AIDS Awareness Page 2

Songfest Page 5

Women's Soccer Page 7

Government Shutdown Page 10

The Almanian

November 21, 1995

Serving Alma College since 1907

Symphony, dance company reunite

Freelance Writer

The Alma Symphony Orchestra will perform Shchedrin's version of "Carmen," Pugni's "Pas de Quatre," and Gottschalk's "Grand Tarantella" 8 p.m. Dec. 1 and 3 p.m. Dec. 3.

This collaborative effort with the Alma Dance Company will take place in Presbyterian Hall in the Heritage Center for the Perform-

"There is a natural alliance between music and dance and I would like to see more collaboration between dance and music here," said Douglas Scripps, professor of music and director of the symphony.

The symphony will first enlighten the audience with the spinechilling music of "Carmen." The symphony's percussion and string musicians will portray the personality of Carmen, a promiscuous woman who is murdered during a tricks of their instruments.

Senior violinist Christine Ebert said, "The piece is different because it asks us to do things we have never done before. The various techniques of the bow provide a mix of sounds which bring forth beautiful melodies."

First-year student Carrie Schuler, also a violinist, feels that "Carmen" will interest Alma College students and members of the community because "it has a mysterious sound.'

"Pas de Quatre," meaning "Piece for Four," and "Grand Tarantella," which is a poisonous spider, will spark excitement in the second part of the concert. "Pas de Quatre" brings forth soft music while four Alma ballerinas express the competitiveness and dislike of the dancers from the original ballet.

The irony of the romantic instruments appears as the audience senses each dancer's desire to reign

lover's quarrel, through various as the leading ballerina in Europe.

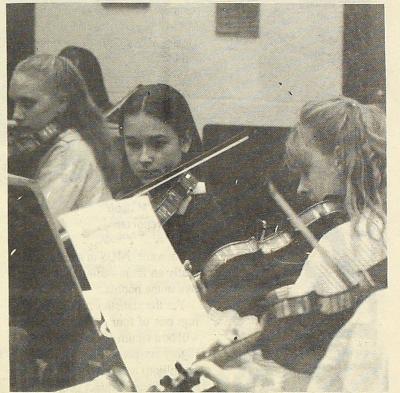
The legend behind the last piece, "Grand Tarantella," says that in order to rid the body of the poison from the tarantula spider, one needs to dance continuously to the "undiluted melodies and rhythms of black, Creole, and Caribbean folk music." Composed of the full orchestra and eleven dancers, this piece will project jumpy sounds and quick movements.

Scripps described the music as "sophisticated barroom music."

"The music is lighter than our last concert and it is not as intellectually demanding-the pieces are fun to play," said Ebert of the production in general.

"They are nice energetic pieces that I think everyone will likethey have an overall appeal," said junior Derrick Veale, a French horn

Tickets for the performance are available at the Heritage Center's



Sophomore Amy Hoffman practices with fellow violinists for the symphony's upcoming performance. Photo by Kimberly Krajnkak.

SUN salutes Luke's love of nature

By Daniel C. Scripps Freelance Writer

On Nov. 4, Students United for Nature (SUN) braved the cold and clean up part of the Pine River in a tribute to Tracy Luke, former professor of religious studies.

Fifteen SUN members participated in the event, many of whom knew of Luke's love of the out-

Junior SUN member Catherine Sinclair said of the project, "It was very beneficial to the river. We collected nine bags of garbage

which made the whole area look really nice."

However, the cleanup was not always easy. Several participants traveled down to the water to dig through overgrown brush on the riverbank. Yet, that project was the most rewarding because, as sophomore Angie Jevince put it, "that was where we got most of the trash."

"I thought it went really well. We had a lot of volunteers show up this year. I was really excited about the turnout," said Jevince of the

Though SUN did not succeeding in combining the biannual cleanup with a Pine River canoe trip this time due to poor weather, they plan to combine the two events

in the future. As junior Karen Gorden, SUN's vice president, said, "We hope to start the canoe trip and cleanup this spring and do it again in the early fall when the weather is nicer."

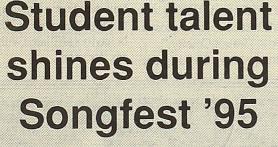
This canoe trip would also be in memory of Luke, keeping his legacy of love for nature alive.

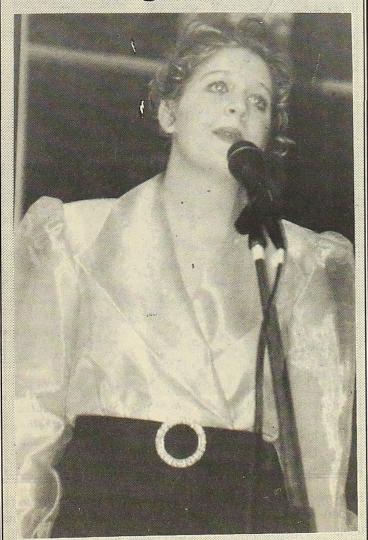
Another aspect of their outing included the chance to develop plans for a section of Pine River Park that the group will design.

"It's still a city park," said Don Merrill of the City of Alma Parks and Grounds Department, "but we have designated an area where they can decide what to plant." Their plans for the land include planting trees and placing a plaque in memory of Luke.

"Our group is really growing and we have a lot of participation within the group," said Jevince.

SUN meets every Wednesday at 8 p.m. in SAC 108.





Senior Laura Rice sings her rendition of "What's New," arranged by Bob Haggart, during ACUB's annual Songfest competition Friday, Nov. 17, in Dunning Memorial Chapel. Photo by Jerry Stassinopoulos.

faculty increases

Percentage of part-time

By Chris Wiederman **News Editor**

During the past year the percentage of part-time faculty has increased to 16.5 percent, leaving some students wondering what effect, if any, this has upon the quality of education.

ulty provide? Why do we have their teaching at Alma. so many part-time faculty mem-

Part-time faculty are hired for a variety of reasons. With the recent surge in enrollment, parttime faculty help alleviate the pressures on class size. Also, they provide the opportunity for the college to offer unique classes.

According to Provost Leslie Brown the percentage of parttime faculty is not extreme and provides many benefits to the curriculum.

While large universities have the flexibility of offering a variety of courses, this variability is more difficult for a small college such as Alma. However, parttime faculty, specializing in particular areas, allow for a unique

course offering for small col-

Brown cited Japanese, Archaeology, Highland Arts and Comparative Religion as examples of unique courses available to Alma students.

Some faculty choose to be part-time, balancing other ca-What benefits do part-time fac-reers and graduate work with

For example, Tom Batchelder is a part-time psychology professor who is also a practicing clinician in Alma.

"Dr. Batchelder advises students wishing to enter clinical psychology and is able to share firsthand experience in his teaching," said Brown.

The department chairs are responsible for recruiting parttime faculty and search for people with college experience. Many of the part-time faculty at Alma even have their doctor-

"I do expect the number of part-time to decrease over the next few years, but it will depend on the enrollment," said Brown.

AIDS: know the facts, use your head of the virus, due to their lack of sible sexuality or replacing bad

By Trisha A. Warner Special Projects Reporter

As HIV has spread among the population, awareness has increased as well.

People are learning the risk factors that accompany the virus's spread and realizing the need to be tested for it. The tests, which can be administered through the health department, hospitals, clinics and the Alma College Wilcox Medical Center, are anonymous or confidential and usually accompanied by coun-

According to Joe Gelina, physician's assistant for Wilcox Medical Center, being tested for HIV is an important decision, specifically

"The thing that bothers me the most," he said, "is that we have good statistics

of the number of HIV positive cases, good statistics on the number fullblown AIDS cases, and good statistics of the

number of AIDS deaths. But the scary part is that we do not [have statistics] on the people who have HIV and do not know it." He cites those that unknowingly have HIV as probable spreaders knowledge.

He emphasized that pre- and

counseling is an Knowing whether you are HIV imporpositive or negative is worthless, said tant ad-Gelina, unless it affects your lifestyle dition to by reinforcing responsible sexuality the test itself, or replacing bad habits with a selfprovidi n g means to

under-

post-test

stand the test results. Knowing whether you are HIV positive or negative is worthless, says Gelina, unless it affects your lifestyle by reinforcing responhabits with a self-monitoring lifestyle.

Because of the psychologically devastating nature of HIV testing, counselors must be certified through the Michigan Department of Public Health (MDPH) HIV/ AIDS Prevention and Intervention Section (HAPIS). The certification, which is thoroughly explained in the September-October, 1995 Michigan HIV report, can be obtained through the twostep process or an intensive fiveday program.

The two-step process includes separate workshops. The first, a two-day affair called "AIDS 101," See AIDS, page 3...

Sexuality" promotes awareness

monitoring lifestyle.

By Julie Wilson Staff Reporter

For some, AIDS in Alma is not really an issue-after all, we do live in the bubble.

Yet the statistics are frightening: one of four college women will be a victim of sexual assault. Eighty-six percent of the annual 12 million cases of sexually transmitted diseases affect people between the ages of 15 and 29. Of the 60 percent of sexually active first-year college students, almost half report using no protection.

With these realities so well publicized, students cannot claim ignorance to dangers of unsafe sexual expression.

However, behaviors are not changing.

Education is everywhere; people know the problems and risks, but their actions do not mirror the fear of the educators. The population knows the risks, but has not altered their actions. Some believe this is due to the way the information is being presented.

"Lecture formats are not working," said Linda Farquharson, a health educator with the Mid-Michigan District Health Department. An alternative AIDS educator will visit Dunning Memorial Chapel at 8 p.m. on Nov. 28 as part of AIDS awareness week.

The Michigan State University's Olin Health Center's "In Your Face Reality Troupe" uses dramatic presentations to discuss issues involved

in all aspects of relationships for three performances and they and human sexuality-unintended intercourse, HIV testing and counseling, healthy alternatives to sexual expression, sexual with in a creative manner.

The program is entitled "Virtual Sexuality." The troupe consists of primarily Michigan State students, but includes college students from other schools as

"The troupe is nationally known and recognized for their talent and powerful message," added Farquharson, "I think it is wonderful that they have chosen to come to Gratiot County."

The troupe has received a grant

chose to come to Alma and are covering all costs for their performance.

"I do not think there is enough orientation, diversity—all dealt AIDS education on this campus," said first-year student Melanie Pietchak. "Everybody thinks that we are safe here on such a small campus, but that is not the case."

> AIDS awareness week provides the opportunity for students to rethink their sexual attitudes.

