexpensive and easy to get to because it's on campus and nice for those of us who want to exercise and have no time to be involved in a sport," said DeLind.

Although there was an informal program several years ago, a more organized program began two years ago and is headed by Laura Vosejka, assistant professor of chemistry.

"Before the instructors were just on their own. If someone decided to offer an aerobics class they just put a sign up," said Vosejka.

The instructors of the current program include senior Kelly

Haddock, junior Amy Majestic, associate dean of students Linda Harleston and Vosejka. The instructors were chosen by Vosejka and other additional panel members.

"We want someone who can work out at a medium level and show all the moves in a safe way and keep an eye on the class at the same time," said Vosejka.

"I see it as more of a way to help people. I get a lot more in the way of benefits in that way instead of monetary," says Haddock. "For me, there's a great sense of achievement in that I help people because I'm sharing something I love with them."

Majestic expressed similar feelings.

"When I see people getting into it and yelling with me that's a total boost."

The benefits from aerobics are endless and include the obvious improvement of the cardiovascular and muscular systems. However, many other benefits are not as evident.

"The students find it a great release from class and a chance to get out of their rooms. It's also a nice chance to get to see who lives on the other side of campus. You find out who has a common interest," said Haddock.

"It's one of the few things on campus you can do with other people

so you get that competition thing going and on top of it all your friends are they're doing it with you," said Majestic.

She has also found that through aerobics she has become more competitive in the classroom and in other areas.

Surprisingly, not many men attend the classes. "I would love for some guy to come and tell me if I did this, guys would come," said Vosejka.

Majestic also expresses the desire to increase the male participants: "If guys are in the weight room and they want to try out aerobics, they usually come for free the first time and from that I've gotten a few guys that continue to come and pay now."

Unfortunately, the aerobics program is having trouble finding space to work out because of conflict between schedules of the sports teams and the adult fitness program recently installed for faculty members.

"If the college goes ahead with this Intramural Building, we're hoping there will be some space set aside just for things like aerobics. We thought that cheerleaders and pom squads could practice there too," said Vosejka.

Until then, aerobics will continue with changes made to meet the demands of the growing number of participants.

## Busy junior finds time for sports

By Kristin Allen  
Staff Reporter

Determination—a word commonly used by teammates of Terri Hogan to describe her attitude on both the field and the court. A junior EHS major at Alma College, Hogan has just made the transition from her first year of college soccer to her third year as a Scot basketball star.

As a member of the Division III National Championship team, Hogan, along with her teammates, has experienced a taste of the spotlight. Yet after struggling last year to capture the winning spirit which accompanied the 1991-92 team to the top, the team is ready for a clean start and Hogan expresses optimism toward the upcoming season.

"The team has a lot of talent this year. We have the potential to excel on the court," said Hogan, a 5'5" guard. "The team spirit is back, and the attitudes are good."

"There isn't a J.V. team this year—all the players are a part of the Varsity squad. At first we weren't sure how this would work out, but I've witnessed nothing but teamwork

since day one. I think we all want to play and, more than that, we want to work hard."

According to Hogan, the transition from one sport directly to another has had a positive effect on her performance and outlook.

"Terri was a real intense player on the soccer field," said junior Mary Kay Ecken, reflecting back upon the season. "When she was in the game, the whole atmosphere changed. I think she helped us all become more aggressive and assertive."

Although she suffered from several leg and ankle injuries and played with pain throughout most of the soccer season, Hogan is ready to tackle basketball head on. Her personal goals for the upcoming season revolve around playing time, but even more than wanting to play a lot, she wants to play smart.

"I want to be consistent on the court," she explained. "The intimidation I felt my freshman year is gone. I've played under some great leaders these past few years, and now I have the chance to help lead."

Hogan's leadership abilities are evident from the respect she receives from her teammates.

"Terri gives 100% in everything she does," said senior teammate Tara Sherman. "All of the players have a respect for her—not just as an athlete, but as a hard-working individual. Her accomplishments will certainly make her successful."

Hogan, originally from Flushing, is juggling basketball and tough class work while taking part in NASA research for the EHS department. In her spare time, when she's not on the court or in the lab, she's planning her upcoming wedding to Alma junior Jim Walter.

"Being busy motivates me," said Hogan. "I don't have time to think about things or procrastinate—I just do it."

### Aerobics Schedule

ACTIVITY	PLACE	DAYS	TIME
Hi Impact Aerobics	Lower Gym	Monday, Wednesday	5-6 p.m.
Hi Impact Aerobics	Dance Studio	Friday	3-4 p.m.
Step Dance	Dance Studio	Tuesday, Thursday	7-8 a.m.
Step Dance	Dance Studio	Friday	3-4 p.m.
Water Aerobics	Pool	Monday - Thursday	6:10-7:10 p.m.

