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# The Almanian

November 23, 1993

Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 10

## Potter named interim provost

By Kristin Allen  
Staff Reporter

Steps have already been taken to fill the position of provost, which will be vacated Dec. 18 due to Provost Ann Stuart's acceptance of the presidency of the Hartford Graduate Center.

At the Monday faculty meeting, President Alan J. Stone announced the appointment of William Potter, dean of academic services, as interim Provost. Potter will fill in until a permanent Provost is hired in the spring.

"Bill has earned it," said Stone. "With 18 years of service he has shown he will do this job well and will serve the best interests of the college. We want to maintain to the faculty and staff the same level of service and momentum in the provost's office. In a sense, Bill Potter would have to do that, if we brought in someone from the outside."

Stone explained that the major tasks of the provost—tenure recommendations, sabbaticals, positions to be filled—have already been de-

cided this term. The major task which remains for next term is the scheduling, which Potter essentially already does.

Potter expressed enthusiasm and gratitude over his selection as interim provost.

"It's nice to have the confidence of the faculty and administration," he said. "I have been in this office for five years, and feel I can maintain the steady role which will better serve the faculty and students."

With the naming of the Provost Search Committee, the process of selecting a candidate to permanently fill the provost position is already underway. The committee is comprised of faculty members and students. English professor Ute Stargardt, history professor James Schmidtke, physics professor Eugene Deci, education professor Lynda Markham, chemistry professor Laura Smith Vosejka, music professor William Nichols, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Affairs John Seveland, Chaplain Jesse Perry, Director of Computer Services Tanya Shire, psychology professor Carol Slater,

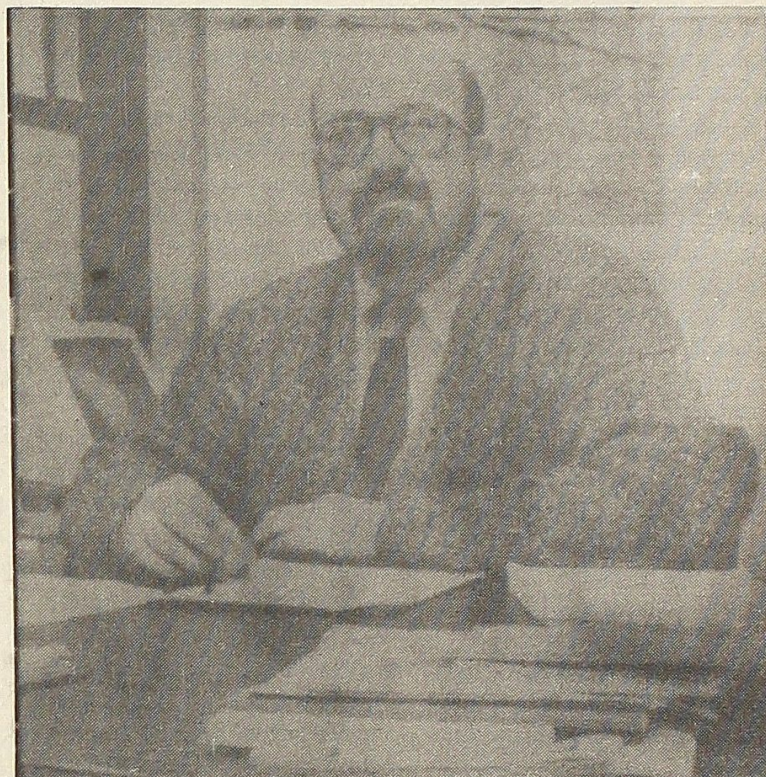
Registrar Karen Klumpp, sophomore Brent Oeschger and junior Dana Grant will begin the search within the next few months.

"We will be reviewing all of the applications and narrowing the search from there," said Oeschger. "It will be interesting to see how the process works and what the administrators look for in a provost."

After advertising the position in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Stone expects over 200 applicants. The search committee will review the applications and ultimately narrow the search to six candidates who will interview in mid-March. The committee will present Stone with a recommendation in rank order, from which the new provost will be selected. The new provost's duties will begin July 1.

After heartily encouraging Alma faculty to apply for the position, Stone expressed his sorrow at seeing Stuart leave.

"I will miss Ann as a friend and colleague, yet encourage her in her new presidency position,"



William Potter, interim provost. File photo.

said Stone. "There are at least nine presidents at colleges around the country who have worked or studied at Alma College—other schools take pride in having four or five."

While Potter is unsure whether or not he will apply for the Provost position, he looks forward to his new role and the challenges which come with it.

## Phoners bring in big bucks

By Laura Paetz  
Freelance Writer

Do you ever wonder how much money it actually costs to keep Alma College ticking? According to Pam Eldridge, the amount is in excess of \$24 million per year. Eldridge is the director of the Office of Annual Giving which coordinates the fall telethons to help raise money for the college.

"We have just completed the best telethon in history," said Eldridge.

Pledges totaling \$172,747.12 were contributed by alumni, parents of students and alumni, and friends of Alma College this fall which is an increase of 12% over last year's total contributions. Twenty student callers contacted 9100 perspective pledgers from around the nation, 3493 of which contributed. This is a 20% increase in the number of donors since last year.

This year callers used special promotions to encourage people to donate. For example, pledges could be made to sponsor one minute of Alma College's busy year, which is a donation of \$46. Other gimmicks used were to contribute a penny or dime per student (1,334 students currently attend Alma) or ten cents per day, amounting to a grant of \$36.50.

Not only were there special promotions for the donors, but also for the student callers. If a caller received a donation of a hundred dollars or more, a prize would be awarded to him/her. Many of these prizes were furnished by local merchants: the Alma Chamber of Commerce donated tote bags, Sneak Previews presented free movie rentals, the Strand awarded complimentary passes to movies, and J.C. Penny and Hair Benders donated hair products. There were also cash awards and other prizes purchased to give the callers extra incentive.

Sophomore Clinton Crow, who plans to major in business administration and sales and marketing, earned the largest amount of donations by collecting over \$17,000 from 372 pledgers.

"You're calling people across the United States who you have never met before and you're asking them for money, which is a really sensitive topic," said Crow.

But he found calling a rewarding experience in that "you learn a sense of tact and how to deal with different situations. [You learn] how to be a better business person and sales person."

Senior Jennifer Hardy collected the next highest amount of money

for the college, earning over \$12,000 in pledges.

Being a telethon caller was interesting for sophomore Cathy Curley.

"It's fun to talk to the alumni...about how the college has changed. Once in a while you get someone who is really talkative and wants to know what your major is and it's interesting to see what kind of jobs the alumni have now."

This is the second year that the telethon callers have been paid.

"It really helps to put the money into paychecks," said Eldridge.

In addition, the success rate of the telethon has dramatically increased because the time frame in which the telethon took place has been lengthened from three weeks to six. Consequently, many more contacts could be reached and more donations could be secured.

Applications for telethon caller positions are available during the first week of school in September in the Office of Annual Giving. An interview process is involved in the selection of applicants and a brief training period is required for those who are accepted.

## Dance company performs



The Ann Arbor Dance Works visited the Heritage Center for a performance Friday night. Photo by A. Crum.



## Students experience diverse education

By Anne M. Buyze  
Staff Reporter

Many of us often hear various horror stories about the educational system of inner city school districts. On November 12, a group of education students headed to Chicago for an experience in cultural and educational differences. Planned by the Urban Life Center of Chicago, the students were able to see private and public schools, a local blues club, a Catholic African-American church service and a diversity of neighborhoods.

Education Professor Lynda Markham made the weekend opportunity possible by contacting the Center after receiving a flyer in her campus mailbox about the opportunity. She felt the trip would benefit several different types of education students by providing access to school systems different from those in the Alma area.

"Some people who have the experience will want to continue teaching in the city and then they have the experience to do so.

to provide the greatest variety from the schools which the group had seen in Michigan. Beasley, recognized nationally for educational excellence, was a very strict and formal school. The students knew exactly what was expected of them and one of those expectations was to walk on the second tile when traveling from class to class.

"People think of that as really oppressive for the kids, but I saw that as good because most of the kids don't have any discipline at home or any structure at home and they need it in the schools," said senior Colleen Smith.

On the other hand, Ancona was a very free school in which students were not forced into a set schedule. Many students preferred this system to the more rigid structure of Beasley.

"I thought it was just wonderful because it allows a lot of room for freedom. You could move at your own pace. You don't have to move all at once," said Holmes.

The other group visited Whittier Public School and the private school, Providence St. Mel. These

*"I thought it was just wonderful because it allows a lot of room for freedom. You could move at your own pace. You don't have to move all at once,"*

*--Junior Amy Holmes*

Other people really want to teach in a small town in Michigan, but still want to know what's happening in other parts of the world," said Markham.

The goal of the experimental weekend was to gain an understanding of the Urban Life Center's program and possibly to put together a spring term. However, the main purpose was "to make the students more aware of cultures other than their own."

In Chicago, the students were divided into two groups; each group saw one private and one public school. In addition, they were able to see many of the cultural attractions of the city that the average tourist would miss.

"The focus of our trip was to see things that we would not ordinarily see—different styles of life and different income levels," said junior Amy Holmes.

One group visited the Beasley Public School and the Ancona Montessori School. Both seemed

were more similar to the atmosphere of the local Michigan schools.

Sophomore Jennifer Tilli said, "I saw more similarities than differences. The kids are all alike."

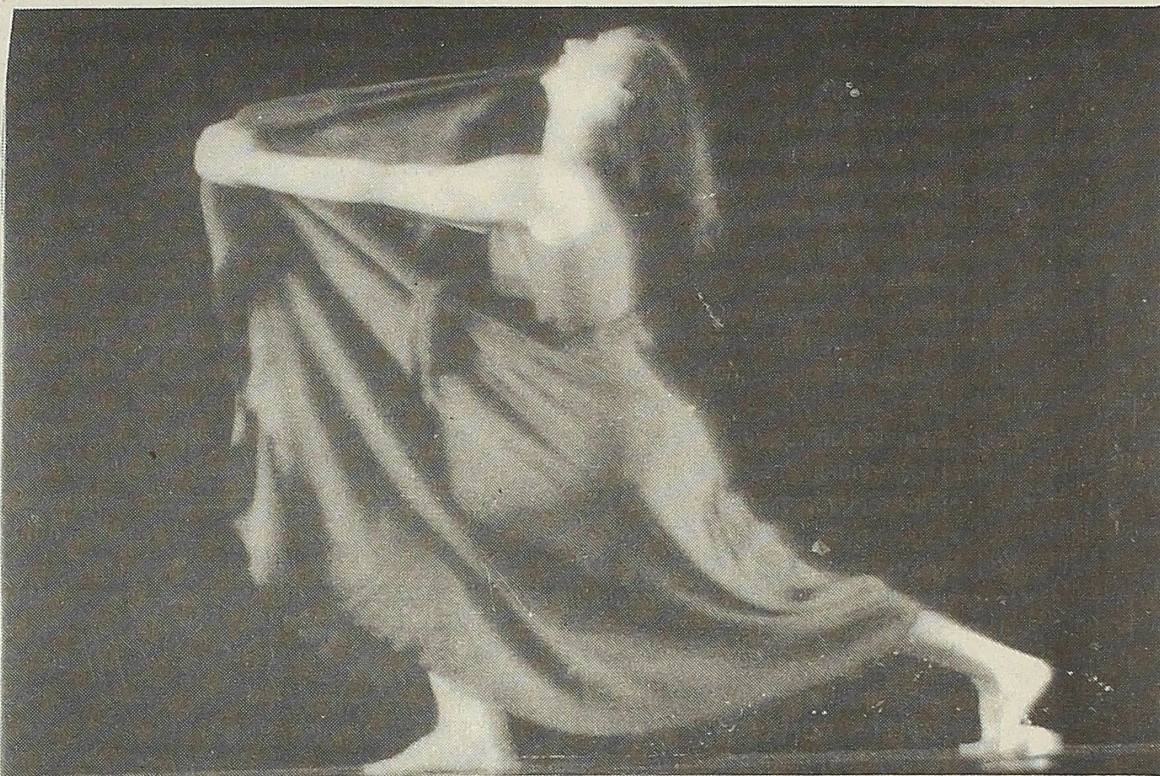
The Chicago schools were unlike the typical stereotype.

