Students Overcome Adversity for Fun, Sun

Seeking sun and fun, Aquinas students kicked off Spring Break '94 by hitting the road for places like Key West and Chicago.

"It was a great relief from the pressures of school," said sophomore Joseph Harnish, who went with Chris VanIlecken to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. According to Harnish, one finds out that the world is a small place during Spring Break. "I saw a person from my high school," he said.

Harnish was not alone. Ryan Tomalia met a group of friends in Fort Myers Beach, Florida. "I hung out with my friends from home all week," said Tomalia.

Carolyn Brocavich, Bridget Healy, Kerrie Dushane, and Michael Burnham visited John Miholczczyk, an Aquinas junior on an internship at Disney World. Burnham said he had a great time because he not only got to see a friend. "We visited John Mikolajczyk, an Aquinas senior," he said. "We had a great time on Spring Break. Melissa Voicil travelled to the Cayugah River Valley, near Cleveland. "We went hiking. It was the best time I had all year," she said. The trip was also easy on her budget. "I only spent one hundred dollars. We found places that didn't require any money."

Freshman Charles Conley never made it to his destination of Key West, Florida. "My friend's Jeep Cherokee broke down twenty minutes away from Lansing," he said. "I ended up going to Chicago, but I had really wanted to go down to Key West."

Nate Robertson also had car trouble, but was able to make it to Key West. He crashed his friend's car, had some repairs done, and was on his way. "The people in Tennessee were great," he said, "they really helped us get the car back on the road."

Robertson summed up the trip: "I can remember most of it...so I call it a good break."

Dominican Sisters Honored By Women's Center

On March 1, kicking off Women's History Month, the Aquinas College Women's Center held a luncheon to honor Aquinas' very own Dominican Sisters. The event, coordinated by Women's Center Director Alice Corey, was a time for reminiscence, praise and commendation. The ceremonies paid tribute to the Dominicans' years of dedication and service to Aquinas, as well as the community at large.

Approximately 100 Sisters, faculty and others packed the Wege Center Ballroom, enjoying an hour and a half of lasagna, salad, laughter and nostalgia. After a touching blessing by Dr. Gary Konow, Aquinas college president R. Paul Nelson welcomed the audience and reiterated the college's commitment to retaining the spirit of the Dominican's creed: community, truth, mission and prayer.

Former Aquinas College President Norbert Hruby followed with a testimonial to the selflessness of the Sisters and applauded them for their ability to cope with change in the church and society. Dr. Hruby pointed out that the Dominicans were among the first feminists in the nation and exhorted them as women of "grace, style and courage."

The highlight of the afternoon, however, was without a doubt Sr. Jean Millhaug. Associated with Aquinas as both a student and a faculty member since 1941 (when the college was located on Rand Aven.), Sr. Jean entertained the audience with a trip down memory lane, keeping everyone alert with her biting wit and humorous reminiscences of staff and faculty gone by. The spunky Dominician also urged all in attendance to keep alive the spirit of her order, which she described as, "love of learning, and the search for truth wherever it can be found."

After remarks by Sr. Aquinas Weber, who has served under all of Aquinas' presidents, was responsible for the 1974 effort to revitalize Eastown, and currently splits time between Emeritus College and Development, Sr. Carmelita Murphy took the stage. Sr. Murphy rounded out the afternoon, speaking of..."the rippling impulses of the combined efforts of the Grand Rapids and Aquinas Dominicians."

With this portion of the festivities concluded, Alice Corey proceeded with presentations and acknowledgements. Along with a brief history of each of the Dominicans' careers at Aquinas, Corey offered every sister a red rose and, more importantly, the heartfelt gratitude that over 10,000 alumni and 2,500 present students owe them. Sr. Nancy Ann Flumerfelt, a member of the Sociology Department for 19 years said, "It was a beautiful tribute, the trips through memory lane were very touching."

Confirming these sentiments, Jane Idoma, an original founder of Encore Grand Rapids Catholic Central, was planning the event, meaning that any new information will be rapidly dealt with. Harris said that the $15,000 reward for useful information is "still being offered through Silent Observer. In the past there have been many posters and several billboards around the city indicating the reward."