The troupe hopes that their message comes across unlike typical safe-sex lecturing by portraying the models, skills and behaviors affiliated with healthy sex decisions.

AIDS victims need support

By Char Vandermeer **Feature Editor**

HIV and AIDS are issues we love to push under the carpet.

If we ignore them we will not see them, right? We simply cannot continue to hide behind safe, protective delusions any longer. We must face and accept the reality.

Many different perceptions and biases revolve around HIV and AIDS and unfortunately, it is easier to pretend they don't exist-especially on Alma's quiet campus.

However, in our lifetime, we will be in contact—probably close contact-with someone who has HIV or AIDS.

How can we deal with this and what are some of the difficult aspects surrounding AIDS and those with the disease that we should be aware of?

While the physical aspects of the disease have been well-publicized, we may wonder what are some of the psychological trials an individual might experience as they pass through the stages of the disease? How can we offer support and understanding?

As individuals learn to deal and cope with the disease they will probably undergo a series of psychological struggles including social isolation, dealing with an abrupt alteration of quality of life, a drop in self-esteem, sudden changes in mood or emotion, issues of self-blame, feelings of helplessness and denial. Knowledge of these changes allows friends and family to better help someone come to terms with the disease.

There are several ways people can help and offer support to someone with AIDS. A handshake, touch or hug shows the individual that the disease does not make them any less important to their friends. Remember, AIDS is not leprosy and cannot be contract through simple contact.

Visit, visit and visit. Be there for your friend and offer a shoulder to lean on. Feel free to laugh and cry with them-everyone needs to know they have someone to share their feelings with.

Celebrate life. Enjoy the moment. Focus on the positive aspects of life. Talk about tomorrow, next week, next year...hope is essential!

Helping someone with AIDS is no place for timidity; feel free to ask questions about the illness. Not only will it be beneficial to you to get a better grasp on the emotional stateof-mind of your friend, but it also gives them a chance to air whatever might be troubling them at any given moment.

Don't feel pressured to talk. Allow conversation to flow naturally.



Sophomore Amy Zell and senior Steve Sobieski rehearse for The Rehearsal. The one-act play deals with the relationship between an HIV+ actor and its affect on- and off-stage. Photo by Char Vandermeer.

Remember, your presence and support is the most important thing.

With understanding comes acceptance. If we educate ourselves about AIDS we will find

ourselves better prepared to face the future and whatever it may bring. Although in the shell of Alma, AIDS may feel like an abstraction, we must understand that it is very real.

The Almanian

Nov. 21, 1995

Edwards, Johnston direct history-making one-acts

By Phil Allmen Staff Reporter

For the first time at Alma College, the Alma College Theatre Company (ACT) will perform one-act plays directed by stu-

Senior Lisa Edwards and junior Joe Johnston are the talented individuals given the opportunity to direct their fellow actors.

"It's an honor to be one of the first students to direct a one-act play for the campus," said Edwards.

Edwards is directing the play The Rehearsal by Joyce Carol Oates, featuring senior Stephen Sobieski and sophomores Brian Papendick and Amy Zell. The play depicts the lives of two actors (played by Sobieski and Zell) who struggle with the roles they are playing because their roles correspond with their real lives. The director, played by Papendick, continues pushing the actors until one breaks down and the director leaves.

plays, this one struck me. I read it while I was in Philadelphia and it related well to where I was at that particular point of my life," said Edwards.

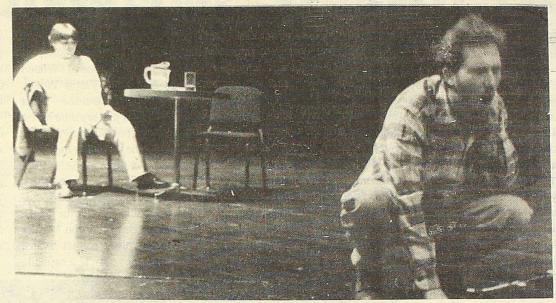
Johnston is directing John Patrick Shanley's Danny and the Deep Blue Sea, featuring juniors Mark Andrews and Beth Bullmer. The play deals with two societal outcasts, Danny and Roberta, who never experience love until meeting one night. Over the course of the evening, the two discover something within themselves and in each other and fall in

"I chose this play because it is a challenge for myself and the actors. The feelings expressed are universal, but the setting is foreign to most of us," said Johnston.

"This is one of the most exciting shows I've ever been in. It always has something going on. It's physically and emotionally draining, but it's fun," said Bullmer

Those in the play enjoy the change of having student directors.

"I'm having a great time with this play. It's different to be directed by "After reading hundreds of students. There's a more relaxed



Juniors Elizabeth Bullmer and Mark Andrews perform a scene from the one-actDanny and the Deep Blue Sea, directed by junior Joe Johnston. Photo by Char Vandermeer.

atmosphere, but we're still being Joe Jezewski. As an actor, directed for a play. The intensity and drive to do well is still there," commented Papendick.

Having your peers direct you can play," commented Bullmer. make it easier for the actors to discuss the play, as well.

"Working with Joe Johnston is less intimidating than working with

[Johnston] brings a different perspective to directing, and it is a lot easier to talk to him about the

Directing peers can seem strange for these student direc-

"It's strange to work with my

peers, it's more difficult, because sometimes I come in and I want to goof around, but I know I can't," said Edwards.

The one act plays open on Thursday, Nov. 30 and continue through Sunday, Dec. 3. Performance times are 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sunday.

AIDS continued from page 2...

teaches "basic scientific facts of HIV, plus AIDS-related legal issues, the impact of the epidemic on special populations and risk reduction techniques."

A three-day continuum workshop must also be completed for certification.

Applicants must have successfully completed "AIDS 101" or an equivalent course. The fiveday counselor training sessions simply combine the two-phase

In order to participate, individuals must have written verification of their positions as counselors. If a testing site is MDPH-funded or designated, counselor training is free; otherwise it is \$75 for either path to certification.

The stringent training program reflects the MDPH's desire to provide education about HIV and AIDS along with accurate results at the testing site.

Keeping You Informed

ence majors

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Student Research Participation Program (SRP) is offering undergraduate students the chance to spend 10 weeks next summer collaborating with federal scientists on the cutting edge of research and development. The SRP is for sophomores, juniors and seniors majoring in engineering, physical and life sciences, mathematics, computer science or social sci-

With direction from researchers at major DOE facilities, students conduct hands-on research using state-of-the-art equipment not usually found in most campus laboratories. Projects TN 37831-0117. relate to individual academic majors, career goals and the Purdue hosts conference in En- January 16, 1996.

Summer program for sci- ongoing research and development of the facility.

> The instruction and training SRP participants receive is designed to provide them with a keen perception of energy production, use, conservation and societal implications. Assignments afford students the opportunity to apply and practice theories and methods learned in the

> Participating facilities for DOE are located throughout the southern United States; students will be paid a weekly stipend for their efforts.

For application materials or more information, contact Pat Pressley at (423) 576-1083 or the Student Research Participation Program, Science/Engineering Education Division, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, P.O. Box 117, Oak, Ridge,

glish and philosophy

Purdue University Calumet in Hammond, Indiana, announces its fourth annual undergraduate conference in English and philosophy to be held on April 19-20. Undergraduate papers will be accepted in American Studies; History; Comparative, Criticism, English, Feminist, World; Philosophy; Political Science; Popular Culture; Rhetoric and Composition; and Women's Studies.

Undergraduates who wish to participate should send an abstract of their paper to Clement Stacy, Department of English and Philosophy, Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, Indiana, 46323. The abstract should be no more than 250 words, double spaced, and should include student's name, name of college or university, student's address, student's telephone number and paper title. Abstracts must be submitted by

NEED CASH?

We need part time cooks. We will train you. Will work around class schedule. Apply in person at The Harvester Restaurant, Alma. 1 mile from campus. 1480 Wright Ave.

The well-schooled insurance group Michigan Educators Insurance Agency Inc.



We cover more than 90,000 Michigan education employees as the exclusive representative of M.E.E.M.I.C. Auto & Homeowners.

- •Renters •Motorcycle
- Homeowners Life
 - Boat

Local Representative: John & Pam Knowiton 463-5347 or (800) 783-0817 Serving The Education Community



LaSenorita is now hiring for management and management trainee positions.

5 day work week. 2 weeks paid vacation after first year. 2 personal days. Salary & Bonuses. 401K Plan. Health and Life Insurance. Great training program. Please send your resume to: P.O. Box 388

Traverse City, MI 49685-0388 Attention: Ken Kleinrichert

Almanian job openings:

 Business Manager ·Office and Distrubution Positions start winter term. Interested applicants should send resumes and cover letters to the Almanian office in Newbyerry Basement. Call Justin Bauer (466-5306) or Laura Paetz (7418) with questions

Songfest showcases talent

By Jennifer Mounts Staff Reporter

The Elvis sighting last Friday characterized ACUB's Songfest music from George Gershwin, last Friday.

his vocal talents dressed as the King, singing "One Night" by Elvis amazing vocal talent was perfect Presley.

The night began just after 8 p.m. with the large group competition. Evans's soulful rendition of "Cry" Dunning Memorial Chapel was by Churchill Kohlman merited secpacked to the point of standingroom-only.

Phi Mu Alpha's witty rendition of West Side Story's "Gee, Officer Krupke" earned them the first place prize in the large group category.

Kappa Iota's beautiful harmonizing to the Grateful Dead's "Uncle John's Band" earned them second place honors.

The soloist competition overflowed with talent. The strong, beautiful voice of senior Catherine Stuckey started the competition off with "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered," a popular Hart and Rodgers number.

First-year student Scott Harman's version of Paul Simon's "The Boxer" included a reference to an "Alma College winter," putting him in touch with the audience—some of whom had lined up outside the chapel doors over a half hour before the show started.

mind the wait.

"This is a campus event I enjoy attending each year," she said.

Senior Becky Shelley placed first was only one of the unique acts that in the soloist competition. With Shelley sang a hilarious spoof of Senior Brian Corrigan displayed ever-popular sappy love song, "Blah, Blah, Blah." Shelley's for the composition.

> First-year student Marcus ond place in the soloist competi-

In the small group division, the powerful performance of "When I Fall in Love," by Victor Young, sung by sophomore Matt Robertson and junior Anne Marie Hiltz, was not only a crowd favorite but also the judges'-they were awarded first prize.

