Alums reunite, celebrate Golden Gala in grand style
by Joan O'Neill
Gala Weekend 1990 saw one of its largest alumni turnouts ever, according to Mary Beth Wardrop, director of alumni relations. Over the weekend, alumni from several different graduating classes, many of which held reunions, gathered with one another to be part of the weekends festivities. Those classes that held reunions, the classes of 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, and 1970, attended a Gala Champagne Reception Saturday evening as well as the Annual Alumni Awards Dinner which followed.

The Alumni Awards dinner honored "some very lovely people," in the words of Rita Citron ('84), chairperson of the Gala Alumni Awards Dinner. Those honored included: James McKay, who received his masters in Management form Aquinas in 1983. McKay received the Outstanding Alumnus Award. He is the Senior Vice President of enrollment. Keller, vice president of enrollment management.

Enrollment remains stable thanks to recruiting efforts
by Sandra Erskine
Faced with a 10% decline in the number of high school graduates this year, Aquinas' enrollment still remains stable, according to Mike Keller, vice president of enrollment management.

Faculty/Staff royalty reign second year in a row
Human chess match proves as successful 2nd time around
Submitted by Chuck Frydrych, Physics Dept
Under the sunny skies of a Saturday Gala Weekend morning, two human chess teams composed of members of the student body and the faculty/staff of Aquinas College battled in the courtyard of the Art and Music Building in the Second Annual Gala Weekend Human Chess match.

Task forces in motion
by Amy Marsh
President, Paul Nelson has been making efforts to improve the future of Aquinas College. He proposed the formation of four task forces during the July State of the College address.

Those task forces were designed to cover improvements in four general areas: enrollment, development, academic programs, and cost containment. A chairperson was appointed by the president to each area and meetings began taking place in mid-July. Those meetings were open to anyone who wished to add input to the discussions. The public was also invited to make written suggestions concerning any one of the four task forces. Each task force met between four and six times as a whole as well as holding several sub-committee meetings.

Each of the separate task force chairpersons reported their suggestions for improvements at the Fall Institute on September 7.

Another factors contributing to less C.E. students could be that the employers of adult students offer tuition reimbursement benefits that don't cover Aquinas' tuition costs. Therefore, reimbursement dollars quickly run out and adult students are forced to take less classes in an academic year, or to take classes at another college or university. Nearly 20% of the total adult continuing education population is new to Aquinas this fall.

Due to a decrease in demographics of the number of high school students during the 1980's, enrollment is now
Well, one more issue down, but never fear, it was not without countless computer problems. These, of course, lead to more stress and strain on my eyes, neck, in fact, my entire mental, emotional and physical self.

But, an issue of the TIMES without the numerous aches and pains is an issue without heart. Like I said in the first issue, they'll only get better — I'm learning.

During the process of producing this issue, primary on my list of important things to do was 'FIND A STAFF OR DIE' (or just resign!!!)

Hold on, I'm not gone yet, I think I've found one! When I began I realized the majority if not all of the lay-out would be left up to me so, I must at least find committed writers and photographers. I was blessed with an abundance of students interested in part and full-time work. The results of some are revealed on the following pages. I have a good feeling about the still-forming staff.

One particular staff member I would officially informed of her new position when she reads these lines. CONGRATULATIONS! But a few words of advice...

Someone asked me about a week ago as I was pulling out more hair and rubbing my brown-bagged eyelids, if I knew when I got into this, that an editor could only apply to such a position with the following prerequisites: "must be an insomniac (all-nighters are frequent); must have patience enough to not toss $3,000+ equipment out the window; poor living and eating habits (around deadlines only), and must be a glutton for punishment," while of course, thriving on and loving every minute of it.

The person said I was perfect for the job then hired me. Well, I know I'm not perfect for anything, but I'm no fool...I took this job knowing there stands one realization, hence, my advice to Joan, prepare to share that load and good luck...No matter what will have fun!

On Saturday; September 16, a statue of St. Thomas Aquinas, created by Sr. Phyllis Mrozinski, O.P., was blessed and dedicated. Funds for the sculpture, which is located in the lobby of the Academic Building, were donated by the Haviland Family in memory of J. Bernard Haviland.

Pictured here are Sr. Phyllis Mrozinski, O.P. and Mrs. J. Bernard Haviland as they bless the statue, which took two years to complete.

This sculpture by Sr. Phyllis will replace the original statue which was first unveiled and blessed in 1956 by Monsignor Arthur F. Bukowski. At one point the original statue was placed outside near the flagpole and remained there until some students toppled it over, causing it to break in several places.

In the closing of the ceremony, President R. Paul Nelson, seen here, read the Prayer of Saint Thomas Aquinas, patron Saint of Aquinas College.
Holmdene Gardens restored -- first time cared for since 1980

By Chris Cowdry

"In the late sun of a warm August evening, as one sits on this platform gazing upward toward the ivy-hung house, there could hardly be a fairer sight in American gardens than this which meets the eye." Francis Key

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The Promoting Enrollment Task Force has made several recommendations in hopes of stabilizing enrollment in the future. The Promoting Enrollment Task Force, of which, Keller chairs, would like to see faculty, staff, alumni, and current students help promote Aquinas by: developing a recruitment video highlighting both academic and extra-curricular opportunities; strengthen Aquinas' relationship with Catholic schools in the Catholic community; showcase various departments; expand financial opportunities; and create more balance in various class profiles.

Overall, Keller is encouraged by this year's enrollment and feels that as long as Aquinas can maintain enrollment for the next few years, tuition cost should stay down.