The victim's father, Jerry Battaglia, says that he was happy for his son to be among friends in Eastown and enrolled at Aquinas. Joel, a graduate of Grand Rapids Catholic Central, was planning to study education at Aquinas. Jerry Battaglia says that it is dangerous for young people to distance themselves from such a tragedy. Being a good person, he says, does not remove us from the possibility of random violence.

Battaglia, a teacher for Belding Public Schools, expressed concern that some young people may move to Grand Rapids from smaller towns without having adequate knowledge of cautious behavior that is necessary in a city.

Three and a half years later Jerry Battaglia still feels a painful shock in response to the death of his son. "It is real for me and I hope it won't be real for others," said Battaglia. 
"Memories are Made to Last"
Theme for Spring Fling

By Amy Mazurek
Times Staff Writer

Throw on your dancing shoes and your best duds and help celebrate spring with all your friends when Aquinas College's Spring Fling comes to The Amway Grand Plaza, April 15.

Be ready for fun, but don't expect a repeat of your old high school prom.

Beth Felix, chairperson of the event, said the committee wants to take away from the "pompousness" of the dance because most people go out of date anyway.

"We want to take a new twist," she explained, "and not make it a couples thing."

Since most people attend the dance in groups of friends this seems like a logical thing to do. Ticket prices will be between $25-30, depending on the meal choice which has not been determined yet. This years choices might include either a vegetable, meat or fish plate, but the money you pay doesn't just go toward the meal itself, either a vegetable, meat or fish plate, but the money you pay doesn't just go toward the meal itself. This years choices might include either a vegetable, meat or fish plate, but the money you pay doesn't just go toward the meal itself.

There will be no formal pictures of the dance on it, and the money you pay doesn't just go toward the meal itself. This years choices might include either a vegetable, meat or fish plate, but the money you pay doesn't just go toward the meal itself.

The celebration of the cognate was planned for March specifically because it is Women's History Month, said women's studies cognate coordinator Dr. Rebecca Coogan.

She said the event, held at 7:00 p.m. at Krescemer Recital Hall, consists of a concert with dance, drama, art music, with art displays and an Aquinas book-store exhibit featuring women's studies books. A segment of the concert will be devoted to the anniversary of the cognate, she said, with poetry readings and monologues by five or six participants. The women's studies cognate was originally created out of the Encore program, a program dedicated to women returning to school, said Academic Advisor and Coordinator of Continuing Education Pat Kozal. She said Jane Idema, former director of Encore, was responsible for the development of the cognate.

Kozal said the first meeting regarding the possibility of a cognate was in 1980. It took a few more years, she said, but in 1983 the final work was done to bring the cognate into effect for the spring 1984 semester.

"The students got excited and the administration backed them up," said Kozal. "It's mostly to gain a sense of equality in the world. Not to subvert men by any means, but to collaborate with them on issues of human rights."

Corey feels the center serves the same function.

"Gender issues cross sexual lines," she said, and the younger generation needs to be able to understand and deal with them.

Christa Satterlee, a student employee of the center, has found it personally beneficial.

"It has helped me in knowing what resources are out there, and opened up a lot of doors. It has been very empowering."

Kozal gives a lot of credit to the Dominican Sisters for the success of the women's studies cognate.

"This all would not have been possible had not the Dominican Sisters been in the forefront of the feminist movement because of their intellectual capabilities and desire to search for truth."

Student Society of Human Sciences Wins February Organization Honors

By Kelly Chenier
Times Contributing Writer

The Student Society of Human Sciences didn't waste any time getting down to business. Although the organization was formed only last semester, it was recognized by the Community Senate as the February Organization of the Month.

"We wanted to recognize them because they have done an awful lot for their first year as a club," said Kim Schmitz, who presented the organization's officers with a cake.

The organization stems from the Psychology Club. Laura Turner saw a need for an organization for sociology majors on campus, and worked with Julie Magee to come up with a plan. They decided to include both areas of study in one organization because they were so similar.

"We want to socially enhance ourselves by using sociology, psychology, and the human sciences. We keep updated by bringing speakers in and visiting agencies, such as the YWCA and the Juvenile Court," said Laura Turner, SSHS president.

