

The Almanian

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Serving Alma College since 1907

Issue 4

Homecoming rocks on

By Laura M. Paetz
Editor-in-Chief

Homecoming: A time of school spirit, traditions, and skydiving...

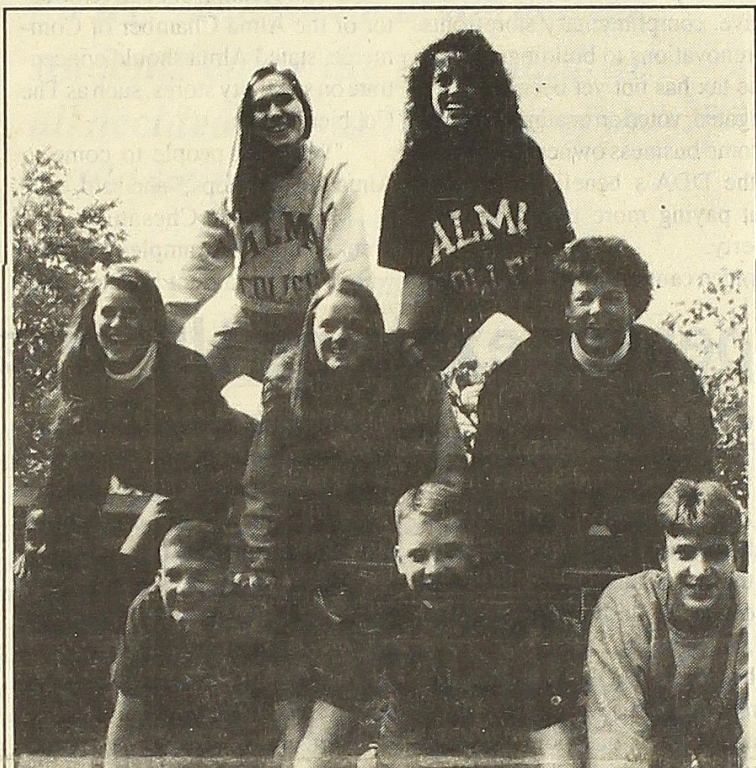
Amidst all the traditional events of this year's football half-time entertainment will emerge skydiver Mike Matthews from Wildwind Skydivers, provided weather conditions are good.

"I tried so hard to get a skydiver last year but he couldn't do it because it was too cloudy and he couldn't see the ground," said senior Pam Borowski, co-chair of the Homecoming Committee with senior Mei Mei Tieu. "I thought it would be really neat to have something different instead of the same thing during half-time."

In step with this year's homecoming theme, "Rock through the Ages: from Sock Hop to Hip Hop," the Homecoming Committee has planned a series of events that appeals to disco through modern music enthusiasts.

Yesterday, the committee toured the residence halls and small housing units to judge the banners students created for homecoming.

On Tuesday and Wednesday during lunch and dinner in Hamilton Commons, students can vote for Homecoming King and Queen. Last week, seniors nominated 5 men and 5 women from their class to participate on the court. These votes were counted by Bruske Hall Director Carolyn Schneider and Gelston Hall Director Jamie Hickey, homecoming committee advisors. The 1995 homecoming court includes Jason Gray, Jon



1995 Homecoming Court: (clockwise from top left) Lynn Benson, Tiffany Vogel, Cathy Curley, Jon Kapp, Jason Gray, Christian Wiley, Bryant Martin, Maggie Taylor, and Julie Braun. Not pictured, Brad Tate. Photo by Brent Oeschger.

Kapp, Bryant Martin, Brad Tate, Christian Wiley, Lynn Benson, Julie Braun, Cathy Curley, Maggie Taylor and Tiffany Vogel.

Students can try to "Name that Tune" on Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Jones Auditorium as members of the Homecoming Committee put on their own rendition of this classic game show.

Wednesday, the committee will be sponsoring a pool party in the Physical Education Center from 8 to 10 p.m.

Thursday, Hamilton Commons will be transformed into "the catwalk" for a fashion show and theme dinner. Students are invited to dress

up in their favorite decade for this event.

Also on Thursday, ACUB will host a Coffeehouse at 8 p.m. in Joe's Place.

"Basically it's going to be a come and relax—hang out—type of situation where there will be coffee available for free, courtesy of ACUB," said senior Julie Johnston, ACUB concert chair.

Additionally, folk singer Peter Mayer will perform at the Coffeehouse.

"He's a very conscientious performer...he sings about important things," said Johnston. "He does wonders with a guitar; he even uses

it as a percussion instrument...Along with the Rock through the Ages theme, this is a kind of 90's, eye-opening music."

Students are also encouraged to attend the more traditional Homecoming events: Friday's pep rally at 8 p.m. in Cappaert Gymnasium, Saturday's parade at 11 a.m. on Superior Street and the Homecoming dance from 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. in Cappaert Gymnasium.

"This year at the dance there's going to be a video deejay," said Tieu. "There will also be party favors and door prizes. BACCHUS is going to have their 'mocktails,' and people can make ice cream sundaes."

The Homecoming Committee is hoping that these unique special events will help boost student participation during Homecoming week.

"We have a lot more special events throughout the week than I can remember from last year," said sophomore John Zielinski, co-chair for the parade committee. "We're hoping to get a larger participation from the student body overall with the entire Homecoming event—be it the parade or any of the special events coming up."

"I would just like to see a good turnout from the student body because everyone on the committee has worked really hard on making this Homecoming a success. Last year we had a good turnout, but I'd like to see an improvement on that," said Tieu.

But not to worry—only Matthews will be doing the skydiving.

Homecoming Week Activities

Tuesday

"Name That Tune," 8 p.m., Jones Auditorium

King and Queen voting in Hamilton Commons during lunch and dinner

Wednesday

Pool Party, 8-10 p.m., Physical Education Center
King and Queen voting in Hamilton Commons during lunch and dinner

Thursday

Fashion Show and theme dinner, 5 p.m., Hamilton Commons
Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., Joe's Place

Friday

Pep Assembly, 8 p.m., Cappaert Gymnasium

Saturday

Homecoming parade, 11 a.m., Superior Street
Alma cross country invitational, 11 a.m.
Men's soccer, noon
Football against Olivet, 1:30 p.m.
Homecoming dance, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., Cappaert Gymnasium

Republicans meet at Mackinac Convention

By Trisha A. Warner
News Editor

Members of the Republican party gathered at Mackinac Island September 22-24 for the 1995 Republican Leadership Conference. The group included Michigan state senators, congressmen, Governor Engler, presidential hopefuls and college students from all over Michigan.

The purpose of the conference was to begin drumming up excitement for the 1996 National Convention and presidential election.

College Republicans junior Emily Damstra, sophomore John Sheele, and first-year student Tim Black had the opportunity to visit the conference and rub elbows with many important figures in today's political world.

Both Damstra and Sheele attended the conference as part of

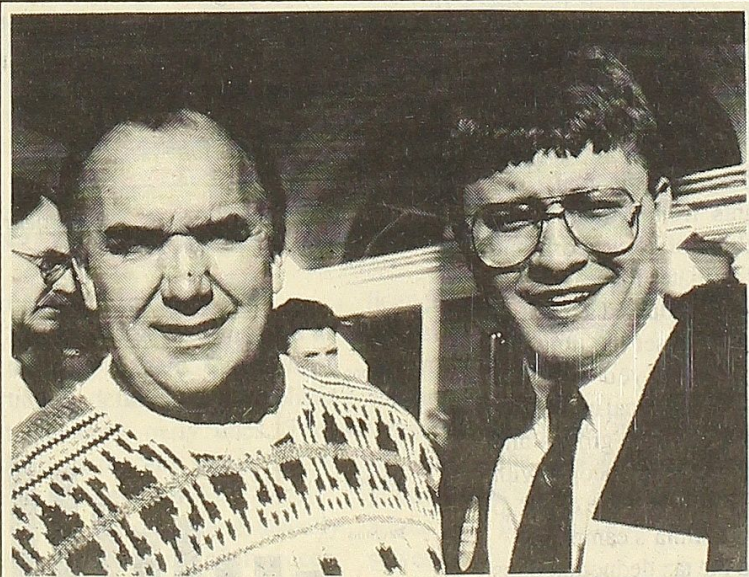
Phil Gramm's presidential campaign.

"We handed out Gramm stickers at meals," explained Damstra. "When people went by, we would ask them if they wanted to wear a Gramm sticker."

Other prospective presidential candidates attended as well, including Bob Dole and a third party candidate.

"Because it is early in campaign season, there are no hard feelings yet. There was a good camaraderie amongst the candidates," said Damstra.

Illustrating the relaxed atmosphere, Damstra relayed an amusing story. Michigan Senator Dick Posthumus walked through the line to lunch wearing a Dole sweatshirt. When she and Gramm's other workers saw him, they all immediately slapped a Gramm sticker on his sweatshirt. Everyone near, includ-



First-year student Tim Black recently met Governor John Engler at the Republican Leadership Convention. Photo courtesy of Black.

ing the senator himself, had to laugh.

"We, [Gramm's campaign workers] provided a presence that Republicans are united for Phil Gramm," said Sheele.

Seminars were offered daily. According to Damstra, all of the speakers gave important messages, but

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Downtown development project proposed

By Trisha A. Warner
News Editor

Business owners along Superior Street want to see stores survive. They want more attractive storefronts as marketing tools. They want to decorate their town during holidays. And they will make their hopes and dreams for Alma come true through the formation of a Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

Business owners along Superior Street recently reported to the Alma City Commission their need and desire for a DDA.

"What got our interest was that we were losing some area businesses. We thought we would try to

band together as a group and try to do something about it," explained Jon G. Comden, pharmacist at Gratiot Community Apothecary and spokesman for the committee for DDA.

A DDA has many practical purposes. According to Michigan Statutes Annotated Cumulative Supplement, the provisions for a DDA include correcting and preventing deterioration in business districts, encouraging historic preservation of buildings, creating and implementing development plans and promoting economic growth.

"It will provide a structure that will concentrate solely on the downtown area," Alma's Finance

Director and Assistant City Manager Phillip J. Moore explains.

Financing the project is a major issue in its development. Most likely, the city will assess a special tax levied only to business owners in the district along Superior Street between Wright Avenue and the stop light at Total Petroleum. The millage will be used only for DDA projects including holiday decorations, more attractive, complimentary storefronts and renovations to buildings.

The tax has not yet been fully investigated, voted on or administered, but some business owners who realize the DDA's benefits are upset about paying more taxes for their property.

Comden cautions that no decisions

have been set in stone. The possibility of soliciting grants as well as donations is being considered as well.

"The committee is still looking at other ways to finance the project," he said.

One likely result of the DDA's formation is the implementation of the city's theme Scotland, USA.

Allison Jerome, executive director of the Alma Chamber of Commerce, stated Alma should concentrate on specialty stores, such as The Cobbler Shop.

"We want people to come to Alma for the shops," she said.

Moore cites Chesaning and Frankenmuth as examples of towns whose themes attract business and

indicated his belief in Alma's ability to overcome the current lull.

"Some communities are very successful using themes. Consider Chesaning. Ten years ago it was a much different town than it is today. It changed through downtown development. It has a theme. Frankenmuth as well uses the Bavarian theme. You just need to be creative," he concluded.

The next step in the DDA's formation will be a public hearing for business owners to express their thoughts about the project's formation.

The DDA committee is interested in student opinions. The committee meets on Fridays at 7:30 a.m. at Max & Emily's Eatery.