The cost for all classes is 75 cents



Terri Hogan. Photo by C. Hogan



Nov. 16, 1993

# Women's basketball ready to win title again

By Alexandra Orr  
Freelance Writer

Alma College can expect to see good things from this year's women's basketball team. This year the team has several talented returning players, as well as some promising new additions.

Sophomore Katie White, a returning player, commented on the team. "We get along really well. We have a lot of returning players and some new players. We help out the first year players. We work well together."

First-year student Michelle Olds, a new team member, agreed, "Everyone gets along really well. We cheer each other on."

For the seventh season, Charles Goffnet will coach the Scots. Goffnet, who began coaching basketball in 1977, said, "I am optimistic about the season. We have a good blend of veterans and new talents."

*"They are trying hard to make the team the best it can be. We are doing conditioning this year, so we are more in shape...The coaches have a lot of good ideas on how we can improve."*

*--sophomore Katie White*

Experienced players will give the team a solid foundation, while new members bring enthusiasm. This is a good combination."

Assisting Goffnet will be Mark Guyette and Bill Klenk. This will be Guyette's fifth year on the coaching staff. Klenk graduated from Alma in 1959 and joined the staff in 1967. Since then he has coached baseball, football, and basketball.

Jaami McCellan, a first-year student, said, "I like them (the coaches) a lot. Coach Goffnet doesn't say much. The assistant coaches are the instructors and Goffnet is the perfecter. They are all interested in us as individuals, not just in the way we play. They are very personable, and help us out a lot."

White agreed: "They are trying

hard to make the team the best it can be. We are doing conditioning this year, so we are more in shape. We practice as one team—both the junior varsity and varsity. This helps the junior varsity to do better. The coaches have a lot of good ideas on how we can improve."

The Scots will be practicing hard until their first game against Northwood University on Saturday, Nov. 20 at 3:00 p.m. in Cappaert Gymnasium. From then on, the team will either practice or play a game every day except Sunday until the season ends in March.

The women's basketball team, which won the Division III National Championship in 1992, are ready to win the title again.

Goffnet explained, "Last year we

were definitely feeling pressure to do well. Pressure does funny things to people; you never know how they will react. We didn't do as well as we had hoped, but now is the time to redeem ourselves. The young players have no basis for feeling pressured. They are just trying to get used to playing basketball at the college level. The point is to have fun and play hard, not to worry about the wins or losses."

Last weekend the Scots played a scrimmage against Oakland University. Neither team was ready for a game — there had only been five days of official practice for both squads. It was a good experience because it helped point out what problem areas both teams need to work on. Alma needs to practice its

defensive moves and ball handling skills.

McCellan said, "The scrimmage was good for us. We got to see how we are going to play together. We were a little shaky on our plays, but we had only practiced a week. Oakland has a really good team. They had four senior starters and had been playing together for a long time. Most of us haven't been playing together for that long. We saw that we needed to work on our transitions from offense to defense. In practice we play against each other, this way we got to see what work we still need to do. I think it went really well."

Thursday was the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) coaches' poll for our region. The head coaches came together to make predictions as to who will be the highest scoring team at the end of the season. Alma was picked to finish second behind Calvin College.

## Sports Stats

### FINAL MIAA Women's Cross Country Report

#### Final Standings

1. Calvin
2. Hope
3. Alma
4. Kalamazoo
5. Albion

Most Valuable Runner: Renea Bluekamp, Calvin College

This is Calvin's fifth consecutive women's cross country championship

Arragon, Calvin College

\* this is Calvin's seventh consecutive men's cross country championship.

\* Calvin scored a perfect 15 points in the championship meet. This is only the second time in MIAA cross country history that's been accomplished. The other was in 1930 by Kalamazoo

### FINAL MIAA Men's Soccer Report

#### League

	W	L	T
1. Kalamazoo	11	0	1
2. Hope	8	3	1
3. Calvin	8	4	0
4. Albion	5	6	1
5. Alma	5	6	1
6. Olivet	3	9	0
7. Adrian	0	12	0

#### Individual Leaders

##### Goals:

Robin Wells, Kalamazoo	14
T. Schuurman, Calvin	12
F. Papillon, Alma	10
Matt Mitchell, Albion	8

Brad Pagratis, Hope	7
M. Bachman, Kalamazoo	7
Jason Gilbert, Alma	4
Dave Miller, Alma	4

#### Assists:

Jim Allen, Alma	8
T. Schuurman, Calvin	8
G. Hartker, Kalamazoo	7
Mike Arends, Kalamazoo	6
J. Siebenga, Calvin	5
Ben LaBarge, Hope	5
Jason Gilbert, Alma	4
F. Papillon, Alma	4