"I expected to see some chaos—just to go in there and see no order. Whenever anyone thinks of these inner city schools, they think of kids with guns, with knives, not doing their work, not staying in class. I expected that and we went to the schools and it wasn't like that at all," said senior Cara Sell.

Students expectations of the schools varied; some expected specific qualities while others visited the schools without any set ideas in their minds.

"I was interested just in seeing the differences between schools in the inner city and schools that I've been working at now," said Sell.

## Dance Works brings modern movements to campus



Members of the Ann Arbor Dance Works perform Friday night. Photo by A. Crum.

By Kristen Miquel  
Staff Reporter

Dance. To most people this brings to mind such classics as "Swan Lake" or "The Nutcracker," or "The Hustle", but last Friday, Ann Arbor Dance Works members brought a new meaning to the word dance with their interpretive dance style—modern dance.

The group performed five selections all with different meanings. The first, called "Priority," was a group dance dealing with the disrespect, neglect and depreciation suffered by women. The dance called for people to respect and make women a priority in society.

The second, "Overture," was a solopiece, danced by Linda Spriggs, Dance Works choreographer, in memory of the life and spirit of Gary DeLoatch, an Alvin Ailey Dance Company member. Spriggs used a dance style that was indicative of the Alvin Ailey Dance Company.

Guest artist Marvin Santos, from the Costa Rica National Dance Company, premiered the third selection called "Fragmento de Sueno" or "Fragment of a Dream." This was described by the quote: "I will speak them across my body to say something...that pertains to a dream and not a reality...but, at last, who doesn't dream?" It was as though Santos kept reaching or trying for something that he could quite reach or achieve, but he never quit trying.

The fourth dance was also a premiere by guest artist Sandra Torijano. Torijano, also a member of the Costa Rica National Dance Company, performed "Esperanza" or "Hope." This centered around images and sounds suggesting the affluent, the maternal and paternal, the working class and the Third World. It was a powerful expression of hope for those affected by great suffering and was dedicated to the children of the performing artists.

Jessica Fogel, another Dance Works choreographer, performed Kaddish. The Kaddish, a Jewish prayer associated with death and mourning, is a reaffirmation of life. It was choreographed in memory of Fogel's Russian born father. The solo dealt with the cycle of loss and renewal. Dressed in red, Fogel struggled with her situation and everything that bound her, but she overcame the grief to recover and renew her appreciation for living.

The final piece, "Satiana," was famed Dutch choreographer Lucas Hoving's sparkling tribute to composer Erik Satie, restaged by Dance Works choreographer Gay Delanghe. The tribute was commissioned in 1963 by the Rockefeller Foundation and the American Dance Festival. The group work was a humorous and whimsical theater piece incorporating spoken poetry. Both music and text date from before World War I and represent the earliest manifestations of Dadaist po-

etry. Delanghe received support for the restaging from Interlochen Center for the Arts, the University of Michigan Office for the Vice President for Research and the University of Michigan School of Music. The final dance was a light-hearted interpretation of the poetry through movement.

There was varying response among students towards Ann Arbor Dance Works.

"I think it was great the we had the opportunity to have a group like that at Alma," said sophomore Tiffany Vogel.

Sophomore Michelle Wulff felt much the same way.

"I loved it. It was really innovative. I was hoping for more of a jazz ballet. I didn't expect it to be so modern and innovative."

First-year student Melinda Westheimer said, "Although it wasn't what I was expecting, the dancing itself was quite good. The worst part of the whole show was the lagging between the different numbers."

"I found it very hard to understand," said first-year student Sarah Layman. "The music didn't seem to fit with the dancing."

"I didn't know what to expect, but it was neat to see something different," said senior Melanie Mayer. "I felt like I had no appreciation for it. I felt like there was something there that I didn't get."

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Nov. 23, 1993

## Facefinders photos will be retaken

By Leslie Theisen  
Investigative Reporter

Perhaps you are among the lucky few whose *Facefinder* photo does not make you look like an over-baked brownie, but such chances are slim. Fortunately, the *Facefinder* staff has found a way to reprint the books at no cost to Alma College.

"We had a meeting with the printer and he agreed to reprint the books free of charge because it was the printer's fault. The picture quality is obviously very poor," said Jennifer Farkas, *Facefinder* Editor-in-Chief.

"We're not sure if the problem had something to do with our cameras. We are hiring Herff Jones, a professional company who does our yearbooks, to retake pictures on Dec. 1 and 2 from 2 to 7 p.m. in the Hamilton Faculty Dining Room," said Farkas.

"The printer is going to take the new pictures, which will be a lot better quality than those in the current *Facefinder*, and do the books again. If people don't come to have their pictures taken they won't be in the new *Facefinder*, which should be out early next term," she continued.

"Reminders will be run in ads in *The Almanian* and on WQAC, in addition to notices posted all over campus," she said.

"I apologize to the campus for the way the *Facefinder* turned out, but it was really the fault of the printer, who went to a new computer-simulated process that he didn't tell us about," said Farkas. "The revised edition will be a much higher quality book."

## Anita Hill addresses sexual harrassment in MSU speech

By Cathy DeShano  
News Editor

In 1991, Anita Hill became a household name as she shared the spotlight with Clarence Thomas in his quest for a seat on the United States Supreme Court. Hill, a law professor at the University of Oklahoma School of Law, claimed Thomas had sexually harassed her when they worked together more than a decade earlier. On Wednesday, Nov. 17, Hill spoke at the Wharton Center on Michigan State University's campus about "Sexual Harassment: An Historical Perspective on the Abuse of Power."

Hill first addressed current public opinion about sexual harassment, controversies surrounding it, and the Supreme Court's recent decision in the Harris case. During and after the Supreme Court's decision, Hill found journalists posing various questions to the American public; among those were ideas such as "aren't we simply sending confused signals to men?" and "has this frenzy over sexual harassment gone too far?"

Indeed, Hill found herself disturbed by such public reaction.

"We've been talking about going too far ever since we started doing something," said Hill.

Society's reaction towards sexual harassment, according to Hill, has been to minimize its existence; many people simply believe sexual harassment rarely occurs. Yet another societal attitude which Hill cited exists in the belief of many that the responsibility of sexual harassment rests with the victim. Many feel those who are harassed have the power and control to end it. Hill focused on sexual harassment

and how laws applying to it have developed over history. She cited one case during the 1800s involving a young girl named Celia. Celia, a 14 year old slave, who was raped by her owner and eventually killed him in self defense. Celia was tried and convicted of murder.

She cited a similar case, *Davies v. Massey*. Davies grew afraid for her safety and shot her owner, Massey through the head. During Davies' trial, doctors attested to her virginity; she was found innocent because of this. Since this case, many cases involving sexuality focus on the character and status of the accused.

Since these times, Hill believes we have made advances, even if they are slight. The recent case involving Harris allows defendants to be prosecuted without the victims of sexual harassment proving they were psychologically impaired. In a recent case, the ninth circuit Court of Appeals recognized that men and women will view sexual harassment differently and that we can't place a strictly male standard on the definition. Since 1991, the number of women who are willing to report sexual harassment has increased significantly, a fact Hill attributes partly to increased awareness and attentiveness to the issue. Such an example exists in Alma College's task force on sexual harassment.

The task force has been designed to help define what constitutes sexual harassment and how to deal with it.

"We're trying to assess how administration, faculty, and students define sexual harassment. She suggested that because sexual harassment is so unclearly defined,

we need experts to come in here and help us define it," said Lisa Knowles, a senior and member of the task force.

While Hill acknowledged advancements, she also recognized the need to continue improving. Figures suggest that over 40% of women will experience problems with sexual harassment. She also reminded people that although the Harris case made some advancements, it doesn't address the problems of bringing victim's sexual histories into question, forcing employers to take measures preventing sexual harassment, or helping prevent victims fears of retaliation. Hill felt more attention needs to be paid to the victim's needs as well as to the punishing offenders.

"We have to understand these people who are less powerful deserve protection against the very powerful. We have to be able to enforce that policy even against the very powerful," said Hill.

She also stressed the importance of being selective about who determines and defines sexual harassment, then carries out the punishment.

"We can't let the solution to problems be determined by the people who don't believe any problem ever existed," said Hill.

Those students who attended agreed that Hill provided a valuable message. However, several expressed concerns over the people who attended.

"It was a bit discouraging to see that the audience was predominantly female and middle-aged," said junior Ray Kowalewski. "It really struck home to me that the feminist movement is being carried on the shoulders of professional women."

## Keeping You Informed

**Drop/Add** for students will be held Dec. 6-10 for all students.

**Residence buildings** will be closed for the Thanksgiving break. Buildings close at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday and re-open at 12 p.m. on Sunday. If you must stay over break, please contact Doreen Lewis at ext. 7333 to make arrangements to stay in South Complex.

**If you are interested in a room change** for Winter Term 1994, these may be processed between Nov. 29 and Dec. 12. To change rooms, you must contact your Hall Director or Assistant Hall Director, complete a room change petition, and pay a \$25 room processing fee. All paperwork must be completed and returned to your current hall director by 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 12.

**The Alma College Dance Company** will hold three performances on Friday, Dec. 3 at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4 at 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 5 at 4 p.m. The Company will present its own version of several dances from *The Nutcracker* as well as many other student choreographed works. A reception will be held in the lobby following each performance.

## World



After a long, heated debate, the House of Representatives approved the North American Free Trade Agreement by a 234-200 margin. Although NAFTA supporters were quick to praise the passage, critics vowed to continue their fight in the Senate, which must still pass the agreement.

An appeals court upheld Shannon Faulkner's right to attend The Citadel, an all-male military academy in South Carolina. Faulkner gained entrance to the school by deleting all references to her sex on the application. Faulkner plans on registering for classes; The Citadel has not yet decided whether it will appeal the court's ruling. In a related story, the Justice Department asked a federal court to order the

Virginia Military Institute to end its ban on female students, rejecting a proposal to set up a "Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership" at all-female Mary Baldwin College.

Guerrillas at one of India's holiest Muslim mosques surrendered to Indian troops last Tuesday, ending a month-long standoff in the Kashmir state. Kashmir is the only Indian state with a majority of Muslims.

A Nov. 15 *Washington Post*-ABC News poll showed President Bill Clinton's approval rating at 49 percent, the lowest post-World War II rating for a president in office after one year. The poll also revealed crime, unemployment, and health care as the nation's biggest problems.