The members also went to DePaul University in Chicago where they visited with the chairperson of the Psychology Department and three graduate students to learn about graduate school programs. Last semester they sponsored three movie nights, and have brought in speakers on schizophrenia, multiple personalities, and most recently, depression.
The once lively heart at the center of Grand Rapids has nearly stopped beating. Monroe Mall, formerly a bustling shopping and entertainment district, appears to be suffering from a malady afflicting urban centers nationwide — emptiness at the core.

"There's nothing down there to go see or do," said Aquinas senior and Grand Rapids native Michele Bailey. And while senior Kathy Kulaga does occasionally venture downtown to see plays and musicals, she doesn't shop on Monroe Mall. "From the stores I've seen there, I don't see any that I'd go in and buy something from," she said.

But before the introduction of suburban malls such as Woodland and Eastbrook, downtown was the place to be and shop. "There used to be a lot of traffic," reminisced Rae Lampen, a Woodland Mall shopper. "When I was younger there were a lot of teenagers downtown. There were buses all the time and from downtown, I could go down on Saturday mornings, spend the day and catch a bus back home. It was very nice."

That was when Monroe Mall was still Monroe Avenue, a four-lane street that was part of "the circuit" back in the 50's—a place where teenagers used to cruise in their cars or gather in groups looking for fun, excitement, and friends. In Europe, the downtown area is very vibrant, but while the European model for downtown works well on the other side of the Atlantic, Urban Studies professor Michael Williams maintains it just can't work here.

"Our population is too big and spread out. The automobile is king," he said. "I really don't see the pressure to revitalize downtown that we see in European cities. In Europe there is much more pressure economically to keep the city center viable. A lot of people here say 'Who cares?'" Williams thinks that downtown planners are missing the point. "The central city in Grand Rapids is not going to be a thriving downtown," he said.

But Bob Buffham, owner of Monroe Mall's very successful Van Lock's Shoes would probably disagree. "There's more going on downtown than anywhere," he said.

Van Lock's, a downtown business for 51 years, has a loyal customer base that extends well beyond downtown Grand Rapids' boundaries. His success, like that of other downtown retailers, is due in part to making personalized customer service a priority.

Centrally located and with easy pressway access, downtown is in many ways an ideal destination for area residents and visitors alike. That central location can be the key to a successful business.

"If I were to move anywhere out of downtown," explained Sharon Manning, owner of Downtown Hair Co. at 22 Monroe Center, "I would eliminate some people because of where I moved. If I moved to Kentwood, people from Comstock Park wouldn't come. If I moved to the near west side, people from Wayland wouldn't come. This is the central location and I like the mix of people you get downtown."

After 19 years on Monroe Mall, Manning has stuck out all of its incarnations. After being a four-lane avenue, the mall was next converted into a "parking mall," with narrower traffic lanes and angled parking.

"But that didn't last very long," according to Craig Kinne, Executive Director of the Downtown Management Board. More changes were in store. "A lot of cities had put in pedestrian malls thinking that the way to compete with suburban malls was to look more like a suburban mall. It was the trend."

So in 1978-79, downtown property owners got together and asked the city to establish a special tax assessment district to put in Monroe Mall. The cost of putting in the mall was borne largely by property owners downtown who taxed themselves. Construction was completed in 1980.

And initially, the mall concept seemed to work. "Mall businesses showed healthy sales increases after its opening. When the novelty began to wear off, Monroe Mall once again began to struggle. New life was breathed in with the completion of the City Centre project in the late 80's, but it too was short lived."

One of the problems, according to Bob Buffham, is keeping up to date. "When malls are built they need updating and possible re-development. It's a time consuming process." Or, in fact the Downtown Management Board has a new mission statement. It reads, "Our mission is to create and promote a vital downtown for YOU."

And based on the results of a planning process set in motion in 1990 by an arm of city government, the Downtown Development Authority.

One of those ideas, the re-opening of Monroe Mall to automobile traffic, has been met with very mixed reactions. "I like the idea of putting the street back in," said Steve Reynolds, owner of Reynolds and Sons Sporting Goods at 12 Monroe Center. "With a street there, you'd have a safer perception, especially at night. It would be lit up a little bit differently and there'd be moving traffic."

