Back Into the Streets

By Erin Flynn
Times Contributing Writer

This past week, Aquinas students worked on various community projects and in various areas of the community as part of the annual “Into the Streets” program. Into the Streets is a week where students gain the opportunity to volunteer their time to contribute to the community. It is a nationwide program that touches many other area schools.

Some of these schools include Calvin, Hope, and Michigan State. Aquinas, however, seems to be more involved than larger schools, according to Stephanie Langstaff, coordinator of CAVA, the volunteer organization on campus. Langstaff reported, “Michigan State had their Into the Streets a few weeks ago, they only had about 100 participants. Aquinas has 130.”

Aquinas should be commended for such a great turnout. However, it is not the numbers that count, it is the work the volunteers do for the community. Monday, Aquinas kicked off Into the Streets with a healthy dinner in the Cook Carriage House for all of their volunteer participants. On Tuesday, the activities began.

Bonnie McLennec coordinated the Eastown Community Associations’ graffiti painting, while Rosie Stempky and Andie Richmond headed the Degage Ministries project. The Degage volunteers accomplished a lot in the short hours they were there. Stempky explained what they “vacuumed, scrubbed walls, mopped, and transported carpet to the chapel.”

The workload isn’t ever too tough but the rewards are always great as Amy Jantovsky recalls, “I felt really special that by doing something like playing bingo, I could make someone’s day brighter.” Jantovsky participated in The Holland Home Event (playing bingo with residents) coordinated by Callet Warren.

Stephanie Fochtman, who also visited the Holland Home, said, “I thought it was a unique opportunity to work with the elderly because you don’t get to do that every day.” Wednesday’s work didn’t end there. Renee North and other students were busy helping out the children at the Child Guidance Clinic. Doug Dooley, and Mary Kay McIntney had to postpone their group’s work at Habitat for Humanity until this week, as weather halted construction on the area houses that the group was scheduled to work on.

Thursday, Janee Lindahl took a team of volunteers to the AIDS Resource Center, and Friday three events were planned. Friday’s events included sorting and hanging clothes at In the Image coordinated by Yadi Best and Eva Berumen, two shifts of cleaning at Mercy Respite coordinated by Joelle Brown, and Painting at Westown Housing, led by Matt Flemming and Amy Hazel.

Saturday included a food drive, and Sunday wrapped up the week with a slide show, certificate presentation, and snacks following mass at Bukowski Chapel. Into the Streets is a worthwhile fulfilling week that aids the community. All participants should be thanked and congratulated for their work. If you didn’t sign up this year, next year you should definitely plan on it. The work won’t kill you, and, according to the participants, the rewards are multiplied a hundredfold by the great feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction.

The evening didn’t end there. Renee Stempky and Andie Richmond performed Bingo with residents coordinated by Callet Warren. Doug Dooley, Mary Kay McIntney, and Amy Hazel thanked and congratulated for their work. If you didn’t sign up this year, next year you should definitely plan on it. The work won’t kill you, and, according to the participants, the rewards are multiplied a hundredfold by the great feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction.

Teresa entertains the Dinner Night Club Crowd.

Dinner Night Club Offers Feast, Music

Once again, the Programming Board has made a huge success out of the Dinner Night Club activities here at Aquinas. On November 17, the country music recording artist Teresa performed in front of an audience of over 100 students and staff. Teresa has just signed a recording contract with Sony and this is her third time performing here at Aquinas.

The evening began with the Thanksgiving dinner being served by staff members of Aquinas at the Donnelly Center. Turkey, prime rib, mashed potatoes, and an ice cream dessert were served just as an appetizer to the main event of the evening, Teresa.

Teresa began her set with a popular Melissa Etheridge song, “Come To My Window.” That’s right, Melissa Etheridge. Even though she is a country recording artist, she enjoys many types of music, and incorporated others into her show, including rock icon Janis Joplin, as well as country star Trisha Yearwood.

In between her own songs such as “Brave New Girls” and “The Playground,” both excellent songs that could become Top 40 singles on the country charts when they are released, she kept the crowd entertained with humorous stories and jokes. She was very lively (just ask St. Joe’s Resident Director / Director of Intramurals Steve Guerrero) and kept the crowd involved throughout the entire night.