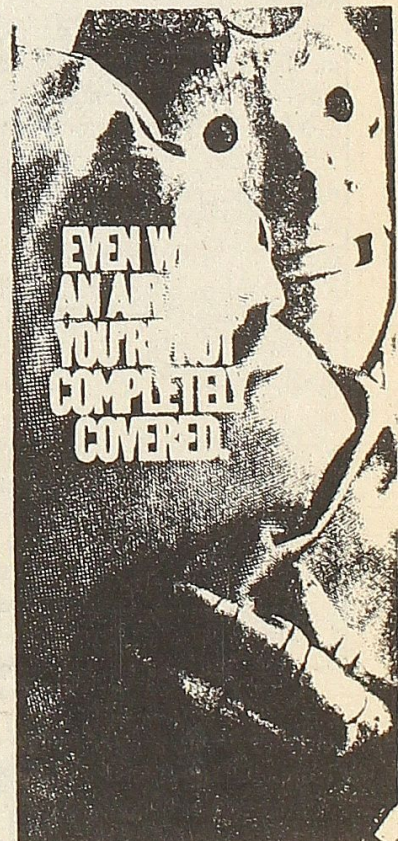
South Korea put its troops on alert for a possible attack by North Korea. Tensions between the two nations have increased since North Korea has refused inspections of its nuclear plants. Many experts fear North Korea will soon develop nuclear weapons capability which its leaders would not be afraid of using.

The Supreme Court issued two abortions rulings last week. In a Mississippi case, the court let stand a law requiring unmarried girls to either get permission from both parents or a judge. The court also let stand a trespassing conviction for a Kansas woman who trespass at an abortion clinic. Lawyers had hoped the court would use the case to "reconsider whether or not it is now necessary to determine when human life begins."

Nigeria's defense minister, General Sani Abacha, ended the interim government of Ernest Shonekan and again installed military rule over the country. Abacha was a key figure in two previous Nigerian coups, including the one that brought General Ibrahim Babangida to power. Babangida, who stepped down in late August under pressure from both the military and civilian sectors, installed Shonekan as the head of an interim government. However, the interim government is believed to have been nothing but a front for the military, and Abacha in particular.

Chicago's public schools, the nation's third-largest school district, opened last week after Illinois Governor Jim Edgar signed a bill allowing the schools to borrow \$378 million over the next two years.

## News



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## Alma Dance Company prepares for opener

By Rebecca Murray  
Freelance Writer

Like a magnificent flea market or a gigantic amusement park, Alma College Dance Company's upcoming performance will have something for everyone, according to Company Director Carol Fike, associate professor of theater and dance. The performance, with pieces choreographed by students and faculty, will be December 3 and 4 at 8 p.m. and December 5 at 4 p.m. at the Heritage Center Concert Hall.

"The performance is remarkably excellent and very rich. It's the best one since I came to Alma ten years ago," Fike said.

"I think the performance will be attractive to everyone," said sophomore Tiffany Vogel. "There is such an eclectic variety of pieces, ranging from classical ballet to jazz, and to modern."

The show will open with a Kiltie dance, accompanied by piper Andrew Duncan. The act follows with a classical modern dance choreographed by Fike to music by Bach; a modern dance choreographed to a spiritual gospel by junior Dena Hughes; and a lyrical jazz dance choreographed by junior Kristen Bender to Peter Gabriel's song, "In Your Eyes." Closing the first act is a jazz dance choreographed by junior Jennifer Smith to music by Bette Midler.

The second act is a segment from the classical ballet *The Nutcracker*, choreographed by Thomas Morris, a part time dance instructor at Alma.

"The second act will be a highlight of the performance. Children will love it. Tom has done a wonderful job and costume designer, Kenn McJames, has created gorgeous costumes," Fike said.

The third act includes a jazz dance to Janet Jackson's song, "If," choreographed by sophomore Shelly Wulff and a "heart wrenching" modern piece to music by Tracy Chapman choreographed by senior Laurie Hickman.

The performance closes with a jazz number, choreographed by

Kathleen Whitman Francis, a part-time dance instructor at Alma.

"The audience will feel like they're on Broadway. The dancers wear hats and lots of glitter. It's wonderful," said Fike.

*"I am truly impressed with the talent and dedication of the dancers in the company."*

*--Carol Fike  
Alma College Dance  
Company Director*

Guest appearances will be made by alumni dancers Katherine Kirkey, Barb Lowe and Connie McDaniel. University of Michigan graduate Katherine Hoffman has been cast as the Sugar Plum Fairy.

Kirkey also choreographed a modern piece to

music by U2 which is very "refreshing" and "goes beyond the normal parameters of dance," according to Fike.

"The piece is very modern and will be challenging for the audience to relate to. Some people will like it and others won't," Fike said. "I feel it is my job as a director to broaden the audience's understanding of dance. It is much more than traditional and folk dance or what is on MTV."

Junior dancer Kathy Bailey said, "Everyone has put a lot of work into this show—not just the dancers, but also the technical crews. The special effects are really cool. I'm very excited."

"I am truly impressed with the talent and dedication of the dancers in the company," said Fike. "They have devoted an amazing amount of time to this performance, rehearsing for hours upon hours, early in the morning and late at night."

"All my heart felt thanks goes to the dancers," Fike said. "I may get the credit, but I couldn't do it without their interest, enthusiasm and commitment."

This performance marks the 40-member dance company's premier at the new performing arts center.

"The dancers are very excited and grateful. We know that more students will come to the performances now that they are on campus. Finally, we have a home," Fike said.

Tickets are free for Alma College students and \$5 for adults. For reservations call 463-7304.

## SUN gets campus ready for Ecolympics

By Tim Ketel  
Staff Reporter

Have you ever wondered what you can do to help our troubled environment? Students United for Nature (SUN) has an answer for you.

Alma College's environmental action group, SUN is sponsoring a brand new event called Ecolympics.

From Monday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 5, be careful how much you waste.

SUN, with the assistance of the Physical Plant, will be monitoring water usage and amount of recycled items throughout this week. Both of these variables have been measured for a week in every hall and small housing complex on campus, and will be measured again the week of the Nov. 29 through Dec. 5.

The building whose members have cut down the most on their water usage and increased their

recycled products wins the contest. A prize will be awarded to the winner, but the real prize will be in improving environmental awareness.

The event was planned in hopes to cut down on water and solid waste, not only for this week, but ideally for a long time to come.

"Even if the dorms don't improve for Ecolympics week, (which they probably will), the message will get out, and there will be an improvement in the long run," said SUN President Tom Schweinhart.

The Ecolympics, though stressing the reduction of waste, is hoped to serve another purpose as well—boosting the level of environmental consciousness on the Alma College campus.

"We figured a contest would be a good way of getting people excited about helping the environment," said Schweinhart.

Around 10 years ago, the environment became a pretty popular

world issue. Activist groups have been formed, petitions have been signed, protests have been held. There's seemed to have been a raised environmental consciousness throughout the world. But now, when action is needed more than ever, the popularity of environmentalism is beginning to wear off. When we look back, we can see that things have been done for the good of the environment, but it doesn't look like very much has really been done.

Although environmental action is needed now more than ever, the popularity of environmentalism is beginning to wear off. Thus, SUN hopes events like the Ecolympics will bring about a renewed interest in the environment.

Ecolympics may only be a campus-wide contest, but it is hoped to extend far beyond, into the minds and thoughts of every single student, and into their future actions.

## Alma students get closer to Mars

By Anne M. Buyze  
Staff Reporter

The experiment studying the effects of weightlessness on the body, conducted by exercise and health science professor John Davis and funded by NASA finally began on the Nov. 8. The hopes of this study are to find a way to combat the complications that come when an astronaut returns to Earth after a lengthy stay in space.

This summer the grant was received and the particulars of the study which will last three years, were defined. The preliminary experiment will involve a limb unloading model in which the subject will not put any weight on his left leg for four weeks. This is a simulation of the situation that astronauts encounter in space.

In order to acquire a subject for this experiment, Davis asked for volunteers. After general discussion, senior Tom Jager was selected. Jager is an EHS major and therefore was intrigued by the study, but also had other reasons for participating.

"I was interested in the study because I had tendonitis that would not heal and this seemed like a good way to repair my injury. Also, I am doing my thesis on muscle memory and this will give me a good way to experiment."

For all the inconvenience of the study, Jager is getting paid a small sum. The money does not compensate for the soreness in the shoulders and upper arms, but it does pay for a book or two.

"I like Dr. Davis and wouldn't want to stand him up," Jager said.

In addition to the actual experiment, many pretests, includ-

ing Magnetic Resonance Imaging, were performed. Also, many post tests will be done to measure the venous compliance—how much the veins in the leg expand and contract.

Junior Mary Kay Ecken is a student who will be helping to perform these tests and other research duties. She was approached by Davis and could not refuse this offer which would give her research experience that would last throughout the summer and give her a chance to start on her senior thesis.

"This experiment shows you how to do research using the most accurate data and it is interesting to find out something for NASA," said Ecken.

Also, both Ecken and Jager ex-

pressed the importance that this experiment would have on their resumes. With any luck, the experience from this experiment will open up future job opportunities.

This particular experiment is just the beginning of many tests which will hopefully lead to the development of an exercise program to be used by astronauts. NASA is in the planning stages of a program that will send people to Mars, a trip which would take about two years with current rocket technology, and the effects of weightlessness must be minimized to ensure the safety of participants in this program. If all goes well, this experiment could bring the trip to Mars that much closer to a reality.



Senior Tom Jager is participating in a NASA study on the effects of weightlessness. Photo by L. Christensen.

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Nov. 23, 1993

## Education majors prepare for London Spring Term

By Brooke Hansen  
Feature Editor

London, England—home to the changing of the guard, Buckingham Palace, Charles and Diana, Big Ben—will also host one of Alma College's off-campus Spring Term options this year.

The course, listed as EDC 180/380, is headed by Professor Lynda Markham, chair of the education department, and is offered every other Spring Term for education majors and other interested students.

Among the unique cultural opportunities for students of EDC 180 (comparative education) will be tours of historical sites in London (some dating back over 1,000 years) and jaunts through modern residential and shopping areas. A viewing of an original Shakespeare manuscript is also on schedule for students of the London trip.

Academic responsibilities for these students include: observing and aiding children in classrooms ranging from kindergarten level to secondary level. Participants will study and discuss the new national curriculum for British schools and the British school systems. In order to gain additional information about classroom expectations in England, members of the spring term class will visit the University of London Library to review certain children's books.

Preparation for their time spent in England includes four to five meetings during Winter Term for an introduction to the history and culture of England.

Markham said one of the many benefits of the London trip is "students live more like they are a resident, rather than a visitor in this new culture. They will have the experience of visiting private and public schools as well as talking to

British professors."

Senior elementary education major Anna Funk, who took the London Spring Term last time it was offered, said, "The London trip was a great experience for me. I highly recommend it for education majors. During that month, I learned a lot about discipline, planning and diversity in the classroom. These are all things that will help me in my own classroom."

Senior Heather May, also an elementary education major, traveled to London in 1992 said, "The London Spring Term was an excellent experience. In the classrooms I worked in, the teachers were very inventive and creative and the kids were very willing to learn. Working in a multi-cultural room was also helpful to me. In general, finding out about London was great."

Sophomore Saralyn Sands is headed for London this Spring Term and is looking forward to the month in England. "I'm excited about going overseas. I'm an Education major, so I'm looking forward to looking at the schools in England to see the differences and make a comparison between the United States education system and the system in England."

Sound interesting? Students still have the chance to take EDC 180/380. Applications can be obtained by contacting Markham at extension 7166 or at her office, located in AC 238. Applications are due Dec. 10 and students must notify Markham as soon as possible.

Estimated cost of the London Spring Term is \$1,900, which includes round-trip air fare from Detroit, an apartment in London, ground transportation in and around London, and an overnight trip to Stratford. This cost is not inclusive of expenses for food and personal expenses. A \$100 non-refundable deposit is due Dec. 1.