Feeling the impact nationwide. The decline is accelerating this year and will continue into the mid-1990's, according to Keller. While there will continue to be strong competition and smaller freshmen classes over the next several years for all institutions, Aquinas will maintain its enrollment stability through increases in transfer and adult student populations.

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At annual fall institute

A vision of the college's future grows from team's discussions

(TMIS Staff)

Thought-provoking commentary, the president's state-of-the-college address and a vision of Aquinas' future were some of the highlights of the 1990 Fall Institute. The annual meeting brought together some 250 members of the college community to share ideas and to launch the new academic year with a little socializing.

The institute also included reports by four task force chairs, the rededication of Holmdene Gardens (see stories elsewhere in this issue), the light-hearted awarding of "the Goofies" and a dance in the Wege ballroom featuring music by "City Lights."

Enrollment

"We're having a very good fall," President Paul Nelson declared at the start of his state-of-the-college address. The 10 minute-speech, like his report on the college this summer, "I'd like to see us enjoy our present, of course. And I'd like to see us honor our past, our tradition."

--Charles Frydrych

focused on enrollment, development and finance. With 249 new freshman, and a total full time enrollment of 1,039 regular students, the college is making a strong showing since the post baby-boom pool of available students has shrunk. Overall, there are 706 new students on campus, for a total of 2,631 when part-time and continuing education students are added in. This represents a 26 percent increase. Prazing the assembled faculty and support staff, Nelson said "Retention was very strong, and I think that's a tribute to the fine job you do. I thank you."

Aquinas Grows Campaign

Development news included a report on the Aquinas Grows campaign. Some $6.2 million has been pledged toward the $8 million goal, with more funds coming in. The $800,000 annual fund drive is also underway. A significant portion of the money Aquinas collects goes to students, with $2.7 million in grants and scholarships awarded this year. Nelson congratulated the 30 "ambassadors"—faculty and staff who call potential donors to tell the Aquinas story—and thanked the 115 college employees who contribute to the annual fund.

The finance picture has improved since the summer, when the college began to address its debt situation. Several short-term obligations will be rolled together into one larger note, saving on the excessive amount of interest that was being spent on a variety of lines of credit. Together with Vice-president for Finance Michael Braughton, Nelson is negotiating with Old Kent bank to establish a new line of credit that will guarantee a request for bonds from the Michigan Higher Education Facilities Authority. The process included developing eight financial models, in consultation with the bank. "Old Kent bank believes in Aquinas," Nelson said, "and we're working out the details."

Reports on "Vision"

Certainly a far-reaching aspect of the Fall Institute was a report by a nine-member panel on their efforts to articulate a "vision" guiding the future of the college. This initial report was part of a lengthy and ongoing process begun this summer as a series of conversations between Nelson and various colleagues. Commenting on these early meetings, Nelson observed that, "Competition for students and benefactors requires a clearer statement of our distinguishing characteristics."

What Aquinas lacks in curriculum and related programming is coherence. Educational efforts inside and outside the classroom require a logical connectedness which is intelligible to faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni and benefactors.

Mission Statement

The starting point for the vision process was the college's mission statement: "The mission of Aquinas College is to provide a liberal arts education with a career orientation in a Catholic, Christian context to all students capable of profiting from such an education regardless of sex, age, religion, or ethnicity or racial background."

Nelson elaborated that a distinctive identity for the college might come from a clearly defined and carefully implemented holistic approach to education. Aquinas is often characterized as caring, supportive and people-oriented. So the vision process is in part, an effort to translate these qualities into action.

With his familiar, self-deprecating humor, Nelson introduced the other eight members of the panel by joking, "The first thing the panel did was to appoint me as moderator—I believe as a way of shutting me up". Other panel members were: Charles Frydrych, asst. prof. of physics; Sr. Joan Thomas, manager of student employment; Andrew Jefchak, prof. of English; Joyce McNally, prof. of business administration; Paul Rossi, community senate chairperson; Lee Jakoke, assoc. prof. of psychology; Betty Taylor, asst. prof. of health, recreation and physical education; Sr. Mary Aquinas Weber, chancellor and Emeritus College director.

Comments by panel members

The panel members were asked to comment on the vision process itself, and to share glimpses of their own visions for Aquinas. The remarks, ranging from the practical to the idealistic, included:

--A vision is needed before detailed planning can proceed. "We should not move forward without exploring that vision, and that opportunity is available to us now," explained Jefchak.

--Frydrych commended the new, more positive outlook. "It will take courage on the part of ourselves, to voice our concerns, and to bring the process to a resolution. There's a uniqueness here, a chance to reflect and debate, that is not in other fields."

--Jefchak pointed out the need to address the aesthetic climate, to celebrate the creative spirit with programs such as noon hour presentations that heighten students' cultural awareness. "Significant contributions can be made by sensitive, informed graduates who themselves have vision."

--Taylor expressed her wish for expanded theater offerings, readings and similar cultural events. She also suggested the creation of a staff forum, like the faculty forum, to give support staff a chance to share their opinions and concerns. And the college should strengthen its existing commitment to "the joy of life-long learning."

--Jacokes observed that there were certain tensions implicit in the mission statement, between liberal arts and business, traditional age and older students, Catholic and ecumenical concerns. He described the vision process as a chance to further discuss and clarify these issues, and stressed the need to carry the process to a conclusion.

--Rossi praised the faculty for their openness and concern. "The first thing a professor here does is to tell you his first name and his home phone number." He also thanked the college for the acquisition of the east campus, because it gives juniors and seniors housing opportunities that allow them to remain involved in college life.