Alma sets endowment sights for 2000

By Trisha A. Warner
News Editor

Alma College officials have begun the early stages of a campaign formed to increase the endowment from \$62 million to \$100 million by the year 2000.

The plan, currently untitled, was first presented by Trustee Larry Beck as a challenge to Alma and its Board of Trustees.

The endowment, which supports scholarships, chair and professor positions, and the general fund of the college resembles a bank account, according to President Alan J. Stone. The funds are invested in stocks and bonds which collect interest and dividends to run the college.

Last year, Alma collected \$2,544,000 from its endowment investments.

Besides funding operational costs, the size of an endowment is used to help rank the overall quality of the institution.

Colleges with larger endowments are considered to be institutions of higher quality because their funds are not tied to the ups and downs of student enrollment. And Alma has a track record of ranking high in endowment security.

"Over the past ten years, Alma College has had one of the best performances in the country. We are consistently ranked one, two or three among 400 colleges and universities nationwide," explained Stone.

Stone also stated a larger endowment would allow Alma to limit its tuition increases and rely instead on returns from the investments to fund the operations of the college.

The campaign will be run in two phases. In the quiet phase, currently underway, college officials hope to raise approximately one half the goal.

Development Officers Bob Murray and Virgil Bernero have been hired specifically for the campaign. They are currently working through a list of donors, mostly alumni and trustees, to ensure the accumulation of \$20 million by next fall.

"We also have a national volunteer network calling on all alumni and friends," Stone said.

Currently Alma has received \$7 million in pledges, mostly in the form of gifts in wills.

The public phase, which begins next fall, will attack businesses nationwide in hopes of support.

However, Alma officials plan to obtain the main endowment contributions before the end of the quiet phase. By securing at least one half the goal before the public phase begins, Stone indicated Alma would earn the respect and confidence of large corporations, and they in turn would be more likely to contribute.

Stone confirms the year 2000 is a realistic goal. Consultants from Mitchell and Hutchins of New York and their affiliates Paine-Webber of Troy conducted a feasibility study to set the timeline. They surveyed alumni through individual interviews as well as focus groups and found that many people with money to invest are eager to support Alma's campaign.

And the tax deduction does not hurt either.

"There is a tax incentive to give," confirmed Stone.

Speaker explains Ukrainian changes

By Justin Gustafson
Staff Reporter

If an American invested \$200 a month for the next 20 to 30 years with the compounding interest, s/he would end up with approximately \$200,000 saved for retirement.

When Professor Perry Patterson explained this to several Ukrainian colleagues, their question was not about his math skills. Instead they asked, "How do you know the government is not going to confiscate your assets?" Clearly, as Patterson explained, the people of the former Soviet Union have a far different attitude and lifestyle than one might expect.

Patterson, professor of economics and Russian at Wake Forest University, served as an advisor to the Central Bank of Ukraine for one year and spoke last week about his experiences.

The tremendous economic and political changes that are occurring in many states of the former Soviet Union are progressing slowly and aggravating the population. He told several stories that illustrated the core differences between our societies.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Sandy Hulme summarized, "He identified very important cultural values relating to the economic and social changes occurring in the region."

Patterson explained the standard

of living for 80 percent of the population is dropping, and the people have had a difficult time dealing with the change from a communist to a capitalist economy.

Things Americans take for granted, like loans, are very different in the Ukraine. Banks do not give out loans for more than a month due to fluctuating interest rates.

"There is a lot of voter frustration over too much change, which may prompt them to vote for the communists again," Patterson said.

To prevent this from happening, he stressed that the United States must continue to support the Ukrainians in every way possible.

"We have some obligations to face up to...where and when we can. There is a lot of tension along the way to market reforms, and we need to keep them going."

Patterson emphasized that even if the nations slowed down their reforms, a stabilizing effect would be achieved in the nation, and this alone would reassure the people.

"Stability is in and of itself an important value," said Hulme. "If they can achieve stability, it will begin to create new perceptions of the future."

Patterson told of poor women and children approaching him to ask for his empty bottle when he was done drinking. He mentioned a friend in Moscow who waited three days to receive a watermelon from a friend

in Kazakhstan when he could have bought one in his own city. He was awed by eight-hour dinner parties and how much Russians love their vodka.

Patterson noted that "what we have here is government bureaucracy trying to micro-manage the economy and financial affairs."

The privatization of industry, land and other state companies is not nearly complete. In fact, over 90 percent of the land is still controlled by the government.

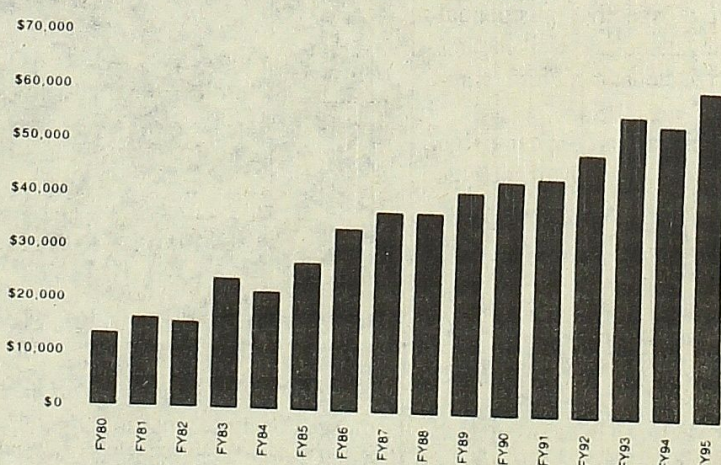
The attitudes and lifestyles of the Ukrainians are not all due to 70 years of Soviet control. Instead, they have resulted from a long history of Tsarist rule. Patterson admitted the world may be asking too much.

"We are asking for these people to change their lifestyles and point of view overnight."

Hulme agreed. This is a function of centuries of culture and social interactions which did not result from Soviet rule. It is a process of dismantling an ancient system."

Aid is being provided from many countries worldwide as well as the United Nations. Educational efforts are helping to inform the public of changes occurring in the economy and society. One important result of crumbling communist rule is that the Ukrainian people "have many more personal freedoms," concluded Patterson.

ENDOWMENT MARKET VALUE



Student Judicial

Three cases were heard before student judicial on Thursday, Sept. 28, 1995. One student was fined \$25 and five hours of community service for breaking the alcohol policy. Another student was fined \$25 and five hours of community service for consuming alcohol under the age of 21.

Two students pled guilty to removing bolted-down furniture. They received a written warning.

Handicap improvements for dream park

By Julie Wilson
Staff Reporter

In the Greek system, philanthropic activities are vital to strength and unity. Each organization has its own cause, but on certain occasions, Alma's entire Greek community joins together and works for a common purpose.

This fall's Greek Block Bash will take place October 14. The annual event features various activities designed to help unite fraternal and sorority groups as well as raise money to contribute to a local charity.

This year, Block Bash planners junior Monica Hoeft and senior Brian Tollenaar decided to contribute all proceeds of 1995 Block Bash to improvements for The Wright Place, the amazing dreamland playground.

The majority of the park, which was designed mostly by children, was built in June, 1994, through many group contributions of money and human resources. However, there are still improvements and renovations necessary to make the area more accessible to everyone.

Currently, the ground in the park

is covered with large wood chips. This renders the park inaccessible to handicapped children and adults. When it was originally designed, the structures were built so at least

designed for the playground.

"It is a thick foam cushion," said Hoeft, "so it is safe for kids to play on."

In 1994, \$5,000 was set aside for

DeGraff, Alma's Greek community was able to get involved.

"I think it is a perfect philanthropy for us," said Assistant Dean of Students and Interfraternity Council Advisor Bill Arnold. "I know a lot of the college students enjoy the park, and we all decided it would be great if we could help."

In order to raise money, the Block Bash committee will sponsor a 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Each Greek team will pay a \$10 entrance fee. The committee is also considering a scavenger hunt with a donation-to-play format. All proceeds will go directly to The Wright Place fundraising plan.

"We hope to raise at least a couple hundred dollars," said Arnold.

"I love going to the park," said sophomore sorority member Beth Cain. "I think this is a great place for our money to go."

The Wright Place is for everyone—or at least it soon will be. Through intense local fundraising efforts, the dream park will be a place where everyone can play. Imagination is enhanced through play, and playgrounds foster this creativity well; soon all children and adults can live out their child-like imagination with zeal.

"I think it is a great philanthropy for us. I know a lot of the college students enjoy the park, and we all decided it would be great if we could help."

**-Bill Arnold,
IFC advisor**

eight of the 32 would be accessible to children in wheelchairs or using walkers and crutches. But with the irregular ground, neither handicapped children nor adults can easily maneuver to the equipment.

It was decided that 1995 would be the year a special sidewalk would be installed to allow all youngsters easier access to the structure. The materials are unique and specially

the project, but the cost has tripled and fundraising efforts throughout the community have begun to gather money to make the renovations a reality. The amount of rubber sidewalk that will be installed directly depends on the amount of money raised.

Through the efforts of local chairpersons Brenda Pratt and Caroline

Johnson poses opposition for Darwinism

Speaker calls for rethink of evolutionary science

By Chris Sienko
Freelance Writer

Phillip Johnson, former lawyer and current creationist writer, took one leg of his book tour through the Alma campus Tuesday, Sept. 26.

Much of the campus held its collective breath in anticipation, expecting this to be an ideological firestorm, as naturalism and creationism went toe-to-toe, a fight to the finish. It turned out to be nothing so final or bloody.

After a brief introduction by Associate Professor of Math and

Computer Science, Thomas Sprague, Johnson took the stage with a very relaxed and non-confrontational air about him. Johnson started his presentation with anecdotes about his heritage as a midwest (Aurora, IL) boy and finally beginning his presentation after the ice was sufficiently broken.

Johnson's arguments dealt not so much with the evolutionary process, but rather with what Johnson called "The mechanism" of the origin of our planet.

"Evolution is, by nature and by definition, an unplanned event," said Johnson.

The belief that the earth simply came about by chance and with no overseeing force was the issue that Johnson focused his rebuttals on. Johnson had no intention of propagating what he called a "six-day, young earth, biblical literalist" agenda. The time involved in the creation of the Earth is secondary to whether or not a deity did the work.

Johnson talked in detail about various theories of evolution, including the lengthy "how the bat grew wings" story. He hypothesized that certain breeds of rodents, living in trees, would inevitably fall to the ground, but rodents with any sort of webbing between their fingers would stand a better chance of surviving the fall. Eventually, the surviving rodents with webbing between their fingers would breed similarly web-fingered children, and so on, until these webs would become big enough to function as wings.

Although this example is derided

in the scientific community, Johnson used it to prove his point, namely that evolution of this sort only works in a vacuum, one in which other factors are not contributing to the outcome. Predators, environmental conditions and numerous other factors would make such a linear evolution almost impossible.

However, as the hour drew to a close, Johnson admitted that he was not truly here to proclaim Darwinism dead. He simply asked that it not be taught in schools as assumed fact.

A theory such as Darwinism is still full of inconsistencies, but rather than throw the theory out, Johnson asks that we simply keep talking about it. Any theory that is put on a pedestal as fact can never grow, and Johnson asked that Darwinism be taken off its pedestal and put back in the arena for discussion.

Keeping You Informed

Flu shots available

Wilcox Medical Center will be giving flu shots from October 9-November 17. Interested students may receive the treatment during normal business hours Monday, Thursday and Friday. The cost is \$7.