## Good times at the P.K.

By Sara Groves  
Editor-in-Chief

Maybe you're afraid of going into some of the finer establishments of Alma. Maybe when you walk by and see some of the wood paneled interiors of these so-called finer establishments, you can only help recall movies like *Every Which Way But Loose*, *Smokey and the Bandit*, and *Any Which Way You Can*.

But if you seriously feel like this, than I have a few words of advice for you: Get off your high horse and wander on down to the Pine Knot for a few pitchers of beer (for a mere \$2.50 a piece). I don't know a better way to relax your uptight self.

The Pine Knot is quite possibly one of my favorite bars throughout the entire country. (And believe me, I have seen my fair share.) The drinks are cheap. The atmosphere is cozy. The music is decent. And the bartender is friendly.

When planning a big evening out on the town of Alma (or if I'm really feeling crazy—Mt. Pleasant.) I usually spend upwards of \$25.00. But not when my evening starts and ends at the Pine Knot. The most I have ever spent at the good ol' P.K. is ten bucks. Drinks are generally \$1.90 a piece and they're strong enough to knock your socks right off (and maybe even your pants too.) Miller Genuine Draft is always on tap and sells for \$2.50 a pitcher as I said before. It's also the only place in town I know to get pickled turkey gizzards (mmm... good). And, the best

part of the whole thing is that a lot of the time townies will buy you drinks, especially if you're a swinging single babe or sometimes even if you just pretend that you are.

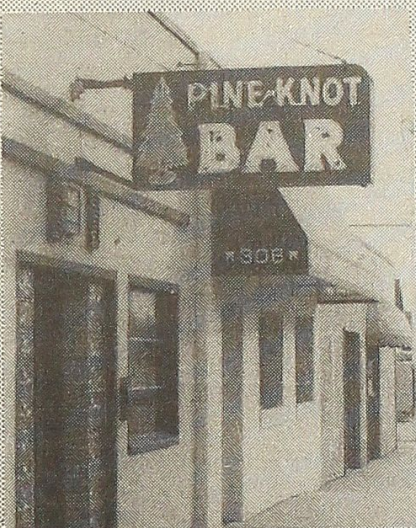
The Pine Knot is a small bar and most of the clientele know one another. It's the kind of place where softball teams come after the game for a few drinks or working class people go after work on Fridays to hang out. This is one of the best aspects of the

P.K. It is an opportunity to get away from the 18-22 year old, middle class college student and meet some other interesting and intriguing individuals. And the clientele of the Pine Knot will welcome you with open arms. They'll buy you a

drink as they challenge you to games of darts or pool or they'll just sit and talk with you at the bar.

Which brings me to another great point of the Pine Knot—the regular bartender, Mo. Mo is the female version of Sam Malone. She knows almost everyone who walks in the doors of the Pine Knot and she knows just what they want when they sit at the bar. She can talk to you about close to anything as she stands filling pitchers of beer and mixing drinks simultaneously. Mo is a bartending dynamo.

The Pine Knot is no high class joint replete with snobby, upper-class folk. (Thank God.) It's just a good time with good people and good drinks. So saunter on down to the P.K., sit yourself up at the bar and tell Mo Sara sent you.



## Sinfonians ready holiday tunes for Christmas concert

By Kristen Miquel  
Staff Reporter

December marks the beginning of the holiday season and what a better way to begin than with a Christmas Concert sponsored by Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. The concert will feature student musicians, along with selections performed by the Phi Mu Alpha's and the return of the group Guelph.

"We didn't have as many students express interest as we have in the past," said Phi Mu Alpha Vice President Ken Marable, "The Sinfonia is doing more than we have in previous years."

The Christmas Concert has been off and on for the past three years. "We've had a fall term concert for the past three years, but we alternate between Thanksgiving and Christmas," said Marable.

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia is a professional music fraternity, the only professional fraternity on campus. A professional fraternity is a group that is in between a honorary society and a social fraternity. The group sponsors musical appreciation and currently has nine members; however, membership generally runs around 13. The group organizes some sort of concert every term.

"The Phi Mu concert is a chance for better musicians to play their music," said senior Eric Janners who has performed in the Sinfonia concert for the past two years and this year will be performing a four mallet solo for marimba, "Hopefully it will be a stunning display of musicality."

"Gordon Meyers and I have been working on songs for a couple of weeks now," said senior Damon Peterson, a probationary member (pledge) of Phi Mu Alpha and a member of Guelph. "I think it (the concert) is going to turn out very good. I'm very optimistic. We've been working very hard."

Marable seemed hopeful in regards to this years concert as compared to previous years.

"The concert seems to be getting better every year," said Marable. "More people seem to be attending also."

"Students don't generally come to this concert," said Janners. "I would like to see a better turn out this year."

The concert will be held on Wednesday, December 1 in the Chapel and no ticket is required. Admission is free.

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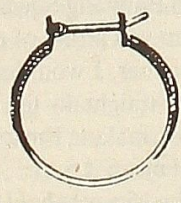
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## November Campus Paperback Bestsellers

### Title

1. *Rising Sun*
2. *The Way Things Ought To Be*
3. *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*
4. *The Days Are Just Packed*
5. *The Pelican Brief*
6. *Jurassic Park*
7. *A Time To Kill*
8. *The Age of Innocence*
9. *The Tale of The Body Thief*
10. *The Firm*

Michael Crichton  
Rush Limbaugh  
Steven R. Covey  
Bill Watterson  
John Grisham  
Michael Crichton  
John Grisham  
Edith Wharton  
Anne Rice  
John Grisham

### New & Recommended Books

*Days of Obligation*  
*Don't Know Much About Geography*  
*The American Almanac of Jobs and Salaries*

Richard Rodriguez  
Kenneth C. Davis  
Avon Books



## Calendar of Events

### Week of November 23

#### On Campus:

##### Monday, November 29

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

##### Tuesday, November 30

ACUB Event, Jones Auditorium, TBA

##### Wednesday, December 1

Phi Mu Alpha Christmas Concert, Chapel, TBA

##### Thursday, December 2

Finance Spring Break on a College Budget,  
South Complex, 7 p.m.

##### Friday, December 3

The Alma College Dance Company Performance,  
Heritage, 8 p.m.

##### Saturday, December 4

Academic Open House III  
ACUB Movie, Jones Auditorium, 7 & 9:30 p.m.  
Alma College Dance Company Performance,  
Heritage, 8 p.m.

##### Sunday, December 5

Alma College Dance Company Performance,  
Heritage, 4 p.m.  
ACUB Movie, Jones Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

##### Tuesday, December 7

High School Counselor Visit Day (Admissions)  
Music Department Student Honors Recital, Heritage, 8 p.m.

#### Detroit:

##### Wednesday, November 24

Warner Bros./Slash Recording Artists **The Bodeans**,  
with special guest **Sheryl Crow**,  
The Majestic, 8 p.m., Tickets: \$7.50 in advance

### Music Review

## Silverfish asks: Are you afraid of Me?

By Chris Sienko  
Music Editor

Do you like the sounds of sheet metal being rubbed together? Are you the type of person who hangs out at assembly lines to relax and have some time to yourself? Do you hang out on the street just so you can listen to the construction worker's jackhammers?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then I would like to meet you. So would Silverfish, because you constitute their prime audience. Their latest release, *Organ Fan* (Creation records) is a scream from the gutter unlike any I have heard in quite some time.

Looking at the back of the tape at the titles, one already gets the feeling that Silverfish is not going to welcome you in with open arms.

Titles like "This Bug," "Suckin' Gas," "Big Bad Baby Pig Squeal," and "Crazy" ought to tip you off that all is not well in this land.

Another big tip off comes from the producer, J.G. Thirlwell. Give yourself ten extra credit points if you identified him as the legendary Foetus, creator of some of the most intensely powerful sounds ever captured on vinyl. His production is as highly caustic as one would expect on this album. The band's natural brand of brutality and Thirlwell's ability to bring out the ugliest in the band make listening to this like watching two trains collide.

And let's talk about the band's brand of brutality. While Silverfish's sound may not be wholly original, I certainly wouldn't call them imitators. (They'd probably kick my butt if I

## Winter car tips from Motorhead Groves

By Sara Groves  
Editor-in-Chief

Motorhead—my old nickname in high school. My mom, who was never fond of her only daughter being referred to as "Motorhead," used to beg me to insist that others use my real name. But I liked my nickname. It was fitting.

Fitting, you ask? Fitting of a female, English-major, Alma College student to be nicknamed Motorhead? It truly was. Not only was I enrolled in college preparatory classes, but I was also a prominent figure in my high school's auto department. So not only am I able to trace literary themes with great skill, I am also pretty slick at rotating and balancing tires.

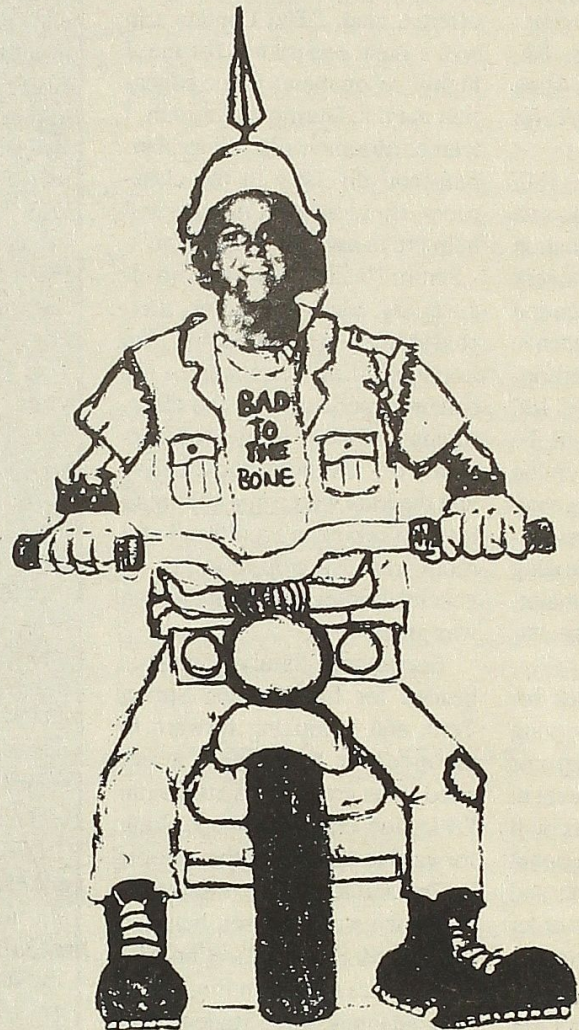
I can't say that I learned a lot in auto. As a matter of fact, there are many times when I have problems just getting the car lid open or finding the dipstick. Actually, I basically washed cars in auto class. And if the sun was out, I would sit outside in a convertible while patiently awaiting the end of class.

However, a person cannot attend several hundred hours of a class without realizing the very basics behind it. The main thing I learned in auto, (maybe some of you all ready know this without even being in auto for a single day) was you have to do certain things to maintain the health of your car besides putting gas in it.

The winter time is an especially crucial time for your automobile's health, as many of you may or may not have noticed. It is more difficult for your car to run in the freezing cold weather. So there are some steps you should take to help your car survive without any

life threatening complications.

The most important thing you can have on your car in the winter time is a good set of tires so that you don't go skidding into oblivion.



Make sure that the tread on your tires is not worn. If it is, now is probably a good time to replace them. If you can't afford new tires, the winter is not a good time to purchase retreads (which are old tires that have been fixed up a little.) Therefore, if your tires are worn and you're a little low in the fund situation, get your tires rotated. This option is a heck of a lot cheaper, but you will not experience the thrill of seeing new tires on your car. And what a thrill it is.