Senior Mike Loefelman, admitted to not being the biggest country music fan himself, but still responded favorably, saying, “She was some of the best country I have ever heard. She was not just twangy and warbley.”
The Annual JAMMIN Fashion Show: "Quilted Patterns of Soul"

By Angle Walden
Times Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, November 8th, Great Sexpectations was shown in the Kresge Recital Hall. This play was put on by eight students from Western Michigan University. These Western students were: Melanie Dean, Christopher Green, Marcus Perrine, Kara Rose, Patrick Salembier, Sarah Stockherio, Shelia Yeri, and Mohammed Young. Their director was Robin Notl and Christine Zimmer was their producer.

Mary Earley, director of AQ health services, was the person responsible for bringing Great Sexpectations to Aquinas. She heard about it at an American Health Conference. Mary said, "It was a series of routines, an audience participated in the play. The show included Michael Travis, Assistant Multicultural Director, singing "Inseparable" and Sara Bumey, a senior at Aquinas, singing "Harlem Blues." The evening began with a reading of "Quilted Patterns of Soul," a poem written by JAMMIN members Kenyatta Christian and Liana Lopez. Vocal solos in the show included Michael Travis, Assistant Multicultural Director, singing "Inseparable" and Sara Bumey, a senior at Aquinas, singing "Harlem Blues." The cast included Kanika Young. Their director was Robin Nott and Christine Zimmer was their producer. Penny Avery discussed rape issues.

Great Sexpectations was a different kind of play than many people have seen before. Most plays use lots of props and have a lot of different characters. Penny Avery discussed rape issues.

The play was different. "I thought a play form of some situational factors," and that concept was an important issue. Penny Avery discussed rape issues.

Avery went on to dispel some common misconceptions. She also related Michigan law to acquaintance rape. Penny Avery, Communication Arts Professor at Aquinas, addressed these statistics and other related issues during her speech on acquaintance rape at the Cook Carriage House last Thursday.

Avery is working on her dissertation on acquaintance rape at Michigan State University. She wanted to research a topic that would help "create change," said Avery. "I think that frequently in the area of academics, professors and people who are scholars are really good at end up studying things that have very little practical use. I wanted to study something that I could turn around and share with people." Penny Avery discusses rape issues.

Avery opened her talk with a graphic account about a woman who had been raped by a college acquaintance. She was quick to point out to the audience that even though they may be in a relationship with just one person, they are also sleeping with everyone whom that person had slept with in the past. There was one quite emotional scene, scene 11, that was a great scene where everyone in the play died of AIDS. This scene was where all the actors were covered with a tombstone and one person at a time would uncover their tombstone and talk about how they contacted AIDS. Penny Avery discusses rape issues.

"I thought this scene was really touching. It really made all of us think about AIDS," commented Christine Richmond. Penny Avery discusses rape issues.

The very last scene was the scene that promoted abstraction. This scene was a setting where everyone was riding in a car traveling to a cabin. The topic of sexual harassment was first brought up and then it led into different stories. Each actor had his own story.

The very last story told was by one of the male actors who was a big talker about sex. Eventually it was found that he had been misleading everyone because he had never had sex. This was an important part of the dialogue because when all his friends found out, they said it did not change how they felt about him at all. The performance here at Aquinas was the last time it was being performed for the year. Many people who went to see this play really enjoyed themselves. "It was a great message, now all we have to do is get people to listen," commented Annie Gardeski. Julie Samsonsson said, "It made stronger points that I never really thought about before." And sophomore Brian Ebel replied, "It was a very educational and interesting approach to the sexual problems of today." Penny Avery discusses rape issues.

The program ended with a discussion of situational factors that can be controlled by students in order to decrease their risk of being raped. These include the consumption of alcohol or other drugs, loud music, and being in a multiple male dwelling.

Of all the information presented, Avery wished to point out that, "We are in control of some situational factors," and that consent is an important issue. Said Avery, "We should come to a point where we feel comfortable talking to people about what we want and don't want on a sexual level...those wishes need to be respected." Penny Avery discusses rape issues.
Great Issues:
The Gun Control Debate

On Monday, November 13, the Political Affairs Committee of the Aquinas Senate sponsored the first “Great Debate” which centered on the topic of gun control. Approximately 25 faculty and students attended the forum, whose guest speakers included Charmaine Klaus, crime victim and member of the National Rifle Association, and Marge Byington, Aquinas College Board of Trustees Member and a member of the anti-gun association.