Dow Jones offers journalism internships

Dow Jones Newspaper Fund is sponsoring three specific internship programs for the summer of 1996. Their goal is to employ up to 104 individuals in the practicum experience. College students, professors and journalists may apply by November 14, 1995 for Newspaper Editing, Real-Time Information and Business Reporting. The program includes a one or two week residency, 10 weeks of paid employment, travel allowances and \$1,000 scholarships for those students returning to college in fall 1996. For more information call (609) 452-2820 or pick up a copy of the application in the Almanian office entrance.

Best college student sought

USA Today is beginning its annual search for the nation's best college students, sixty of which will be named to the 1996 All-USA Academic Team. Twenty members of the first team will be invited to receive their awards at a ceremony in Washington D.C., in February, 1996, and will receive a \$2,500 cash award. Criteria for selection is based on students' scholarship and leadership roles on and off campus, with an emphasis on outstanding original academic or intellectual product. Students from any full-time undergraduate institution are eligible and all nominations must be supported by a faculty member familiar with a student's work. For more information call Carol Skalski at (703) 276-5890.

Christmas cards fund research

The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan is once again selling holiday greeting cards this season to fund research, public education, organ donation awareness, patient services and other programs. Four designs of cards are offered. All cards are imprinted with the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan logo and can be personalized with your message as well. For more information and order forms, contact the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan at (800) 482-1455.

Convention continued from page 1...

particularly exciting.

"The speakers really inspired all of the people there. Gingrich, in particular, defined the Republican and Democrat party lines. They sometimes become vague, but he made the lines clear," she said.

Black, on the other hand, actually attended a few of the conferences.

"I went to conferences on the development of aspects of the party, how to get people involved, and how to make Michigan's Republican party better," he said. "Repub-

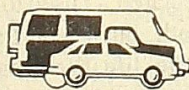
lican philosophy is aiming on family values and proposals leaning toward them, including limiting welfare."

Damstra, Black and Sheele concluded that the conference was a good learning tool for students, adults and the politicians themselves.

"It is a great feeling to be in the presence of a leader that you know has a lot to offer our state and country," Black said.

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Potter replaces Buschman

By Matt Groves
Freelance Writer

Wedding bells and a new job at Syracuse University have lured Dr. James Buschman from the Alma College community.

But with the absence of Buschman has come Nancy Potter. Potter, a 1973 Alma graduate, has come back to her alma mater as the new interim director for international studies.

Potter keeps extremely busy with the responsibility of coordinating the overseas programs for students and conducting orientations for students who are going overseas or are interested in Alma's overseas programs.

Junior Nathan Lane, a student considering a trip to Scotland said, "She was extremely helpful and the information she gave made me realize that this is something I re-

ally want to do."

"Going overseas is a scary thought. I'm glad there is someone like Nancy there to relieve my tensions somewhat," said junior Steve Wisinski, who plans on traveling to Australia.

Although learning the responsibilities of her new position, Potter will not be making this a permanent job. Potter will hold the position until Dec. 31, 1995, when she will be replaced with a permanent faculty member. Alma College is currently looking for someone who has a masters or a Ph.D. in international studies and hopes to find someone by the beginning of winter term.

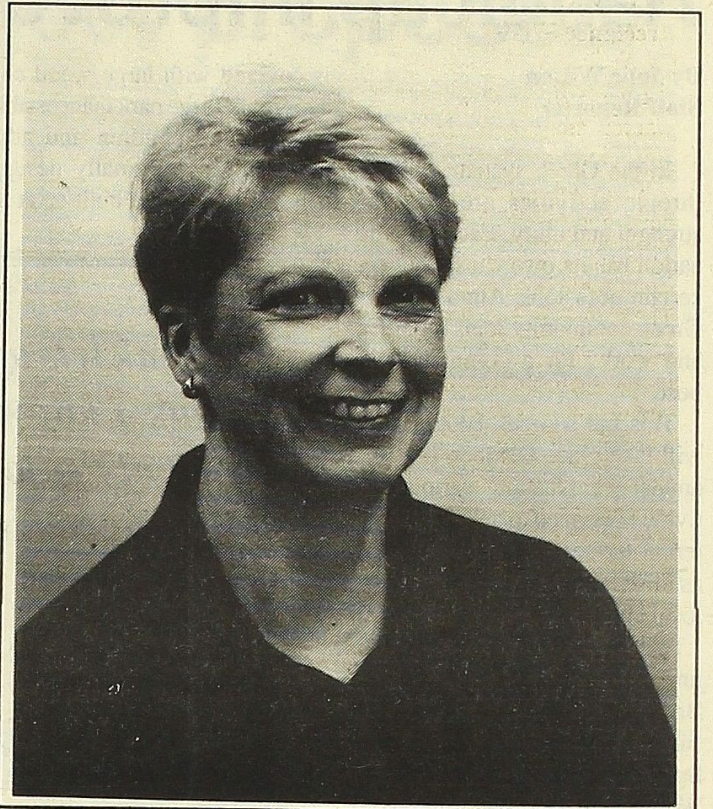
Potter is a familiar name on Alma's campus. Most students have either had contact with her husband, Dean of Academic Affairs, Bill Potter, or her son, sophomore Doug Potter.

"I thought it was strange having just my dad on campus. Most people know that Bill is my dad, but not too many know about my mom yet. So now I have to go through everyone asking me if that's my mom working over at the Kirk House," said Doug Potter.

Bringing the family into the workplace and the workplace into the family isn't always easy, though.

"It's not too bad with Doug—I hardly see him anyway. But with Bill, it's uncomfortable. It's too close," said Nancy Potter.

Although Potter will only be here a short time, she is ready, willing and able to help any student who walks into her office. Whether sponsoring orientations, answering the myriad of questions students have regarding Alma's overseas programs or just relieving the fear of going abroad, Nancy Potter is happy and eager to be of assistance.



Nancy Potter, interim director for international studies and 1973 Alma graduate takes the place of Dr. James Buschman. File photo.

Overseas study provides experience of a lifetime

By Lori Childs
Freelance Writer

Ever wondered what it would be like to study in a foreign country? Just imagine the experience of flying overseas, living with a family, learning about a different culture and communicating in a different language.

Alma College offers international study programs in Kassel, Germany; Mexico City, Mexico; Paris, France and Segovia or Madrid, Spain. Students are not limited to these cities though—many other opportunities exist to study in a wide range of cultures through different programs.

"If a student wants to go somewhere, we will find something for them," said Interim International Study Director Nancy Potter.

For students interested in studying abroad, the initial steps require deciding what language and location interests them the most. The foreign language department and the Kirk International Office will provide any information about the programs and get students started by filling out applications. Making the decision to travel abroad and getting accepted is the first step towards an unforgettable experience.

"Your whole outlook will change," said Potter, who studied in France during both high school and college.

Returning home after a semester or two in a foreign country may be the most difficult aspect of studying abroad. Anna Gemrich, professor of Spanish, suggested it is possible that a student will look in vain for certain aspects in American culture which were common of

the overseas experience.

"The culture shock is worse coming home—because you change so much while you are there, you expect everything to change with you," said senior Kristin Swihart, who studied in Scotland last term.

"It was fantastic to be in a culture that was so similar to ours, but just different enough to keep you on your toes. You can be friends with anyone and be yourself—and not have to play a role," Swihart continued.

Many Alma College students study abroad for a semester of their college year—some even remain

for two. While abroad, students often have the opportunity to visit neighboring countries. Surprisingly, for the memories of a lifetime, the costs of tuition, room and board are approximately equal to Alma's. Additional expenses include plane tickets, passport and traveling or spending money.

Jennifer Mounts, a junior who studied in Kassel, Germany, last semester, said, "Studying abroad is the best way to learn a language. The total immersion into the culture and language is an experience you just cannot duplicate. You meet people and experience things that

will change your life forever."

Jade Sims, a junior, traveled to Granada, Spain.

"Studying overseas allows you to not only visit the country, but also to understand the culture and become a part of it," she said.

Many Alma students go to English-speaking countries to study the history of music and art. Others engage in internships dealing with journalism, communication or even exercise and health science.

International study will provide knowledge of a new culture and language, new experiences and lasting friendships. Potter believes

future employers will look for students who have this experience.

"You are responsible and open to other cultures and other people—it enhances your overall outlook," she said.

Students interested in traveling overseas next semester should set up an appointment with Potter at the International Office or John Arnold, chair for the foreign language department. The deadline to apply for overseas study for next term is Oct. 15.

"Grab that opportunity because it may not come up again after you get out of college," said Potter.

Sometimes you get so alone it all makes sense

By Chris Sienko
Freelance Music Deity

Just about anyone can make a happy record, and it seems that most people can make an angry album just as easily in this age of paint-by-number angst.

But how often do you see a world-weary album, right on the edge of resignation and right on the edge of redemption from the abyss? It's a rare occurrence to find a performer that looks straight into the heart of darkness, and then, just before shedding a final tear for humanity and hurling her/himself in, decides that life will go on, pulls back, and lets out one final laugh aimed at the world that almost pulled down another sensitive soul. It's even more rare when you can dance to it.

The one-name artist Tricky has pulled off just this stunt on his first solo album, *Maxamquaye* (Island Records). The first 10 tracks are among the most self-loathing and most booty-freeing creations the

world has yet offered. Give yourself two hundred bonus points if you remember that Tricky is a former member of Massive Attack, the Bristol-based ambient/rap/reggae blending ensemble. Tricky left Massive Attack because he felt the group was becoming too commercial. I scoffed when I heard this, feeling that Massive Attack was one of the most dark and experimental groups I had heard in this genre since Funkadelic rallied one nation under a groove. After hearing the Tricky disc, I have taken a vow to never scoff again.

Tricky has fast become the central artist of a new genre of music called "Trip-Hop," which, as it sounds, is a mutant hybrid of psychedelic moods and snarling hip-hop beats. The result is an unsettling, bass-heavy and deeply cinematic music that is just on the edge of familiarity at any given moment, right before an off-kilter beat or an utterly alien noise knocks the wind out of you. Tricky is cer-

tainly one of the most talented Trip-hoppers out today, but *Maxamquaye* is no house party.

The CD jacket is a highly disturbing pastiche of random photographs displaying anything from peeling paint frayed wires to pictures of garbage cans on the street with the word "Inedible" written on them. The truncated lyrics, printed in typical 90's cut-and-paste fashion, contain such dark, rich gems as, "...not exactly lovers, you sure you want to be with me, I've nothing to give?" "Your eyes resemble mine," "I keep her warm but we never kiss, she says I'm weak and immature," and "It takes a second to wreck it, you don't even try."

Harrowing stuff, and seemingly hopeless, until we get to track number eleven, "Strugglin'." Here, the singer, going about as far down into himself, groans his lyrics out, almost wheezing into incomprehensibility, a soul at the edge of tearing. Then it happens: the singer

has the moment of revelation. "They label me insane," says Tricky, and then adds with a raspy snigger, "but I think I'm more normal than most." In the darkest depths of self-loathing, Tricky finds one last shred of pride and holds it up like a battle-torn flag, one last testimony to the power of his spirit.

The album ends with a tentatively optimistic song called "Feed Me," in which Tricky's female vocal foil, Martine, sings, "self-preservation keeps the crowd alive/we found a new place to live." This is one of the bravest statements of optimism in a world gone mad since Flipper, the early 80's sludge rock geniuses declared, "I used to sing a song of death, but I won't sing it anymore. Life, life, life is the only thing worth living for."