--Frydrych reflected on his own undergraduate days here, when there were more activities that fostered a sense of community, that brought together "everyone out on the lawn at one time. He summarized the spirit of the "visionaries." "I'd like to see us enjoy our present, of course. And I'd like to see us honor our past, our tradition."

--McNally also expressed her hope that the college acquire an international vision, perhaps with an endowed chair in international relations that would bring a foreign guest professor to campus, and by creating international internships to broaden students' experiences.

The process of defining vision for Aquinas will continue, with community forums and reflection sessions. The community forums, to which all members of the college are invited, are scheduled in the Wege ballroom from 2:30-4:30 p.m. on November 2 & 30, and January 25.

If you have a vision of Aquinas' future, please send in your written and signed comments to the TIMES office. We will print your remarks in a special feature next issue which will include coverage of the Sept. 28 college forum.
Anti-War protest stir at Berkeley, Colorado

(CPS) — About 50 University of Colorado at Boulder and about 300 University of California at Berkeley students separately protested the U.S. military buildup in the Middle East Aug. 30, among the first such campus demonstrations since Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Students on both campuses spoke against "dying for oil profits" and called on Americans to solve the crisis by decreasing their energy consumption.

In Philadelphia, the American Friends Service Committee, a pacifist Quaker group, reported it has been "flooded" with 500 calls from soldiers asking how Americans to solve the crisis by decreasing their energy consumption.

A buildup in the Middle East Aug. 30, among the first such campus demonstrations since Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Some of the ideas generated included: developing a recruitment video for the college — highlighting both academic and extra-curricular opportunities; strengthening Aquinas' relationship with the Catholic community; and expanding financial aid opportunities like non-need based scholarships.

The task force focused on both improving budget and finances. The suggestions were divided into three basic areas: general, alumni, and student development.

Within the general category, were such suggestions as making more options available for restricted giving (donations made with a specific purpose in mind), finding ways to better train fund raisers raising volunteers and targeting new methods of fund raising.

Concerning the alumni, the force suggested that alumni events and services be conducted on a smaller scale for a more personal approach. For example, the alumni who were known as leaders in their class would be contacted to identify a group of 10-15 other alumni for a specific purpose. Using this procedure, each alumni will receive more individualized attention. It was also suggested that these events be promoted more. In order to more easily implement these suggestions, the task force added the recommendation that two alumni directors be appointed, dividing the responsibilities into those concerning alumni and those concerning student development.

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The task force also recognized a need to include the students in college advancement. They proposed the formation of a student volunteer board of student advisors and to act as an advisory to the College Advancement Division with respect to "friend-raising and fund-raising". Scheduling a "State of the College" address for students was also targeted as a goal.

The Program Development Task Force focused on both improving already existing programs and creating new ones. Lynn Aldrich Spearing, Director of Grants/ Foundation Relations, lead this task force. The suggestions generated from this force were quite diverse. They ranged from forming new athletic programs to altering existing educational programs. The general goal of this group, according to Spearing is to "create a climate of innovation" throughout the campus. Suggestions were to upgrade the international studies program in order to strengthen the commitment to a global perspective. Additional summer programs, as well as improved relations with area K-12 educators, and further development of non-credit programs were also recommended.

After five task force meetings, the Cost Containment Task Force, chaired by Michael Braughton, Vice President for Finance, arrived at several recommendations in four general areas concerning budget and finances. The suggestions were divided into those regarding transportation, purchasing, utilities, and personnel. Each subdivision was chaired by another faculty member.

One transportation recommendation included the selling or trading in several of the older campus vehicles and replacing them with more cost efficient means of transportation. Creating a detailed motor pool policy, and exploring the possibility of obtaining funds from the Student Senate for student transportation were also recommended by the force.

The task force were all related to "changing attitudes and habits through education" in order to conserve energy and therefore save money. They are also considering abolishing the 800 toll-free service line or possibly making it more efficient.

The suggestions made by the task force were all related to "changing attitudes and habits through education" in order to conserve energy and therefore save money. They are also considering abolishing the 800 toll-free service line or possibly making it more efficient.

Regarding personnel, recommendations were made to study the growth of employee structure for the past five years to determine why and where growth has occurred. The study of employee fringe benefits was also suggested to see if minor changes in benefits will result in significant cost savings.

Many of these proposals from all four task forces are already being implemented in order to expedite the process of improvement. Several others are still in the review stages, but will soon be put into action.
Commentary on the Middle East crisis from Aquinas faculty and students

The following is a sample of students' and faculty members opinions of the current military build-up in the Middle East compiled by Jason Robertson, sophomore. The participants were selected at random — however, they are not intended to reflect any universal "campus opinion."

I'm very saddened by the mentality that has us in the Persian Gulf. I would like to think that we, as a people, are above this childish saber-rattling. America has such a militaristic mindset — instead of negotiating through the United Nations, our first move is military."

Sr. Yvonne Greiner, Religious Studies

"While we know we're not getting the full picture, it seems that we're going for the oil to preserve our first world lifestyle. All we have to base our opinions on is the news we're given. That, plus our own perspective determines our opinions. I'm non-violent, so of course I'm opposed to war, and I can't help but wonder how much the oil lobby has to do with this. However, if we're going to stop a Hitler, that's another bag of tricks — I don't know which is the determining motive."

Sr. Amata Fabbro, Religious Studies

"From a theological perspective the question is: Does it violate the principle of discrimination? (Whether civilians are harmed by our action)."

Dr. Bob Marko, Religious Studies

"The fact that the U.S. is there makes the situation worse. It seems that Hussein realized he made a mistake in invading Kuwait, and that he would like to find a way out. Now this is apparently unavailable to him. At one level it seems like a childish game — Saddam says he wants to meet, to talk — but the U.S. says, 'Get out first, then we'll talk.'"