"Enough is Enough."

The forum began with each speaker giving a quick introduction as to why they felt the way they did about the issue of gun control. Klaus introduced many statistics which supported a more liberal gun ownership laws. She included the Florida state law which allows people to carry a handgun at any time to give them the chance to protect themselves as an example on how giving people this right has lowered the crime rate in that state. "Despite the scare tactics of the anti-gun lobby," she said, "Florida is not the bloodbath that they predicted."

Klaus said that the Michigan Constitution gives its citizens the right to protect themselves with guns. "When a gun board arbitrarily denies an honest person the right to protect themselves when the time arises," she said, "it denies them the right granted in the Constitution."

She said, "In Michigan, the counties with the most liberal gun-ownership laws have the lowest homicide rates." She then added, "There is definitely an inverse relationship between private gun ownership and the crime rate."

Klaus used her experience as a clerk in a store who shot an armed robber after he had killed her co-worker as an example of why guns are needed by honest citizens. Klaus said that he may have shot her too, and most definitely escaped if she had not had that gun.

Marge Byington represented the side in favor of stronger gun control laws. She said that she supported a more liberal gun ownership laws. She included the Florida state law which was firearms. She said that the sale of legal guns to honest citizens needs to be restricted. She pointed out that the Florida law has lowered the crime rate and is an example on how giving people the right to protect themselves has lowered the crime rate. Byington said that she was impressed with the forum and the way it was organized and how it raised many points for the gun control debate.

"It was great," said Suki Palmer, co-chair of the Aquinas Christian Fellowship and member of the pro-gun point of view," she said. "While the problem of gun control was certainly not solved, many good points were raised.

While the problem of gun control was certainly not solved, many good points were raised. It mostly depended upon whose facts you wanted to believe, because they both had facts that contradicted each other. While both sides were present well, it seemed that the majority of those in attendance were in favor of stronger gun control. However, as Courtney Parker said, whose facts you want to believe depend quite a bit on how you were brought up, and those values will determine your position on this important issue.

Folk Singer Informs Students About Jewish History

by Melissa Pline
Times Contributing Writer

On Tuesday, November 14, folk singer Joe Aronson presented a program titled “A Recent History of the Jewish People Through Folk Song” to the Aquinas Community in the Louit Room.

Aronson was brought to Aquinas by Campus Ministry and the Programming Board of the Aquinas Christian Fellowship. His songs ranged from such topics as education and celebration, to love, faith and facing oppression. He also gave a brief history of the struggle of the Jewish people and their journey as God’s chosen people.

Mary Clark-Kaiser of Campus Ministry said that he was brought to campus because "Music and history mixed together sounded interesting," and that his presentation "opens people’s doors." The presentation lasted about an hour and was very educational.

Nikkiya Koval, a freshman, came because “It sounded interesting and I wanted to learn more about Jewish history.” She added that she learned a lot about “the side of history you don’t always hear about, especially about World War II.”

Cook Carriage House Celebrates Official Opening

The building has been in place for decades, but on November 9, Aquinas students came together in the newly renovated structure known as the Carriage House to kick off the building’s long-awaited reopening.

Sponsored jointly by the Senate and Student Activities, and funded primarily through the efforts of Programming Board, the Carriage House kickoff was designed to direct the students’ attention to the new student union by hosting an array of events. "We want to start letting everyone know that the Carriage House is open," commented Timi Hough, Director of Student Activities. "Right now people are stuck in their ways. They haven’t built going to the Carriage House into the their schedule. Within the next two years it should be the place to be," she added.

To kickoff the weekend, the band Outcry played as part of the Carriage House concert series, presented every Thursday night through Christmas. On Friday, students were invited to visit the Carriage House by a dinner consisting of Pizza Hut pizza and bread sticks, topped off by an evening of gambling at the temporary casino. Horseradish carriages rides around campus were also offered. Regarding Casino Night, Sean Cramer said, "I was fun. Something you don’t get to do everyday.”

Kickoff events continued on Saturday with combat games, Boxy Bouncing and Jousting. Both of these events took place on air mats similar to the ones found in moon walks present at carnivals. “It was great,” commented Cain Derenze, sophomore. "I just wish there would have been more participants.”