Tricky has realized that the world is a horrible place, and yet decides that he will make it out with, if nothing else, his sanity and his self-respect intact, which is as much as anyone can hope for.

Look
What's
Happening!

THEATRE / FILM
Midland Center for the Arts
(517) 631-4234

**Ducktails and Bobbysocks* — Oct. 12-25

Gratiot County Players (517) 681-5465

**Forever Plaid* — Oct. 5-8

Wharton Center, MSU (517) 432-2000

**Fiddler on the Roof* — Oct. 5-8

HISTORY / ARTS

Clack Art Center

*Pi Benio — Oct. 2 - Nov. 2

The Holland Museum, Holland (616) 349-1362

*Anne Frank in the World: 1929-1945 — Sept. 29-Oct. 29

MUSIC / COMEDY

Heritage Center for the

Performing Arts

*Alumni Choir Concert — Oct. 7

*Will Nichols "I'll Be Seeing You" — Oct. 8

Center offers beneficial tutoring assistance

By Ray Kowalewski
Freelance Writer

Ever struggled in a class and wanted some extra help? If you answered yes, you are not alone.

Over the years many students have made use of the Alma College Tutoring Program offered by the Center for Student Development. The Center matches students with peer tutors in a variety of subjects including foreign languages, math, chemistry, psychology, philosophy and English. This service is free for the tutee and provides an hourly stipend for the tutor.

"Since I've been here there has been an increase in both the number of tutees and tutors," said Edie Sample, associate director for student development.

Presently, there are over 50 tutors serving students in a wide range of disciplines. Due to budget restrictions the Center can no longer train tutors. However, to ensure a high-quality tutoring program, all potential tutors must be recommended by their respective department chair. The Center also provides training manuals and additional materials to any tutor wishing to further develop their tutoring skills. Sample stresses that tutors must exhibit not only comprehensive knowledge of their domain, but also possess good interpersonal

communication skills. She stated that there has been very few complaints about tutors over the years.

"My tutor has been very helpful," stated junior Sarah Goecke. "He was able to make the information make sense in an easy manner."

Not everyone who requests a tutor needs one, however. People wishing to go from a "B" to an "A" are normally advised to form study groups with fellow classmates or to

use the many computerized tutoring modules available at the Center. According to Sample, not enough students take advantage of these programs.

Tutoring at the College also can be a springboard for further efforts in the community. Senior Kim Goetz is fulfilling a practicum by tutoring in the Gratiot County Reading Program. This program is run by Kathy Johnston for the Alma Public Schools. The program helps

middle school students as well as adults in literacy training.

"Literacy is very worthwhile to me," says Goetz. "We cannot communicate internationally if we cannot communicate in our own country."

Over the years several Alma College students have participated in the program, either for a class, practicum or out of goodwill. Associate Professor of English John Ottenhoff acts as the campus liaison for the program.

College is meant to be educational, not confusing. It is also a place to gain experience which one can not get in a classroom. For some, tutoring has proven to be invaluable.

The Center encourages anyone who wants some extra help to drop by and make use of the many resources available to them, including tutoring.

Avoid GRE stress through early preparation

By Char Vandermeer
Feature Editor

Graduate Records Exam. GRE. Three simple words and an acronym that strike terror into the hearts of many seniors. If the words do not manage to hit the panic button, the reality of the situation certainly will. Columns of tiny ovals may drive the frazzled senior to tear each page out of the vile pink booklet and ceremoniously incinerate them.

Never fear, there are ways to ease the test-taking pain. Prepare, prepare and prepare. Students are encouraged to check out books from the library that will offer test-taking tips and strategies. Computer programs and study guides are also helpful ways to prepare for the

exam.

"Familiarize yourself with the process," said Dean of Student Development Bob Perkins. "Buy the GRE test preparation book and take some practice tests. Anticipating what's next really smoothes the process out."

Alma's physics and psychology students are required to take the subject area exam to demonstrate competence in their respective fields. However, they are not required to take the general skills section of the exam.

"A lot of students form study groups to practice with each other and drill a month or so before the test is held."

*-William Potter,
dean of academic affairs*

"A lot of students form study groups to practice with each other and drill a month or so before the test is held," said William Potter, dean of academic affairs.

Many graduate schools require the GRE prior to admission into their programs. In fact, GRE scores and transcripts are the foundation of many

schools' admission requirements. Even though the GRE is a deciding factor for many graduate programs, Alma does not offer any courses, seminars or lectures to prepare stu-

dents for the intimidating exam.

Perkins suggested that students who are required to take the GRE to complete their major "should look within the department that is requiring them for help."

Heather Heffernan, a 1994 Alma graduate, commented, "I don't feel any more prepared to take the GRE than I did when I graduated from Alma...even though I've had another year of [graduate] school. Not only that, but I don't believe the GRE is a fair representation of a person's knowledge or their ability to acquire knowledge."

Remember to check the GRE study guides out of the library because the first exam date is October 14. Applications can be obtained from the Center for Student Development.

Alumni concert caps off Homecoming week

*Present and past
join voices together
in song*

By Jennifer Mounts
Staff Reporter

Under the direction of current Music Department Chair Will Nichols and emeriti Eugene Grove and Ernest Sullivan, the men's and women's glee clubs and the Alma College Choir will join in song with alumni coming together in what promises to be a fabulous performance.

Grove, choral director for Alma College in the late 1940's, along with his successor Sullivan, have distinguished themselves greatly through the years will be return to campus to share their talents once again.

"I'm pleased they will come back and join us for this occasion," said Nichols. "It is greatly through the work of those gentlemen [Grove and Sullivan] that Alma has quite a famous choir."

About 40 to 50 Alma College graduates will return to sing. These alumni include a 1939 graduate

and several married couples. Nichols maintains that returning alumni are the singers who established Alma's strong choral tradition.

"It is a wonderful way to actually talk to the people...it provides more interaction between alumni and present students," said junior choir member Laurel Peterson.

"It is a wonderful way to actually talk to the people...it provides more interaction between alumni and present students."

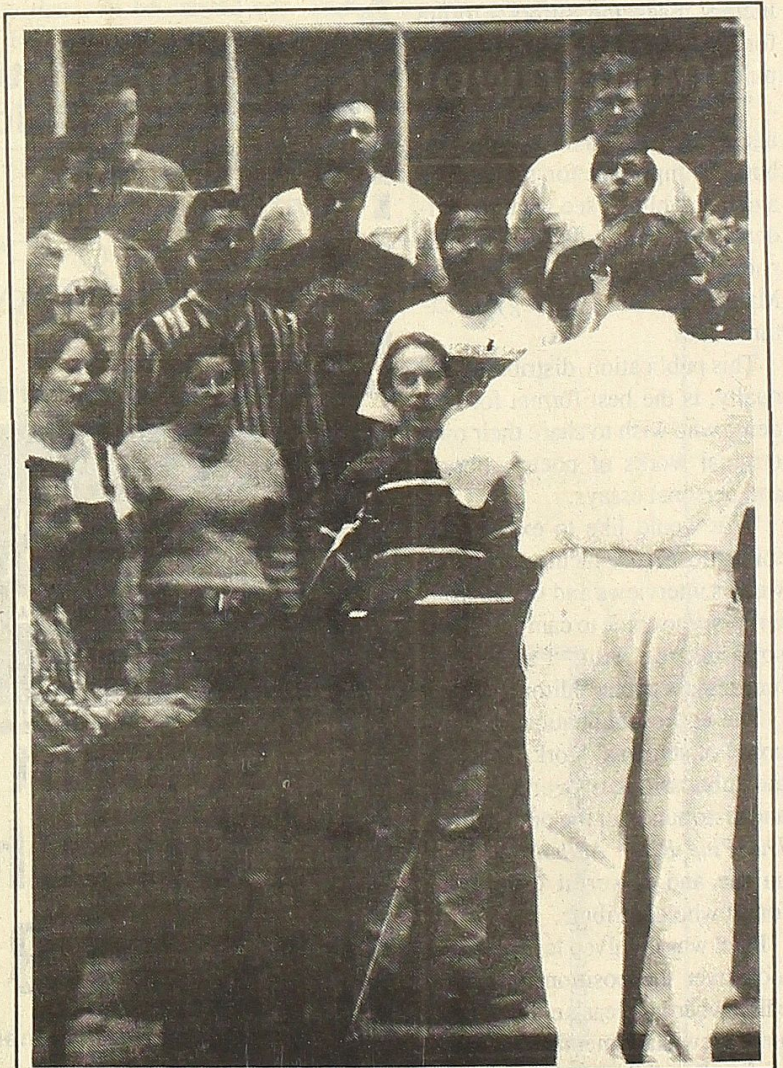
*--Laurel
Peterson, '97*

Nichols feels there are three major reasons the alumni return: they love to sing, they love Alma, and Grove and Sullivan were important people to them.

The singers have been practicing diligently for the concert, with the assistance of their pianist, Tony Patterson. The event will feature a variety of music. The men's glee club will be performing three pieces, *Drinking Song*, *Ezekiel Saw the Wheel* and *Seeing Nellie Home*. Performances by the women's glee club include *Alleluia from the Motet* with a solo by first-year student Anne Galsterer, *Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child* featuring Becky Shelley as soloist, *Mi lagnero tacendo* and *Hymn of Freedom*.

Sullivan will conduct the combined choir in Bach's *All Breathing Life* and Grove will conduct *With a Voice of Song*.

The performance will take place in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts Presbyterian Hall on Oct. 7 at 8:30 p.m. Reserve your tickets soon for a wonderful evening of legacy and song.



Jennifer Cornell '98, Mary Hess '98, Curtis White '97, Mark Petrocelli '97, Chris Wiederman '96, Shannon McNeil '94 and Brian Martin '97 join fellow choir members in song. Photo by Brent Oeschger.

*Alma Symphony Orchestra — Oct. 13
Midland Center for the Arts (517) 631-4234
*Midland Symphony Orchestra — Oct. 7
The Rocker, Grand Rapids (616)

363-5635
*Saint Severe — Oct. 5
State Theatre, Detroit
*P.J. Harvey — Oct. 8
*Ozzy Osborne — Oct. 18
State Theatre, Kalamazoo
*Buddy Guy — Oct. 15

Breslin Center at MSU, East Lansing (517) 432-1989
*Buddy Guy — Oct. 17
The Palace, Pontiac (810) 337-0100
*David Bowie and Nine Inch Nails — Oct. 3

*Elton John — Oct. 6-7
*Page and Plant — Oct. 15
Blind Pig, Ann Arbor (313) 665-4755
*Mike Watt — Oct. 5
*Juliana Hatfield — Oct. 9
*Throwing Muses — Oct. 10

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

Oct. 3, 1995

Productions require dedication

By Elizabeth Edwards
Freelance Writer

It is opening night and the audience patiently awaits for the play to begin. Backstage the actors take one last deep breath before they go on stage. This is the moment everyone has been waiting for. However, most people do not understand just how much work it takes to make that moment a reality.

"People don't realize the rehearsal process is more than just learning lines. If it was, we could go up next week," said Joseph Jezewski, chair and associate professor of dance and drama.

This fall the Alma College Theatre Company presents Anton Chekov's *The Seagull*, which opens in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts on Thursday, Oct. 19, at 8 p.m. Chekov described *The*

Seagull as, "A comedy—three [female], six [male], four acts, rural scenery (a view over a lake); much talk of literature, little action, five bushels of love."