Anti-freeze is your car's best friend in the winter. With the proper mixture of anti-freeze, your engine won't freeze up and will, therefore, run a great deal more smoothly than if you didn't have any. However, you need to have the right amount of anti-freeze mixture or

else your car will sputter, cough and die. The most accurate way to measure the mixture is to visit a service station. They have little gauge-thingies which measure the mix. Also, every two years, the old anti-freeze should be flushed out of your car.

You should also make sure that your belts and hoses are okay for winter weather. These may need to be tightened or perhaps even changed. You can tell if you need to fix your belts and hoses if you touch them and they feel loose or brittle. Brittle belts and hoses in the winter are a major auto faux pas. They may snap more easily if they are brittle in the winter because of the cold weather so keep an eye on them.

Finally, just remember the basics. Keep your engine tuned and make sure that

your exhaust system is in good shape. You may also want to have your carburetor adjusted. These tips should keep your car running well year round.

And now that I've helped you, you can help me. Not holding true to my motorhead nature, I sold my car. So for the winter months, I am hoofing it. Since I'm sure your car will start every time if you follow all of my great tune-up tips, you'll probably be driving. Let me put these two statements side by side: I will be walking. You will be driving. So you can pick me up if you see me meandering about town, and thank me for helping you to keep your car in such excellent condition as you drive me to my desired destination.

did.) The band combines the psycho-blues-punk chord progressions of the Dead Kennedys with

howls, screams, growls, and screeches with all the delicacy of a cat in heat (That's a compliment,

alternately with getting that man that turns her on and killing that man that did her wrong. On "Big Bad Baby Pig Squeal," she shouts, "Are you afraid of me?" If I could meet her, I would stand tall, look her straight in the eye, and say, "Yes, ma'am; I'm terrified of you." (I'd mean it too).

The 15 songs hold together pretty well due to a talented songwriter, and the lyrics have a definite uniformity of theme. The theme of this album could probably be summarized by a lyric in the opening tune, "This bug": "My life is full of choices still/ like when to kiss and when to kill." This album eats the faint of heart. Buy it at your own risk.

*The band's natural brand of brutality and Thirlwell's ability to bring out the ugliest in the band make listening to this like watching two trains collide.*

the screechy distortion and ringing feedback of Big Black (a band that predated Ministry and upstaged them in power).

Topping it off is the lead singer. This young demoness lets out

folks). A good parallel would be Kat Bejellad of Babes in Toyland. (I believe that Silverfish is technically considered a Riot Grrrl band even though three of the four band members are men). Her songs deal



Nov. 23, 1993

# Womens basketball teams off to winning start

By Alexandra Orr  
Freelance Writer

The Alma College women's basketball teams successfully defeated its opponents Saturday, Nov. 20 in Cappaert Gymnasium.

In their first game of the season the varsity team played Northwood University. Alma's starting lineup featured junior Amy Doucette and sophomore Ashley Reagh at guard, first-year student Jaami McCellan and junior Michelle VanDamme at forward and senior Katie Mans at center.

The Northwood women took possession of the initial jump ball and quickly jumped out to a 6-3 lead. Doucette then hit a three point shot to tie up the game. By half time, the Scots had a commanding 41-26 lead.

At the start of the second half, Northwood played ferociously closing the gap by as many as 9 points, but the Scots refused to give up. They held their lead and took the win 80-64.

The top scorers were Mans with 23 points, followed by Doucette with 16 points.

Head coach Charles Goffnett said, "We had a good opener offensively. I never thought we would score 80 points the first night. Our inside game was dynamite. We need to work on our perimeter shooting and our rebound shooting was not as good as I would have liked."

Reagh agreed, "It was sloppy at first. At times we executed well. Our team has a lot of potential. Our



Junior Terri Hogan moves the ball upcourt. Photo by C. Thomas.

biggest weakness is rebounding—both offensively and defensively."

McCellan commented, "It was good for our first game. We are learning to work together. We need

to work on our transition from offense to defense."

The varsity team will participate in the Muskegon Tournament in New Concord, Ohio on Sat. and Sun.,

Nov. 26-27.

The junior varsity team will play on Tue., Nov. 23 at Delta College. They hope to continue their undefeated record, which is currently 2-

0.

The junior varsity team played against Kalamazoo Valley Community College. The Scots proved their skill on the court against the Cougars.

As Coach Bill Klenk said, "You could tell from the conditioning, we were better in shape."

After the first half, Alma was beating the Cougars 38-29. Through speed and excellent passing, the Scots held their massive lead the entire game. The top scorers were first-year student Kristi Kern and sophomore Michelle Miessner. Both women scored 14 points, which lead to Alma's win 83-49.

Klenk said, "The kids played well. It was a good performance, but we need to work on fouling and defense."

The junior varsity team played against Muskegon Community College on Wednesday for their first game of the season. The Scots won by a score of 47-45.

Sophomore Katie White commented, "The game against Muskegon was tough. The score was close the whole way. It showed that we need to play better defensively and we need to box up more."

First year student Anne Delind said, "That game went really well. We had a very physical game."

Klenk was happy with how the team played against Kalamazoo.

"Offensively we played better this game. I think it showed we had one game under our belt," said Klenk.

## Men's basketball

# Scots hit deer, get lost, and lose two games

By Lisa Martin  
Freelance Writer

Commitment. Endurance. Enthusiasm. And a pair of antlers.

The men's basketball team had it all this weekend as the Scots kicked off the 93-94 season at the North Central Tip-Off Tournament in Illinois on Friday and Saturday.

The tournament participants were Alma College, North Central College, Franklin College, and Cornell College. Although the final standings had North Central in first and Alma in fourth, that says only a little about this year's team.

"If we execute our offense, we will be a tough team to beat," said head basketball coach Bob Eldridge.

Alma lost its first game by a score of 73-72 to North Central and ended the tournament with a loss to Franklin with a final score of 96-89. Junior Todd Blomquist said, "The Scots were the best team by far at the tournament, but we did not show it or prove it."

Eldridge agreed: "The Scots dominated both games, but the last five minutes is what hurt us. We had

unforced errors and also did not make our free throws."

The Scots have a young team this year with seven sophomores. The team will improve as the season goes on and as the players become more comfortable. It will take time before they start to gel as a team. It is going to be a building year, but the talent is there and they are learning how to use it.

The tournament was a learning experience. Everyone got to play and see all of the good and bad points of the game. The mistakes that the Scots made are all correctable. Given time the Alma Scots will be the team to watch.

"We are going to improve and change things around. We have the talent, just have to learn how to use it," said sophomore Dave Florenski.

Several players had strong performances this weekend for the Scots. Blomquist had 32 points on Friday and 27 points on Saturday. Junior Chad Reagh added 10 and 11 points respectively and who also got into double figures for rebounds. Outstanding performances were also added by junior Matt

Lotterman and sophomore Hedlun Walton.

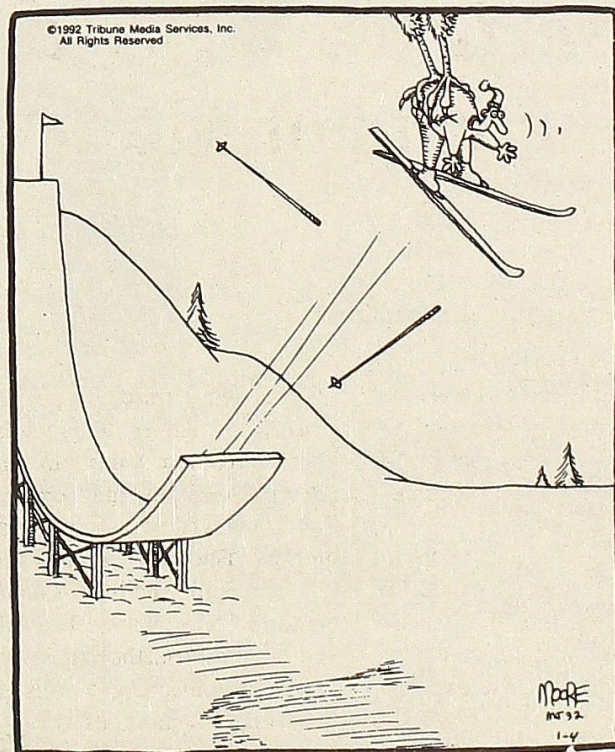
The team this year is truly dedicated to the game. The trip to the tournament was part of the fun. About a half hour out of Alma, they hit a deer with the van. They got lost around Chicago when they were given the wrong directions. The team finally made it to their game and then Friday night, though, and after a tough loss went to get some sleep.

As they were sleeping and having dreams of shooting baskets and the crowds yelling, the fire alarm went off and they had to evacuate the hotel at around 3 a.m. But the men's basketball team was still up and ready to play on Saturday.

The Scots next game is on Tue., Nov. 23 at 8 p.m. when the Scots face off against Aquinas College. Eldridge feels very positive going into this game.

"We are bigger than they are in size but the two teams are still evenly matched," says Eldridge. "Fan support would be greatly appreciated. It's easier to play better when you have people rooting for you."

## In The Bleachers by Steve Moore





# Alma adds new swimming coaches

By Tim Ketel  
Staff Reporter

You can't have any team without a coach, and swimming and diving teams are no exception.

Actually, anything is possible, but where would the fun be? Who would make you wake up at insane hours of the morning to jump into a freezing pool and swim for miles and miles? Who would threaten your very life if you refused to swim whatever race they felt like you should swim? Who would push you, continuously harder and harder, until every part of your body is numb, and you don't even care that you won't be able to reach your arm high enough to brush your teeth in the morning? Coaches.

The Alma College Swimming and Diving Team was blessed this year with three new coaches, and now, with a total of four, the team's future is looking pretty bright.

"The swimming program seems to improve significantly each year, first with Coach (Greg) Baadte, and now with the addition of three more," explained sophomore backstroke specialist Christian Betz.

The team hired three assistant

coaches this year, all of whom have plenty of experience with excellent swimming programs.

The first new coach, and the most experienced, is William Copland. A 1972 graduate of Alma College, Copland has many fond memories, one of which was being a star on the track team.

Copland started his coaching career with Lansing Eastern High School in 1975 and joined the Lansing Swim Association in 1976. From 1979-1981, Copland coached at Lansing Community College where he is still an instructor in computer applications. In 1986, he assumed duties as the head coach of Lansing Eastern's girls swimming program and was the founder of the highly successful Delphinus Swim Club in Lansing. He is still coaching with both programs. Copland has coached six All-Americans, and his Pattengill Junior High Swim program is currently 106-1 under his direction.

Copland remembers the days when he would not feel comfortable sending swimmers to Alma to swim.

"The program was just not good

enough for swimmers to improve within it," said Copland, "but then Greg [Baadte] came along, and things turned around."

Head coach Greg Baadte is in his fourth year with the Scots, watching a continual improvement every year. Baadte, a record-setting swimmer from Westchester University in Pennsylvania, has worked with numerous state, conference and national champions in 11 years of age group and college coaching. The impact Baadte has had on the Alma team has been great. The men's team has risen from fifth to third in the conference standings, and has broken 12 team records, and has set more than 150 new times on Alma's All-Time Top Ten Times List.

The second new addition to the team is Dave Hutchison, fondly referred to by the team as "Hutch." A 1993 graduate of Kenyon College, Hutchison was an English major. If there would have been a major in triathlon competing, though, Hutchison would have been top of his class. A Division III National Champion in the 1,650 Freestyle, Hutchison was an All-American 10 times in four years.