“I guess the attendance can be attributed to the beautiful weather," commented Senate Chair John Niedzielski. “Maybe everybody was out skiing.”

Several activities are upcoming, while past events have proven to be successful. As the last of the furniture comes in and the finishing touches are made, all students are invited to check out the Carriage House. The building is open until midnight Monday through Thursday, and until 2 AM on Friday and Saturday.

by Andy Pieper
Times News Editor

Cathy Taby rakes in the chips at Casino night.

Fulton Heights

YOUR FOOD MARKET

SINCE 1913

1415 E. FULTON, ON FULTON JUST EAST OF FULLER
2420 EASTERN AVENUE, ON EASTERN JUST SOUTH OF ALGER
The Right to Bear Arms...

by Eric VanGessel
Times News Editor

Recently Aquinas was fortunate to host a debate on a highly controversial gun-control topic. There were two speakers who had the opportunity to express their individual viewpoints and thereby thereafter questions were taken from the audience. The debate was positive because gun-control is a topic that should be granted serious scrutiny from both sides of the political spectrum. If there is one thing that is constant in this argument it is the manipulation of statistics that each side is fond of spewing out. Those whose stance is anti-gun-control love to point to statistics which promote their cause, and pro-gun-control advocates tend to do the same thing. Anyone who has ever dealt with statistics knows that they can be manipulated in any number of ways to prove a point. Therefore I could sit here and fill your head with a bunch of nonsensical statistics, or I could simply argue the merits of allowing law-abiding citizens to keep firearms. The latter seems more appropriate.

Criminal activities are something we all wish to act on and decrease if possible. For those of you who have ever been on the receiving end of a mugging, break-in, or physical assault you will always stick with you. If you’d had something stolen it can be replaced, but you always carry the anger associated with someone violating your person or your property. When a criminal crosses this line there are certain risks they should be forced to deal with, one of these being the knowledge that they may pay dearly for their actions. If, for example, someone breaks into your house or apartment with the intention of doing bodily harm, I think that person should know that they may never be able to leave, they must understand that they could be killed. This, in and of itself, is a powerful deterrent to the crime ever being perpetrated.

When I lived in the Heritage Hill area last year, there was a young woman who lived next door. One night her apartment was broken into and the intruder raped her. My immediate reaction was anger directed toward the sick, perverted individual who could contemplate, much less carry out, such an action. My second thought is that this is the type of person who should have been shot as soon as he broke her window and entered her apartment. He would have been seriously injured or killed but, for lack of a better phrase, he had a come-on. He took something away from this young woman that she can never get back, and even if he was caught and spent 15 years in prison (which is doubly false), he would have gotten off lightly. He should have been greeted at the window with the barrel of a loaded gun staring him in the face, and then maybe he would have thought twice about ever doing something like that again. Instead, he will probably receive, assuming he is caught, some pathetic “slap on the wrist” prison sentence, or probation.

We could sit back and debate all the sociological factors that drove this man to do this, or excuse his actions through some kind of psycho-babble, but the harsh reality is that there are people out there who are violent for whatever reason. These criminals seems to be getting bolder, more dangerous, and possess little respect for the law or human life. The police are simply unable to protect everyone all the time and therefore much of this responsibility falls on our shoulders. This is why any further limits on gun-control are not a good deed for our crime. It will simply put us in a more vulnerable position than we are currently in. We can therefore head in three directions. We can make handguns easier to obtain, keep things at their present level, or make handgun harder to obtain. I would suggest keeping the status quo which entails requiring a five-day waiting period, fingerprinting, and registry with law enforcement officials. This allows for adequate controls and therefore lets people protect themselves, which at the very least addresses the immediate problem, and then work very hard at reducing crime through other methods. These include reforming the court system, reducing illegitimacy, and promoting education. These actions alone will have a direct effect on reducing crime, not gun control. It must be understood that this country had guns long before we evolved into such a crime-ridden society. Therefore the problem must be a direct result of something else, simply prohibiting a tool of the criminal world will have little or no effect on crime. It will simply make the situation worse. The government has a nasty habit of attacking a problem from the wrong angle, and this is yet another example of this. We must prevent our elected officials from taking away one of the few tools we have to prevent ourselves from becoming yet another statistic in the every growing category of victims.