It could be used for parades again, he added, which would bring people to where the stores are once again.

Sharon Manning disagrees. "It sounds like a big waste of money," she said.

The proposed plan would involve a redesign of Monroe Mall, opening it up both visually and psychologically with the destruction of the lower end amphitheater and the addition of a slow-moving limited use traffic lane. The resulting "street" would be curbside, at the same level and paved with the same material as the adjacent sidewalks. Vehicular traffic would be limited to non-peak hours. A gate system on either end of the mall would prevent automobile traffic during the busy noon hour. Vendor courts would operate as usual, and no one-hour crowds would still be able to walk freely across the span of the mall street. A new entertainment/festival area would be created to bring festivals such as the Hispanic Festival, the Italian Festival and others back to the mall area and nearer to retailers. Store visibility would be increased, a concern expressed by many downtown merchants.

Mary Feit, owner of Maymart's, isn't sure if just opening the mall to traffic, though, will be the answer. "What's the sense of having traffic if people are going to drive by and see empty stores?" she said. "If they're willing to reduce taxes downtown and bring people to open new businesses, then you can have traffic. At least when people drive by they'll see some kind of retail, maybe they'll stop downtown and buy something."

Steve Britton, self-proclaimed "grunt and gopher at Brownstone in City Centre, just wants them to stop spending money on more studies. 'Just make a decision and do it. Either way.'"

Whatever happens with downtown and Monroe Mall, everyone agrees that something needs to be done. And soon. What is less clear is exactly what.

Let us know what you think, we welcome your ideas and comments about this issue. Any feedback received will be forwarded to the Downtown Management Board for consideration in planning.
Creative Dating in the '90s: Taking the Pressure Off

By Diana Smith

The stories they tell horrify David Coleman, those men and women on the College Press Service.

By Diana Smith

Colemen, those men and women on the front lines of the battle rife of love, the walking wounded, the mortally stricken, the painfully maimed—the date survivors.

And Coleman is not talking about more lousy experiences here—he's talking about deeply bad, forever-blocked-from-your-memory kind of dates. Like the guy who went to a prom and watched his girlfriend leave with another guy—and take the car. Or the young woman whose partner's behavior on a roller-coaster ride left much to be desired.

"Every time they went through a loop he puked all over her," Coleman said, recounting the story told by a participant in one of the seminars that he leads on how to make dates more fun and less stressful.

Coleman, director of student activities at Xavier University in Ohio, said participants in the dating seminars tell awful stories—"experiences," he said—"that are flabbergasting by some of their experiences," he said. The stories demonstrate why college students need to think more about dating, said Coleman, who started conducting the seminars as a private sideline after he realized that many young people don't have any idea of how to date. At the request of an administrator about eight years ago, Coleman organized a creative dating session for Xavier students. During that seminar, he realized how little planning and thought people put into dating.

He found that young people tended to fall back on old standbys such as bars, restaurants, movies and parties, situations that often involve drinking large quantities of alcohol and are less than conducive to the mating ritual. After all, how can you seriously talk with someone who's crowded, noisy, busy or during a movie? And if you don't get to know someone better, what is the purpose of dating?

"Exactly," Coleman said. "Make the date the focal point, not the people themselves. It takes the pressure off the two people to entertain each other."

For example, two people could decide to meet for a walk in the park, or go on a hike, take in a museum exhibition or volunteer to work in a soup kitchen together—anything that's fun, as long as it allows greater communication.

"My definition of dating is any event that allows two people to share time together in the hope they will spend a lot more time together in the future," Coleman said.

Report Blasts Undergraduate Education

By College Press Service

RACINE, Wis.—America's system of higher education is not preparing graduates to meet the nation's future needs in terms of skills, knowledge and ethics, a report charges.

The report, issued in December by the Wingspread Group on Higher Education after a year's study by business and education leaders, challenges the nation's 3,400 colleges and universities to engage in a candid, far-reaching assessment of the state of higher education.