It also seems that none of the parties wants to engage in a war — even though some of the news shows that the U.S. George Bush, wants to make it look like he does not want a war, while he's secretly preparing for it. Bush doesn't want to appear trigger-happy. You heard about how that General (Dugan) was fired for disclosing the U.S. strategy? That shows that there is a plan."

From an economic standpoint, this situation is not good for the U.S. economy because of inflationary impact of rising oil prices. However, the spending involved in the military mobilization might help the economy. This could be a way to postpone the recession analysts have been talking about.

I don't think the situation is going to change much in the near future. The U.N. will probably go soft on the embargo. It will be seen as non-humanitarian because the innocent citizens of Iraq and Kuwait are going to suffer from it? I think that perhaps the U.S. government is planning to build a military base in the region — a more permanent presence in Saudi Arabia. This could be because of the end of the cold war with the Soviet Union in Europe. It could be used to maintain a continuing emphasis on defense spending."

Although I was able to procure some interesting viewpoints on the situation, I received probably about the same number of "I don't know enough about it (to give my opinion.)" responses."

Jason Robertson, sophomore
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

October 3, 1990

Safety — an issue that hits close to home

This summer the unfortunate, and extremely violent, death of an Aquinas student has concerned a large percentage if not all of the Aquinas, Easttown, and Heritage Hill communities, as well as the family and friends of the victim. Now we are presented with the question of how we can deal with this, and the growing acts of violence which are occurring in our area today. To some it’s a call to take up arms and find the people who are committing these crimes. Others choose to remain silent and sit idle, letting our community dissolve; with the idea that getting involved may mean becoming a victim. These two ways of thinking are creating, far more damage than any single act of violence could create.

I’ve seen more than enough violence which has been motivated by poor race relations, misguided notions, and stereotypes based upon color. The case of the murdered Aquinas student, for instance, has been written off as being racially motivated, by many people, all of which don’t really know what happened. It doesn’t stop at accusations though. Some find it necessary to inflict pain on anyone remotely resembling any of the rumored suspects.

It may come as a shock to some, but local college students aren’t always victims. In two particular cases I’ve witnessed in the past year, local students, Aquinas students included, were actual initiators of the violence.

This being my 14th year enrolled in a Christian school I still can’t relate to all of the people who are so called Christians.

—Michael Maher

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—Michael Maher, junior
T. Scott establishes new programs in short time

by Amy Marsh

“Zany!” is the word that T. Scott Caywood thinks best illustrates himself. This Michigan State University graduate from Denver, Colorado is now occupying the position of Resident Director of St. Joseph Hall.

Caywood is presently commuting to Michigan State University once a week in order to complete his Masters Degree in College and University Administration with an emphasis on Labor Industrial Relations. He hopes to graduate in June of ’91.

Many innovations at St. Joe’s have already been initiated by Caywood. He has taken efforts to form a “more structured” hall and floor government as well as forming new residence hall organizations. “Great Issues” will be a group of students who deal with and discuss controversial issues. He has also encouraged a student task force on multi-cultural awareness.

In the future, Caywood would like to someday pursue a political career. “It’s always been a big dream of mine to go to law school,” exclaims Caywood, “I hope to...have a real impact on people.” For now, though Caywood said he will “take one day at a time.”

Fulcher plans to keep up the “uniqueness” of AQ

by Amy Marsh

The new Assistant to the Director of Cooperative Education is Tammy Fulcher. She is a native of Munising in the Upper Peninsula. After receiving her paralegal degree from Lake Superior State College and University graduate from Denver, Colorado and as a director of a small social service agency. Her family moved from Lincoln, Nebraska to come to Grand Rapids.

Fulcher plans to keep up the “uniqueness” of AQ’s traditional age and continuing education programs for the continuing education students. She is presently taking courses to complete her dual degree in Business Administration and Communication. She was hired in early August and plans on staying “at least until I finish school.”

Payroll checks bounce off of Carlson

by Amy Marsh

Former Director of Alma Housing Commission, Alma College, Sharon Carlson is a new employee in the payroll office. She was hired in April, 1990. Carlson lives in Belding, and has three children ages 7-16. Her husband is Grant Carlson.

In addition to working full-time and raising a family, Carlson is pursuing a masters degree in Accounting and Business Administration. She is currently taking a philosophy class at Aquinas.

Carlson describes herself as personally “content” and professionally “ambitious” with the respect that she is “hard working and sets high goals” for herself.

She's come a long way -- for campus ministry

by Amy Marsh

Mary Clark-Keiser is the new director of campus ministry. She has a husband, Kurt Keiser, and four children, ages 2-13. She has spent the past several years committing her time to her family and working for peace and justice on a volunteer level. Recently, she decided to dedicate her professional life to this pursuit.

She has worked in the past as a campus minister for the University of Colorado and as a director of a small social service agency. Her family moved from Lincoln, Nebraska to come to Grand Rapids.

Keiser describes herself as “vital — full of life.” While at Aquinas, she wants to emphasize “service and outreach” among students and faculty as well. “As we become more committed to our faith, we celebrate that by serving our community...and building up the kingdom of peace and justice,” comments Clark-Keiser.

“I want to really encourage a feeling of community among the people who call themselves Christians,” states Clark-Keiser. “I hope people will see the Campus Ministries office as a place to hang out and find someone to talk to.”

Clark-Keiser plans to stay in her present position “as long as I feel God is calling me.”