Historically, the United States Government has attempted to regulate potentially dangerous items. Simply by their function, guns fall into the previously mentioned category. The logic behind this government regulation is to protect the citizen from the harm that can occur from failing to use these potentially hazardous objects properly. While this policy has witnessed its share of negative public reaction, it has also brought attention to issues such as alcoholism, the link between tobacco use and cancer, and now the relationship between guns and violence. I realize that there are many people who believe things would work themselves out if only the government got out of the way. In response to that assertion, I acknowledge that in many cases bureaucracy blocks progress. However, with gun control, it doesn’t apply. This is due to the immediate danger of guns and their inability to grant forgiveness. The government must impose restrictions on gun ownership until our attitudes about guns and violence change. Without gun control, more loving mothers, proud fathers, and adoring children will die.

Having people who apply for a license to own a handgun serves many useful purposes. It establishes a waiting period that prevents the impulsive purchase of handguns. During this time, people could attend training sessions that cover firearm safety and demonstrate the proper way to use a gun. This can also be used for background research on the applicant, which will keep those with criminal intent from purchasing handguns.

Having criminals who don’t purchase their weapons through legal means, you ask? The guns being purchased illegally today at one time were purchased legally. Common sense tells us that if less guns are purchased legally then there will be a decrease in the number of guns for sale through illegal channels. In elaborating on the issue of criminal involvement, one might find it necessary to examine the ability to enforce these laws. There is need to improve the enforcement of gun control laws, although the need is not great enough to justify criminalization that is saving lives. We live in a nation where men beat their wives, who in turn dismember their husbands, children are clobbered by angered fists, siblings curse at one another, and friends...
Budget Negotiations Lead to Government Shutdown

by Maris Brancheau
Times Contributing Writer

The United States Federal government insti-
tuted a partial government shutdown be-
ginning Nov. 14, after budget negotiations be-
 tween President Clinton and the Republi-
can majority in Congress proved futile. The
closure is the 10th temporary shutdown of
government within 15 years, with the long-
est disruption lasting only four days.

According to an opinion poll given by
ABC News and The Washington Post, nearly
one half of all Americans blame the Repub-
licans in Congress for the shutdown.

Only around 7% placed the blame on
Clinton, while all others polled believed
both Republicans and Clinton were equally
to blame.

The public apparently disagrees with the
proposed budget plan which gives tax
burdens to the rich while cut-
ting welfare, Medicaid, and
other social pro-
grams.

Clinton told the country he wants
to balance the budget, but
would not accept
"funders" in the
continuing reso-

The Republican
party wants
the shutdown of services.

Clinton, however, did scale back its staff by 79%.

Most West Michigan lawmakers kept their offices open with the exception of US. Rep.
Peter Hoekstra, R-Holland, who closed his three district offices and cut back his Wash-
tington staff.

Hoeckstra has commented that he believes,
"This budget is a moral issue. We have piled
vital institutions as the Postal Ser-
vice, military, health inspection, law en-
forcement, Federal Courts, Air Traffic Con-

The White House, however, did scale back its staff by 79%.

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Excursions...

Imagine the scene: You are standing in a smoky bar, watching one of your favorite musicians/bands perform. Totally immersed in the sound, your body sways to the rhythm of the song; your mind is content, in a Utopian state of pure bliss, as the vibrations rush through it like a stream through a rocky rivulet. Suddenly, the singer on stage catches your eye, and you draw in. She holds out her hand, and your body responds without thought, flowing toward her, eyes still locked. You feel her stare gently penetrate you, right down to the core of your brain, to the dank dungeon of your mind, wherein lies a cavern of untouched treasure. It is as if she has simply swept away all of the meaningless flotsam of everyday life, and enlightened you to the purpose of your existence. Meanwhile, the music still radiates through the air, and through you. Moments pass, lifetimes pass; she releases your hand, and withdraws the invisible bridge she had built between her and your eyes. And there you stand, tired, and at the end of the song; your mind is content, in a positive outlet. I listen to it in the car, while I can hear your thoughts now: What the heck is he talking about? Well, it's a personal experience of mine. No, it was not a drug-induced hallucination, or some dippy new-age meditation exercise. It is exactly what I described. I was at a concert, and this happened to me, leaving me pondering how and why this strange "spiritual awakening" took place.