Hutchison is pursuing a career as a professional triathlete. With a training regimen of 18 hours a week, he knows the value of training, and he would like to bring that to the Alma team.

"My focus is going to be on training," said Hutchison of his coaching. "I'd also like to use my experience and success in swimming to bring a more nationally competitive spirit to this team."

Highly knowledgeable in swimming, and always enthusiastic, Hutchison has a lot to give to the team, and is a welcome addition to the Scot's program.

The final addition to the coaching staff is someone the women of Newberry Hall may know as "that mean old hall director." Kristen Butterfield, a 1992 graduate of Central Michigan University with a degree in education, is not only the Hall Director of Newberry, but a noted swimmer.

Butterfield swam her high school meets for nationally-ranked Bloomfield Hills Andover High School. She is a two-time All-American and was part of three state-championship teams. This is her

third year coaching, two of those having been spent at the Cranbrook Swim Club in Bloomfield Hills.

Butterfield is looking forward to more than this swim season. She is getting married in July. The lucky man is Alma's own assistant director of admissions, Jim Norton. Butterfield plans to start classes in January for her Master's degree, and she hopes to get into some type of counseling, so she can work with students.

Butterfield's experience as a swimmer and a coach will bring a new dimension to Alma's program.

The wide variety of coaches is going to allow the swimmers much more opportunity for individual help. Each coach has their own specialty, and they will complement one another nicely.

The team is looking good this year, with hope to send several swimmers to Nationals.

The Scots' next meet is against Grand Valley State University on Tuesday, Nov. 24, at 6 p.m. at Allendale.

# Senior triumphs as MIAA soccer MVP

By Kristin Allen  
Staff Reporter

"I guess the best part about it is making my teammates happy—for some reason, I always seem to score."

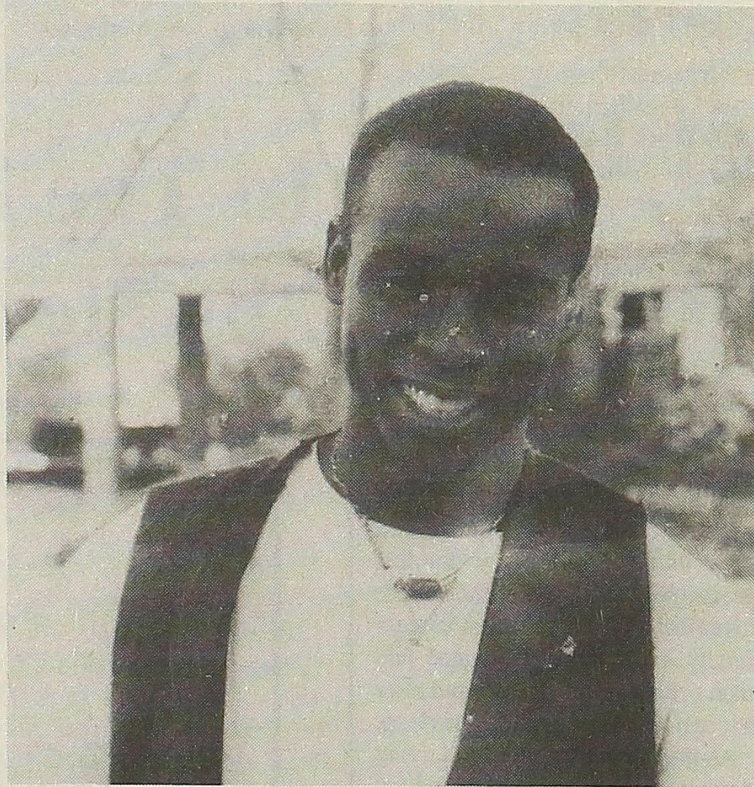
So reflects modest senior Felix Papillon on his outstanding success as a soccer player, a success which has earned him recognition as Most Valuable Player in the MIAA. The first Alma College male soccer player to ever earn this prestigious honor since it was created in 1970, Papillon was undoubtedly chosen by the MIAA coaches for his dedication to the sport and his talent within the league.

"Felix is a very skilled player who possesses great speed and a great understanding of the game," said men's soccer coach Scott Frey. "He's definitely the most dangerous player in the league—when Felix gets the ball, something good always happens."

The MVP honor has been the culminating point of Papillon's life as a soccer player. Growing up in Haiti, children didn't have seasonal sport options like football and baseball; rather, they participated in soccer all year round.

Recalling highlights of his soccer career, Papillon remembers back to a final league championship game when, at the age of 13, he scored the winning goal in the last seconds and the entire crowd carried him home.

Moving to Miami, Florida at 15, Papillon continued to receive recog-



Senior Felix Papillon, MIAA soccer MVP.

Photo by M. Petrocelli.

nition as a top scorer on the field.

"One of my best soccer memories of my high school years happened when the team was losing 0-3 at the end of the first half; in the second half, I scored four goals and the team won by one."

"In person, Felix appears joking and friendly, but when he hits the field, he is incredibly focused and competitive," said Alma teammate senior Tony Catania. "I've seen Felix do things with the ball that I've never thought possible."

Attributing his portrayal as a "mean" character on the soccer field to the need to protect himself, Papillon slyly adds that he hates to lose.

While Papillon, Alma's Homecoming King, has gained the greatest recognition from his performance as a soccer star, he is quick to reveal his skill as a ping-pong player. After representing Haiti in several Caribbean tournaments as a child, Papillon was named Haitian National Champion at the age of 15. While he hesitates to compare his

feelings about both sports, he feels the teamwork he has learned in soccer has proved an invaluable experience for him.

"Although the reality of soccer being over hasn't hit me yet, I know I won't miss the game as much as I'll miss my teammates," explained Papillon. "Soccer will always be a great part of my life, but the respect I've gained from teammates will be difficult to leave."

Papillon's future plans don't include professional soccer playing, although he received an offer to compete with the Haitian Olympic Team. A biology major, Papillon

plans to attend dental school and hopes to someday create a soccer academy for deprived children in order to positively influence their lives, while keeping them off the streets.

"I want to give to others the same experience soccer has given me," said Papillon. "I had no expectations of receiving the MVP award—I am happy, mainly because I feel it will ultimately help our program in recruiting and also help us in earning respect within the league. I think the entire team should take pride in this award, and enjoy the positive effect it will have on Alma."

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Nov. 23, 1993

## Exercise: everyone's doing it

*Multitude of videos requires careful searching on the buyer's part*

By Kassie Horak  
Freelance Writer

In my days here at college, I first encountered it, and this time it was being taken seriously. Imagine my horror and disgust at the sound of it. At first I thought it was a joke, but I was wrong. I was invited to try it. At first I resisted, but my resistance has been drained like the sap of a tree. So I tried it six times, in six different ways.

I never believed in exercise. My philosophy has always been that with such a hectic schedule, I have to be exercising in some way. I must be doing something right because I don't have a weight problem I am aware of. Walking to class and hopping up and down stairs was exercise enough for me.

Apparently everyone else thinks differently. I see them sweating on the stairmaster, jogging in the streets, or bouncing to Jane Fonda. I decided to find out what I was missing out on. I became a scientist, testing my hypothesis in front of a television.

I decided the best way to learn about this exercise fad was to experience it first hand. So began my mission. For six nights I spent 30-50 minutes in front of the television, sometimes sweating, laughing, often miserable. I discovered some important aspects about these videos, and decided the only proper course would be to share my experience with others to forewarn them of what is out there.

I began my exercising week with *Jane Fonda's Step Aerobics and Abdominal Workout*. I en-

joyed using the step; it is a nice change from the traditional floor aerobics. The exercise steps are fun, and the repetition allows better learning of each step. The instructors prep you for changes in the routine, which is a definite plus. The music was average. The biggest problem I discovered was that Fonda was not in the aerobics routine, but just did the ten minute abdominal workout at the end. I give it **three stars**.

*Cher Fitness* was my second step video. Don't bother with this one. Don't be fooled by the title—Cher isn't the instructor. The clothes are bad. The conversation is bad. When Cher does work out, it is in something akin to a black negligee, and we are forced to listen as she regales her story of visiting the Queen of England and insist that she is correctly performing the steps. I wouldn't know whether she was or not since I was never given instructions on how to do them myself. Cher then compliments herself on her own music playing in the background. The routine is just as disappointing. I did sweat, however, and relieved some stress by yelling at Cher, so I give it **one star**.

*Intro to Step Training* was the final step video that I tried. The instruction is excellent, and consistently provides explanations on how to perform each of the steps correctly. When introducing a new step, the instructor first concentrates on just the leg movements, and then adds the arm movements slowly. The steps are simple, with plenty of repetition without becoming boring. This is an excellent video to begin step with and a I thoroughly enjoyed myself, and am giv-

ing the video **four stars**.

My floor aerobics began with *Bodies in Motion with Gilad*. This is a daily exercise show on ESPN. The instruction is superb. The instructor is superb. The setting is inspirational. Even I would gladly workout every day on some beautiful beach with waves crashing behind. Neither the music nor the people are obnoxious. The routine is short, since it is only a 30 minute program. I give it **three stars**.

*Kathy Smith's Fat Burning Workout*—another Cher video. If you see this video, run. Warn your friends. The clothes are bad, the routine is worse. The instructors aren't instructors at all. They are people that never made Broadway. I got more of a workout from laughing than I did from exercising. It get one star because it provided an evening of entertainment. **One star**.

Last on my workout list is *Jane Fonda's Complete Workout*. For those of you who like variety, this one is for you. It has everything from a Scottish jig to a Western hoo-down. The routine includes sixties' moves such as the hand jive and the swim, as well as Hispanic dances. The instruction is decent and the steps are not difficult. I'll give it **three stars**.

My experience with aerobics has taught me a valuable lesson. Aerobics is fun with the right video; exercise is an activity everyone should do. I now know what the excitement about exercise is all about. If you don't do it, you should try it. You just might like it.

## Work off those winter blahs

By Julianne Thomas  
Sports Editor

People everywhere are espousing the benefits of exercise and physical fitness. Experts claim it can not only improve your body, but also your spirits, as well as relieve stress. There are several aspects of fitness and health: aerobic endurance, body composition, flexibility, muscular strength, and muscular endurance.

One important aspect to gaining physical fitness is to establish long term physical activity behaviors and habits. This requires a commitment to develop a physically active lifestyle. This means setting aside at least three times a week to engage in some sort of exercise. Even moderate levels of activity will greatly enhance your fitness level.

The type of exercise is personal choice, and the variety of activities available on the campus are extensive. The gym is open to play basketball in. The track is open to run around. The pool is open to swim in. Aerobics and dance classes are offered. The weight room is available for those wishing to increase muscular strength. The racquetball courts are

available as well. There are also exercise rooms containing stationary bikes and stairmasters in many of the residence halls. Any person should be able to find some activity they are interested in to help them get into better shape.

The question many ask is "why?" Why should I go to the trouble of exercising at least three times a week? Many students feel they are already too busy without trying to add one more thing to their schedules.

Those who exercise regularly find that they sleep better, have more energy, and feel less stress than their counterparts who do not exercise.

Senior Nikki Berlin, who walks every day, said, "I actually do sleep better and have more energy."

The take home message is that those who do not feel that have time to exercise are precisely the individuals who should make time to exercise. It is likely that they will feel less stress, sleep better, and have more energy when awake to accomplish more of the things they have to do each day.

Junior Andrea Balliet said, "Your skin looks better, your self esteem raises, and your body looks better, and you just feel better."

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## I.M. Volleyball



An IM volleyballer returns a serve. Photo by J. Champion.