"A disturbing and dangerous mismatch exists between what American society needs from higher education and what it is receiving. The mismatch is most dangerous in the area of undergraduate education," the report said. "The American imperative for the 21st century is that society must hold higher education to much higher expectations or risk national decline.

The United States will find it increasingly difficult to compete in a global economy unless undergraduates gain a higher degree of skills and knowledge than they are currently getting, said William Brock, a former U.S. Senator, Secretary of Labor and the current chairman of the study group.

"We have issued this 'wake up call' to alert the leadership of the nation's colleges and universities that they must rethink their basic assumptions and how they go about their business," Brock said. "Too much of higher education and education at every level seems to be proceeding as if every generation is different—anything that's fun, as long as it allows greater communication.

"Too many of our institutions of higher learning fail to put student learning first. Too many are conveying to students that individual and community values—citizenship, tolerance, hard work, compassion—don't matter very much. And, too many are failing to create the habits of individual and community values—ci-

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In honor of Diversity Week, it's important to spend some time exploring the diversity of Aquinas.

As a native of Traverse City up in the Great White North, there was very little opportunity to be in contact with people that were different than me. When I first moved to Grand Rapids, it was almost culture shock, and I loved it! Finally there was something different to look at, different opinions to be heard, and different lifestyles to experience. It was so refreshing to be able to explore my own feelings about differences in people that I had never been able to acknowledge before. I was afraid I was unknowingly prejudiced against different people since I had never come in contact with anyone different from myself. I was relieved to discover that despite my sheltered background, once in a community that celebrates diversity as much as Aquinas, I was able to join right in on the celebration.

The first difference I was faced with was that of skin color. There was, I believe, maybe ten African-American people in Traverse City when I left it, but there were many Native Americans, including my grandfather. So I had experienced the Native American culture, but not the African-American culture. I have learned a lot since I have come to Aquinas about that culture. I think every culture that is contained within the student body here is well represented in everyday campus life. Compared to some other colleges I have visited, Aquinas doesn't have a racial problem. As the newspaper editor, I spend much of my time observing the students, I feel that we, as a student body, are caring and accepting of differences. We are all human, and at least most of us recognize this fact. I agree that the African-American culture needs to be represented better in our faculty and staff and curriculum, but we have to recognize, also, that we are doing much better than many colleges.

I had never thought about homosexuality before coming here. But when my best friend told me he was gay, I was forced to explore the concept. At first it was scary, never having witnessed anything of the type, but then I realized once again that we are all people with feelings. The homosexual population is persecuted more by society than any other minority.

It is the only group that is still discriminated against LEGALLY. I wish more people would take the time to learn more about this type of diversity, because it would be so much easier for homosexuals to be themselves if they weren't met with such contempt.

BRAVO to Aquinas for starting a Gay and Lesbian Awareness Group. All of us should get involved in this cause, regardless of sexual orientation, because that is exactly the point: It doesn't matter.

One should not have to wear a label, no matter what their differences are. Wasn't that the basic lesson all through kindergarten? We are all special. The only things we must have in common to live together on the same planet is the fact that we're human and we all have feelings. Those are the only facts to keep in mind. But in order to live on the same planet in PEACE, we have to have one other thing: acceptance. It is up to us all as human beings to get to know as many people as we can so that we can experience different ideas. I'm glad I attend a school like Aquinas that is dedicated to exploring, no celebrating, student differences the way we do.
There was a time when going to the theatre meant that you saw a musical extravaganza complete with dancing, singing, and actors that could split your funny bone. Through the years the theatre has developed into many different aspects, but on Tuesday, March 8, the Broadway Theatre Guild brought the production of Crazy For You to Grand Rapids' DeVos Hall. True theater has once again come back to give us a spectacular show full of dancing, singing, and dancing legs.

Crazy For You is about a man (Bobby Child) torn between two women in his life: his overbearing mother (played by Ann B. Davis formerly Alice on "The Brady Bunch") or his rich girlfriend who thinks that they are getting married. His ambition in life is to dance in the Zangler Follies, but his mother and girlfriend don't want him to do that. To get away from the two of them, he goes to Deadrock, Nevada to foreclose on a mortgage. Bobby dresses up as Bela Lugosi in the Zangler Follies to come to Deadrock, and perform a slapstick piece, where they imitate one another. Both Bobby and Zangler pulled off an amazing scene, which was so well done that they walked, talked, and crossed their legs.