#### Total Points:

Robin Wells, Kalamazoo	32
T. Schuurman, Calvin	32
F. Papillon, Alma	24
Matt Mitchell, Albion	20
Mike Arends, Kalamazoo	18
Joe Johnson, Olivet	18
Julius Siebenga, Calvin	17
Brad Pagratis, Hope	16
Jim Allen, Alma	12
Jason Gilbert, Alma	12
Dave Miller, Alma	11
J. Oesterling, Alma	7

### FINAL MIAA Volleyball Report 1993

#### League games only

Calvin	10-2
Kalamazoo	10-2
Alma	9-3
Adrian	6-6
Hope	5-7
Albion	2-10
Olivet	0-12

#### 1993 MIAA All-sports standings (after fall sports season)

	Men	Women
Points		
1. Hope	28	32
2. K-zoo	30	30
3. Calvin	24	30
4. Albion	27	15
5. Alma	18	23
6. Adrian	4	20
7. Olivet	18	0

## classifieds

### ATTENTION EDUCATION STUDENTS:

Student teaching applications are due in the Education Department on January 15, 1994. Students planning to student teach in elementary or secondary schools during the Fall 1994 or Winter 1995 Term should see Mrs. Farrier (AC 237) for an application form. Students with questions pertaining to Secondary certification, please see Dr. Rickard (AC 236, 7209). Students with questions pertaining to Elementary certification, please see Dr. Markham (AC 238, 7166) or Dr. Root (AC 239, 7202). Late applicants cannot be guaranteed a student teaching placement.

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# Professors not responsible for political correctness

By Lawrence T. Potter, Jr.  
Freelance Writer

I've been traveling incognito and under cover of darkness lately for fear that I'd be recognized as a college professor. Now that the cold war is over, college professors have become the new internal subversives. I've been told that they're at work everywhere, deconstructing the fabric of American life and indoctrinating our youth with a radical, anti-establishment theology.

One need pay only casual attention to the news to realize that the assault on colleges and college teachers is a new craze sweeping this country. Articles, books, and commencement speeches by the score have attacked the "new intolerance" on college campuses, the perceived demand in curricula, in student and faculty recruiting, and even in personal speech for something called "political correctness."

Political correctness is a pejorative term for a pattern of behavior in which discourse, argument, and good sense are stifled by an imposed conformity which places maximum value on giving no offense to such "marginalized" groups as women, people of color, gays and lesbians, Jews, Muslims and the poor. In the world of the politically correct, truth is spelled with a capital "T."

Heated debate about the issue is rampant in higher education. But that grinding noise you hear is nothing more than the awkward way colleges change and progress. It is familiar to those who remember when Greek and Latin were dropped from the list of graduation requirements, when religious instruction became optional or when co-education spread like wildfire across single-sex colleges.

There are dangers aplenty in the changes through which we are currently passing. But these are tradi-

tional and familiar threats, not some new monster that has suddenly started to devour America's higher education. Change is the natural state of college life, but it is rarely smooth and it is never quiet.

The critics who coined the term "political correctness" see it as a set of invidious trends in which fad brushes tradition aside. The problem is that, save in exceptional and transitory cases, the picture that critics paint bears little resemblance to life on contemporary college campuses.

Some outrages have certainly occurred in the name of political correctness, but if you've been paying attention, you'll note that the same handful of examples are cited over and over: the new Stanford University curriculum, the hegemony of the deconstructionists in the Duke English Department, the expulsion of a Brown University student who screamed insults at minority students.

The critics who denounce political correctness alert us to dangers that always lurk just below the surface in a free society. But I think their criticisms are flawed in three important ways.

First, the evidence simply isn't there, at least not in sufficient abundance to support the intensity or breadth of the criticism. When the critics examine college catalogues, they do so for the specific purpose of ferreting out exotic-sounding courses and then implying that these are the sum of modern education.

But they miss the vital lesson those catalogues contain. Much has been added to liberal-arts curricula over the past few decades; there are more fields of knowledge and more ways of looking at old issues. Could any contemporary college really

be worth the cost of attendance if it lacked courses on computers, the impact of nuclear weapons, space science, race relations, the non-Western cultures in which most of the world's population resides, the shifting roles of women and the restructuring of families?

There is much to sort out in this perplexing new age, and colleges

typical new student arrives at college having already endured 18 years of dysfunctional family life and having watched over 20,000 hours of television. In college, these students are confronted by a bewildering array of influences—news-papers, magazines, more TV, clubs, student politics and especially their friends and peers. From all of these sources they will receive messages about the way the world works and advice on how to cope with the confusion.

To assume that even the most dedicated proselytizer or ideologue could successfully trans-

form the thinking of a college student is a contortion of logic and reality. Even the most aggressive effort to change them is unlikely to be very successful. Most students know where they stand and they are very defensive about efforts to change their minds.