Albro teaches more than just technique

by Amy Marsh

The new men’s basketball coach, Rick Albro, is originally from Adrian, Michigan. During his career here, he “hopes to get the entire campus population excited about basketball...to make everyone a part of it!”

Albro has been coaching at East Grand Rapids High School for the past 12 years. He’s “had the desire to coach at the collegiate level for a long time” and is very excited about coaching at Aquinas. He and his wife Cathy have two daughters, ages seven and ten.

Coach Albro feels that this season the basketball team will prove to be “very competitive.” His goal is to “teach (the players) a different work ethic” and to develop a positive attitude regarding “what it means to be part of a team.”

“Intense!” and “committed” are two words Albro chooses to describe himself.
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Golden Gala keeps tradition while adding a pinch of spice

50th Anniversary Gala Weekend well attended as Aquinas celebrates 50 yrs as four yr. college

by Joan O'Neill/Shay Jaquays

This year's Gala celebration contained much of the excitement and flair that made previous year's celebrations a success. However a little spice was added to the weekend, largely due to the College's 50th anniversary as a four year college, that made Gala Weekend 1990 one of the most successful and well attended gala celebrations yet.

The Golden Gala Celebration actually began a week before with a mass on Sunday September 16 in the Field House. This mass, as well as the program and brunch that followed, celebrated the contributions that the Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids have made to Aquinas College over the years.

Later that day the statue of St. Thomas Aquinas, Aquinas' patron saint, was dedicated and blessed by Bishop Robert J. Rose, Bishop of the Diocese of Grand Rapids. This sculpture, carved by Sr. Phyllis Mozinski, O.P., can be seen upon entering the Academic Building through the front entrance.

The following weekend the festivities got off to an entertaining start with the All-College Talent Night. For several years students, alumni, and faculty have been showing off their hidden talents to others. In addition to the acts, the Student Activities Office was able to bring in a comedian who kept the audience amused through the night.

Saturday morning found freshmen re-enacting the Greek Olympic Games, such as chariot races, for example. This was sponsored by the Freshmen Humanities Program. Alumni and students alike were also able to see the new East Campus, the renovated Albertus Magnus Hall, and the AMC building as tours were offered Saturday morning for those interested.

Another popular activity was the Human Chess Match. Several spectators gathered to catch a glimpse of the 2nd annual Human Chess Match between the faculty/staff and the students (See story page 1). After almost 2 hours of play the faculty/staff team was declared the winners even though no 'checkmate' had been reached.

Saturday afternoon one could choose among a variety of activities or exhibits to keep them busy. There were the usual food booths, sponsored by Student Activities and several clubs and organizations, the always popular Alumni Beer Tent, a Three-on-three basketball tournament, and an alumni vs. students soccer game in which the alumni defeated the students 2-1.

Live entertainment was also offered during the day by the Aquinas Student Jazz Group, the Alumni Jazz Band, and the New World Singers. That evening alumni gathered with old classmates at the Champagne Alumni Reception and the Alumni Awards Dinner that followed (see story page one). Old friendships were rekindled as well as new friends made as alumni, spouses and friends danced and conversed the night away.

On Sunday Gala Weekend came to a close with the Harvest Mass and brunch afterwards. Although many are still recovering from Gala 1990, plans are already being made for next year's celebration.

Greek gods and goddesses prevail during gala

On your mark get set go...

On their way are the Freshman Humanities students in Aquinas' version of ancient Greek Olympic games.

On Saturday, Sept. 22, students braved the cool morning air to participate in the 2nd Annual re-enactment of the Greek Olympic games. Before proceeding to the playing field, opening ceremonies were held in the Amphitheater of the AMC, where Zeus was honored and oaths were taken by athletes and judges.

Events included a standing long jump, along race, a discus throwing contest, 3-legged race, chariot races, and a race in armor. Upon completions of the events an award ceremony was held to honor the mighty and the not so mighty.
President of NBD in Grand Rapids. Over the years, McKay has volunteered his services several times for both the Grand Rapids and Aquinas Communities.

The Raaymakers family was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. Donald and Barbara Raaymakers are responsible for the start of both "Meals on Wheels" and the Capitol Lunch programs.

Chosen to receive the Outstanding Faculty Award was Elizabeth Jennings. Jennings' history with Aquinas dates back to 1962 when she earned her masters degree in English from Aquinas. In 1965 she joined Aquinas' faculty as an English instructor. Today, 25 years later, Jennings is still hard at work at Aquinas teaching English.

The many students who assisted the Gala Weekend alumni activities begin at the completion of the previous year's celebration, according to Candice Wettergreen ('86), vice president of the Alumni Association. "It is then that we decide what went well and also what needs to be changed for the next year. We get really busy in the spring, around April and May. Letters are then sent out and we begin forming committees to plan for the fall."

The Alumni Awards Dinner was attended by approximately 225 people, according to Mary Beth Wardrop, director of alumni relations.

The Alumni Awards Dinner, but it is also responsible for the alumni beer tent as well. Most of the income from the tent, according to Wettergreen, is used to keep the Alumni Association going. A portion of it, however, is used to fund the Sr. Ann Keating Scholarship. This scholarship, which amounts to $1500, is funded by the efforts of Aquinas' alumni.

Preparation for the Gala Weekend alumni activities begins at the completion of the previous year's celebration, according to Candice Wettergreen ('86), vice president of the Alumni Association. "It is then that we decide what went well and also what needs to be changed for the following year. We get really busy in the spring, around April and May. Letters are then sent out and we begin forming committees to plan for the fall."