The cast includes first-year students Lori Romeyn, Scott Harmon and Leah Christopher. Returning to Alma's stage are sophomore Brian Deur and juniors Mark Andrews, Matt Bradley, Elizabeth Bullmer, Joseph Johnston and Jason Schultz. Senior theater vetrans Julie Johnston, Laura Rice and Stephen Sobieski also join the cast.

Already the cast has put in three weeks of rehearsal working six days a week to create the world in which their characters exist.

"Right now we're at the stage where we're just getting off script and getting into the stage of discovery when the actors are able to immerse themselves in their char-

acters to discover what's going on in the relationships. Really, we've gotten through the easy part; the tough part is yet to come," said

"People don't realize the rehearsal process is more than just learning lines."

**-Joseph Jezewski,
theater department chair**

Jezewski.

The rehearsal period is a very challenging time. In addition to memorizing lines, actors must be able to

understand their characters, the relationships within the play and their environment. Since this is a college production, the weeks of rehearsal are a learning experience for all of the performers involved.

"It's been a challenge," said Julie Johnston, who plays the part of Masha. "One that I was happy to accept because I'm working with a lot of wonderful people. Everyone is doing a great job."

The final week of rehearsal, "tech week," marks the time when all the technical aspects of the show are finally pieced together. Lighting, sound, costumes, props and set all must be in place for the final dress rehearsals. The stage manager is responsible for coordinating the communication necessary to pull everything off. S/he acts as a link among technical, artistic and directorial viewpoints.

"*The Seagull* has been a good show to work on as stage manager—this cast is very talented which makes my job easier," said sophomore stage manager Jennifer Grutza.

Junior Joseph Johnston, who plays Konstantin, stated, "I love rehearsals. They really give me a chance to practice what I've learned in class in the (rehearsal) situation. Plus, it's a nice break from reality."

Only three weeks of rehearsal time remains. The show runs Oct. 19-22 in the Heritage Center for the Performing Arts. Currently, the director and actors are diligently working to put all the pieces of the play together. So, on opening night when the lights come up on-stage, we, the audience, will finally get a chance to experience the results of hours of work, determination and dedication.

In the spotlight...

Fresh faces add cutting edge to Pine River Anthology

By Julie Wilson
Staff Reporter

Alma College prides itself on the group of amazing and talented students who have abilities beyond those exhibited in the classroom. For those students with talents in creative writing and visual arts, *The Pine River Anthology*, Alma's literary magazine, offers a forum for students' achievements to be published.

"They [Alma College] encourage writing across the curriculum, but it's important for the college and the public to see what the students are doing outside the classroom," said junior Jennifer MacKillop, the *Anthology's* feature editor.

This publication, distributed annually, is the best format for students who wish to share their own original works of poetry, fiction and personal essays.

"We would like to expand the format to include faculty works, as well as interviews and works from writers who come to campus," said sophomore Atul Patel, the magazine's poetry editor.

The entire publication is composed of students' work. Through the submissions of work, editing and distribution of the publication, *The Pine River Anthology* is a unique and powerful experience for all who contribute.

Patel was involved last year and took over the position of poetry editor when last year's editor graduated. New staff members include advisor Randi Davenport, assistant professor of English, and fiction editor MacKillop. This combination of verdant vision and fresh perspective will most surely create a new feeling for this year's magazine.

"It's a unique experience, I get to work with students in a different arena," said Davenport.

The group will begin accepting

student submissions within the next month. The committees will choose 20-25 poems and the best short stories that represent the feeling and spirit of the college.

"We hope to start judging soon;

we want the magazine to come out in March, which is a little earlier than last year," said Patel.

MacKillop added, "We want submissions from everyone, not just English people, but every area of

the school."

The Pine River Anthology is a student publication and is an essential element in the success of a liberal arts education. Such publications allow students to better ex-

press themselves. Taking advantage of this opportunity should be a priority for every student.

"The vision that you will all see is a student vision—which is the way it should be," said Davenport.

E-mail the Almanian!

Classified ads, letters to the editor and other unsolicited submissions can now be e-mailed to *The Almanian* office.

Address: ALMANIAN

Career Explo '95

The Center for Student Development is sponsoring its annual career exploration session on Friday, Oct. 6, from 1-3 p.m. in Van Dusen Commons. Professionals represent a wide range of career fields, particularly business, law, education, science, human services, medicine, consulting and ministry. Students, staff and faculty are encouraged to attend.

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OCTOBER

Campus Paperback Bestsellers

1. *The Stone Diaries*, by Carol Shields. (Penguin, \$10.95.)
A woman's life from childhood through old age.
2. *The Alienist*, by Caleb Carr. (Bantam, \$6.99.) The hunt for a murderer in turn-of-the-century Manhattan.
3. *Insomnia*, by Stephen King. (Signet, \$7.50.)
In a Maine town, victims of sleeplessness behold a sinister force.
4. *Chicken Soup For The Soul*, by Jack Canfield and Mark Victor Hansen. (Health Communications, \$12.00.) Stories for heart & spirit.
5. *The Body Farm*, by Patricia Cornwell. (Berkley, \$6.99.)
Investigating the murder of a small girl in North Carolina.
6. *The Hot Zone*, by Richard Preston. (Anchor/Doubleday, \$6.99.)
Combating a deadly virus.
7. *Debt Of Honor*, by Tom Clancy. (Berkley, \$7.50.)
Jack Ryan is back to foil a Japanese plot.
8. *Apollo 13*, by Jim Lovell and Jeffrey Kluger. (Pocket, \$6.50.)
The incredible 1970's moon mission.
9. *A 2nd Helping Of Chicken Soup For The Soul*, by Jack Canfield and Mark Victor Hansen. (Health Communications, \$12.95.)
10. *Care Of The Soul*, by Thomas Moore. (Harper Perennial, \$13.50.) Guide for spirituality in everyday life.

Compiled by The Chronicle of Higher Education from information supplied by college stores throughout the country, September 18, 1995.

New & Recommended

A personal selection of Fred Posner, Bryn Mawr College Bookstore, Bryn Mawr, PA.

The Annie Dillard Reader, by Annie Dillard. (HarperPerennial, \$14.00.) Dillard collects her favorite selections from her own writings in this compact volume - a perfect introduction to readers who are just now discovering her fresh, passionate prose.

Voice Of The Turtle, by Paula Gunn Allen, Ed. (Ballantine, \$12.50.) Unprecedented and comprehensive collection of Native American narrative literature from its first publication in 1990 through 1990.

Beyond Einstein, by Michio Kaku. (Anchor, \$12.95.) Revised and updated - the cosmic quest for the theory of the universe.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS/NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE STORES

Garcia proves different is good

By Dana Reinke
Sports Editor

"We are all in the same boat, I just took a different path to get to that boat."

Non-traditional student. Non-traditional athlete. Either term can not begin to describe senior George Garcia.

Garcia, a fifth year senior who will graduate this winter with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration, took a long and sometimes hard road to get where he is today.

Born in East Harlem, Garcia went to ten different schools in eight years. His family finally settled in New Jersey, where upon finishing high school he joined the navy.

While serving his country he took part in the United States battle during the Gulf War. Stationed in Germany on a naval task force designed as a first response unit to any aggression on NATO countries, he served for six months. During this time he was already married with one child.

"The whole experience was very positive except I was away from my family," said Garcia. "I did not see my son, Jace, until he was five months old."

Returning from the war, Garcia said he wanted to go into civil service, but because of cuts in the armed forces services, he went to school at Central Michigan University. He spent three years working towards a pre-engineering de-

gree, all along wanting to fulfill one dream that was yet to be accomplished—playing football at the college level.

"I had visions of playing football, but I didn't think I had the time or confidence in myself," said Garcia.

With his wife's close ties to Alma College (Swanson Academic Center and Hall of Fame were both named after her relatives), Garcia decided to come to Alma.

"Alma College fulfilled two dreams for me. I could play football and attend one of the best academic colleges in the nation," said Garcia.

In the fall of 1994 at the age of 25, Garcia entered Alma College still looking to fulfill his goal of playing college football. After playing in high school, he had left the game for nine years. The previous spring he had talked with head coach Jim Cole about coming out for the team.

"He came to us and we [the football coaches] didn't take him seriously," said Jim Cole. "Because of his other responsibilities we figured he couldn't fit the sport in. He overcame the first hurdle because his wife is a wonderful lady and understands his desire to play."

According to Garcia, he also had to adjust to playing football at the college level. Even at his older age he said he felt accepted from the beginning even though he was unproven. He proved to all that he was ready to play at the college

level, starting every game last year and earning All Conference honors in his first season.

"Last year was a dream season. With the same group of guys we went from a 2-7 season in 1993 to an 8-1 record in 1994," said Garcia. "We had good coaching and the magic of believing with a touch of luck."

"He has played very well and is a durable contributor to the team," said Cole. "Garcia brings enthusiasm and maturity to the team."

Upon having such a successful first season, Garcia was recognized nationally and earned a spot on the Preview Pre-season All-American Team. According to Garcia, the distinction surprised him.

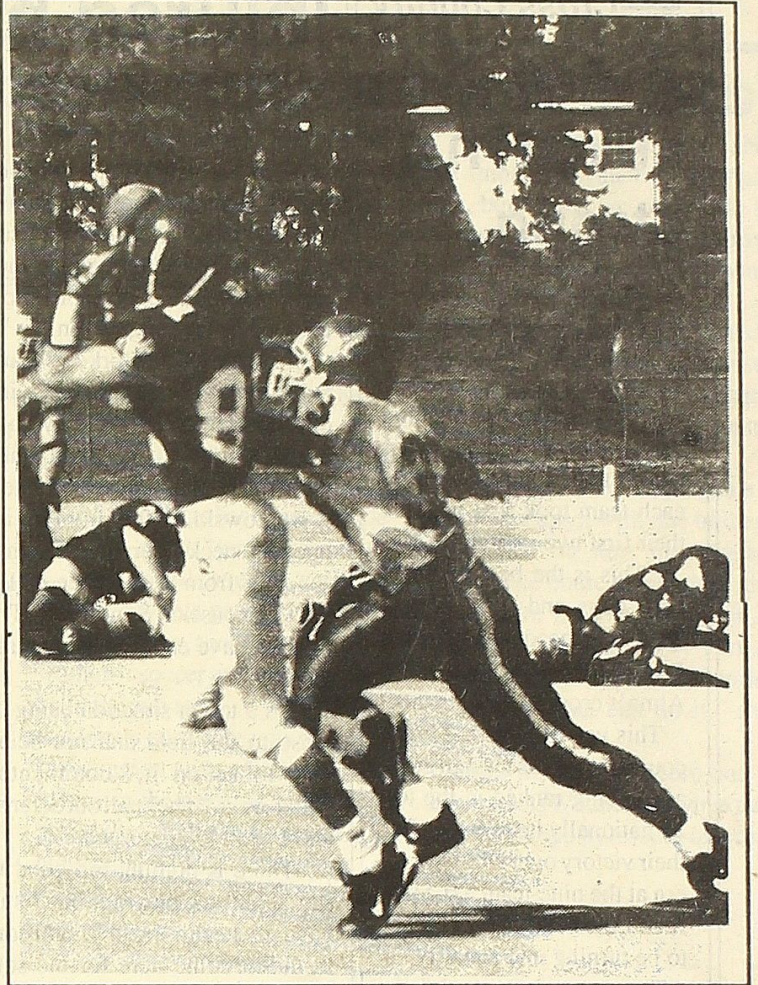
"I am pleased because the honor reflects national respect for the program and for George," said Cole. "He has tremendous balance, which is extremely important, and knows what Division III football is all about."