The group Slightly Taken, which comprised Harman as lead vocalist, and back-ups junior Mark Petrocelli, senior Gordon Meyers and second place soloist Evans, performed a hysterical a cappella

version of "Little Red Riding Hood," Becky Shelley and Phil Allmen a tune by Ronald Blackwell. Their and juniors Debbie Macdonald and skillful harmonizing perfectly Mark Andrews finished off the forcomplimented the song, earning mal competition with "Karma Chathem second place.

A trio made up of junior Jason Schultz, vocals; sophomore Marc Alderman, drums; and junior Joe Johnston, guitar, rocked the small group competition, performing "Alone" by Blues Traveler and receiving a great response from the audience, especially during Alderman's drum solo.

The Stains, comprised of seniors

meleon" by Culture Club. Phil Allmen plastered on the make-up to play Boy George and their 80s costumes were really a blast from the past.

While the entertainment was excellent, the evening was not without flaws. Technical difficulties caused problems with the microphone and sound system. Corrigan was forced to sing his Elvis number without a microphone, making it difficult for those seated in the back to hear. Additionally, Master of Ceremonies sophomore Jim Coe, detracted from the evening's enjoyment by making several sexist comments.

Unfortunately, members of the audience also acted inappropriately at times, waving their lighters in the air distracting other audience members and the performers.

As judges were making their decisions, the exhibition group Time II Stand, performed Ray Boltz's evangelical piece, "I Pledge Allegiance." Although everyone has a right to free expression, Songfest is not the appropriate time or place to impose one's religious beliefs on others, which some audience members believe the group did.

Although there were some unprofessional moments, overall,



Junior Allison Shoemaker did not Senior Becky Shelley sings "Blah Blah Blah," which won the solo competition. Photo by Brent Oeschger. Songfest was a success.

Couple finds joy in juggling responsibilities

By Phil Allmen Staff Reporter

With all the time it takes to be a student at Alma College, people have little time for other thingslike each other.

However, seniors John and Traci Parker decided that going through college is better together.

"Emotionally, going to college with John is nice because the security of having him there really helps a lot," said Traci.

other on campus, and we don't have to worry about different schedules and breaks," said John.

John and Traci met during their first year at Alma and began dating during their second semester. By their junior year, the two realized that they were meant for each other and decided to get married.

Although the support system is nice, married life is difficult at times—especially when expenses begin to mount.

After their wedding, the two

found a place to live in Mt. Pleasant. Unfortunately, the commute was too inconvenient and they now live in Alma.

"It's really easy for us to be antisocial. Not only are we living offcampus, but we're married and have all the other responsibilities to take care of," said John.

Recently, their responsibilities multiplied-nearly four weeks ago, Traci and John had their first baby, Haley Erin.

"Well, we were kind of freaked "With the limited amount of time out when we first found out, but we get to see each other, school is everything has been great since a kind of bonus. We can see each Haley was born, although it takes a lot of time and energy with Haley, work and school," said John.

The addition to the family also limits the time John and Traci have for each other.

"With Haley around, we see less of each other. I think John and I have spent about an hour alone together since Haley was born. Sometimes it's hard to stay connected, but once we get the balance between everything set, we'll be fine," said Traci.

Although the baby can make

times rough, Haley is a blessing and both John and Traci are excited to be parents.

again in a second," said John.

John will graduate this winter with

this all over again, we would do it has a temporary job lined up at the Department of Commerce in Lansing. Traci will graduate in April 'If we had the opportunity to do a degree in computer science and with a degree in political science.



John, Haley, and Traci Parker deal with the difficulties and the joys of married life--and college life-together. Photo by Char Vandermeer.

Look What's Happening!

THEATRE / DANCE Heritage Center for the **Performing Arts**

*The Rehearsal and Danny and the Deep Blue Sea - Nov. 30 & Dec. 1-3

Midland Center for the Arts,

(517) 631-1072

*The Nutcracker - Nov. 30 & Dec. 1-3

Wharton Center, Lansing, (517) 432-2000

*The Nutcracker — Nov. 24-26 BoarsHead Theater, Lansing

(517) 484-7804

*Greetings - Nov. 16 - Dec. 9 Michigan Princess, Grand River Park, (517) 627-2154

*Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre Cruise — Dec. 1 **EVENTS**

Alma College Campus

*Safer sex/HIV awarness week - Nov. 27 - Dec. 2

*Christopher Rush, Heritage Center - Nov. 28

*WIAB luncheon, Heather

Oppenheimer dicusses state of Cuba

By Justin Gustafson Staff Reporter

Andres Oppenheimer, awardwinning correspondent for the Miami Herald, described with interesting stories and facts his visit to Cuba and the enormous decline of Cuban influence since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Oppenheimer grew up in Argentina and has been fascinated with the Cuban revolution for most of his life. He recently wrote a book, Castro's Final Hour, detailing what has happened to Cuba since the end of the Soviet Union.

He cited these shocking statistics to demonstrate his point: Cuba went from \$13.5 billion in trade in 1989 to a mere \$3 billion in 1994, and the gross domestic product has dropped 45%. Since the fall of the Soviet Union there has been a lack of oil and economic aid. The former Soviet Union provided 90% of Cuba's

oil and \$6 billion in aid each year.

"Cuba was hurt on one hand by the end of Soviet aid and by the United States's economic embargo on the other. After 1989, the Cuban economy collapsed," Oppenheimer

He stressed the poverty of the Cuban people when he told stories of people stealing silverware from restaurants and spare tires from rental cars, also citing the fact that Cuban doctors make an average salary of \$20 per month.

"There is very little food, very little clothing; most people get their money from relatives liv-

ing in the U.S.," said Oppenheimer. Before the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Cuban government was the sole employer in Cuba. It maintained state factories, farms and the

welfare programs. Now people steal after the 1959 Cuban Revolution. from state factories and use those materials to open their own independent businesses.

Oppenheimer said, "The government can no longer maintain the people aged 65-75 who are the revo-

He told stories of people stealing silverware from restaurants and spare tires from rental cars, and cited the fact that Cuban doctors make an average salary of \$20 per month.

> welfare state it could before the 304,000 are in the "other" category. USSR collapsed due to the loss of Soviet aid.'

Fidel Castro took power in Cuba one reason why Castro has main-

He has ruled over the past 30 years with an iron fist. Today, however, Oppenheimer says there are three categories of people in Cuba: first,

> lutionary elite vanguard of the Communist system; second, citizens in their 40's who have become increasingly skeptical about the revolution; and third, younger Cubans age 15-25 who want political independence and an open economy.

Oppenheimer pointed out that out of 3.5 million workers in Cuba, 1.1 million are classified as nonproductive workers and

The government is paying people to do nothing. He claimed this was tained power.

"What would these people do if the regime fell? They would go nowhere in a capitalist society which is why they have a stake in the [current] system," he said.

"He was very interesting. He realizes that things in Cuba have come to the point where they have. to change. But I think that the economic embargo should be lifted because it is hurting the Cuban people," said junior Natasha Parasram.

As for the U.S. economic embargo that has been in effect for over 30 years, Oppenheimer said, "There is a strong lobby to maintain the embargo on Cuba. There is not yet a strong business lobby working to lift the embargo. Most Cuban-Americans still support the embargo, but in the world arena, we [the U.S.] are looking like the bad guys."

Faculty publications command respect

By Char Vandermeer **Feature Editor**

Students at Alma College often receive credit and praises when they accomplish something a little out of the ordinary.

However, students often overlook the professors and the work they do outside of the classroom. Many of Alma's professors are regularly published in scholarly journals and magazines but often do not receive the accolades they rightly deserve.

According to the Alma College Notes, a newsletter written by the Provost's office, 13 faculty members' work has been included in scholarly journals, magazines and other publications since August. Several of these authors have had numerous articles printed since the beginning of the school year.

Most recently, Professor of English, Bill Palmer's poem titled, "Edward Hopper's Cape Cod Morning" was accepted by Yankee magazine and his essay about him and his son, "Green Days" was published in the Chicago Tribune Magazine in October.

Elizabeth Cameron, assistant professor of business administration. recently published a study guide entitiled Study Guide Book to accompany Hellreigel and Slocum's Managementtext. Additionally, her articles "The Ethical, Financial and Social Considerations of Direct Placement Adoption-Part III" and "Small Business Ownership: 10 Ingredients for Success" were published in Inter Alia and The Small Business Journal.

Professor of Mathematics John

"The Golden Section and the Piano Sonatas of Mozart," in The Mathematics Magazine.

Associate Professor of English John Ottenhoff's article "The World Wide Web: Taking the Plunge" appeared in the Oct. 11 issue of Christian Century.

"[The world wide web] is something I've been interested in and I wrote it [the article] for a general audience," said Ottenhoff.

Believing it is important to write for general audiences and not specifically for academic readers, he encourages people to utilize the world wide web and survey the different kinds of information it

As Ottenhoff wrote, "Whether the subject is industrial music, home education, antigovernmental sentiment, pornography or the writing of William Shakespeare, chances are you can find a community of well-armed experts somewhere on the Web."

On a slightly different key, Assistant Professor of English Randi Davenport recently published several articles, book reviews and short stories. Her latest achievement, a short story titled "Absolution," will soon appear in the Alaska Quarterly Review.

"I've been writing stories about violence against women and I wanted to write a more hopeful story about the aftermath of that sort of violence," said Davenport. "It's a story I've written since I came to Alma, so I'd like to think that there's something of Almathis community—in the story."

"The Alaska Quarterly Review is

Putz recently published his paper, an extremely well-respected liter- emerging writers of exceptional ary journal. They usually only pub-talent," said Davenport. "It was a lish established major writers or thrill. I was so excited. I felt so

lucky to have my work published in such a journal."

Instructor adds to Symphony

By Daniel C. Scripps Freelance Writer

Already appearing with the Alma Symphony Orchestra on two occasions, Wei Tsun Chang, the newest faculty addition to Alma College's music department, has made his presence known on campus.

"I think he's doing a terrific job. The strings of the ASO have never sounded better," said ASO director Douglas Scripps.

Chang has led an interesting and varied life which eventually brought him here to Alma. Born in Taiwan, Chang and his family moved to Sao Paulo, Brazil, when he was eight. The family moved again to Rio de Janeiro, where Chang spent most of his adolescent

speaks five languages fluently, and, tionally recognized violinist and he adds with a chuckle, "several others not so fluently."

The year before his family moved to Brazil, Chang began playing the violin. This continued throughout his residence in Brazil, where his parents always supported his hobby. At one time he took lessons every other week from a man who lived eight hours away.

"My parents always encouraged me to find the best teacher. I thank for me," said Chang.