Sometimes student opinions do change, especially about subjects of which they were largely ignorant at the outset. In fact, in the exceptional cases when transformations do take place, they are far more likely to result from students' thinking seriously about a subject for the first time than from some wily old professor's persuasive skills. And significant changes of opinion, if they occur at all, are much more likely to be intellectual than political transformations.

The third problem with the contemporary critics is that they seriously misrepresent college faculties and administrations. Every criticism I have read of the "new tolerance" on college campuses begins with some caricature of professors as a narrow-minded group of retreat hippies and radical femi-

nists who cut their political teeth on the student protests of the 1960's and whose academic tenure now enables them to proselytize this generation of students to left-wing, anti-establishment politics.

It is a portrait accurate only in the respect that slightly more than half of American college professors are between the ages of 42 and 56 and completed their undergraduate study between 1957 and 1969. Most of those who attended college in the 1960's, however, were neither hippies nor revolutionaries. And few among those who participated actively in the rebellions of that period chose to commit themselves to the years of study necessary to earn a Ph.D. One could not simultaneously be working in the library or laboratory and marching in the streets.

Beyond the inherent difficulty of changing students' attitudes, the best antidote to indoctrination is diversity. When a faculty is composed of people with different backgrounds, beliefs and opinions, students have no choice but to draw their own conclusions and form their own identities. They may find themselves attracted to a particular faculty member or department or point of view, but distribution and major requirements will insure that they are forced to navigate through rough as well as calm waters.

To those unfamiliar with the dialectic of academic debate, all of this may appear unseemly, even threatening.

But American universities have always been breeding grounds for new ideas. That is one of their important functions in our national life. We should not be surprised that some of the hardest questions about our social and political status quo are being asked on college campuses. Nor should we be surprised when they yield discomforting answers.

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have struggled to keep up with the need for new forms of analysis and new levels of understanding. Curricula reflect that struggle.

That, however, is only part of the story. The complimentary reality is that, at their core, most liberal-arts curricula have held to a pretty steady course in recent decades. There is much more to college curricula now than Western culture, but the history and tradition of the West still take center stage for most college students.

Some new courses touch political nerves. How, after all, can one teach about race relations or labor economics or feminist literature with total dispassion and detachment from the currents that swirl all around these subjects? But both the political intensity and the ideological congruity of such courses are vastly overstated.

The second flaw in the criticism of political correctness is that it significantly misapprehends the lives of contemporary college students and underestimates their capacity for independent thought. If one believes the national data, the

*Most students felt that both Perot and Gore were using immature behavior and ignoring the issue at hand. A few students felt that Perot showed more composure than Gore.*

thing that the government has in the last century that did not work out efficiently.

It was hard to judge the opinions of the many Alma College students who witnessed the debate. Most students felt that both Perot and Gore were using immature behav-

ior and ignoring the issue at hand. A few students felt that Perot showed more composure than Gore. Others felt that Gore seemed to win the debate. Overall, however, most students seemed to think that the debate was handled very poorly by both participants and that there was not enough discussion of the actual trade agreement for anyone to come to a conclusion on the issue.

Personally, I felt that both Gore and Perot were acting very unprofessionally. Their debate got down to an immature level that came off sounding like a silly schoolboy argument; it almost got to the point of arguing that "my dad is bigger than your dad." I had hoped that the debate would clear up my misconceptions about NAFTA, but instead it just made the issue more unclear.

From my understanding, if NAFTA works in the way the President Bill Clinton intends it to, then it may be a good idea for the coun-

try to support the agreement. But I have doubts as to whether everyone will accept NAFTA as it is intended, so who can really tell whether it is good for the U.S., or for North America as a whole, at all?

Since NAFTA is such a timely issue, one would think that this debate would have been handled much better than it was. Both sides could have used the debate to demonstrate their reasoning for or against the trade agreement. Instead both sides lost much needed public support because of petty, juvenile arguments over unrelated topics. The debate did nothing to clarify the issue, it only made NAFTA seem like a doubtful cause with no information on either side.

NAFTA is being voted on in the House of Representatives this Wednesday. I only hope that our Representatives have more information than what is being presented to the public.

## NAFTA growing more and more confusing by the day

By Melissa VanDyk  
Freelance Writer

The North American Free Trade Agreement is one of the hottest political topics of the decade.

NAFTA would open up trade barriers by removing tariffs that North American countries impose on each other's products. Some people feel that NAFTA would create jobs for United States citizens by increasing trade with Mexico, which currently imposes large tariffs on U.S. goods.

Others feel that since labor is cheaper in Mexico many businesses will move south of the border and take jobs with them. Due to Mexico's environmental and human rights records, there are those who feel that having a free trade agreement will support a system that exploits both people and the environment. Economists are split on the issue, as are the major political parties.