Was it the fact that this singer is someone I admire (and perhaps envy) because of her incredible vocal talents and her ability to write intensely personal, yet thought-provoking lyrics? Perhaps. Was it because she was an attractive female, and I was smitten with animal lust? Maybe. However, after days of introspection (and annoying my friends with my exciting tale), I finally figured it out: it was the music.

The cascading wash of guitars, and the hypnotic rhythms of the bass and drums played a key role in my "enlightenment." The sound was a channel through which a strange force traveled (although I didn't hear Ben Kenobi's detached voice telling me to "use the Force," thankfully, or I'd be questioning my sanity). This force opened my mind to a new spiritual, creative realm; my abilities to write creatively and play music now seem less forced, more natural, and thus, more true to myself. Now, if she had come up to me at the bar, grabbed my hand, and stared into my eyes, without the presence of the music, I honestly don't think I would have been effected very much by it.

However, my point is not to tell a self-indulgent tale. I'm simply trying to illustrate the power contained in music (or any art form, for that matter). Whether you're listening to Miles Davis, watching 2001, or contemplating Machi's "The Screamin," there exists that intangible something that can elicit a deep emotional response. Even this past weekend, after viewing the film Seven, I felt an emotional tug. The movie's stark vision of a grisly, brutal reality hit like a blow to the solar plexus.

Personally, music is my drug of choice (or perhaps it chose me). I listen to it when I go to sleep at night. I listen to it or play it when I experience eye-bulging stress, in an attempt to channel a negative source of energy into a positive outlet. I listen to it in the car, while I drive the dishes, etc., etc., etc. It's a way of life. It surrounds my life and embellishes it. All I can say is: open your mind to music, not just intellectually, but spiritually. It guided me to a further understanding of myself. Such is the power of art. The only thing concerning to Miles Davis, watching 2001, or contemplating Machi's "The Screamin," there exists that intangible something that can elicit a deep emotional response. Even this past weekend, after viewing the film Seven, I felt an emotional tug. The movie's stark vision of a grisly, brutal reality hit like a blow to the solar plexus.

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**THE Crossword**

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**THE AQUINAS TIMES**

WANTED!!

We at the *Times* are losing our beloved Curt Wozniak to the Ireland program. Thus, we need a dedicated individual to fill his shoes as FEATURES EDITOR. Call x4106 to set up an interview if interest exists. Help make the world a better place—work for the *Times*.
November 22, 1995

The Rambling Padooka
By Curt Wozniak

There aren’t any dragons left. Not anymore. I know because I’ve been looking for them. Every time I do any highway driving I catch myself up in the horizon to see if I can spy one in the distance and every time—nothing. Therefore, in the realm of my experience, there is no empirical evidence to suggest that there are any dragons left. Thus, I’ve concluded that we live in a world free of dragons. Now many people would certainly not take it so kindly as to think that I’ve eliminated the dragons completely. However, we’ve created a larger problem than any of us could have hoped to resolve through their extinction. Dragons are a diversion from the mundane. Imagine the truly unique and fantastical experience that coming across one would allow you to have. The problem, however, is that not everyone can handle fantasy, and oftentimes, uniqueness is a scary concept. With the growing power of marketing and sales, exclusion of these potential consumers makes dragons a not-so-marketable commodity. Mundane is starting to be taken seriously because even something as basic as food and drink, which has the potential to excite with seasoning will carry for a lifetime. The mundane has replaced the dragon in nearly every aspect of popular culture.

Music still entertains the fancies of many of us, but the music which gains widespread acceptance and financial support (allowing it to proliferate and, eventually, dominate the airwaves) is far too often unchallenging, mindless junk. Meathead? Come, now. Even something as basic as food and drink, which has the potential to excite with seasoning and flair, succumbs to this imposed uniformity. Grocers’ shelves are cramped with everything from bread to beer that hold no surprises for those who would partake in them, pleasant or otherwise, due to the fear of losing one potential consumer. My generation seems to have a clue, but do we really? It’s important in the lives of many of us to set ourselves apart from the rest often for the simple sake of doing so. We create our own traditions, by striving to create our own style or mimicking what we see on M-TV. A wise friend of mine told me this summer something I think we should all keep in mind every day. He said, “I am going to make fun a priority.” That is the ideal that all of these traditions revolve around. No matter how much homework I may have, I still try to make time every Sunday to sit down and watch some of the Lion’s games (no laughing), just as I did for every Sunday as a kid with my dad and brothers. Too often we take for granted the simple pleasures in life. It makes me sad to think how soon those days of PBJ TAW’s, Lion’s games (no laughing), just as I did for every Sunday as a kid with my dad and brothers, will carry for a lifetime.

A Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

After reading “Milwaukee” in the last issue of the Times, I felt compelled to pick up my Number 2 Graphite word processor and write a reply. Over the past year I have attended several workshops and demo’s on the Internet and Worldwide Webs. I can honestly say that I have yet to be impressed. Once I get beyond the gosh-golly-we’re-re-linked-with-Australia phase, I always come back to the question “so what?” Do I have anything meaningful to say to Australia? How’s the kangaroo? True, Aquinas does need access to Internet, but Internet and other wonders of the age are only tools and a tool is only as good as the operator. With all the talk around here from both students and administrators about the coming New Age of the laptop university, I sometimes think we are waiting for the second coming of Christ. It’s only a machine, and from my point of view as a teacher, it is a machine that too often gets in the way of education. Lately I have been hearing people (faculty and students) say they can hardly wait until we get on the Internet and, in the meantime, they use lack of access to Internet as an excuse to do nothing at all. We can’t do adequate research until we get on the Internet. We can’t write papers until we get on the Internet. We can’t teach students to think, write, communicate until we get access to the Internet. Is computer literacy to be shortchanged in ourselves on lack of access to the Internet? Will the Internet help lazy students get up before eleven o’clock classes? Will the Internet improve their ability to complete the disability of the “wasteland” we carry around between our ears? Will the Internet do anything, really, besides increase our access to a thousand books, articles, books and resources we will not have time to read because we’re already too busy as it is? Personally, I would rather have a student read—really read—one good book, chew it, digest it, assimilate it than have him/her have Internet access to tens of thousands of texts that will go forever unread because he/she feels overwhelmed by the sheer amount of data out there.

Internet is a tool and the finest tool is only as good as its user is skilful. The finest wood chisel in the world will not make me a skilled carver. The finest guitarist in the world will not make me a concert-level player. Similarly, the most powerful computer will do me little good if the gray matter that ultimately drives the computer is not up to its demands. Therefore, in the realm of my experience, there is no empirical evidence to suggest that there are any dragons left. Thus, I’ve concluded that we live in a world free of dragons. Now many people would certainly not take it so kindly as to think that I’ve eliminated the dragons completely. However, we’ve created a larger problem than any of us could have hoped to resolve through their extinction. Dragons are a diversion from the mundane. Imagine the truly unique and fantastical experience that coming across one would allow you to have. The problem, however, is that not everyone can handle fantasy, and oftentimes, uniqueness is a scary concept. With the growing power of marketing and sales, exclusion of these potential consumers makes dragons a not-so-marketable commodity. Mundane is starting to be taken seriously because even something as basic as food and drink, which has the potential to excite with seasoning and flair, succumbs to this imposed uniformity. Grocers’ shelves are cramped with everything from bread to beer that hold no surprises for those who would partake in them, pleasant or otherwise, due to the fear of losing one potential consumer. My generation seems to have a clue, but do we really? It’s important in the lives of many of us to set ourselves apart from the rest often for the simple sake of doing so. We create our own traditions, by striving to create our own style or mimicking what we see on M-TV.

Yes, not a dragon to be found.
**Voices in the Crowd**

**A Time to Give Thanks**

The last Thursday of November is traditionally set aside in the United States as a day of thanksgiving. Families congregate to gather, sharing a meal and good company. Those family members who are fortunate enough to have escaped the post meal cleanup duties usually take some time after the meal to fall into a deep, turkey-induced slumber. Before this quasi-coma sets in, however, it might be appropriate to spend some time thinking about how pointless the whole thing is (a day of gratitude as opposed to what, a lifetime of taking everything for granted?), or perhaps just to simply count your blessings.

On the eve of this holiday, Aquinas students gave thanks in many ways. Here are just a few.