Although very talented, Chang did not intend to pursue music. In teaching stint at the University of

fact, he was studying medicine As a result of his travels, Chang when James Bozwell, an internaformer professor at Indiana University (IU), was in Rio to perform and conduct a master class. It was at this master class that Chang auditioned and was invited to come study with Bozwell at IU.

Once at IU, Chang had the opportunity to study with Joseph Gingold, the former concertmaster of the Cleveland Symphony. While in Cleveland, he met his wife, Seanad, who is also a professional violist them for all the sacrifices they made and is currently principle violist for

With the exception of a one-year

Wisconsin at Milwaukee, the Changs have been playing in professional orchestras, most recently the Florida Philharmonic. They also play with the West End Chamber Ensemble at CMU.

When asked about Alma, Chang replied, "The atmosphere of students and faculty here is just wonderful," said Chang.

"I've been pretty impressed. He's laid-back, but in the same breath, still very demanding. Because of his attitude, you're willing to put forth that extra effort," said senior violinist, Rich Larpenteur.

"He's a violinist of the first class, and I hope we can keep him," said Scripps.

room, - Nov. 30

*Thanksgiving Recess — Nov. 22-26

HISTORY / ARTS Clack Art Center

*Alma College Statewide Print

Competition — Nov. 6-Dec. 8 *Susan Forman, Photographic Collages — Nov. 6-Dec. 11

Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame, Lansing (517) 484-1880

*How the Suffragists Changed

Michigan — ongoing *Women at Work - ongoing

MUSIC / COMEDY Heritage Center for the

Performing Arts *Alma Symphony Orchestra II — Dec. 1 & 3

*Alma College Kiltie Band — Dec. 2

*Alma College Jazz Ensemble — Dec. 3

*Alma College Choirs — Dec. 8 & 9

First Presbyterian Church, Caro (517) 872-3309 *The Village Bach Festival —

Nov. 21 & 24-25 Wharton Center, Lansing 1-

800-WHARTON *Jazz band II - Nov 29

Music and epiphany

Freelance Writer

This week's review was going to be of a new album by the Klezmatics, but that has been overridden until next week. As I left a friend's house, borrowing said disc and taking back a few that he had borrowed, I decided to give one of my old tapes a spin in the car stereo. I hadn't listened to the disc in two years at least, and for some reason, it called to me. Hearing the album's opening tune caused me to drive around the block; I needed to hear the next. I began to find er-

rands to run in order to keep the tape rolling, and finally gave up any pretense of ulterior motives for driving; I had to hear this tape one more time. But I'm getting ahead of my-

Camper Van Beethoven's third album, simply titled Camper Van Beethoven, was

Records. I considered this album to be good, but not an essential album for the first five years that I owned it (if you do the math, you will see that I did not purchase it when it first came out). Tonight, I didn't hear the perfect pop/fake ethnic/ satirical band that I heard in the first 500 listens. I heard a group of people who, for once in their lives, found "it."

What is "it?" Their own musical voice? Perfect pop? Cohesion? I don't know, maybe all of these things, or something less cosmic. What I heard was a band that had found "it," whatever "it" may be, and letting out a great soul sigh, knowing that they, in the course of 16 songs, found something that they would never stumble on again. Camper Van Beethoven is the sound of five young men recording

The band pulled out all the tricks it had been honing on its first two albums, with some of the best satire ("Good Guys and Bad Guys," a mock protest anthem), the best "fake ethnic" instrumentals ("Une Fois," "Five Sticks") and the best pop ("We saw Jerry's Daughter") they had yet created. Fine. Most bands improve with age. What makes this a classic is how earnest they've become about what once sounded like a joke they played on themselves.

They jam on "Une Fois," a strange

I heard a group of people who, for once in their lives, found "it."

released in 1986, on Rough Trade mixture of Indian melodicism and Cajun-accented lyrics, like they need to; its no longer something they can do, or something only they can do, it's something they are compelled to do, because its not new or a gimmick, but their music. When songs break into summerof-love-esque psychedelia, as on "Lulu Land," its not because the band is thumbing its nose at Haight-Ashbury, but because the song structure demands disorientation and chaos.

As we near the center of the record, the songs begin to creep sideways into a universe more sinister are confusing. The swell and sardonic "We Saw Jerry's Daughter" abruptly shifts into the blues riff of "Surprise Truck," but it's not "pure" blues. There are too many guitar overdubs, the sound gets too chaotic, and David Lowery isn't

just shouting "It's not the ice cream truck, and it's not the Magic Bus/ It's a surprise truck" because he feels passionate about the words, but to be heard over the din. We come out feeling a little off-kilter, and are systematically pushed down by the side one closer "Stairway to Heavan (sic)," as reversed guitar spins in and out of our universe, chasing after Jonathan Segel's sawing violin that exorcises the ghosts of a thousand Arabian musicians without giving them peace.

Side two offers so little letup that a serious listen can cause feelings

> of suffocation. As the band reluctantly slows to the close, each member struggles to keep that perfect moment alive, squeezing out one more skronk from their guitar, knowing that they can never go back.

How do you follow up a moment like that? Simple, a happy, trashy pop song that summarizes the band's accom-

plishments in a minute and a half. "I've got a 'lectric guitar and half a bottle of warm beer/I've got some crazy ideas 'bout what sounds good/ You know you better shut us down." Camper Van Beethoven got "better" (whatever that means) and more popular after this album, but the records after this one had no tension; they knew what they had to do, and how to get it done. Camper Van Beethoven is an album in which the music's structure controls the musicians, and the musicians sound like they're struggling to keep control of their own instruments, and losing, to symphonic effect. It is with this that I ask you to listen to a disc that you haven't heard in ages one more time. You may find that the disc has been waiting all along to show you eternity, waiting for you to be ready for

Bond flick tops great bad movie list

By Char Vandermeer and Mark Andrews Feature and Opinion Editors

We laughed, we cried, we almost threw up. A tour de force. An extraordinary display. Dense and unrelenting. Bitter, not bittersweet.

Golden Eye, the latest James Bond flick, starring Pierce Brosnan as the newest incarnation of the famous 007 is certainly enjoyable to watch—just be prepared to laugh so hard a box of Puffs won't stop the

Yes, Hollywood has done it again. From the opening phallic credits to the final, climactic "debriefing," Golden Eye is a limp flick.

Director Martin Campbell managed to extract every bad cliché from every Bond movie and condense them (if you can call a 2 1/2 hour movie condensed) into one bad, very bad evening of entertainment. And it certainly is entertainment-if you like movies that are so bad they're great.

Here are a few helpful hints for those of you who enjoy bad movies as much as we do. First, notice the amazing mobile mole on Natasha Semenova's (Izabella Scrupco) left cheek. Then, try and count the number of penis images, good luck. You know it's going to be a great bad movie when you're already ripping into the opening credits. Yes, it is an evening of fun for the healthy cynic.

We're sure you'll enjoy lines such as, "Straight up, with a twist," "she always liked a good squeeze," "I always liked a woman that pulled rank" and "I'll bet you like to be on top of things too.'

Subtlety certainly isn't one of Golden Eye's finer points.

Yes, Bond movie trademarks include amazing coincidences, sexy moments.

women and fabulous gadgetry. However, suspension of disbelief was completely impossible, believe us. Gee, what tipped us off? Well, perhaps it was the flashy shot of Bond free-falling off a cliff to catch a plane free-falling from the same cliff. Scenes where an entire Russian troop attempt to shoot the death-defying Bond only to be outgunned as he dodges hundreds of rounds of automatic gun-fire. He escapes each impossible situation without a scratch.

On the bright side, the acting was decent-even good. Surprisingly, Brosnan, known for his role in T.V.'s Remington Steele, pulled off the sexy and daring Bond quite well-given what he had to work with. Scrupco played the gorgeous victim/sidekick successfully. Together, they were an enjoyable pair to watch, honest.

Most of the stunts were reminiscent of spaghetti westerns. Just think of a damsel in distress running from the "injuns" as the mobile scenery whizzes by

Something we have always enjoyed in previous Bond movies is the clever use of his ingenious gadgets. Much to our disappointment, the gadgetry played a secondary role to the extreme violence and abundant pyrotechnics. Obviously, Bond's gadget guys have been on sabbatical since his last movie.

Some of the camera angles were quite innovative. Low perspectives and fast camera work lent a sense of virtual reality to certain scenes. This technique was particularly effective in creating a thrilling car chase—albeit an expected chase.

Although Golden Eye lacks many traditional qualities essential for a "good" 007 movie, it does have its

Breaking family ties can be difficult

By Phil Allmen Staff Reporter

College usually represents an individual's first chance to leave home and family. Although having two siblings attend the same college may leave one feeling uneasy about their independence, the Tollenaars and Hiltzes have proven this assumption incorrect.

The Tollenaar and Hiltz families both have three siblings attending Alma College. Bryan (96), Ben (98) and Craig (99) Tollenaar all came to Alma from Indian Rivers. Will (96), Anne Marie (97) and Caryn(99) Hiltz are from Monroe.

Older siblings provided an added bonus and incentive to younger siblings when making their college decisions.

here was one plus in my decision to come to Alma. At the time, it was no big deal where I would go to college. I was going to leave to sing with Up With People after my first year. If I didn't like the school, I could transfer to another college when I came back," said Anne Marie Hiltz.

"One reason I decided to come here was the fact that my brother, Bryan, was already here," commented Ben Tollenaar.

Both Craig Tollenaar and Caryn circles of friends, each younger Hiltz chose Alma, but not quite for the same reasons.

"When I first visited the campus, "I'll admit that my brother was I really liked it. The other college I was looking at did not have any dorms. I couldn't afford an apartment, so I came here," said Craig.

"I came to Alma's campus as a younger sibling and saw a lot of things I liked. This college was the only one that I looked at that possesses the facilities I wanted, like the symphony orchestra," said Caryn.

Having your family around can be beneficial for one another. Thanks to their older siblings'

sibling had a fairly solid network of acquaintances established when they arrived at Alma.

"We see each other pretty often. and we get a chance to talk to one another about personal or family problems," said Will Hiltz.

"My brothers and I all get along about the same, but for different reasons. Craig and I have similar interests, though we don't get along any better than Bryan and I, who don't have as many similar interests," said Ben Tollenaar.

Next term, Will Hiltz plans on breaking their family unit up a little—he is taking advantage of Alma's overseas program by spending next term in Scotland.

"Oh, he'll probably tell you he's going just to get away from us," commented Anne Marie.