On November 9, Larry King Live sponsored a NAFTA debate between Ross Perot and Vice President Al Gore. Well, the debate was supposed to be over NAFTA. What ended up being debated were the sources of research and lobbying money, personal interests and the failings of the United States government since the turn of the century.

NAFTA was discussed (when it was discussed) with the expected results. The debate included the colloquialisms from Ross Perot that we have all grown to love: "the giant sucking sound" of jobs leaving the U.S. and how if you believe that NAFTA will create jobs you must also believe in "the tooth fairy and the Easter bunny."

Vice President Al Gore discussed the bargaining leverage that we would gain through NAFTA. He also mentioned the "politics of fear" which he accused Perot of trying to instill. Gore then went on to ques-



Nov. 16, 1993

## Greeks must stop sending mixed messages about alcohol

By William J. Johnston  
Senior Editor

Alma College's "no keg" policy affects all Greek organizations on this campus—to their benefit, in my opinion. But in providing kegs for the all-Greek Block Bash, I feel the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils are sending the wrong message to Greek and, indeed, all students on this campus.

Liability is a primary concern of Greek groups, and alcohol can play a dangerous role in issues of liability. If a fraternity were to provide a student with beer and that student then was killed while driving drunk, the fraternity could conceivably be held liable for the student's death and, to put it bluntly, get the pants sued off it.

For this reason and many others I think mature management of alcohol is a positive thing, and this includes eliminating so-called "common sources" such as kegs.

Alcohol and partying are too closely interrelated, especially on this campus. Removing the alcohol factor reveals that Greek groups are more than just a convenient way to party often.

And yet the focus of the Block Bash seemed to be the beer tent. Let me quote one of Block Bash's co-coordinators, Sean Lynott, from the Oct. 26 issue of *The Almanian*:

"The beer tent had a faithful gathering the entire night."

That "faithful gathering," of course, consisted entirely of 21-year-olds, separating them from the younger part of the Greek community.

The beer tent wasn't there for its social value, either. Why else would the Block Bash organizers allow people a maximum of six beers,

instead of one or two? Six beers is enough to get most people legally drunk. What sort of mature alcohol management is involved here?

There were also rumors that—gasp—underage drinkers somehow made it into the beer tent, and

different angle. Last Winter Term, an alumnus of my fraternity (Theta Chi) brought a keg to our house. As soon as our members found out about it, we removed the keg from our premises (and campus) and our president reported the incident to Anne Lombard (the Assistant Dean of Students in charge of Greek Life).

We were brought up on charges by IFC Judicial and received a reasonable punishment: we had to provide a speaker to the campus community (and to our chapter) to discuss the dangers of alcohol abuse, how to manage alcohol maturely, and similar topics.

I have no qualms over the punishment. Rather, I question when it suddenly becomes "all right" to provide keg beer. Why can we have kegs at an all-Greek function, but

not as individual Greek organizations?

I realize the liability issue is much more severe when dealing with an individual Greek group; what I'm questioning is the image the Greek community is presenting to the campus when it stigmatizes kegs (and alcohol in general) on an individual level but promotes it at a higher level.

All it does is perpetuates the old stereotype: that being Greek means partying drunk. And that sort of stereotype has no place in the modern world of liability. Instead of promoting the Greek system with promises of free beer, we should promote it with its good points: leadership opportunities, friendship, sisterhood (and brotherhood). In the future, let's keep the alcohol out of these all-Greek functions. After all, I think we'd get a better sense of true Greek unity without the beer tent than with it.

*what I'm questioning is the image the Greek community is presenting to the campus when it stigmatizes kegs (and alcohol in general) on an individual level but promotes it at a higher level.*

that some members of the "faithful gathering" managed to get another bracelet to increase their beer allotment. I can't speak to the truth or falsehood of these rumors, but if these things **did** happen, consider what sort of liability pitfalls might have arisen had, say, an underage drinker driven a car.

Let me approach the issue from a

## Near-death experiences make for a hilarious childhood

By Matt Groves  
Freelance Writer

I have waited long enough, Alma College. I have waited for three months to tell my tales of Marr. What are these tales? Read on and prepare for a shock.

I have a friend named Jason Marr. We have been good friends for about eight years and have had a lot of good times together. Well, "very weird times" would be a better description.

This kid and I would do things that you may not think were possible. I think his mother would cry when she knew that we were going to do something together.

Before I left for college, I told Marr I was going to try to write for the college newspaper. He mentioned that I should do an article about the things that we had done over the years. I promised him I would.

Here it is. The absolute, true-life happenings of Marr.