Not only does the Alumni Association plan and take care of the Gala Alumni Awards Dinner, but it is also responsible for the alumni beer tent as well. Most of the income from the tent, according to Wettergreen, is used to keep the Alumni Association going. A portion of it, however, is used to fund the Sr. Ann Keating Scholarship. This scholarship, which amounts to $1500, is funded by the efforts of Aquinas' alumni.

Thomas and Dorothy Zoellner, both of the class of 1950, celebrated their 40th class reunion with approximately 20 fellow classmates. "We has a very nice time - a lovely time," said Dorothy Zoellner. We especially enjoyed the Harvest Mass and brunch the following morning. The Zoellners, both history majors, met while attending Aquinas and married soon after they graduated. "It was a very successful Gala Weekend," Wettergreen said. "It brought a lot of people back on campus. Any one who missed it last year needs to come next year."

The contrast in chess strategy between the two teams was a marked one. The student team choose to play an aggressive, attacking style which focused on the exchange of pieces, across the full width of the board, whenever the opportunity for a capture presented itself. The faculty/staff team, on the other hand, deployed its knights and bishops early at the center of the board, protecting its outer line and playing to take advantage of each exchange. Hampered by a time constraint, the two teams were only allowed two moves per side. The faculty/staff team prevailed and the match ended - not with checkmate - but with a faculty/staff victory declared on the basis of a higher total of captured pieces.

In only two years, the Human Chess Match has shown the potential of becoming one of the more eagerly anticipated events held on campus. The many students who assisted the fencing club and it's moderator are to be congratulated for helping give birth to what promises to be an Aquinas College fall tradition.
CAVA Comment

The Hispanic Festival marked a new year for the Community Action Volunteers of Aquinas (CAVA). Approximately ten students and faculty members helped keep the festival grounds tidy throughout its three nights of operation. A warm thank you goes out to all who made this event a success.

The weather turned out to be sunny and warm for the next of CAVA’s activities, that is, the Volunteer Fair held on September 13 in Wege Mall. Representatives from participating volunteer organizations reported that the day was productive for them as they recruited a number of volunteers. We extend a special thanks to everyone who attended the fair, as well as send best wishes to those who made a commitment to volunteer with an agency. Please stop in the office and let us know how it is going.

The Juvenile Outreach program started on September 18 with plenty of enthusiasm. If you missed your chance to be part of this semester, look for it again next semester.

There are also several other programs to look forward to, the first is the Positive Impact Program (PIP) in which Aquinas students act as mentors to children at Sigbre Elementary school. Also, groundwork is being laid for a group of students to work at a local soup kitchen. If anyone is interested in coordinating or being a part of this program, please let our office know.

A former program that is being modified is “Cans For CAVA”. This is a program in which garbage cans are placed in all of the buildings on campus and the Aquinas community is asked place empty soda pop cans into them. The pop cans are then collected by volunteers who return them for a deposit. The money generated by Cans For CAVA goes to local non-profit organizations. In the past money raised by this project went to agencies such as Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, Mercy Respite, and The Muscular Dystrophy Association. A few volunteers are still needed for this project.

Look for the Cans For CAVA around campus and please give us your support! There are still plenty of other volunteer needs in the Grand Rapids Community, so feel free to stop by and tell us of your interest, or stop by just to talk.

The Amnesty International group is being called “a gospel-centered social action group.” It aims to promote the consistent ethic of life in various areas, from womb to tomb. A group has already gathered to begin preparations for the annual hunger and homelessness awareness week, which will be observed in November.

Beginning this month, a group called Swords into Plowshares will meet the first and third Wednesdays from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Pastoral Center. This group is being called “a gospel-centered social action group.” It aims to link our Christian faith with action in areas of social justice. There are other activities planned for the upcoming month, especially as new injustices arise in the world. Be sure to remain in contact with the office, especially to get involved!

Aquinas -- a smoke-free campus?

A recent proposal may turn Aquinas College into a smokefree campus.

On Tuesday, September 11, 1990, the Student and Academic Affairs Committee of the Community Senate met to discuss the proposal for a “Smokeless Campus”. This issue will be on the agenda for the Wednesday, October 17, 1990 meeting in the ballroom. Remember, at this meeting the final recommendation will be given and then opened up for discussion. Whether you are a smoker or a non-smoker your input is valuable... BE THERE!

The Community Senate is asking for any support, for or against the increase of IBM compatibles in the residence halls or east campus. Many letters have been written asking the Community Senate to investigate if the present number of computers in our living areas is adequate.

If you have strong feelings about either of these issues please write: the Aquinas Community Senate, 1607 Robinson Rd., S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49506, or better yet, STOP BY THE OFFICE! We are located in Wege Center, Lower Level. The Community Senate needs to hear your questions, concerns, and problems... keep them coming!

-Paul Rossi, Senate Chairperson

SAC activities pushing for peace and justice

Where do we stand in relation to the poor and oppressed? Members of the Social Action Committee have already begun exploring this issue.

A special highlight of the year thus far has been the new collaborative efforts between SAC and the members of the H.E.L.P program house, located in Knape Hall. The 11 women of the house are gearing up to lead and coordinate various areas of SAC activity.

The Amnesty International group will be kicking off the year with a movie and discussion. The group plans to meet bi-weekly to write letters on behalf of political prisoners and follow the efforts of A.I. worldwide.

There is also a group forming around the issue of militarism and the draft. The group plans to host speakers and take various actions on the issue. Also in the works is an effort to raise awareness and support for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which would ban all testing of nuclear weapons.

Paul Antor, SAC Coordinator
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Men's Soccer — a young team with high goals

by Chris Cowdry

Even though they are only six games into the 1990 season, the men's soccer team already has a championship trophy under their cleats. Their current record is 2-4, the losses going to Calvin College, Spring Arbor College, Hope College, and Siena Heights. The wins were picked up along with the trophy at the four-school Grace Bible College Tournament on Sept. 7 and 8.