Although getting away from his sisters for a term was not a deciding factor for Will, he believes it will be a healthy move for all of them.

"One of the reasons I originally came to Alma was because of the overseas program. I went to Scotland with my dad a long time ago and I wanted to go again. Next term is my last chance to go for an extended period of time. Leaving my sisters for a while is just a little extra incentive," he said.

MSU Auditorium

*Rusted Root — Dec. 2 Grand River Park, Michigan Princess, Lansing (517) 627-2154

*Roaring 20's musical revue dinner cruise - Nov. 15

State Theatre, Detroit (313) 961-MELT

*Boy George — Nov. 25

*King Crimson — Nov. 28 *Rusted Root — Dec. 3

St. Andrews

*Mr. Bungle, (see review in

Oct. 24 issue) — Nov 21 *Goober and Peas - Nov. 22

*Marilyn Manson & Everclear - Nov. 24

*1000 Mona Lisas — Nov. 29 *Pigface — Dec. 3

(313) 665-4755 *Nylons — Dec. 8

The Seventh House, Detroit (810) 335-8100

*22 Brides — Dec. 4 The Palace, Pontiac

(810) 377-0100 *Red Hot Chili Peppers — Nov. 25

Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor

Rick's, Ann Arbor, (313) 996-2748

*Knee Deep Shag — Nov. 24 Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, (313) 961-MELT

*Judy Collins — Dec. 7 Blind Pig, Ann Arbor (313) 996-8555

*The Bucket - Nov. 30

State Theater, Kalamazoo

*Rusted Root — Nov. 27

*Winter Solstice Concert — Nov. 28

*Rider in the Sky — Dec. 1

For more information, call the local Ticket Master outlet at (517) 773-3370

Women's Basketball starts season with victory

By Jennifer Mounts Staff Reporter

The Alma College women's basketball team opened their season with a win on Friday over Thomas Moore of Kentucky, and a loss to the defending National Champions, Captial of Columbus, Ohio.

Game one on Friday afternoon showcased the talents of the women players. With 58 percent accuracy from the field, Alma defeated Thomas Moore with a final score of 86-

 Senior Michele VanDamme lead the Scots in scoring with 22 points, going four for six at the three point line.

"It was Michele's best game." *said Coach Charles Goffnett of VanDamme, who also had 7 rebounds and 11 assists.

Junior Jaami McClellan led the team in rebounds with ten and also scored fifteen points.

"McClellan is a real addition to the team. She gave us a shot in the arm," Goffnett said.

Scoring 16 points in 23 minutes, first-year student Kristi Euler also helped the Scots to victory.

Additionally, junior Kristi Kern came off the bench and scored eight points.

"Kern did a nice job for us," said Goffnett.

Junior Lisa Meyer's talents were utilized in the guard position, making some of the three-pointers that gave the Scots their tremendous lead. With six minutes to go, the Scots lead by only nine. The lead increased to fifteen in only two possessions.

The Scots played again on Saturday against Capital, a game which Goffnett called a terrific effort.

According to Goffnett, Capital has a tremendous program. The team has a 55 game overall winning streak, and a 70 game winning streak at home.

The goal of Alma's women's basketball team was to use this game as a measuring stick, said Goffnett. He said he feels the Scots have a lot of talent and were disappointed at the loss, but not at the enthusiasm and effort.

Goffnett said the Scots are defensively strong, but had too many fouls this weekend. There were 33 personal fouls called against Alma, resulting in 38 free throw attempts by Capital. At the line Capital was 27-38; the Scots 15-19.

VanDamme also cited the fouls as a problem.

'We have some things to work on, basically our offense and handling pressure defense and not fouling so much," VanDamme said.

Goffnett said he thinks the team needs to click a little better, but that they are defensively strong.

Against Capital, junior Missy VanDamme was the leading scorer. Although she has been hampered by a sore back, VanDamme scored 20 points and had 12 rebounds. McClellan scored well with 16

Only one other Scot had more than 5 points.

"It was this shortage of points, which hurt us," said Goffnett.

"I felt the team definitely could have beat Capital if we had played to our potential," senior Michelle Meissner said. "But we gave them a scare."

This tournament was a chance to see where the team stood.

"It was a chance to see if this team has what it takes to be a national caliber team, and I think it does," said Goffnett.

The Scots play Spring Arbor at home next Tuesday at 6 p.m. It is a double header with the men's team playing at eight.

January starts the league season for Alma. Goffnett sees the upcoming games during fall term as a chance to prepare the team for the league season.

Swimmers make strong opening showing

By Dana Reinke Sports Editor

Opening their conference seasons on Wednesday at Hope College, Alma's men's and women's suffered defeats at the hands of the Flying Dutch. The women lost 120-96 and the men were defeated 120-91.

Greg Baadte found progress in both the teams efforts.

"We had some really good swims and some nice times turned in by members of both teams," said Baadte.

Last year, Hope's swim teams were at the top of the national rankings. Hope's women were second in the nation and the men were ranked fifth. Many of the swimmers on Hope's teams were returning national champions, which gave Almatop-level competition.

'Swimming against Hope is a situation where you can watch some of the best in the nation and learn from them," said Baadte. "We can take things back with us that will make us a better team."

On the men's side, even in defeat many team members swam strong races. The 200 medley relay team consisting of senior Christian Betz, and firstyear students Bill James, Chad Wisniewski and Mark Oberman took second. Senior captain Brett Martin swam to a second place finish in the 100 meter freestyle as did James in the 400 indi- event. vidual medley event.

"We would have had a better time in the 200 medley relay but Betz's feet slipped off the wall at the start so we lost two seconds, said Oberman,

First-year student Keith Schall improved his diving, according to Baadte, and placed second in both the one-meter and threemeter diving events. Schall, who just finished playing football for the Scots, has only been diving for two weeks and said he surprised himself with his perfor-

"That was the first time I had ever competed in three-meter diving before, so I was surprised with my success," said Schall.

"The MIAA is full of good divers, so I am proud of my performances early and I look to place in the top five at the conference meet at the end of the season."

Baadte said he was impressed swimming and diving teams both most by the James and his first place finish in the 500 meter freestyle. James won in a time of 5:03.07, which according to Baadte, is the best time he has Even in losing, head coach seen this early season. Baadte added that Oberman swam one of his best times (1:55.42) in the 200 meter freestyle event and Martin swam a very even 1000 meter freestyle race with a time of 10:58.83.

> "I am in better shape than I was at this time last year so I felt pretty good about my times," said Oberman. "Hope's pool was intimidating, but everyone put forth a really strong effort."

> Highlighting the women's effort was another first as seen in Baadte's tenure as coach at Alma. Captain junior Danielle Sullivan and first year student Libby Beckette took the top two places in the 100 meter backstroke against Hope.

"At first I didn't realize I came in second because I out touched a Hope swimmer at the end," said Beckette. "I didn't swim my best time, but I still beat the girls from Hope and that was really neat."

Sullivan also swam to a second place finish in the 400 individual medley event. Sullivan, swimming the 400 IM with a time of 4:55.22, placed herself second in Alma's record books for that

Contributing to the women's score were senior Lesley Malzahn's second place finish in 3 meter diving and sophomore Renee DeGraaf's second in the 100 meter freestyle event.

Alma's swimming and diving teams head back to the pool on Tuesday with a meet at Grand Valley State University. Last year Alma competed well and should do the same this year.

"Grand Valley is not as good as Hope, but they have a solid program," said Baadte.

"Grand Valley has a lot of depth on both teams, which is what our teams lack, but we have a possibility of doing well, " said Oberman.

Men's basketball learns lesson ·Lack of understanding handicaps team

By Maria Toscano Staff Reporter

This year's men's basketball season is all about learning—bit by bit.

The team faced its first opponent Saturday when the Scots traveled *to Ohio. Alma faced an experienced Bluffton College team. The Beavers were able to edge the Scots 91-

"The effort was there," said Coach ,Kevin Skaggs. "The understanding wasn't."

The Scots were able to start the game off with a 10-2 run over the Beavers, but the Bluffton quickly regrouped and the Scots were down by four at the half. The breakdown in the Scots' game plan came from the team's inability to effectively use Skaggs's new defensive tactic: the defense is a diamond defense tools Skaggs is using to better the designed to keep the ball on the team. perimeter, which keeps the scoring percentage down.

"We started out up by twelve, and we played really well," said tricaptain senior Jason Osborn. "We conference." just broke down, but we are not far off."

agreed that the team's loss was because of the breakdown in the defense.

"We negated our philosophy," stated Katona. "It was a game of runs. They hurt us with their inside shooting and then in the second half they went to outside shooting to go phy for a short time," Cleveland along with their inside game. We added. couldn't catch up."

scoring with twelve points. Osborn three weeks and only had nineteen added ten for Alma, but the Scots had ten different players with a lot of playing time, which is one of the



Last year's men's basketball team proved a disappointment. The team, however, plans to rebuild for the 1995 season. File photo.

Everybody played," said Skaggs. "We have to see what people can do and these first games are just to get us ready for the

Although the players were disappointed with the outcome of the Tri-captain senior Rich Katona game, they realize it is just another brick to add to their foundation.

> "It is early in the season and we will bounce back," said senior J.T. Cleveland, the third captain. "We basically broke down and it hurt us as the game went on. But we've only been with this new philoso-

"I was disappointed with the out-Senior Jim Elliot led the Scots in come because we worked hard for practices," said Katona. "I thought we could've played harder."

"It was our first game and we have a lot of inexperienced players," said Osborn. "We need to work on defense and be more patient on offense. We had a lot of one-passthen-shoot plays."

Osborn also added that the team isn't worried about the games before league play. "We are not worried about the games before the conference," Osborn said. "We are just trying to learn and trying to take what we have and make it strong."

Katona agreed.

"We are not really solid," said Katona. "We are basically starting a new program."

"As far as I am concerned they have done everything I have asked them to and have worked hard," said Skaggs. "They are the best group of guys I have worked with and they are going to keep improving."

Shiele, Nelson awarded with MIAA First Team honors

Staff Reporter

The women's soccer team, though not recognized with team honors and awards, was made up of some talented players who were individually recognized for their contributions to the team.

Senior Juli Schiele, who played midfield and forward, made the MIAA first team, sophomore Jill Braun made the second team and senior Keisha Nelson earned an honorable mention. Schiele and Braun have earned MIAA honors in the past while Nelson had earned state recognition in high school and team awards in previous years.

Shiele had been a member of the first team her first and second years at Alma was excited at the award.