In addition to national honors, Garcia was named a captain for this year, his senior year.

"Being picked as one of four captains by my teammates is great. They believe I have a quality that will help to lead us to the goal of a championship," said Garcia.

Showing his leadership, Garcia started a tradition of "No Mercy" practice days.

According to defensive coordinator Bret Hyble, Monday and Tuesday practices consist of teaching and learning about the team's next



Senior George Garcia, a non-traditional student and captain of this year's football team, is leading the Scots to another victorious year. Photo by Brent Oeschger.

opponent. On Wednesdays, the team knows what they want to do and the team focus is on stopping the plays.

"Players look for George to be the loudest and motivate the team on that day. I hope it will be a tradition that will be carried on," said Hyble. "Many players lead by example, which is great, but people also need to give vocal leadership.

George can walk the walk and talk the talk."

Now at the age of 26, Garcia can walk away from the game and college with many memories and few regrets.

"To walk off the field after a game and see my son come running up to me with my jersey on is a great feeling that will never leave me," said Garcia.



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Oct. 3, 1995

Cross Country

Scots running strong

By Jason Bandlow
Freelance Writer

This year's men's and women's cross-country teams are off to a running start after each team took first place in their first two invitational.

"This is the best group of both guys and girls since I have been head coach," said Dan Gibson, head coach for Alma's cross-country teams.

This year's women's cross country team has set high goals after being ranked in the top 25 nationally last year. After their victory over Ohio Northern at the nine-team Tri-State Invitational, these goals seem to be turning into a reality.

The women's strength is in its youth. Two first-year students, Dana Cole and Nikki Deja, have already found places at the front of the team; first-year students Sara Fisher, Cheryl Lenard, Sara Peel and Carrie Reid have also made strong showings.

Likewise, the sophomore crew that surprised the MIAA as first-year students last year runs faster and better than they had at this time last year.

The team runs as a pack, with less than a minute separating first and sixth places, a major key to success in cross country. With everything going for them, the team will try to accomplish their goal of a top three finish at the regional meet, which would earn a berth in the NCAA national meet.

The men's team also has its sights set on Nationals. With four out of last year's top five runners returning, the men's team knows what it will take to succeed. Grant Woodman, the team's sole senior, and juniors Jon Makela and Jason Bandlow have been practicing intensely. With their experience, the speed of first-year student Pete Muccio and the depth of sophomores Ben Witte and Jerry Howard, the team has the makings of a successful year.

In their first three invitationals, Alma has placed three runners in the overall top five against Division II schools like Grand Valley and Aquinas.

"It is a lot of hard work, but it's a very good experience. You're pushing yourself to your limits and sharing that experience with your teammates," said Muccio.

Injured players become student coaches

By Maria Toscano
Staff Reporter

Their names fade in and out on the sidelines, but they don't run in to make the play. They don't suit up and await the time when they can join the ranks of their fellow teammates on the gridiron.

For Brian "Bork" Borkowski and Robb Thompson, football playing days may be over, but they have found a new way to participate: the two serve as student coaches.

Borkowski suffers from an inoperable neck injury and Thompson ails from a disorder called Post-Concussion Syndrome. The injuries have ended their playing careers.

"It's a tough situation being so close to the field and not being able to be on it," commented Borkowski. "They call out defense and I want to go out there."

"There is nothing too good to say about not playing, but I still have my health," said Thompson. "I didn't come here for the sole purpose of playing football. It won't effect me for the rest of my life."

"I've been around football pretty much my whole life," said Borkowski. "My dad was defensive coordinator at Ferris State, and I've been playing football since I was in seventh grade. I couldn't just leave. Coach (Jim) Cole gave me the opportunity to

let me help out."

Both enjoy the idea of coaching.

"Coaching is a rewarding experience," said Borkowski. "I have a little bit of an impact on the freshmen. It is like I am playing through them and coaching the freshmen is as close as I am going to get to being on the field."

"Coaching is a good time and it is a lot of fun," said Thompson.

Not only are they both enjoying the opportunity, but they now look at the game from a different angle.

"My expectations are high," said

Football

Scots defeat Illinois Benedictine

By Maria Toscano
Staff Reporter

In the end it was 35-0. The Alma College Scots just sent Illinois Benedictine back home with nothing but a lot of bad memories and a long ride. The victory was the first shut-out in three seasons for the Alma defense.

"We used last week as an example and made this team pay for how bad we felt," said senior George Garcia. "It was an all around ass whipping."

"The defense definitely played well, but we were not perfect," stated sophomore Jorge "Joboo" Livingston. "We came together as a unit. There was a couple of times when someone missed an assignment, but somebody was there to

Thompson. "I expect a lot of myself which carries over from being a player to a student coach. I just have to accomplish my goals and objectives in a different way. There is a lot more to be learned as a coach than when you are a player. There are two aspects of it."

"They are learning on the run, but it is a good experience," said Cole. "They look at things from a different perspective. They are mature enough to separate themselves from their friends when they are working as coaches."

The Scots are built around more than just the team concept.

"When they join us they don't just join a team, they join a family," said Cole. "I extended that welcome and fortunately for us they accepted."

"They are both doing an outstanding job," said defensive coordinator Bret Hyble. "They are here because they want to be involved and make the extra effort. They show up and they get things done."

back him up or step up to make the play."

"Defense definitely had a great game, but the best part of it was playing a whole sixty minutes of football for the first time this season," said senior offensive lineman Jason Couch.

Senior Jeff Silk led the defense with 17 tackles, and a broken pass attempt. Sophomore John Streeter added eight total while senior Paul Heymoss and junior Scott Menard added five each. Senior Jeff Beane had five tackles with two for a combined sum of six yards lost.

"We played like a team more so Saturday," stated Couch. "We were on the same page and we didn't let mistakes hurt us."

Livingston, who recorded three

tackles thought special teams had improved.

"I think a big difference was the special teams," said Livingston. "We made some changes and it really allowed us to put defense in a good position or give offense a better field advantage."

In the first quarter the Scots scored on a run up the middle by first-year student Kyle Kartes. In the second quarter senior Mike Zahn had a pair of field goals. Then, with 7:48 left to play in the half, Kartes runs in another touchdown.

Senior Jason Falk started off the scoring for the Scots with 53 yard dash. Zahn added another field goal.

continued on page 9...

Mental breakdown blamed for recent volleyball losses

By Maria Toscano
Staff Reporter

This week, the women's volleyball team had a difficult schedule, facing three conference opponents. They started with a loss to Hope College.

The Scots lost in four games, but according to sophomore Amy Pickleman, it was not a blowout.

"We won the first one, then we lost the next three," stated Pickleman. "It was so close and it could have gone either way. We played really well."

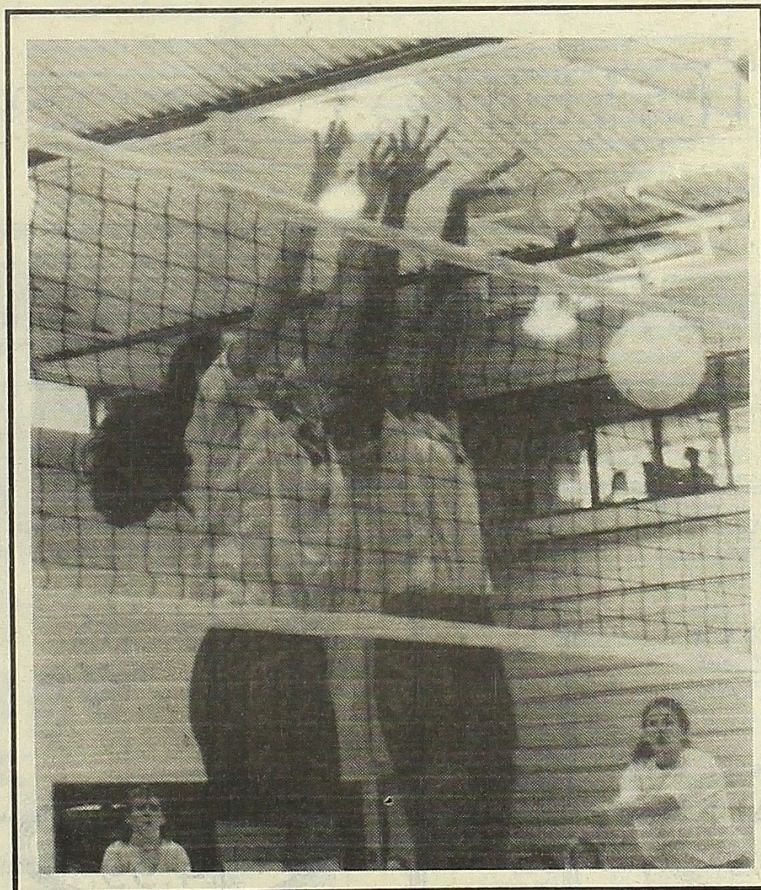
"Basically we get to the point where we do not have it mentally," said senior spiker Stephanie Degg. "We just can't seem to push it through to the end."

Coach John Chiodini wasn't disappointed with his team. "They played really well," he said. "They played enough to win and they would be serving game point and it just didn't seem possible. Of course Hope didn't role over."

"Hope is a good team," said Pickleman. They had a lot of blocks and they are really tall."

Although the team lost, it was a fight to the end. In the fourth game, the Scots fought their way back from a 12-5 deficit to put themselves ahead by two.

"It is frustrating to have it with in our grasps, and let it slip away, but it wasn't from lack of effort," said



Senior Ronda Guimond covers her teammates as they double-block the opponent's attack.

The team was then able to defeat Albion in three games with scores of 15-8, 15-3 and 15-8.

"We trashed Albion," stated Chiodini adding that in all three games, the team played good volleyball.

The victory was shortly savored and the Scots succumbed to a powerful Kalamazoo team. Kalamazoo currently ranks first place in the MIAA with a record of 17-2.

The loss was attributed to a mental breakdown.

"We just didn't come ready to play," said Chiodini. "I wondered what team I was watching because this wasn't a team ready to compete."

"We were intimidated," commented Degg. "They were 5-0 in the conference and we just didn't have our head into it. We get down the stretch and little mistakes kill us."

Degg recorded 15 kills for the Scots while first-year student Matt Vanderbeek had 39 assists.

"The loss was discouraging and a rough shot," said Chiodini. "If an athlete gives the best they have and they come up short, then as a coach you don't complain. You have to come ready to play."

"There are four good teams in the conference and anyone could beat any of the others any given night," continued Chiodini. "The main thing is that you have to come ready to play and be ready physically and mentally."

"The team is young," said Degg. "We have to give a little more finish, but they are young and will learn eventually. I just think we get a little too anxious."

"They are definitely a young team," said Chiodini. "That fact is encouraging and the future looks brightly for the team."

Women's soccer team sets goals to upset league powerhouses

By Chris Tapley
Freelance Writer

"We are goal oriented."

The women's soccer team adopted this motto for the 1995 season. And to help them accomplish those goals they have a new resource: Coach Tammy Anderson.

Anderson, who was an All-American soccer player for Michigan State University, came to Alma last year.

Coaching at Alma was Anderson's first experience at coaching for a college-level team. Anderson's coaching style, though, has changed slightly from last year to this year.

"Last year I was still involved more as a player. It was my first coaching experience, but now this year I'm making more of a transi-

tion of looking at it from a coaching point of view rather than a player's point of view," said Anderson.