The Saints beat Northland College, a Wisconsin school, on Sept. 7, while Grace Bible College beat Summit, a college from Indiana. On Sept. 8, Aquinas defeated Grace Bible College for the championships.

Four of the Aquinas players also walked away with individual honors: Senior Eric Meyers; Junior Todd Wissell; Sophomore Tan Phan; and Freshman Ryan Felix.

The assistant coaches are Jeff Goheen, Bob Gumbs, and Chris Cowdry, who consists of Senior Eric Meyers; Junior Todd Wissell; Sophomore Tan Phan; and Freshman Ryan Felix.

The team posted a 28-15 overall record and won the Missouri Valley Conference tournament. The team was also named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

This year's team, coached by Goffe Gumbs, consists of: Senior Eric Meyers; Juniors Eric Bridge, Matt Heitmeier, Mark Riley, Paul Rossi, and Todd Wissell; Sophomores Jeff Abraham, Rich Camacho, Bill Crowther, Tim DeShaw, Pete Hauschild, Matt Morrow, Tan Phan, Doug Powers, Matt Schneider, and Tom Troski; and Freshmen Dave Driscoll, Ryan Felix, Gary Hall, Michael Hauser, Matt Holmberg, and Jack McCabe.

I.M. Sports test skills of AQ students, emphasizes fun

by Melissa Wiersema

As the hot, stagnant wind of summer fades into the cool breezes of fall, the air rings with a slightly familiar sound. No, it’s not the cicadas anticipating October, it’s the THWAX of a bat hitting a ball or the squeak of tennis shoes on a gym floor.

Yes, it's intramural sports time at Aquinas. Intramurals are sports that are organized for people who want to have fun and compete without the added pressure of the win and loss column, fun being the key word in the participants' mind. Carol Mark, assistant to Mary Takas, who is the softball coach and I.M. sports coordinator, said that fun was the ultimate purpose of the games and that is what’s stated on every poster advertising the intramurals.

There are intramural teams set up for basketball, softball, and football, volleyball and floor hockey. The rules are set up so that everyone has a good time, no one gets hurt, and everyone’s sense of fair play is met. The games are organized in a 'Round Robin' fashion, which means that the two teams having the best record in each sport go on to play in a championship game.

Chris Penkala, junior, is the captain for RAFH II (Resident Advisors From Hell II), an intramural softball team. He said that he likes to get a team of resident advisors together every year so that the unity that they form in summer training sessions is not lost in the hectic shuffle of everyday life. Penkala has also played volleyball and football in the intramural program. He says that one thing he has learned from his participation in intramurals is how to build unity within a team structure. He also said that playing I.M. is good for stress relief because it "lets you get out your frustrations."

Erin Haines, sophomore, played intramural softball and football last year. She said that she enjoyed the experience even though neither of the teams she played on did well. Haines said the program is a great way to get new people involved in things here at Aquinas. Summing up her experience with intramurals Haines exclaimed, "it's a blast!"

Please see I.M. SPORTS, Page 15

Women's Volleyball team feared by opposition

by Tom Gregwer

This year's Aquinas College Women's Volleyball Team has set a very high goal for themselves: to perform better than last year's team, according to members. Last year's team posted a 26-15 overall record and ended the season as state runners-up.

In preparation for this season the women have undergone many strenuous practices and workouts. The squad is very excited and motivated and if everything falls into place, they should perform up to their highest level.

Head Coach of the Women's Volleyball team is Sharon Schatz. The assistant coaches are Jeff Belmonte, Ron Kooster, and Alicia Robinson. Schatz is very pleased with the team performances so far this year and states "we are definitely playing at a much higher level."

This year's volleyball team consists of twelve members. The returning senior members are Vonda Nagelkirk, Mary Margaret Joseph, and Ann Castillon. The returning junior members are Marybeth House, Tracy Classic, and Jennifer Ornee. The returning sophomores are Deanna McNamara and Laurie Stuck. Rounding out the team are freshmen: Megan Appleyard, Jennifer Ornee, Lisa Neumann, April Oswald, and Merri Carol Walsh.

The Saints possess a very competitive schedule yet they are feared by many oppositions as well. You can catch the volleyball team in action at their next match at home on October 9 when they host Aquinas' friendly rivals of Calvin College.
Cross Country Team digs their cleats in deep -- ready to take on the season with a new coach

by Shay Jaquays

On Saturday, Sept. 8, the Aquinas College Cross Country Team began its season at Grand Valley State University. As a team, the men placed third against G.V.S.U. and Grand Rapids Junior College, but individual honors went to Sophomore, Kurt Schmidt, placing second overall, and Junior, Pat Rajewski, placing seventh overall. Out of the three-school competition, the women earned second place.

The team’s second meet took place on Sept. 11 at the 25th Annual Hope College Invitational in Holland. Out of the nine teams present in the men’s division, Aquinas finished in second place, while the women ended the day’s competition in the final spot out of the seven women’s teams that competed. Other matches the cross country team has participated in include The Jeff Drenthe Memorial Invitational at Central Michigan University on Sept. 15, and on Sept. 28, the National Catholic Championships took place at the University of Notre Dame.

The Aquinas College Cross Country Team is made up of eight women and eleven men, and is coached by Larry Fisher. Fisher, who is new to the Aquinas coaching staff this year, is assisted by Ellen Ogle, also new to Aquinas. Although Fisher is a newcomer to the college, he has coached in previous years at schools such as Orchard Lake St. Mary’s, where he coached for five years. Fisher also started a cross country program at Alba High School in Alba, Michigan, where he remained for two years. Along with being the head coach for the cross country team at Aquinas, Fisher also works as a counselor and track coach at Grand Rapids West Catholic High School.