Even the sets and costumes were larger than life. The girls of the Follies wore the old time costumes with large head pieces and colorful gowns. The sets were all constructed to fit the time period and looked magnificent.

It was truly a marvelous performance. The combination of George Gershwin's music and Ira Gershwin's lyrics was spectacular! older or younger, you couldn't help but enjoy this show. The audience all clapped and cheered during the performance, and several of them even moved to the point of shouting "Bravo." Obviously Grand Rapids gave Crazy For You high marks for entertainment.

If ever there was a musical that would capture the hearts of America it would be Crazy For You. All the ingredients for a perfect show are there: humor, singing, dancing, and a wonderful cast full of enthusiasm. If ever Crazy For You comes to a theatre near you, don't walk, don't even think about it! You won't be disappointed.

By Kathy Denton
Times Staff Writer

Brad Winkler: A Step Beyond Administration

Brad Winkler likes his position as Director for Student Development. "I've worked with many students. I'm proud to be working for a man who appreciates it very much," he says.

Winkler's life-long career in education began in 1969 at Wooster, a small liberal arts college in Ohio where he grew up. "It's a lot like Aquinas, which is one of the reasons I liked it here." While working toward his degree in psychology and mathematics, he took a position as a Hall Director and also as an assistant in the psychology department. From there he went on to Bowling Green University and became a resident director while finishing his masters in College Student Personnel.

Winkler has never even been to Michigan. Before he came here to apply in 1979, he laughed, "But Aquinas had the qualities that I was looking for." He then joined the AQ staff and spent 10 years as Director of Residence Life and Associate Dean. He also spent eight of those 10 years at MSU continuing his education.

R. Paul Nelson was the Dean for Student Development at that time. "When he went on to become President, he asked me to take over his position." Winkler is proud to be working for a man who appreciates his ideals in student commitment. His own personal commitment is to provide the students with a well-rounded experience that goes beyond the classroom.

As Dean, he oversees the many programs that complement the student curriculum such as the Health Center, Residence Life, Campus Ministry, Student Activities, and Athletics to name a few that keep him busy. "No two days are the same. A college president has to be prepared to handle anything that comes up as you never know what may come up, especially here at Aquinas."

Winkler, an avid sports lover, is a member of the East Hills Athletic Club where he enjoys racquetball.

"I've had most rewarding moments are those spent helping Aquinas students grow from questioning freshmen to mature graduates. "I've put up with grades over I've known for four years. Some of them were the mischief makers. Then I watch them mature to the point that I see them more as colleagues than students. It makes me so proud of them." His dedication to the students enlightens what he feels to be his most rewarding moments. "I enjoy staying in touch with students and I've been blessed with a number of close relationships."

Winkler's most rewarding moments are those spent helping Aquinas students grow from questioning freshmen to mature graduates. "I've put up with grades over I've known for four years. Some of them were the mischief makers. Then I watch them mature to the point that I see them more as colleagues than students. It makes me so proud of them."
Photography Editor

Built up and she was institutionalized. And support her family. But the pressure
of his early twenties to his dying days.

Laughter with every action. But what the

Chaplin, better known as Charlie, the

Record has true depth, and I highly rec­

spective: “Baker Baker baking a cake/

need a woman to look after you?”. In

themselves deal with

more or less what you'd expect (love,
liberation, Queen Elizabeth, nudity),
lyrics... I'm feeling dead” (“Die Laughing”).

Actually, every song on Troublegum
is impressive, and picking out the best
one is difficult; as a result, the album is
unified and consistent as a whole. The
band's name fits perfectly, as well—I
use this disc as a therapeutic outlet; the
uncreative Mariah Carey or Whitney Houston. This
her a pop superstar like the uncreative

on the love-song cliches that could make her

the Mission,” but his usual ticked-off
sentiment and Amos' soaring vocals.