With this new perspective, Anderson made some changes came a few other changes in the way Anderson runs her program. She said she is finding that she no longer has to get through every aspect of the game at every practice. If the offense needs more work than the defense, she might skip practicing defense for that day and just concentrate on offense.

"After our loss against Albion I went back and said that our main focus is going to be one or two things and if it takes us two hours to do that and to become successful with it, that's what I

want to do," said Anderson.

What do the players think of these changes and of Anderson in general?

"We are goal oriented."
-women's soccer
team motto

"Anderson is a great coach, she obviously comes from an excellent background in soccer. She is an excellent motivator and an excellent coach. She cares so much for her players. I think she's really turned the program around," said sophomore Lisa Tessmer.

"It's totally been a turn-around and everybody's seen it. Tammy's just changed the team as a whole. We win a lot more games now," said senior Julie Schiele.

Not only have practices and coaching changed, but the team's attitude toward soccer has turned around.

When asked what she thought the biggest change has been, Schiele cited "our attitude toward soccer and the whole game itself."

With a new coach at the helm, women's soccer at Alma seems to have taken a turn.

Alma is currently ranked fourth in the region with a 4-3 record and is now in the position of trying to prove that they are a force to be contended with.

"I think we're right up there. No one thinks too much of us right now, but I think we are a team to contend with. We are slowly proving ourselves, but we are proving ourselves," said Tessmer.

One of the team's many goals is to upset some of the powerhouses in the league. Many see this as the ultimate way of proving themselves.

"I think one of my major goals is to have an upset with one of these teams that for how many years now we've come some close and never been able to beat them. I definitely want to upset two or three of those schools, because this is the team that can do it," said Anderson.

Alma was able to score one of those upsets Wednesday when they defeated Hope by a score of 1 to 0.

Football

from page 8...

in the third and then junior Bill Nietzke found senior Mark St. Martin open to cap off the game.

Although Alma's offense ran more than three hundred and ninety yards, there is still no sense of satisfaction. "We did so-so," said Coach John Leister. "We made some mistakes. Some series we did well and some we did sloppy."

Couch agreed.

"We still had a few breakdowns and that leaves room for improvement," said the captain. "We are still not playing to potential, and going into the league we have to eliminate all problems to be able to play a good game."

Leister also commented that it is what they don't see that hurts.

"Each guy has to look himself in the mirror and ask what can he do better," stated Leister. "You are always happy with a lot, but unhappy with more."

According to Leister, nothing is ever perfect. That is the concept of a good team. There is always room to improve.

"There is no utopia in football,"

added Leister. "That viewpoint doesn't exist but we have to strive for it."

"We are good," commented Livingston. "Now it is just a matter of making good into great."

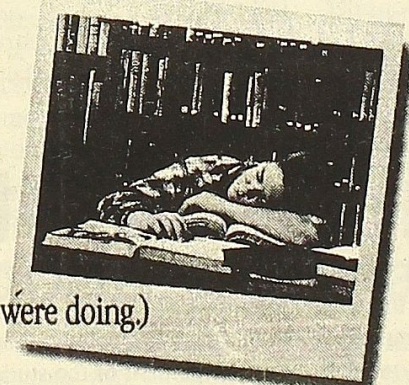
Even though the team is hungry for perfection, they are still happy with the win.

"It felt great to win," said Garcia.

"It was a big win and a good way to start the league this week."

"It was definitely a confidence booster," said Livingston. "We are starting to click, to improve, and getting better with every game."

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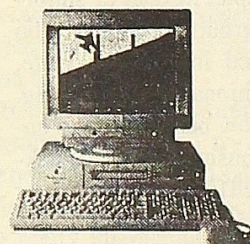
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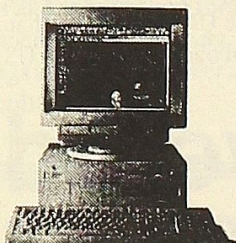
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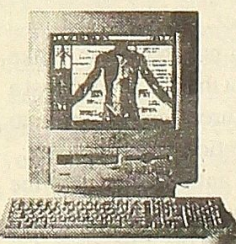
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Oct. 3, 1995

UN provides service cheap

By Brandon Edward Miller
New York City, NY (Untied Nations)

Black helicopters are swooping down, attacking the town of Alma. Take cover; the blue helmets are invading!

During the Cold War, the "Commies" targeted the White House, the Golden Gate Bridge, and the Empire State Building. During the New World Order, any card-carrying member of the Michigan Militia will tell you that Max and Emily's, Wal-mart and 313 Maple Street are in danger of being attacked. Yes, the United Nations (UN) is getting ready to take over middle-America.

Even the most intelligent, clear-headed person becomes angry and irrational when discussing the UN. They accuse it of being an organization that is too expensive, useless, and even dangerous. It is thought of as an entity that interferes with our government and places our troops at risk in war-torn places like Somalia and the former Yugoslavia.

Member-states of the UN are assigning it many new, challenging tasks while demanding that it functions with fewer and fewer resources.

For example, instead of simply separating groups of people who are interested in seeking peace, called "traditional" peacekeeping, the UN is now being asked to engage in the business of peacemaking. Perceived failures in the former Yugoslavia and Somalia (Somalia is regarded as a humanitarian success) overshadow the great success the UN has recently realized in Mozambique, El Salvador and Haiti.

The United States is assessed \$1.1 billion annually to pay for both the regular budget and peacekeeping budget of the UN. This is less than two-tenths of one percent of the US

budget; it costs \$7 per capita annually.

As the United States Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Madeleine Albright often says, "...if you have ever traveled on an international airline or shipping line; or placed a phone call overseas; or received mail from outside the country; or been thankful for an accurate weather report—then you have been served by the regulatory and coordinating agencies of the UN system." All of this for only \$7 per person each year.

This is only the beginning. Clearly the best example of the value of the UN is peacekeeping. The US pays 31 percent of the cost of peacekeeping operations. The US, in its role as a permanent member of the Security Council, approves every peacekeeping operation.

Often these are operations that the US would pursue unilaterally if the Security Council refused. Security Council actions in Iraq and Haiti would have cost the US hundreds of millions of dollars more if it was not for financial burden sharing by all member states.

Also about 36 percent of peacekeeping procurement dollars return to the US. This is beneficial to US companies and our economy. The economic impact of just having the UN headquarters in New York City is astounding. Mayor Giuliani estimates that the UN brings \$3 billion a year into the New York economy.

Finally, the US decides whether it will contribute troops to these operations. The UN has no power to do so. Only about 5 percent of current peacekeeping troops are from the US. Over half of the budget is spent on peacekeeping operations, all of which must be approved by our government because of our permanent status.

Currently, Congress is considering cutting our funding to the UN by 40 percent. This would be disas-

trous. We pay about 25 percent of the tab at the UN; this is money that we agreed to pay and is a treaty obligation. Important peacekeeping missions would have to be scaled back or eliminated as well as the myriad of other functions the UN provides.

For the price of an extra-value meal at McDonald's in Manhattan,

the UN provides many useful, essential functions from providing vaccinations in developing countries to multilateral military operations that save the United States hundreds of millions of dollars.

America has the responsibility to remain engaged and fulfill its promises, including paying its bills at the UN. We currently owe over \$1

billion; our allies are our harshest critics in this matter—all twelve members of the European Union have paid the entire amount of their regular budget assessment. To lead and remain credible as the world's only remaining superpower, we must resist isolationism. Participating in the UN is a cost-effective way to do this.

LIFE IN HELL



Overadvertising smothers campus

By Mark Andrews
Opinion Editor

Advertise. The Webster's Dictionary definition states that it is "to announce publicly especially by a printed notice or a broadcast" an upcoming event or maybe even a new product.

This does not, however, make any statement that we should post a sign every three feet in order to gain the attention of a consumer.

My general antipathy towards the advertising practices on campus has stemmed from the "Fearless for Christ" campaign. I am not targeting my dislike towards the inten-

tion of the group, just at the way they are focusing their campaign.

While sitting in McIntyre Mall for a class this past week, I happened to glance around at the posters that were stuck up on the light columns, walls, trees and then the poster that happened to be taped to the picnic table where I sat. It had a simple quote and a large picture of a cross on it.

I counted at least 23 of the same poster, if not more, spread through the mall and beyond.

Talk about overkill. It made me irked enough that I removed the poster from my table and disposed of it. Why is something this waste-

ful allowed?

In general, I believe that fewer than 40 percent of the students on Alma College's campus even look at the posters to see what they say. And, if anything, they make the campus look tacky. Alma is a beautiful campus, and it is a shame to see all of these different posters plastered over every nook and cranny on campus.

What can be done? How about having posters pre-approved by the student congress or the administration. Then, start designating specific places (like maybe the tagboards in most of the buildings and the information tower in the middle

of McIntyre Mall), for the placement of posters. If any are taped to the outside walls, then they are to be removed.

This would cut down on a large amount of wasted paper. Also, it should be the responsibility of the person who put up the poster to take it down when the event is over.

There is no need to have hundreds of the same poster spread out over this campus. Once someone sees what they want, they will simply walk by the rest.

There are plenty of prime locations within the campus buildings to hang advertisements. Why not

take advantage of these spots, rather than cluttering up the rest of the campus with wasted paper? It is a simple request—easy to follow.

With a little work, I am sure that the amount of posters that we see on this campus can be greatly reduced. We just need to learn that even though we are trying to create interest in the campus community, we do not need to do it by shoving it down their throats.

If someone is interested enough, they will read the single poster taped up on the Heritage Center call board, write down the information and proceed from there.

Powell brings hope to America

By Justin Gustafson
Staff Reporter

What's the matter, Joe Voter? Can't find an attractive candidate for the next year's presidential election? A quick review will show that the choices do not arouse any patriotic fervor whatsoever.

The Republican Party, now controlled by the ultra conservative extremists of the Christian Coalition, present a field of radical right-wing presidential candidates, many of whom have already infiltrated the once proud United States Congress. The options include Senator Phil Gramm, an extremist demagogue controlled by the right wing; Lamar Alexander (does he own anything other than flannel shirts?), Pete Wilson, the governor of California who promised Californians he would not run for president; Pat Buchanan, who seems to forget there are actually 180 nations in the world, not just one; and Senator Bob Dole, this year's "pander-bear" (but do not rule out another presidential bid in 2004, he will only be 80). Clearly no hope here.

The Democratic Party will most likely re-nominate Bill Clinton. Certainly, Clinton is a sure safeguard against that wild and crazy Congress, but a consistent foreign

policy (or any policy at all, for that matter) from the White House would be a nice change. So where does that leave the voters? One hope remains, and that is retired General Colin Powell.

Powell, currently pondering running for president, has a popularity rating that exceeds 65 percent. The man has something that we have not seen in the current field—integrity, honesty and the respect of Americans everywhere. His book, *My American Journey*, is already into its second printing, and Powell is now traveling the U.S. on a long book tour.

Powell was born in Harlem, New York, in 1937. He joined the U.S. Army in 1958, serving in Korea, Vietnam and eventually becoming Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

Staff from 1989-93. Powell is a disciplined, well-educated individual who has worked hard to be where he is today.

What he brings to the presidential race is intelligence, competence

social conscience."

Many critics expected Powell to lose popularity when his views became well-known, but that has not happened. He emphasizes his opposition to abortion, but thinks

that the final decision should rest with the woman. He is in favor of limited gun control measures, such as the Brady law. He also strongly supports a balanced budget as well as reform of welfare, Medicare, and Social Security.

Powell also supports affirmative action programs; however, he is against quotas. "When equal performance does not result in equal advancement, then something is wrong with the system and our leaders have an obligation to fix it," he explained.