While Aquinas has had a men’s team since 1968, the women’s team has only existed since 1985 with the exception of last year. The ladies team is composed of eight women, ranging from freshmen to one junior, the only returning member. When they compete, the distance they run is close to 3.1 miles. On the other side of the track, the men’s team is composed of eleven men, four of whom are returning runners. Of the freshmen that have shown up have been experienced runners due to the fact that they ran in high school. Of the top five places on the team, two are held by freshmen.

One of the advantages of women’s team is its assistant coach, Ellen Ogle. To Fisher, having a female coach is a strong point and when an assistant was added, getting a female was a priority for Fisher. When the women placed second at G.V.S.U., it was first time competing for four of the female runners. Neither of the coaches have said that they want the women to finish at a certain place, but rather, be successful and work on remaining a competitive program. Fisher also commented on getting a team that will last for the women and for them to build their own foundation for the future. Although the season has just gotten off the ground, a great deal of improvement has already been noticed by the coaches and both the men and the women display a lot of enthusiasm.

The organization staff should be applauded for putting together such a successful and popular program. Mark said that the students who have been working are hard workers, who have kept things running smoothly. They are, she said, the ones who make it go. Approximately 140 people have participated in this year’s intramural activities. Mark said there is always room for more and the organizers would love to see more, though “the teams that have shown up have been great!” Perhaps the fear of losing may deter some from getting involved, but Mark stresses “it’s better to lose than not do it!”
The prospect of summer school...

is it really too early to decide?

Yes, I know that fall, winter, and spring precede summer — but I like to plan ahead. And you can help! You can fill out the questionnaire below and return it to my faculty mailbox, to the Aquinas Times office, or to John Romero's office (AB 107) by October 12. Then I can work with department chairs to plan a schedule of courses that will fit your needs. We will value your ideas.

Are there courses in your major that you want to focus on during the summer? Classes that you'd like to take just for fun? Thoughts on new course ideas you'd like to invite others to explore with you? Suggestions regarding calendar options?

Here's your chance to let us know how we can help you to fit your academic plans with other summer work and fun. Please plan ahead with me!

—Leon Raikes

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### STUDENT SURVEY

#### October 3, 1990

**SUMMER SESSIONS SURVEY**

1. **What is your class status?**
   - a. Senior
   - b. Junior
   - c. Sophomore
   - d. Freshman

2. **In what year did you first register at Aquinas College?**
   - a. 1987
   - b. 1988
   - c. 1989
   - d. 1990
   - e. 1986
   - f. 1985 or before

3. **Have you taken classes at Aquinas during the summer at any time since your first registration?**
   - a. Yes
   - b. No

4. **Did you register for at least one class during the summer of 1990?**
   - a. Yes
   - b. No

5. **If you have taken any summer classes at Aquinas, what were your reasons for doing so? (Indicate all that apply).**
   - a. To concentrate on a single required class
   - b. To fulfill at least one general education requirement
   - c. To study a subject just for the fun of it or because you felt like it
   - d. To "speed up" your college career
   - e. To "make up for" credits lost earlier or to avoid becoming a "fifth year senior"
   - f. Other: ______________________

6. **If you have not taken classes at Aquinas during any summer session, what are your reasons for not doing so? (Indicate all that apply).**
   - a. Need to work full-time or overtime
   - b. Relative absence of financial aid
   - c. Relative inconvenience of scheduling options for you
   - d. Classes you needed not available
   - e. Need for "time off"
   - f. You first registered at Aquinas in Fall 1990
   - g. You spend your summers outside of the Grand Rapids area
   - h. Other: ______________________

7. **If you were to register for at least one class during the summer of 1991, what calendar option(s) would you prefer? (Indicate all that apply).**
   - a. First Mini Session (Two four-hour meetings per week for four weeks, mid-May to mid-June)
   - b. Second Mini Session (Two four-hour meetings per week for four weeks, mid-June to mid-July)
   - c. First Eight-Week Session (One four-hour meeting per week, mid-May to mid-July)
   - d. Second Eight-Week Session (One four-hour meeting per week, mid-June to mid-August)
   - e. Directed Study (Five Saturday meetings at equal intervals, mid-May to mid-August)
   - f. Other: ______________________

8. **If you were to register for at least one class during the summer of 1991, what time of day/evening would you prefer?**
   - a. 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
   - b. 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
   - c. 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
   - d. Other suggestions: ______________________

9. **Is it likely that you will register for at least one class at Aquinas during the summer of 1991?**
   - a. Yes
   - b. No

**NOTE:** If yes, please also answer Question 10.

10. **Please show what kinds of classes or what particular classes you might like to take by circling all the items below that apply and by writing in specific course requests if you wish.**
   - a. Classes in your academic major
   - b. Senior Seminar
   - c. General distribution classes
     - 1. Language, Communications, and Mathematics
        - Specific course title: ______________________
     - 2. Aesthetics (Art, Music, Literature, Theatre)
        - Specific course title: ______________________
     - 3. Natural Science
        - Specific course title: ______________________
     - 4. Social Science
        - Specific course title: ______________________
     - 5. Perspectives (History, Philosophy, Religious Studies)
        - Specific course title: ______________________
     - 6. Personal Development (Physical development or Psychosocial development)
        - Specific course title: ______________________
   - d. Statistics
   - e. New or experimental courses
   - Suggestions: ______________________