The theme of this album is loneliness,
imagination, and despair, thus it is quite
heavy and depressing (which is a plus,
in my opinion). “Unbeliever” best de­
fines this, with its intense guitars and
lyrics like “Then you leave me/like the
others/Leave me too much time/On my
lyrics like “Then you leave me/Like the

sings a somewhat humorous conflict in
sensation and Amos’ soaring vocals. Tori Amos gracefully

never have a vocal line

in my opinion). “Unbeliever” best de­
fines this, with its intense guitars and
lyrics like “Then you leave me/like the
others/Leave me too much time/On my

sings a somewhat humorous conflict in

Go West,” is possibly the album’s
most brilliant moment. Bolstered by
a waltling men’s chorus, Tennant
swallows out his dream of freedom
and open space with affecting sincer­
ity. Not since Elvis Costello turned
“What’s So Funny ’bout Peace, Love
and Understanding” from a cynical
take on hippy sentiment into a genuine
soul cry has a tune so slight in the
original been rendered so powerfully
in a cover version. Don’t get me
wrong—this disc probably won’t
change the face of modern music, but
it’s a very fine pop album. You have to
start somewhere.

Chaplin, better known as Charlie, the
best slapstick comedian during the time
when movies had no sound. With a
waddle in his walk, the whisper of a cane,
his constant fumbles, and the wiggle of
his squared mustache, he captured
laughter with every action. But what the
viewers never knew is brought out in this
film—the hardships of life he had to face.

Robert Downey Jr. (Air America, Soapdish) plays Charlie, from the ages of
his early twenties to his dying days.

The hardships started when he lived with
his brother and mother in poverty, after
his father left them. His mother would
sell used and worn down gloves to try
and support her family. But the pressure
built up and she was institutionalized.
By Matty Stankiewicz
Contributing Writer

Our tails off.”

As one of my favorite writers said, the Little Engine that could became the freight train with a purpose. The women rolled through the WHAC regular season. Each game they looked more and more unbeatable. The starting five of Char Broersma, Kotina Russell, Nikki Tuttle, Nikki Biggs and team captain Kim Zdybel dominated like no team I have ever seen. Tuttle was a dominant force in the middle. The other coaches in the league thought so as well. As a result Tuttle was named conference player of the year—an award that was well deserved. Broersma, Zdybel and Russell were also named to the all-conference team. The mastermind behind the team, coach Patti Tibaldi was also recognized. Tibaldi was named coach of the year. Tuttle’s undying faith in her team’s ability was one of the reasons for the turnaround. Also the bench play of Dana Manel, April Johnson, Denise Craft and Stacy Dobhyrowksi kept the team focused at all times. I have to nominate Kelly McEnhill for the hustler of the year award. McEnhill always gave 100% and was all over the floor. McEnhill did not score the points like the rest of her teammates, but she did not have to. She made the steals, took the charges, forced the turnovers and just did so many other things that impressed me.

By the end of the season this team looked unstoppable. They destroyed Siena Heights in the semi-finals to set up the meeting with the Cougars from Spring Arbor. A capacity crowd anticipated an exciting contest between the WHAC’s two best teams. They were not let down. The game had drama from the opening tip. Spring Arbor used a very patient offense to disrupt the Saints early in the game. A jittery Saints team made some hurried decisions and the Cougars lead by seven at halftime. The Saints began to turn the ball game around. Russell connected on a 3-pointer. Craft and Tuttle controlled the front court offensively. Broersma, Zdybel and McEnhill applied pressure constantly. Biggs was slicin’ and dcin’ . It was beautiful. The Saints were within point at 5 minutes left to play. Then the Cougars closed the door on the Saints. The Saints kept coming back, like they had all year, but this time there efforts fell short. Spring Arbor 70, Aquinas 66.

My heart goes out to Broersma, Zdybel, Tuttle, Biggs, McEnhill, Johnson, Craft, Manel, Russell, Dobhyrowksi, Sami Adamsi, Stacy Powell, Jen Smith, Jen Norman, Amanda Dunham, Coach Tibaldi and Coach Takes. Ladies, here is a message. Keep those heads you played magnificently. It was a fantastic season. Thirteen wins in a row is no small feat.