Colin Powell presents those of us in the common sense center of American politics with a great choice. After glancing over the current choices, he is by far the best candidate for president. His honesty and willingness to voice his true beliefs without shame attracts voters from the left and right. He is not trapped in the political system by influential lobbyists or fanatical interest groups, but has the simplest of intentions: "I want to bring the sense of hope and faith that fueled my life into the life of every young kid."

When and if Powell decides to run, it should be as an independent, without the influence and pressures of a party to bring him down. We need a president who is not tied to party ideology, someone who can relate to average Americans, a candidate we can trust and respect, someone willing to tame Congress and solve America's problems in a smart way, and we need a president who can keep the U.S. strong and influential in the new world order. We must encourage him to run and save America from the radical policies (or lack thereof) of the Republicans and Democrats.

The choice is yours—general confusion or General Powell.

We need a president who is not tied to party ideology, someone who can relate to average Americans, a candidate we can trust and respect, someone willing to tame Congress and solve America's problems in a smart way, and we need a president who can keep the U.S. strong and influential in the new world order.

and common sense. He does not pander to radical right-wingers, nor to bleeding heart liberals. Powell embodies the moderate, centrist majority of America. He says, "I am a fiscal conservative with a

ever, he is against quotas. "When equal performance does not result in equal advancement, then something is wrong with the system and our leaders have an obligation to fix it," he explained.

Marriott deserves praise from students

By Jennifer Mounts
Staff Reporter

If you want to engage an Alma College student in conversation, a surefire way is to start complaining about the food. We whine and moan about it all the time, but is it really that bad? I do not believe it is.

Considering the numbers of people and the variety of palates Marriott has to cook for, I believe their efforts really deserve our praise. Having eaten at other college campuses makes one appreciate what we have here: a food service staff that values student input and tries their best to offer something for everyone.

Just think of it: Marriott offers us many choices, often more than you would get in a restaurant. Here we have the option to sample many different dishes, to find out what we are in the mood for. Being overseas in Germany made me realize what a privilege this was, as we had one choice and one choice only: meat or non-meat. These choices were also less-than-appetizing, to say the least.

When we first return to school, the food is fine. It is inevitable, however, that we grow tired of the same food everyday. But do we ever consider how the Marriott workers feel? I am sure they get tired of the daily grind as well.

I think we as a campus do not recognize what a wonderful food service we have at Alma. Marriott provides a variety of services to meet the special needs of students. They are always willing to accommodate special requests and respond to new ideas. For example, they offer at least one vegetarian entree per meal, as well as the salad and pasta bars. The new sauté bar is also an added attraction for the more health conscious student.

Marriott has many more special services it offers, many of which I was unaware of until I spoke with Liz Beck, director of Marriott foods. Beck is extremely helpful and always willing to listen to students.

Here are some of the things Marriott does for us:

There are always a wide variety of vegetarian dishes (you can special-order these as well). Marriott will prepare sack lunches for student teachers. Snack packs are provided to those students with high or low blood sugar levels. If you are unable to get to Hamilton, Van Dusen or Joe's because of an illness or injury, Marriott is always happy to make up a sick tray.

If you have any questions, Marriott is willing to answer them. The comment cards are a great way to give feedback, as is talking to one of the staff members. If you require a special diet, are lactose

intolerant, diabetic or a vegetarian, Marriott can help find the food that is right for you.

Oftentimes we get bored with our options. If that is so, try something new. At the deli and salad bar we have the building blocks for some pretty interesting combinations. Try a little more exotic salad or experiment with the pasta bar. It is our job too, not just Marriott's. We are all creative people. Have some fun with your meal.

I would like to say that I believe our food service staff deserves our thanks and appreciation for a truly monumental task; catering to the cravings and whims of over a thousand college students.

True Scot

Mac and cheese provides gourmet meal for at least one

By Susan Elliott
Freelance Writer

Macaroni and cheese is one of the greatest foods in the world. I think it should be in a food group all its own. Even if you're not much of a chef, you can make a fantastic meal if you just follow a few simple directions. Here is my recipe for the perfect college-student macaroni and cheese...

Ingredients:

Utensils:

1 box Mac. and Cheese mix
1 medium sized pot

cheap butter (optional)
strainer
old milk
spoon
iron—infested tap water

Number of servings—depends on how much sticks to the bottom of the pot.

Preparation:

Before you start, search underneath couch cushions or in the pockets of dirty jeans for some change. Then, beg an automotively-advantaged friend for a ride to Ashcrafts. If necessary, bribe him or her with promises of leftovers.

When you arrive at the store, quickly make your way through the obstacle course of elderly women, shopping carts, and whining kids to aisle #4. The next task is to choose an appropriate and dirt cheap box of macaroni and cheese. Remember—Spartan brand is a college student's friend.

After you have made your selection, head on over to the express lane and wait in line behind the mathematically-challenged customer with exactly 11 items on the belt. Pay for your item, wink at the cashier, and run out to the car.

Ride back to your room—you are now ready to begin cooking.

The first step is to boil some water in the pot. If you don't have access to a stove, hold the pot over an open flame for a really long time. If a pot is not available, call for pizza.

While the water is heating up, play a game of hockey on the Nintendo. When you hear tiny explosion noises coming from the kitchen, the water is ready.

Then, throw just the noodles into the boiling water and leave it alone until you hear the fire alarm go off.

The next step is to drain the macaroni. A strainer comes in handy here, but if you don't have one, a hair net or a fly swatter

works just as well...

Dump half the noodles back in the pot. (More than likely, the other half will be strewn all over the stove and the floor.) Then, throw in the packet of powdery cheese and slab of butter borrowed from a neighbor, if desired. Add a few dashes of the skim milk that has been souring in your refrigerator ever since you decided to get on a health kick two months ago.

Mix everything together with a spoon or any other stirring utensil—use your imagination. Before you know it...bravo! You have a gourmet meal.

Oct. 3, 1995

Staff Editorial

Alma arts lack diversity

William Shakespeare.
Neil Simon. Sophocles.
Brian Freil. Timberlake
Wertenbaker. Henrik Ibsen.
Alan Ball.

Seven names, all with a good deal in common. For instance, all are white. All but one are men. And all are playwrights.

In fact, this group of writers supplied all of the plays the Alma College Theatre company (ACT) has produced in the past three years—indeed, all of the plays any student from the class of 1996 through the class of 1998 has had the opportunity to see.

The theatre experiences of the class of 1999 will be little different, judging by the shows ACT plans to produce this school year—

plays by Anton Chekhov, Sam Shepard and Arthur Miller, all three white male writers. In fact, with the exception of Timberlake Wertenbaker's *Our Country's Good*, ACT has not produced a play written by a woman or a non-white person in at least four years.

It seems curious that, at a school that pays as much lip service to diversity—especially racial and ethnic diversity—as Alma does, the theatre company sticks with a lineup of productions written from an exclusively white and all but one, exclusively male perspective. Indeed, the only departure from this pattern is the student-directed and -selected one-act, Joyce Carol Oates' *The Rehearsal*, which will be produced later this term.

Broadening the view from

ACT to the output of the entire performing arts departments, one would be hard-pressed to find a piece of orchestral literature performed within the last ten years, for instance, that was not written by a white male composer. Diversity—at least in the arts—seems to have been ignored.

This is not to say that some sort of quota system must be adopted, that at this lily-white campus the theatre company must produce a certain number of all-black plays or delve into ethnic theatres that are impossible, or simply ridiculous, to stage. Alma—and ACT—has definite limits, both in the pool of actors in the student body it can draw from and in the

resources of the theatre department.

However, with little effort, one *can* find a list of female playwrights from the Restoration to the present; one can find any number of plays written from honestly diverse viewpoints. Writers like Aphra Behn, David Henry Hwang, Maria Fomes and Caryl Churchill put out plays comparable in difficulty and casting requirements to ACT's recent productions.

Certainly, the solution to the vacuum of real diversity on this campus is not artistic control; however, perhaps the answer is sensitivity and attention—not just to the stage, but to the message delivered on it.

The Almanian

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All Letters to the Editor must meet the following standards for publication: signed, include the author's phone number and address, and pertain to the Alma College community. Letters are published on a first come, first serve basis, up to three per week. 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.

Johnson leaves students disappointed

By William J. Johnston
Freelance Writer

I admit it. I entered Phillip Johnson's Tuesday evening presentation, "Reason in the Balance: The Case Against Naturalism in Science, Law, and Education," with a closed mind. I expected my greatest criticism of Johnson would be that he must be an idiot for rejecting Darwinian evolution.

After the presentation (which *did* open my mind), my greatest criticism of Johnson was (and is) this: what exactly did he tell us?

Going through my notes for the fourth time, I can find only this: the fossil record does not support Darwinian evolution as Darwin and countless scientists afterward have presented it.

Otherwise, Johnson did not tell us a whole lot. His presentation lacked a clear thesis, jumped from subject to subject, and never completely covered everything he said it would. He never made his case against naturalism "in science, law, and education" as the posters advertised. Most of his presentation centered on the science aspect; an audience member's question prompted him to briefly discuss its ramifications in education. As for

naturalism and law, I do not believe he ever touched on this.

To his credit, Johnson took a theory most of us have been taught to regard as Gospel truth and he challenged this theory effectively;

he pointed out inconsistencies in evidence, even pointed to inconsistencies in what scientists themselves think. But he failed to offer a useful critique of the information provided.

I do not expect a speaker to tell me what to think. I do expect, however, for a speaker to give me options and ideas to think about, and Johnson fell short in that respect. Yes, I believe he offered sufficient

evidence to raise a reasonable doubt as to the validity of Darwin's theory. But where do we go from there? Does this mean that Biblical creation is what we should believe? Or that Darwin offers a useful

framework to show how life developed, but necessitates the presence of a creator to explain it in full? Or that it is time for a new theory to replace Darwin's, much as plate tectonics succeeded continental drift?

As he wrapped up the Q&A portion of the presentation, Johnson proposed that those interested in challenging naturalism do it in the universities first, before they bring the fight to the public schools. Again, he did not go beyond saying that we

*After the presentation
(which did open my
mind), my greatest
criticism of Johnson
was (and is) this: what
exactly did he tell us?*

Classified

MEETING FOR ALL STUDENTS INTERESTED in the '96 Jamaica spring term in AC 106, Wed. Oct. 4 at 7:30 pm.
ATTENTION STUDENTS INTERESTED IN TEACHING: If interested in Elementary Education or Early Childhood endorsement, please contact Dr. Sue Root (AC 239) or Dr. Lynda Ludy (AC 238; 7166). If interested in Secondary Education, please contact Dr. Anthony Rickard (AC 236).
REMINDER FOR EDUCATION

STUDENTS: Please stop by the education department as soon as possible to update information contained in the student card file.
ATTENTION SECONDARY EDUCATION STUDENTS: If you plan to student teach during the 1996-97 school year, please confirm your plans by contacting Dr. Anthony Rickard (AC 236; 7209).
CHILDREN'S LITERATURE - WINTER 1996: If you plan to register for Children's Literature in Winter '96, please sign the list on my office door (Dr. Lynda Ludy;

AC 238; 7166; e-mail LudyL). The Course is open to sophomores and above. Preference is given to Elementary Education majors, but others may enroll with permission.
LONDON-SPING 1996: There will be an information meeting Wednesday, October 4, at 4:15pm, in AC 109, or call Dr. Ludy (AC 238; 7166).

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