## HIV virus may be active on Alma College campus

By Shannon M. Garrett  
Opinion Editor

Statistics hold that five students on this campus are HIV positive. That is only an estimation—there may be fewer; there may be more.

The latest Surgeon General's report on AIDS states that **one in every 250** Americans has the HIV virus. That means one person, male or female, in every 250 people in this country is carrying the virus that causes AIDS. On a campus of approximately 1,300 students, that makes at least five probable carriers.

Now I don't claim to be a statistician and I understand that there are many factors that influence statistics. But the Surgeon General's report does not specify that one in every 250 sexually active or IV-drug using Americans carries the HIV virus; it only states one in every 250 Americans.

Some people may consider me paranoid, but that number scares me. One in every 250 Americans; five students on this campus alone. Think about the risks. I am not talking about the ungrounded fears about catching AIDS from toilet seats or eating utensils. I am talking about the possibility of five students on this campus developing and eventually dying from the AIDS disease.

Imagine your best friend on this campus, or any friend here at Alma

College. They don't have to be a homosexual friend, a friend who engages in IV drug-use or even a particularly promiscuous friend. Any friend of yours who happens to be or has been sexually active (and I would venture to say that is a majority of the campus) is at risk.

Imagine that friend possessing any of the characteristic symptoms associated with HIV+ or AIDS: chronic tiredness, atypically thin, blotchy skin, night sweats, persistent diarrhea, memory loss, depression. Not all HIV positive people develop all of these symptoms, but many do. The characteristics are not pretty. They are not temporary. They are not fun and they are not easy to cope with for either the victim or their friends.

Many of us will see at least one of our friends suffer from AIDS, a few of us may experience AIDS ourselves.

But we don't have to. There are precautions. Abstinence is the best precaution, but it is much to ask. Condoms, however, are not too much to ask. You can greatly decrease your chances, and your partner's chances, of acquiring the HIV virus by using a condom. **Every time.**

Is the embarrassment or discomfort of using a condom really worth a shortened life span wracked with pain and suffering? Is it really too hard to plan ahead? Condoms are not all that expensive when you

consider the expense of AIDS. Condoms are not all that uncomfortable when you consider the mental and physical pain of AIDS. Condoms are really not that embarrassing when you consider the difficulty of telling your family, friends and, most importantly, past, present and future lovers that you are carrying the HIV virus.

So why don't people realize this—why don't people get over the stigmatism of using condoms and just follow this simple precaution? I don't know why. Maybe it is the myth that sex is more pleasurable without a condom. Or maybe it is because people believe that since their last HIV test came up negative, then they are definitely not a carrier. Maybe it is even the simple case of the "It'll never happen to me" syndrome.

But it will happen to you if you don't take care to avoid AIDS. This epidemic is huge, possibly bigger than any plague to ever hit this planet. It has no cure. It has no vaccine. It has no positive explanation. It can, however, be controlled by using condoms.

An HIV positive person can go for a year without HIV ever showing up on an AIDS test. They can go an average of eight to 11 years without showing signs. There have been cases where HIV positive people have gone 20 years without any symptoms at all.

Think of how many people that

could effect. In one year alone a sexually active person unknowingly carrying the HIV virus could infect every person s/he has sex with, gives blood to or shares needles with. Even if an HIV person is in a monogamous relationship, that is one person too many that s/he could infect.

There is a generation gap within our own age group concerning condoms. It is a gap in sexual maturity. There are those in our generation who began having sex before the AIDS virus exploded just a few short years ago. And there are those who started to engage in sex only recently in the age of AIDS. Those who had sex before the AIDS epidemic had only treatable STDs and pregnancy to deal with. Condoms were important then, but the idea of not using them was less life-threatening. People just now having sex for the first time have grown up with AIDS as an influence in their decision to become sexually active. Maybe it's not as hard for them to realize the importance of condoms.

But condoms are important for everyone, whether you had sex for the first time fifteen years ago, two years ago or yesterday. You are still in a high risk group if you do not use a condom. I would go as far to say that you probably will contract the HIV virus in your lifetime if you refuse to ever use a condom.

AIDS is the fastest growing epi-

demic this country has ever witnessed. Our age group is the fastest growing group to become infected with HIV/AIDS. For every female teen with AIDS, there are 21 teens infected with HIV. For every male teen with AIDS there are eight HIV infected. These are strong statistics.

Here are some more: In the U.S. to date, an estimated 289,320 people have been *diagnosed* with AIDS. Over one million Americans are HIV positive. The known total is 182,275 people who have died with AIDS in this country alone.

Also, a woman with AIDS has a 25-30 percent chance of having a baby born with AIDS. That is a large statistic for women planning on having kids, and a low statistic to use as the only indication as to whether or not the mother is carrying the HIV virus.

I don't know what else I can say. How much more I can stress my point? Condoms are necessary. We have gotten to the point where you can die from having sex. Consider me paranoid if you will, but I am *gravely* serious. AIDS is here. AIDS is deadly. AIDS is going to affect you. It should be the number one concern for every person having sex. Use a condom. With every partner. Every time.

For more information on AIDS, HIV or the use of condoms, call the Centers for Disease Control Hotline: 1 800 342 AIDS.

## Afrocentricity faces the challenges of implementation

By Lawrence T. Potter, Jr.  
Freelance Writer

The African-American students and scholars who will usher us into the dawn of the 21st Century will be greeted by many of the paradoxes which have confronted African people since our entrance of bondage into North America. These paradoxes will be no less problematic than before, and the challenges facing our people over the next century will continue to be of the incredible magnitude that we, as a community of Africans in America, have come to know. As with each previous generation, this new generation will be called upon to reap the harvest of those who have sown before them and to carry on the process of plowing the fields of time for those yet unborn.

The last 20 years in America have generated a remarkable new crop in the intellectual fields of African-American life. The new crop has been described in the popular language of "Afrocentricity," which has unfortunately come to mean a wide variety of things from the wearing of the Kente cloth shawls to a radical reinterpretation of world history.

In any event the new concept has heralded a massively important paradigm shift in African thought, specifically, and American scholarship in general. As the previous generation of African-American freedom fighters ignited the redefinition of freedom for all Ameri-

cans (e.g. women's rights, handicapped rights) this new conceptual analysis identified as Afrocentrism will no doubt usher in a universal reanalysis of Western scholarship in which people will boldly bring the particular perspective of their diversity to the table of human commonality.

Contrary to the claim of its critics, Afrocentricity is no more than the description of a perspective for the purpose of analysis. The so-called "scientific method" (which is in fact only a method of science) is a perspective which takes objectivity as its stance for analysis. This method suspends the reality of subjective factors only in creating an objective illusion. This is valid suspension of belief not unlike that of the fiction writer who suspends disbelief to create fantasy. It is a valid perspective for the purpose of a particular type analysis.

The Afrocentric scholar claims that the perspectives of other experiences have been willfully suspended in the Eurocentric analysis of reality. This suspension has tremendously benefitted the ascension of European people and those capable of identifying with their experiences. This same suspension has massively handicapped people who have negated their own reality and sought to identify with a reality and an experience that was not their own.

No one can legitimately claim that the Eurocentric reality is not correct for Europeans in the same

way that one cannot argue that the conditions of a genuine vacuum are not correct if we were capable of producing such an objective reality. We do argue that each people must enter the world of scientific and scholarly analysis from the path of their historically and culturally developed perspectives. These perspectives are not counter to universal reality and truth, but simply access the universal through the window of one's particular worldview. Such a perspective can only enhance human understanding in general.

The real challenge for our young thinkers here at the dawn of the 21st century is how to execute the next step in the progression of this paradigm shift. Thanks to Diop, Van Sertima, John Henrik Clarke and others, we now know that history is not only what we have been taught from the Eurocentric perspective. Thanks to Nobles, Welsing, King and others, we now know that psychology is not only what the European behavioral scientists have taught. We have a new grasp on the concept that Africans view the world differently, thanks to the work of Asante, Karenga, Carruthers, Jeffries and others. We now need a new implementation, both in social construction and technology.

Those coming from the Afrocentric perspective are to be the vanguard in developing a technology that is compatible with the Afrocentric concept of harmony

with nature. They are obligated to develop systems of technology which are respectful of a much abused environment which Africans, from their perspective, view as a divinely given gift which requires humans to interact with one it harmoniously.

We need Afrocentric architects who construct buildings that are not only efficient, but also maintain human ties to facilitate human interaction. We need Afrocentric organization developers who build organizations sensitive to the human ties and the spiritual aspirations that Afrocentric orientation teaches us. We must have educators who structure learning systems in such a way that children learn to respect who they are and see themselves as allies with the environment rather than oppressive conquerors. We must have social organizers who develop social systems that respect gender differences while facilitating the expressions and genius of all people.

The values and philosophical basis for the development of such systems are implicit in the Afrocentric system. The prophetic thinkers who have helped to reveal this system are neither capable nor have the longevity to implement the structures which must stand on the foundation that they have built. Those who opened the doors to great civic freedoms could not simultaneously become the political brokers who developed a Harold

Washington or empowered a Maynard Jackson.

In the same vein, it is overly messianic for us to expect that those who have revolutionized our thinking about ourselves can also implement the new techniques, structures and systems which this new thinking will necessarily produce.

Already, many young students are growing impatient with what they describe as too much "theory" and "rhetoric." They don't realize that this theory and rhetoric accounts for the re-energizing of themselves with a kind of energy and motivation for the rebuilding of African reality such as we have not seen since the Civil Rights Movements and the Harlem Renaissance.

These students must understand that they are having the baton passed to them and they must now implement the structures that demonstrate this great power of the African genius which the Afrocentric paradigm shift has revealed to us.

We now know what has been done and what we can do...

... The challenge for the carriers at the dawn of the 21st Century is to demonstrate to the world that not only have we done the impossible in charting the course for all of humanity repeatedly in the past, but also we are now taking it as our imperative for the people of African decent to once again bring a renaissance to all humanity.



Nov. 23, 1993

*Lifting the Kilt by Sara Groves*

## Is the future brighter than brown tweed?

I thought I had overcome my little anxiety problem. I had taken all of the necessary precautions. I had perfected my resume. I had written a cover letter. I had some interviews lined up. Yes, my future was actually becoming a future...not just some big looming black hole waiting to suck me in.

But to secure this future, there were steps I had to take other than just landing an interview and presenting some credentials on expensive paper. That's right...I had to shop and I had to formulate answers to stupid, probing questions and I had to practice walking in high heels and I had to rehearse sitting down in a skirt so I didn't flash who ever was sitting across from me. So many things to do, so little time.

But first things first. I had to have a skirt to practice sitting down in. So off went Franny and I, like flashes in the night, to an area of Hudson's that I had previously never known existed: the *professional* woman department.

"Can I help you?" this skunk-striped hair Hudson's lady asked my mom.

"Well actually, we're looking for something for my daughter. She's got job interviews, you know," my mom said.

Feeling like a pre-pubescent girl looking for a gro-bra as I envisioned my mother saying, "She's got breasts, you know," I was suddenly overcome with a severe case of vertigo.

"Oh, we've got just the thing for you. It's very young," said Skunky.

Skunky pulled out a poop brown tweed jacket and skirt. Since when was poop brown tweed definitive of young, I wanted to know. I envisioned myself smoking a pipe in the poop brown tweed while playing croquet on my country estate or else teaching a philosophy class.

"Well, that just isn't very me," I said.

"But it's very professional, very chic," said Skunky.

"I just think it's very ugly," I said. "I don't want to try it on."

Franny shot me a warning look that would have made Hitler's little moustache curl.

"Maybe you could suggest something else?" I asked the Skunk.