Jason and I together spelled trouble. Whenever we got together, it was a sure bet that something was going to get broken, blown up, set ablaze or melted. We never started out thinking we were going to get into trouble, it just happened. The funny part about our mischief is that Jason was the only one who ever got hurt or in trouble.

There was a time in Jason's life when he had trouble with nails. We used to walk across people's rooftops and jump into trees all the time.

One night Jason got up on a roof and was running along behind me. Now I got off the roof and into the tree with no problem. I looked back and Jason was just lying there in a heap on this person's roof. He had just stepped on about four nails and was whimpering for someone to get him down.

I yelled at Jason and told him to

get up, but he wouldn't. He just sat there and cried.

Meanwhile the owner of the house came out of his home with a baseball bat.

Jason was stuck on this dude's roof while I was able to escape by swinging through the trees. He never did remember what happened after that.

There was another time when Jason fell out of a tree fort we were making and landed on a bunch of nails. He had more tetanus shots than any human could possibly stand.

But these stories are boring compared to other things that happened to that poor kid. I'll concentrate on the three most bizarre things: the amputation, the drowning and the burning house.

The amputation was quite an incident. Jason and I were doing yard work for an elderly lady who lived down the street. After we were done with the work, we went up to the front door to get paid.

I was standing there with a pair of hedge clippers in my hands, opening and closing the blades. I was paying no attention, just staring off

into space when I heard Marr shriek. Apparently he was moving his fingers in and out of the blade. Not paying any attention, I had no idea that his hands were anywhere near the blades. I guess Marr was just a little to slow with his hands because I caught one of his fingers.

getting everybody real peeved. We all decided that we were going to get him back.

I started to swim over to him to dunk him, but he was too quick and jumped out of the pool. I got out and chased him around the pool deck. He got on the diving board

and started to dive off. He thought he was really smart by diving off the board and escaping.

But Marr must not have seen that he was not pointing his body toward the water. He was headed straight for the cement pool deck.

I yelled, "Marr! Look out!"

But too late. Marr went head first into the cement. He made a noise that can't be described. It kind of sounded like a baby seal being skinned

alive. He just slid into the pool and went to the bottom.

I was laughing so hard that I couldn't save him. Finally one of the others swam over and pulled him up. He was a complete scab from head to foot. Maybe there was a little danger involved, but it was just so funny I guess I didn't think that he could have drowned.

Now on to the burning house. Jason and I had a thing for fire. We played with fire all the time. We burned everything that we could get our hands on.

One day we were lighting tennis balls on fire. This was a favorite

thing to do. We would light them and then roll them down the street. It looked cool. I know that sounds stupid, but when you live in Alma you have to find some way of amusing yourself.

Anyway, we were lighting tennis balls on fire and we couldn't get one of them going, so Marr went into the garage and came out with a can of gasoline. This should be good I thought. Gas should get this fire going.

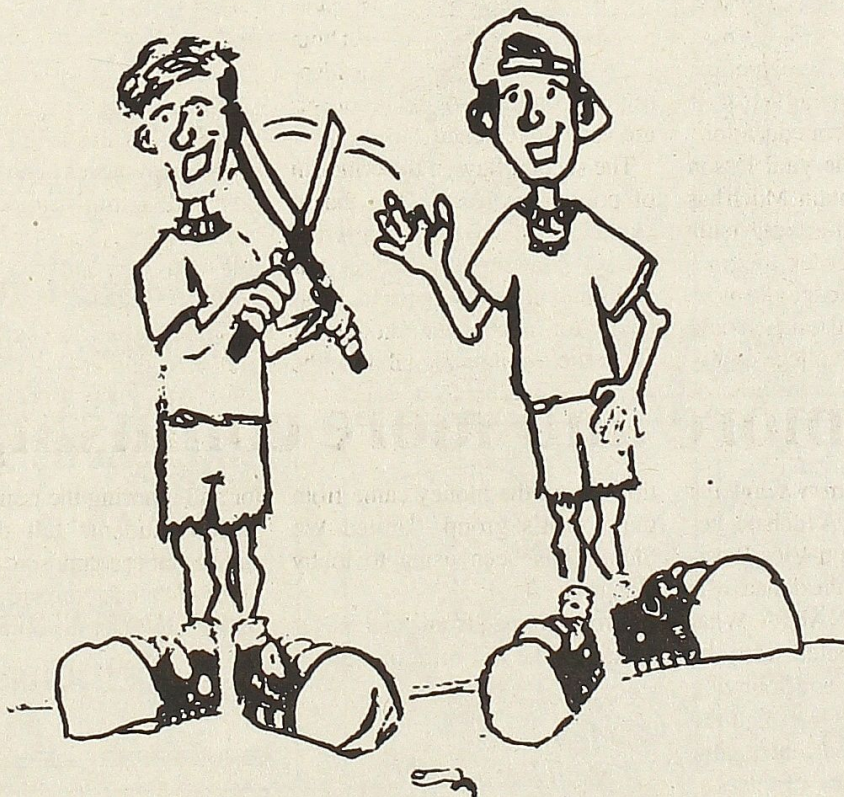
Jason tipped the can over the ball. Well, I was right when I said that gas should start it up. Where we went wrong was tipping the can over an open flame. The flame shot back into the can instead of doing what it was supposed to.