"My goal this year was to play my last and best year. Since I had not made it last season I was kind of surprised to be nominated," she said. "But it was my best season of my years at Alma.'

Shiele has played soccer since she was 6, first on the munchkin league, and then moving up to the boys' league, playing there until she joined her high school women's team in Royal Oak.

The highlight of her season was the game against Kalamazoo.

"We all knew that we had the potential to beat them, and since they were not very concerned with any teams in the MIAA-they were more concerned about playing in nationals— it was great when we came back and beat them," said Schiele.

Alma had lost to the team her entire four years, and this year's win shows how talented the team was.

"Our record really does not show how good we were. There were a lot of games that just did not go our way," said Schiele.

Nelson agreed.

"We had so many great players, it is a shame that the numbers do not show it," she said. Talent aside, Nelson thinks that the change of coach had a lot to do with the success.

"When she [Coach Tammy Anderson] came in, she helped with the attitudes and gave us great enthusiasm," said Nelson.

But all the players said it was the

team and the close knit group that helped with their success.

"Yes, it was my best year personally, but it was the team that helped me. I did my best for myself, but more so because I wanted to do well for the team- I did not want to let the team down," said Nelson, who has played soccer for twelve years but said that she did not get serious until she started playing for the Scots.

Shiele holds the same sentiment.

"Our team motto was 'We are goal oriented.' We would all work together to pick up someone if they were having a bad day, watch out for each other. They helped me have my best season."

Women's soccer team is represented by seniors Julie Schiele and Keisha Nelson for their four years of hard work, leadership and skillas First team MIAA members.File Photo



SPRING BREAK

NASSAU/PARADISE ISLAND, CANCUN AND JAMAICA

Call 1-800-822-0321

AIR. HOTEL. TRANSFERS. PARTIES. AND MORE!

Earn \$200-\$500 weekly mailing travel brochures. For information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Inc-1, P.O. Box 1354, Miami, FL 33160-1354

Wanted!!!

Individuals, Student Organizations to Promote SPRING BREAK Earn MONEY and FREE TRIPS CALL INTER-CAMPUS PROGRAMS

http://www.icpt.com

1-800-327-6013



Looking for a great deal on a computer and a printer can be a whole lot easier than finding a roommate. Because right now, when you purchase a Macintosh Performa from the 630 series and an Apple printer, you'll get \$150 back. Just think about it. You

can get your work done faster, it will look great and you can receive an extra \$150 at the same time. So take a moment to look into the power that can keep you ahead. The power of Macintosh. The power to be your best: Apple

Alma College - 614 W. Superior - Alma, MI 48801 - (517)463-7303

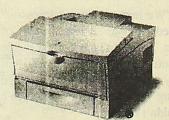
Now \$1,670



Macintosh Performa 640CD **DOS Compatible**

12MB RAM/500MB bard drive, CD-ROM drive, 15° color monitor, 14.4 modem, keyboard, mouse and all the software you're likely to need.

Now \$550



Personal LaserWriter 300 Toner cartridge and cables included.

Purchase any Apple Macintosh Performa 630 series or 640CD DOS-compatible computer along with any Apple printer and receive a \$150 mail-in rebate. Offer valid through January 15, 1996, while supplies last and subject to availability. If you have any questions about the "Performa + Printer = Payback" offer, please call 800-950-6354 or see stores for a complete list of details. ©1995 Apple Computer, Inc. All rights reserved. Apple, the Apple. Jogo, Macintosh, Performa, StyleWriter and "The power to be your best" are registered trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc. PowerPC is a trudemark of International Business Machines Corporation, used under license therefrom. CardShop Plus is a registered trademark of Mindscape. All Macintosh computers are designed to be accessible to individuals with disability. To learn more (U.S. only), call 800-600-7808 or TTY 800-755-0601.

The Almanian

Nov. 21, 1995

Sports

1995-96 Men's Basketball Schedule

Aquinas	7:30 p.m.
Walsh Thanksgiving Tournament	
Concordia (home)	7:30p.m.
Chamber of Commerce	
Tournament (home)	
Illinois Tech	7:30 p.m.
Elmhurst	7:30 p.m.
Madonna	7:30 p.m.
Mid-Michigan Rotary Classic	
Calvin	7:30 p.m.
Hope(home)	3:00 p.m.
Albion(home)	3:00 p.m.
Olivet	7:30 p.m.
Kalamazoo	3:00 p.m.
Adrian(home)	7:30 p.m.
Calvin(home)	3:00 p.m.
Норе	7:30 p.m.
Albion	7:30 p.m.
Olivet(home)	3:00 p.m.
Kalamazoo(home)	7:30 p.m.
Adrian	3:00 p.m.
MIAA Tournament	
	Walsh Thanksgiving Tou Concordia (home) Chamber of Commerce Tournament (home) Illinois Tech Elmhurst Madonna Mid-Michigan Rotary Cla Calvin Hope(home) Albion(home) Olivet Kalamazoo Adrian(home) Calvin(home) Hope Albion Olivet(home) Kalamazoo(home) Adrian

Winter Sports Schedules

1995-96 Women's Basketball Schedule

11-28	Spring Arbor(home)	6:00 p.m.
12-2	Aquinas	1:00 p.m.
12-5	Cornerstone	TBA
12-8;9	Manchester Tournament	
12-16	Aquinas(home)	1:00 p.m.
12-30	Franklin(home)	3:00 p.m.
1-4	Calvin(home)	7:30 p.m.
1-6	Hope	3:00 p.m.
1-10	Concordia(home)	7:30 p.m.
1-13	Albion	3:00 p.m.
1-17	Olivet(home)	7:30 p.m.
1-20	Kalamazoo(home)	3:00 p.m.
1-24	Adrian	7:30 p.m.
1-27	Calvin	3:00 p.m.
1-31	Hope(home)	7:30 p.m.
2-3	St. Mary's(home)	3:00 p.m.
2-7	Albion(home)	7:30 p.m.
2-10	Olivet	3:00 p.m.
2-14	Kalamazoo	7:30 p.m.
2-17	Adrian(home)	3:00 p.m.
2-20,21		
22-24	MIAA Tournament	

1995-96 Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Schedule

11-21	Grand Valley State	6:30 p.m.	
12-1,2	De Pauw Invitationa	al TBA	
12-26 to 1-6	Florida Training Trip		
1-13	Kalamazoo(home)	1:00 p.m.	
1-16	Albion	6:00 p.m.	
1-27	Calvin	1:00 p.m.	
2-3	Hillsdale & Wayne State		
Contract Plans	(home) 1:00 p.m.		
Treatment fine in			
2-22,23,24	MIAA Championships		
a the his region of	Hope College		
case is a bown	Preliminaries 1	1:00 a.m.	
to one two big turi	Finals 7:	00 p.m.	
in an outer all			
3-14,15,16	NCAA Div.III Women's Championships		
no policatio m			
di son i sonitali d	Atlanta, GA		
Taltonia e di Wiblio			
3-21,22,23	NCAA Div.III		
of conceptable	Men's Championships		
PREMIATE AND TO	Atlanta, GA	好。 引動に対抗	
The state of the s			



THIRD CARSANS PRIMA

WE DELIVER

2 CHEESE PIZZAS

2 SMALL
\$ 599
+ TAX

1 SMALL
\$ 3.99

2 MEDIUM
\$ 799

1 MEDIUM
\$ 4.99

2 LARGE
\$ 899
+ TAX

1 LARGE
\$ 5.99

Superior & Prospect

463-2167

Kevorkian's no murderer

By Justin Gustafson Staff Reporter

A couple weeks ago, Dr. Jack Kevorkian, whom we all know as Dr. Death, was implicated in yet another assisted suicide in California—"operation" number 22.

The patient was an elderly woman who had bone marrow cancer, a very painful disease, and was terminally ill. She died of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Much of America is in an uproar about Dr. Kevorkian's actions. Michigan passed a ban on assisted suicide two years ago, which is still being fought in the courts. Dr. Kevorkian deserves at least a fair examination of his deeds before we jump to conclusions screaming "murderer, murderer!"

Euthanasia is a more appropriate term for what Dr. Kevorkian does. The term "assisted suicide" makes his practice sound far worse than it is. He helps people who are terminally ill to end their lives without having to suffer through anymore pain. What's wrong with that?

I think there are three criteria in determining whether or not this is permissible. First, patients must be terminally ill. If they are not hopelessly sick to begin with, than any attempt on their life would be considered murder.

Second, patients must have an ever-worsening condition inflicting amounts of pain beyond our imagination. If they suffer through enormous pain every day, why should they be forced to live the wish and ending the pain.

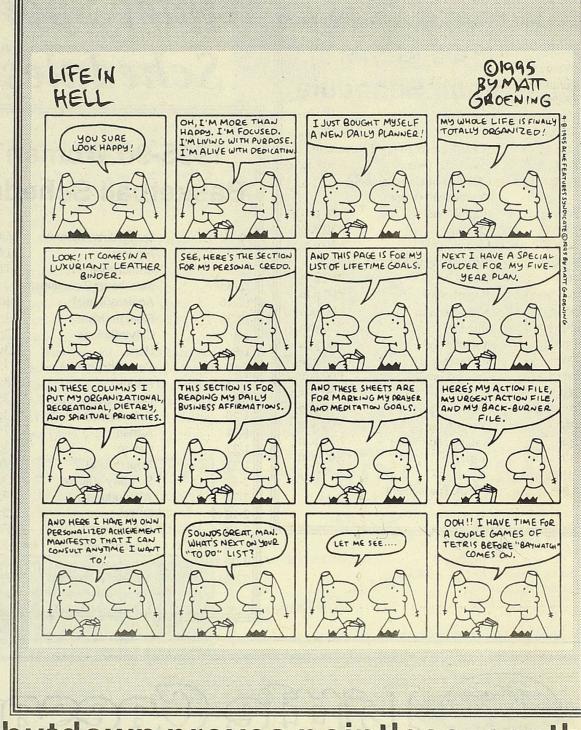
rest of their lives as though they were being tortured?

Third, and most importantly, patients must consent to end their life. Without a clear agreement, no doctor has the authority to end a patient's life.

Following these three basic guidelines, it seems to me that euthanasia is an acceptable practice. People may ask how one can support euthanasia, but be against abortion. The difference between the two procedures explains it all. The aborted child was not asked whether or not it wanted to die. The terminally ill patients are grown people who know that the only relief from their pain is death. They should be allowed to have that option.