Skunky began a swoop through the professional woman department that would have made Hillary Clinton proud. She loaded me down with skirts, jackets, professional woman sweaters and polyester blend shirts and sent me in the direction of the dressing rooms.

As I tried on the first ensemble, I could tell that this little experience would be nothing but trouble. First of all, the clothes fit. There were no qualifiers before the size like 'loose fit' or 'baggy' like on the rest of my clothes. Secondly, the skirts were all cut at this annoying mom length...right at the knee. And finally, these clothes were some of the hottest things that I had ever put on my body.

After I had been in the dressing room for what seemed like five hours, I heard Franny come in.

"Sara, is everything okay? Why haven't you come out and shown me how things look?" she asked.

"You want to know why? I'll tell you why!" I ranted from inside my dressing cubicle, as my reasoning ability went out the window. "Because these clothes are just dumb. They're hot and stupid and dumb."

"Now just let me see," Franny demanded.

"Oh my," said Fran as I emerged from the dressing room. "Don't you look...well...uh..."

"I look stupid and dumb. Please don't make me buy these clothes. Please, please, please can we go to the Gap?"

*Feeling like a pre-pubescent girl looking for a gro-bra as I envisioned my mother saying, "She's got breasts, you know."*

And so off we went, bare-handed, leaving Skunk Woman to redistribute all of the old lady clothes she made me try on.

The next step in the pre-interviewing process was formulating answers to questions which future employers may be inclined to ask. My friend, Ganesa, and I sat in the library one evening trying to figure out some smart people answers.

"What are some goals you've set for yourself for the next five years?" I asked Ganesa in my best interviewer voice.

"Well, I want to buy a bike. Hhhmmm...I guess that's it," she said.

"I want to buy a *better* bike than the one I've got now. Maybe a Canondale," I said. "And I think I want a Ford Explorer. A forest green one with camel interior and a really cool stereo system. But I don't really know if I want a Ford Explorer, so I guess that's not a goal."

"Okay. How would you describe yourself?" I asked Ganesa.

"Super!"

"That's great. I think you're super too," I told her.

"All right," Ganesa asked me. "What are some of your faults?"

"I procrastinate. I am distracted very easily. I don't take criticism well. I have a really bad temper," I said.

Another fellow senior leaned over to us.

"I don't think you're supposed to actually list your faults. I think you're supposed to take a negative and turn it into a positive," she said.

Ganesa and I were perplexed.

"You know. Say that you're a perfectionist or something like that," said this fellow senior.

Ganesa and I suddenly became perfectionists.

We disbanded for the night, absolutely positive that we were ready to take on any interview.

When I walked in the door that

night, my roommate, Shannon, asked me what I had been doing.

"I practiced interview questions," I told her.

"Interview questions for what?" she asked.

And then suddenly it hit me. These were interview questions for a real job. Not for some summer job flipping burgers at Coney Hut. Not even just a job, but a *career*. The words loomed large in the horizon. I felt like Bugs Bunny coming out of his hole only to find himself face to face with Elmer Fudd's double barreled shotgun.

"Oh my God. I think I'm having a heart attack," I told Shannon as I reached for the wall to support myself.

I was laughing. I was crying. I was clutching my chest and breathing irregularly.

"Shannon," I said as I grabbed her by the collar, "we're graduating. This is our last year. We have to find jobs. We have to make money. We have to cook our own food."

"Get a grip on yourself," Shannon said to me. "You're a disaster."

And so the days before the interviews dragged placidly on. I had gotten myself together. Future? I merely chortled at the word. Ha ha ha. I had my future in the palm of my hand. Until (insert *Jaws* theme here)...the night before the interviews began.

"Have you seen a blue leather folder?" I asked Shannon.

"Nope."

"Well, isn't that just par for the course? I need that folder. You have to help me find it," I said.

"Okay." Then Shannon just disappeared into thin air.

I started tearing my desk apart. I had to have that folder. Somebody told me that I had to have a folder like that to put my resumes in. I had to look professional. I had to find that folder.

Shannon walked in just as I was about ready to lose control.

"What's the problem?" she asked.

"I can't find that folder! I need to find that folder!" I said.

I started to hyperventilate. The room started to spin. I felt my blood pressure shoot into outer orbit. I grabbed onto my desk for support.

"Oh my God. This isn't a heart attack this time," I told Shannon. "I think I'm having a nervous breakdown."

Shannon stood there and laughed at me.

"It's November. It's early. Relax," she told me.

"Easy for you to say, little Miss Haven't-Done-Your-Resume-and-I'll-Probably-Have-To-Support-You-After-We-Graduate," I thought to myself.

But once again I managed to get my act together. And my interviews went fine, I guess. None of the people laughed me out of their office at least. And I didn't hyperventilate or pass out a single time. So I already have a few things in my favor. I just can't wait until this horror is over and I can sit back and rest easy, hopefully in a big leather chair from my office at *Saturday Night Live*.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

William J. Johnston's contribution to the Nov. 16 Opinion section warrants, I believe, a response from the "quoted co-coordinator" of "Block Bash '93" and several of my colleagues. Let me begin by saying Johnston's "question" of keg stigmatization by the Greek community on an "individual level," yet not on a "higher level," is well-reasoned. Perhaps it is a somewhat hypocritical message. Yet the endorsement of kegs on a "higher level" is not a phenomenon unique to the Greek community. Indeed, the ACUB-sponsored "Irish Pub" has supplied keg beer to 21-year olds for years now.

The community members of "Block Bash" reasoned, therefore, that since the Alma College administration allows kegs in this "higher level" student function, (implying, of course, that the administration has and still prohibits kegs on an "individual level"; i.e. residence hall rooms), *where the beverage's distribution is strictly monitored*, then the Greek community, when in a similar environment, should receive equal endorsement. We were correct. Our proposal for keg beer in a *restricted* beer tent was studied and approved by Anne Lombard, assistant dean of students; James Kridler, dean of students; and President Alan J. Stone.

It is absurd to contend, as Johnston does, that the beer tent was *not* there for its social value. If he is implying, rather, that our intention, in providing a *maximum* of six beers, was to get people legally drunk, he is proposing a serious allegation. I quote: "The beer tent wasn't there for its social value, either. Why else would the Block Bash organizers allow a maximum of six beers, instead of one or two? Six beers is enough to get most people legally drunk."

Two points, Johnston. One, if a person is 21-years old,

she/he is entirely able to judge what are her/his limits of safe alcoholic consumption. Two, if this limit was too high, then why the overwhelming support from the above-mentioned administrators? (Not to mention Alma's City Manager, Alma's Chief of Police, the Alma City Mayor, and the Alma City Council—all of whom, also, had to approve our function.)

Now to Johnston's final point. I quote "...I think [the Greek community would] get a better sense of true Greek unity without the beer tent than with it"; rather, "...we should promote it with its good points: leadership opportunities, friendship, sisterhood (and brotherhood)". I can't agree with you more. Indeed, the beer tent was never intended to serve as *the focal instrument* for fostering Greek unity in "Block Bash"—hence its remote location relative to the rest of the party (it was located in the far corner of the South Complex). The focal instrument of fostering Greek unity in Block Bash was the bringing together, dancing, engaging in those crazy, goofy games "Brett and Brad" coordinated, and otherwise conversing and having a good time. In this, we feel we met with resounding success.

Finally, the attributes that you feel should be emphasized—leadership, etc.—are indeed emphasized every year. It is called "Greek Week." We are now in the early planning stages of this upcoming event. Therefore, I welcome any input you may have, William J. Johnston.

Sean Lynott/IFC Special Events Chair

Co-Signers:

Libby Reiter/Panhellenic Vice-President

Jason Watkins/IFC President

Tammy O'Bryant/Panhellenic President

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Nov. 23, 1993

## Staff Editorial

# Campus media must present positive image

If you remember back to Traditions Dinner during your Pre-term, you might remember President Alan Stone saying something like, "Smile at people when you walk across campus. We don't want people getting the wrong impression of our school."

Stone was absolutely right. Poor actions on the part of students can lead to a poor image of the College in the minds of community members and others, and this poor image can in turn affect the college negatively. Consider the recent Greek Block Bash: had the Alma City Council had a negative image of the Greek community, it might not have approved the plan to fence off part of Center Street.

Members of the campus media organizations must be acutely aware of their actions and the impression they give the community. The actions of this select group of students will, like it or not, be taken as representative of the feelings of the entire student body. Consider an Almanian article of two years ago, where a writer called the patrons of Tony's Restaurant in St. Louis "out of work, toothless Appalachians." The patrons of Tony's quite rightly took offense, and in response complained to President Stone. That writer was immediately notified of this response and asked to make a formal apology. Thus, while attempting to be fair, we, as members of the campus media, must think about our actions and how they reflect on the college.

Therefore, we at *The Almanian* must protest the sophomoric antics of Brad Engel and Brett McDowell on WQAC's "Brett and Brad Show," airing weekday mornings from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m.

First, note that we recognize the legitimacy of a morning show predicated on comedy; it is useful to waken to music and amusing

conversations, helping to set a light mood for the day to come.

However, Brett and Brad have exceeded the limits of good taste and we fail to understand the humor behind many of their skits and comments.

Consider Alma Pride's recent Pride Week. Brett and Brad mocked the activities of Alma's gay, lesbian and bisexual group by having a fictitious member of "Phi Alpha Gamma" fraternity "come out" on Coming Out Day. It doesn't take a brain surgeon to break down Phi Alpha Gamma into a cheap shot at demeaning homosexuals with the word "fag."

Also, contemplate the show's "Psychic Beaver" character. While it could very well be that the term "beaver" was chosen for any number of reasons, comments such as "...every once in awhile you really do have to give your beaver a good beating," or "beat the beaver down into submission," or even "only submissive beaver is good beaver" lend to the implication that they aren't just talking about an animal. The term "beaver" fits in perfectly with the high school mentality about female genitalia and these comments can be understood as severely misogynistic, as well as masochistic. If this was not the show's intention, maybe a less weighted name could have been chosen.

These are just a few examples of the "humor" to be found on the "Brett and Brad Show." We at *The Almanian* feel that this form of humor is inappropriate behavior that does not belong on the Alma College radio station. Alma College has always stressed itself as a place of open learning where no one should fear because of their beliefs. Yet the words of Brett and Brad speak otherwise—presenting the members

of the Alma College Community as homophobic, misogynist, close-minded and bigoted.

Realize the audience that the "Brett and Brad Show" is speaking to. Yes, some college students, but probably more than that, area high school students (and their parents?) on the way to school. What kind of image are we showing them? What sort of beliefs are we advocating for them to follow? Brett and Brad perpetuate the sort of high-school close-mindedness and immaturity an Alma College education attempts to end.

This is how we, the editorial board and members of *The Almanian*, feel. But we are only a small part of the Alma College community. Your opinions—those of the rest of the students—are important, as well. We ask you to tune in to the "Brett and Brad Show" and listen for yourself.

Your student funds are supporting the college radio station, just as those funds support us. *The Almanian* has always been open to and inviting of constructive criticism so that we may improve our efforts to inform and stimulate the student body. Can the "Brett and Brad Show" say the same?

Tune in and listen. How do you feel about their jokes on a personal level? As a student? As a human? How would you feel if you were a donor to Alma College and tuned in to hear this kind of offensive and moronic humor?

Write us. Write WQAC. Write to the Communications Committee. Write to Dean Kridler. Write to President Stone. Voice your opinion. Tell us and them how you feel. Your opinion can make a difference. Your opinion **will** make a difference. This is our radio station. Let's decide how we want it run.

## The Almanian

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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.

## LIFE IN HELL

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