Marr threw the can and it hit the side of his house. The can exploded and caught the side of his house on fire. Instead of getting the hose and putting it out, Marr ran over to the flame and tried to smother the fire with his body.

I was rolling on the ground, laughing like a hyena. We finally got the fire out but we still had the problem of the big black patch of soot all over his house.

So what did Marr do? He got a can of paint out and tried to repaint the siding. Let me tell you, the house looked worse after the paint job than it did before we started. I think we should have left it all burned.

That's it. The three best Marr stories that I can tell without being arrested. We are a little older now, but Marr hasn't changed. He still likes to play with fire, he still has the scar from the hedge clippers and I wouldn't be surprised if he still likes to jump from rooftop to rooftop. All of my other friends say that he won't live to see 30. But I have faith in Marr. I hope to see him rolling flaming tennis balls down the street when he is 80.





Nov. 16, 1993

## Staff Editorial

## Heritage Center can't function without funds

The Heritage Center for the Performing Arts is impressive. Both the Alma College community and the Alma community have been very receptive to the facility. With its \$6 million price tag, we have expected greatness. Because so much has been invested in the facility, we should expect that the amount of investment will continue. There are, however, some positive and negative aspects to the current investment.

The Heritage Center is thankful that Martin's of downtown Alma provided free tuxedo dress shirts, cummerbunds and ties to the ushers for the opening performance of "Beethoven's Ninth." This generous donation added class to the overall impression of the Heritage Center. Martin's also deserves our gratitude for the discount at which they sold the Heritage Center a stock of tuxedo shirts for all future performances.

On Thursday, the Heritage Center Lead Team held its organizational meeting. Approximately 50 volunteers showed up for the pizza party and tour. Members of this group will be called upon to do large amounts of support work for the center.

They will do everything from ushering and working the box office to conducting tours and working in the green room. It was an excellent turn out of volunteers. It's great to see that so many students care about the Heritage Center and are willing to work towards its improvement.

But volunteerism only goes so far. With the addition of a \$6 million building, we would think that new support staff members would have been hired to maintain the building and oversee all of its activities. This has not happened to the degree that is needed.

Currently there is one secretary for the Heritage Center. She is responsible for coordinating all of the center's activities. She oversees every aspect of any activity that takes place in the building, and is even responsible for locking the facility after every performance. In addition to all of these activities, she is also the secretary for the Music, Theater and Dance departments—departments with a total of 12 current full and part-time staff members.

There are currently five students working for the Heritage Center. Because the Center has not yet been granted a work-study budget, these

students are considered campus employees and are asked to work only four hours per week. Box office reservations, House management, volunteer coordinator and secretarial assistant are all jobs that require more than a total of twenty hours a week if performance nights are to be a success.

Only one new support staff member was hired to maintain the building. The janitorial person takes care of the Heritage Center, as well as Eddy Music Building. No electricians were hired. There are currently two electricians on this campus—the same number of electricians that were employed even before the Kapp Science Center was built.

If the Heritage Center is to remain one of the outstanding facilities on this campus, something must be done. We cannot count on volunteerism alone to make the Heritage Center a success. More support staff is needed. Hopefully, next year's budget will allow for the necessary investments. In the meantime, go easy on the few that are currently working for the Heritage Center—it is a lot of work for so few people and your cooperation is appreciated.