I am not going to force someone who is in terrible pain and counting down the days to death to live in torture for the remainder of his or her life. Each person is capable of making their own decision. Neither I nor the government should force another human being, already dying, to stay alive longer than s/he wants to.

Dr. Kevorkian is doing many people a favor by helping them end their tortured, painful lives in a humane and painless manner. We should not scorn his work, nor should it be outlawed. The man is a professional doctor who is a compassionate and caring individual. Dr. Kevorkian is not a murderer, he is a pain reliever. He helps dying patients in their "pursuit of happiness" by giving them their final



Federal government shutdown proves pointless, costly

By Brandon Edward Miller Freelance Writer

After six long days of being held hostage by the Republican Congressional leadership, 800,000 federal employees are back on the job.

The President and Congress reached an accord Sunday night which will extend government. spending until December 15, by which time they hope to finally have the budget settled.

This shutdown did not make these two arguments sense. Although tourists were sounds reasonable. But forced from national parks, travel- both should be examined. ers barred from passport offices and federal employees banished from their desks, the shutdown actually cost more money, \$138 million per day, then keeping the government running.

According to rhetoric from House Speaker Newt Gingrich, the shutdown occurred for two rea-

First, on a trip to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's funeral, Gingrich was snubbed by President Clinton. He said that he was

relegated to the back of the plane where the President refused to discuss the budget with him.

Secondly, Gingrich decided that the budget should be balanced in seven years.

At least the second of According to White House staffers, it would have been completely inappropriate to discuss the

budget while the President was playing host to two former Presidents, Carter and Bush, as well as the fact that they were heading to a funeral—not a business meeting.

Also, they said, Newt was not

known for his skill at Hearts, a favorite card game of Clinton's that was played during a considerable part of the trip. Gingrich was

This shutdown did not make sense. Although tourists were forced from national parks, travelers barred from passport offices and federal employees banished from their desks, the shutdown actually cost more money, \$138 million per day, then keeping the government running.

> treated better than most of the guests on the plane in that his wife was invited along, although wives of almost all the other guests-including prominent senators and former presidents-were not.

The second of the two arguments is not much better. The stated reason that Gingrich gave for deciding that the budget should be

balanced in seven years was intuition. One would therefore be led conclude that 800,000 federal workers were wondering whether or not they would have a job come the holidays just because the Speaker's lucky number happened to be seven.

The most frightening aspect of this situation is that it took Congress and the Administration

six days to pass a bill which simply kept the government running temporarily. The deadline for a budget agreement is December 15.

This gives them just 25 days to hammer out some of our country's most important issues: How large should our government be? Is a balanced budget more important that the environment and education? Should there be cuts in entitlement programs like Medicare?

Before our leaders sit down to decide these important issues, both sides are going to have to set aside the rhetoric and the point scoring and get serious. Sound principles, not sound-bites, need to dictate the rest of this debate. Press conferences and polls, and especially the upcoming elections, need to be ignored for a brief period of time This will allow almost two million federal employees to enjoy their

Finally, the country will gain confidence and trust in its leadership if it perceives that actual progress is being made. An excellent chance to improve our country's future is possible; let us hope that our leaders seize this opportunity.

Campus comment: What further improvements are needed on campus?

Alma College has placed much of its focus on campus improvement over the last year and a half. Even so, few students have been asked what they feel needs to be done in order to improve the campus and its facilities. In this week's Campus Comment, we asked Alma students what they would like to see improved in the future

Nicole Ivkovich '96

"After living on campus for almost four years, I've never had a major conflict with the college. I believe there are always going to be problems within a community of 1,400 students and the college has responded to those inconveniences the best they could."

Danette Guild '98

"I'm a commuter, and the lighting for the parking lot behind the international house is awful-especially in the southeast corner of the lot. When you are walking back to your car after a night class, it can be scary."

Jennifer Corry '98

"I feel that Alma College should improve on the study lounges in the dorms. They need to be quieter and a better environment in general. For example, in Gelston Hall, there is a ping pong table, in constant use, outside of both study lounges."

Alyson Ferriss '98

"I feel that Alma College should concentrate more on losing the 'Alma Bubble' image. Put emphasis on national and international events."

Smokers snubbed for habit

Staff Reporter

Smokers have difficult lives. We are forced to pay high taxes to continue our habit. We are also forced outdoors into the cold by the non-smoking majority.

I'm not saying that smokers should go anywhere they please to light up, but we should be respected like everyone else.

Currently, the only two indoor locations we can go to enjoy a cigarette are Joe's Place and the lounge outside of Joe's. It's nice to know that there are warm places where I can go to have a cigarette, but I am also forced to be somewhat social.

What do I do if I am studying for a test and want to have a cigarette? If I am in SAC or the library, I have to take a ten minute break. While this may seem trivial, taking three breaks in a three hour period takes away a half hour of

I could try studying at Joe's sitting in the back. If Joe's

responsibility to begin coughing as I light my cigarette. While I have the right to have

Place and hide in the corner, could set up a specified place but some people feel it is their for smokers, then try to provide more ventilation, a compromise would be made for all who are tolerant of differences.

I could try studying at Joe's Place and hide in the corner, but some people feel it is their responsibility to begin coughing as I light my cigarette.

my cigarette, there are those who disagree.

Not even those working at Joe's know exactly what the policy is. Some days I see people sitting up front and along the booths smoking, while other days people are

This still does not help my predicament of losing study time on campus. One helpful option would be a room in SAC that would allow smoking. This room would be a study lounge where smokers won't feel inhibited because of those around him or her.

I know this ideal plan of mine is over-simplified, but giving smokers some sort of opportunity is just as important as giving rights to special interests group.

If this study room was found somewhere in SAC, those who are offended by the "wall of smoke" they must walk through to enter SAC won't have all the smokers congregating there. A portion of them would stay in SAC before going to the next class.

While non-smokers complain that they cannot stand the second-hand smoke, and smokers complain that they are treated unfairly, we must remember that not everyone will be satisfied with any decision. Until then, remember that the smokers all congregate around one door of SAC, yet there are three doors to the building. If the smoke bothers you, try the next door.

By Jason Walker Freelance Writer

I went to see the premiere of the new Bond movie last Friday. It was a good movie, but this isn't a

One of the opening scenes involved two cars racing through very beautiful, winding, mountainous roads. In the theatre, I thought to myself, "God, that would be fun. It would be great if we all could do that."

Then, letting my mind slip away from the movie, I began to think about the implications of my last thought. I followed with, "No, that would be horrible. Most people on the road don't really know how to drive." Feel offended?

Virtually every time I drive on Alma's roads, someone does something stupid. The worst case that I could remember, while sitting in the theatre involved someone leaving a parking lot onto Wright Avenue, pulling right out in front

If it wasn't for the fact that I like my car and care about people, no matter how stupid they are, I would be tempted to hit them just because I have consistently been frustrated by other drivers. After all, I would win; my car weighs well over two tons and their car was small enough to be blown off the Mackinaw Bridge.

doesn't always happen; it is a niques. Mismerging into trafcase of bad eyesight. However, there are things consistently happening that are just lowing too close (especially as frustrating for the accidents in the ice and snow) and not they could cause.

When pulling onto a fivelane major road and crossing to the other side, the turning lane is not a merging lane. (Yes, I am sure. I called the drivers think they are better boys and girls in blue to make certain, because it happens so often.) I know it is easier. I know it saves time. I also know that merging into traffic is one of the causes of accidents the police have to deal with most.

An Alma police department dispatcher told me a few other else.

This is something that common bad driving techfic was the leader. Additionally, some faults include folusing turn signals properly.

Two things were emphasized in my chat with the police: using common sense while driving and the fact that drivers than they actually are.

Think about these things. Think about your driving and the cars around you; be aware of your surroundings. Additionally, don't let your ego lead you to believe you are a better driver than everyone

Homeless should be remembered t is season

By Dan Scripps Freelance Writer

About a week ago I went sledding, founding the chill of the snow refreshing. The next day, when I went to borrow the family car for a trip to Mt. Pleasant, my mom asked me to drive carefully due to the icy roads. As with most motherly warnings, I brushed it off, remembering only the enjoyment that the snow had brought me the night before.

However, as I pulled into Mt. Pleasant, my appreciation for the cold was suddenly questioned as I passed a man on a corner holding a sign that read, "Family Man Willing To Work For Food." As I passed him, I tried to justify why I could not stop. I was in a hurry, I am a poor college student, I had no work for this man.

Despite my attempts, the experience left me suddenly grateful for the advantages I have had all of my life; advantages I continually take for granted. It also left me sympathetic to the man on the corner, braving the cold so his family could eat.

As the week went on, the incident would not go away. I kept thinking about the man passes by the members of our society who could most use our help. But the bottom line is, despite my justifications, I could not. I am as guilty of ignoring their plight as anybody else.

I kept trying to separate myself from this society, which hustles to make sure there is enough under the tree, but passes by the members of our society who could most use our help.

and his family that I have never met and their struggle to survive in a time when society as a whole is celebrating the season. I kept trying to separate myself from this society, which hustles to make sure there is enough under the tree, but

We all have reasons why we can't help others: too busy, not enough money, whatever. However, as we make these excuses, there are people sleeping in the snow, going without meals for days on end, and etching out whatever meek

existence they can in the richest country in the world. This should not happen.

This winter, as you leave the warmth of the Alma "bubble" and begin dreaming of a white Christmas, remember it is a nightmare for oth-

Please remember the man on the corner. Keep him and his family in your thoughts. Volunteer to help in your community, give to programs designed to help people like him, and make sure you don't feel self-pity for your situation when there are millions of people in this country who would trade places with you in an instant. If you take these suggestions, you will help society move away from the apathy that runs rampant when people are presented with these problems. If you don't, you are a large part of the problem.

Men's basketball deserves respect, recognition

By Maria Toscano Staff Reporter

Okay, I admit that I thought men's basketball here was a joke.

And for the most part, most of the student body felt so, too.

That is, until this year.

Yeah, you know who you are. I remember sitting at the games because there was nothing else to do. I would watch the game, barely, or I would venture out into the cold from my cozy Gelston room only to check out some guy I knew would be there.

And then there was that homework thing-I really didn't feel like reading the assignment for my Introduction to Literary Analy-

Plus, the games are free.

However, this season I am honestly excited to witness what this no-name, no-star, no-ego team can do. I am quite curious to see what Coach Kevin Skaggs has in store to rebuild the Scots. He brings with him a new defense, the base the team needs-the foun-

With a 10-15 record last year, and a 2-10 record in the conference, the team was hardly the pride of the Scots. They were pretty much condemned. This season something is happening.