## The Almanian

Newberry Hall  
Alma College;  
Alma, Michigan  
48801

(517) 463-7161

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Ganesa Wegienka

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### Staff Editorial Policy

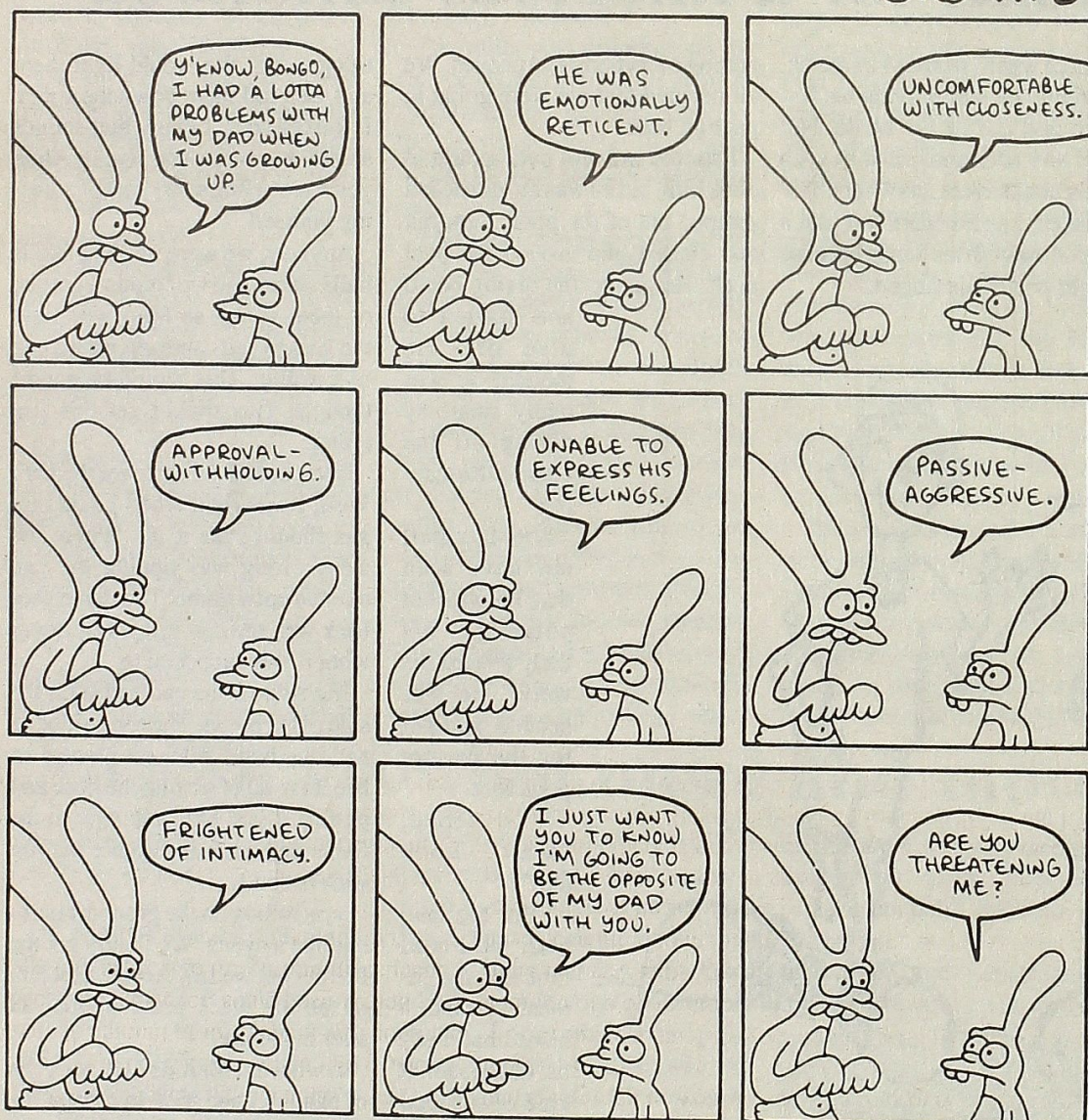
Opinions expressed weekly in the "Staff Editorial" reflect the views of *The Almanian* Editorial Board, which includes section editors, the senior editor, and the editor-in-chief. These views in no way reflect the views of the entire Alma College community. *The Almanian*

### Letter Policy

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

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## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to the staff editorial in the Nov. 9th issue concerning "Blue Jeans Day." The author of the article accused people of having "witch-hunt" attitudes if they were curious as to who wore blue jeans and why. I believe that curiosity is natural and unavoidable. The event was so well publicized that it was on everyone's mind, and I would be willing to bet the farm that

even homosexuals and their supporters were on the lookout for people wearing blue jeans.

Another thing that bothered me was the statement: "choosing not to wear jeans on Blue Jeans Day was a choice to perpetuate stereotypes." Personally, I do not see where stereotypes were involved. Many people feel very strongly about the issue of homosexuality, and the conscious choice not to wear jeans was legitimate. Besides, why would anyone want to be viewed as a supporter of something

they don't support? Would the author wear an item advocating Pro-Life if he/she is Pro-Choice? It is true that "the act of wearing blue jeans was in no way an act of declaring one's sexuality," nevertheless, some people would take it that way, a risk many students did not want to take.

Emily Damstra  
Class of '97

Dear Editor,

The members of Alma Pride would like to thank the members of the Alma College Community who

participated in our first Pride Week. The goal of Pride Week is to educate, and we believe that we have made progress towards this goal.

We hope that the speakers, movies, and other events helped to dispel some of the myths about sexual orientation that exist on this campus.

For more information about Alma Pride, please contact Edie Sample at the Center for Student Development; the extension is 7225.

Thanks again.  
Alma Pride