I can feel a change when I talk to the players as well as when I talk to Skaggs.

I have to admit that it takes a lot to go out there and do what this group of guys are doing. They go to practice; and they practice till they drop. While the team fell prey to the Bluffton College Beavers last week, the players only had a few weeks before the game to

The Scots only lost by thirteen to a very experienced program.

This loss came with a learning experience for the team and each game will be a new lesson. The building blocks—one by one.

Maybe a couple of months ago I would have asked why even bother, but with the new coach entering the ranks here at Alma there is a certain aura now—a new glow to our Scots.

According to the coach, the team is willing to do whatever is physically and mentally necessary to learn the winning concept, to put aside the attitude, to study the game films, to work together.

More building blocks.

They might lose every game they play this year; on the other hand, they might take the

It is the suspense of not knowing what they will do this year that enthralls me to wander into the physical education center and watch these guys. It is just too bad I have to wait until November 28, which marks the date of the team's first home game.

Then there are those guys who stayed with the program. Why? One may think to question their sanity, but they must have stayed because of some inner loyalty to the rebuilding the program.

Every time the men's basketball team walks out onto a court this year, they will be willing to take whatever is given to them. Their hard work and training should be an inspiration to other sports teams on campus. This team truly deserve a title-but most of all our respect and support.

Good luck fellas-I'll be watching.

= Staff Editorial ====

Alma should be AIDS aware

Next week-AIDS awareness week-can be taken as an opportunity for examination, a chance for consciousnessraising or a celebration of progress. Since the emergence of AIDS and HIV as national concerns a decade ago, AIDS research and education have made great progress medically and socially, from increased understanding of the virus to development of drugs like AZT to AIDS education in public schools.

However, AIDS awareness week can also be taken as a wake-up call. Especially here, especially in the isolation of the Alma College campus.

Alma is, by the admission of its administration and by the demographics of its student body, quite conservative and relatively religious. We at

Letters to the Editors

Alma supposedly value tradition and hold conservative values. And there are some things we just do not talk about.

AIDS is one of those "hushhush" topics. The statistics for Alma's student demographic are frightening. People between the ages of 15 and 29 carry 86 percent of sexually transmitted diseases. That means uscollege-aged men and women.

Likewise, AIDS has become a predominantly "straight" disease; it is no longer the "gay plague" right-wing rhetoric painted it as several years ago. In fact, straight sex is the second-fastest growing means of transmission for the AIDS virus in America, right behind intravenous drug use.

Sex, especially pre-marital sex, is a taboo subject. We are well aware of the realities and dangers of rape and we have implemented policies and required presentations on acquaintance rape; however, we fail to address the dangers that follow from the common practice of pre-marital sex within a relationship.

How many sexually active students are fully aware of the sexual and drug-use history of their partner and his or her previous partners? If we are liberated enough to teach rape prevention and adult enough to have sex, why aren't we intelligent enough to educate about the dangers of AIDS?

All of this adds up to one basic fact: the traditional, straight, young population of this college is at risk; we have avoided this issue not because it is not applicable to us, but simply because we have been lucky. And we need to wake up and realize that AIDS is a reality that we

must accept.

Understanding and education follow acceptance. Safety, caution and awareness follow acceptance. As students in the high-risk category for AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases we can no longer afford to minimize the impact of AIDS.

Yes, AIDS awareness week is a time for examination and consciousness-raising and celebration. But it is also a time to pull our heads up out of the sand and realize that this problem threatens us and that our luck is nothing to count on. Discussion and education-not crossed fingers and closed eyes-can keep AIDS in an at-risk community a vital issue instead of a serious problem.

To the Editors:

Two weeks ago, Alma College Union Board (ACUB) was featured in three Almanian articles. Two of these articles were misrepresentative of the board. In the first article, "ACUB attends National conference," two board members were misquoted. While none of the statements were untrue, they were taken out of context and pieced together to make

The more disturbing article in The Almanian was the staff editorial. This editorial stated that "...despite the popularity of the movies, the popularity of the weekly event has declined, if not disappeared. ACUB is planning to discontinue their sponsorship of this event next year." Both of these statements are untrue and were not confirmed with any ACUB members before being

Attendance at ACUB movies declined drastically last year, and at the end of the school year we, as a board, decided to give the movies one more year to prove themselves. At the end of that year, which is the current school year, ACUB will evaluate the movie program and decide what action to take. During this school year, the option of discontinuing movies altogether has never been discussed. As a board, we recognize the value of movies being shown as a non-alcoholic alternative to weekend entertainment. The option we have considered is reducing the number of movies we show each year.

At this point in the school year, our movies are running extremely well and attendance has been steadily increasing. To boost our movie program, we have begun to offer giveaways and other incentives to encourage people to attend the movies. We have also begun to serve popcorn at the movies, which is available at no extra charge to the student. For these reasons, our movie program is more successful now than it has been for quite a few years.

The editorial also hinted that we would discontinue this event without replacing it with any other alternatives. In the event that we do decide to revise the movie offerings next year, we will choose another event to replace our weekend movies. Some options may be extra coffeehouses, comedians, or other specialty entertainers.

The only reason we have discussed cutting down our movies is because we feel that they are not an effective allocation of the Student Activity Fee, which provides the budget that we program under. The money is allocated to us by the Student Budget and Finance Committee, and under our responsibility is to provide entertainment to as many students as possible. If it is more cost efficient to bring other types of entertainers to campus, we will do this.

We certainly hope that in the future, members of The Almanian staff will confirm their information before printing it. As a professional organization, it is their responsibility to accurately report and comment on the news of this campus. It is our hope that in the future, the staff members will keep this in mind before the paper is printed.

Jennifer Victory, president; Julie Johnston, concert chair; Ryan Kidd, major events chair; Julie Bond, special events chair; Kathy Taylor, publicity coordinator; Cookie Sweiczkowski, publicity coordinator; Chris Ahn, cinema chair; Otie McKinley, technical coordinator and Carrie Sadler, technical coordinator.

To the Editors:

In the Nov. 7 edition of The Almanian, the article on the Writers Harvest genuinely captured the spirit of the event. The description of performers and works performed provided good information to those unable to attend. A major omission was made, however, in neglecting to mention that the Writers Harvest would not have been possible without the considerable energy and talent of Dr. Randi Davenport, assistant professor of English. Dr. Davenport has organized this event for the past two years and deserves not only credit, but appreciation for raising

money and canned goods to help fight hunger in Gratiot County. Additionally, Dr. Davenport read her fiction at both Writers Harvest gatherings—a gift to our community from a published author. The Writers Harvest continues to be a great success—thanks in large part, to Dr. Davenport.

Dr. Joanne Gilbert Assistant Professor of Communication

To the Editors:

I am writing in response to the article by Susan Elliott in the Nov. 15 issue of The Almanian entitled "Art Museum Provides Culture." Ms. Elliott's reflections on a recent visit to the Chicago Museum of Art, although intended to be humorous, struck me as extremely misguided and ignorant.

As a student in the Bachelor of Fine Arts program, I feel that I should inform Ms. Elliott of some of the concepts of modern art and art museums in order to make her next trip to a gallery less painful.

Ms. Elliott starts out on a wrong foot by referring to the museum as a "painting-infested building" which is "more than enough to put her in a cynical

To think that anyone who is attending a reputable liberal arts college like Alma has no respect for the exquisite paintings which are reflective of thousands of years of our culture leads me to question the value of the education we are receiving. I like to think that the thought of such a concentrated amount of art and personal expression would enthrall any well-educated mind, rather than evoke pure cynicism.

Ms. Elliott makes fun of the "enthralled museum-goers" standing "around furiously scribbling on notebooks" and feels the need to tell them that the "painting has been around for 300 years....I doubt it's going to disintegrate within the next 30 seconds." I suppose the idea of students getting excited upon viewing paintings by masters of their trade is a fine subject for mockery. Would Ms. Elliott appreciate us as art students claiming the unimportance of her field of study, which as I look in the pig-book is interestingly enough listed as "indeci-

Ms. Elliott goes on to say that she could "sneeze into a big ball of paint", or place "a bunch of toenail clippings and pancake batter and smear them together for a powerful statement." Statements like these come from a complete lack of knowledge about modern art and sadly, I think that Ms. Elliott would agree with me.

To her credit, she is not the only one whom I have heard make these sort of remarks. Many people do not understand what art today is about, but some of them have the desire to learn and understand. Many people believe that they are capable of creating artwork which is as good or better than that which is seen in galleries today.

I encourage them to try. They might find that splashing paint onto a canvas like Jackson Pollock is about more than just splashing paint. It is about anger, sadness, anxiety, etc.... These paintings are about expressing the feeling of the artist during the act of creation. Try doing this yourself, if you lack feeling, then you will have just what Ms. Elliott infers, a pile of paint. But if you do, then you will be able to see it displayed in the pattern, the colors, and the texture. It is not such an easy task.

Criticism of modern art is expected, in fact it is encouraged. However, the critic must first have a knowledge of the history of artistic movements and why artists today create what they do. Without this foundation, criticism is a pure display of ignorance.

I don't believe that the people in the science department would appreciate me saying that Einstein's work could have easily been created by any college student, or as Elliott says, a kindergartner. Modern art is a subject that many people do not understand or appreciate. This comes only out of education. I encourage Ms. Elliott and all whom agreed with her article to take an art history class and learn about the subject that they so readily mock.

Brent Oeschger '96

The Almanian

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

Editors-in-Chief:

Justin Bauer

Laura Paetz

News Editor: Chris Wiederman Feature Editor: Char Vandermeer **Sports Editor:** Dana Reinke **Opinion Editor:** Mark Andrews Copy Editors: Sarah Barclay Brooke Hansen

Staff Reporters: Phil Allmen Justin Gustafson Jennifer Mounts Maria Toscano Trisha Warner Julie Wilson **Photo Editor:** Brent Oeschger

Photo Staff: Jerry Stassinopoulos **Graphics Editors:** Beth Knapp

Bonnie Palmer **Business Manager:**

Kari Krieger Office & Distribution Manager: Tom Glegola

Advertising Manager: Kristen Miquel **Assistant Advertising** Manager:

Sara Ballard **Faculty Advisor:** John Ottenhoff

Staff Editorial Policy

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

The Almanian Letter **Policy**

All Letters to the Editors must meet the following standards for publication: signed, include the author's phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published on a first come, first serve basis, up to three per week. Letters may not appear in full due to layout or editing 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.

The Almanian is printed on recycled paper.