* Joe Bauer, freshman: "I'm thankful that just because I'm here, with this chance to broaden my education."

* Eva Berumber, Junior: "I'm most thankful for my unicycle—just kidding. Honestly, I'd have to say that the number one thing that I'm thankful for is going to be my parents."

* Rico Camon, Junior: "Hmmmm...what am I thankful for...I guess I'd have to say good friends. Understanding parents and good friends."

* April Carpenter, Junior: "Because Thanksgiving means only for more weeks till Christmas and the end of the semester—that's why I'm thankful."

* Eric Dahlstrom, sophomore: "This time of year I really can appreciate my girlfriend a lot more, and all of the good times we've shared."

* Darla Hauser, freshman: "I'm very lucky to get along so well with my roommates—they make college fun."

* Jane' Lindahl, freshman: "Getting to spend Thanksgiving with my boyfriend's family should be interesting. I just hope the turkey isn't burnt."

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* Shannon Ouwenwell, freshman: "Erich Schmiedicke's wall of pictures—that's what I'm most thankful for."

* John Serba, Editor-in-Chief, the Aquinas Timer: "I'm thankful that death will eventually take me."

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**AQ Up Close:**

Kim Finses

by Andrea Richmond

Times Contributing Writer

This fall, Kim Finses has joined the ranks of the Advising Center staff to help guide and direct the ever growing student body. An opening in Academic Advising was created when Judith Drew, former Director, took a counseling position at Mercy College. Celine Modr stepped up to replace Drew, leaving a vacancy in her former office, which is where Finses stepped in.

Kim Finses can be described as an advisor with new ideas who fits in naturally to the ship with the Better Government Association, she met for a class with other Metro participants including several Aquinas students who were also part of the program. Along with the Chicago experience, a summer internship in Washington D.C., four years in Hope's Registrar's Office and three years in Davenport's Student Services Office, Finses' resume is certainly packed full of impressive credentials. The sum of her experiences will no doubt make Finses a great help to Aquinas students seeking employment in the fast lane of business and politics.

Kim Finses found her way to West Michigan and specifically to Aquinas College was no simple accident. Finses was drawn to Aquinas because, "Aquinas offered the community atmosphere that is so similar to my interests and background. " Finses cited the values that Aquinas upholds as another reason for this change, commenting further, "One does not need to find those values socially in public colleges and universities."

We can all be glad that Finses found something special in Aquinas College. After talking to her, it's obvious that Aquinas has found something special in her.

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**LOSE 20 POUNDS IN TWO WEEKS**

Famous U.S. Women's Alpine Ski Team Diet

During the non-snow off season the U.S. Women's Alpine Ski Team members used the "Ski Team" diet to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. That's right - 20 pounds in 14 days! The basis of the diet is chemical food action and was devised by a famous Colorado physician especially for the U.S. Ski Team. Normal energy is maintained (very important!) while reducing. You keep "full" - no starvation - because the diet is designed that way. It's a diet that is easy to follow whether you work, travel or stay at home.

This is, honestly, a fantastically successful diet. If it weren't, the U.S. Women's Alpine Ski Team wouldn't be permitted to use it! Right? So, give yourself the same break the U.S. Ski Team got. Lose weight the scientific, proven way. Even if you've tried all the other diets, you owe it to yourself to try the U.S. Women's Alpine Ski Team Diet. That is, if you really do want to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. Order today! Tear this out and direct the ever growing student body. An opening in Academic Advising was created when Judith Drew, former Director, took a counseling position at Mercy College. Celine Modr stepped up to replace Drew, leaving a vacancy in her former office, which is where Finses stepped in.

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Chicago's Drovers play the Intersection on Saturday, November 25th.

The Drovers Release New Album, Gear Up for Tour

Drovers fans will wait no longer. After taking the summer off to finish recording their new album, Little High Sky Show, the highly-heralded Chicago quartet is back with big plans for the months to come.

The band's eclectic mix of Celtic-influenced folk rock has had critics and fans alike raving since the band released its earthy-toned debut World of Monstors, and the follow-up, a darker sounding EP, Kill Mice Elf. The group's appearances in the movies and on the soundtracks of Backdraft and Blink also helped to bring the band into the spotlight.

But with the release of their new album, violinist Sean Cleland feels that the band has had a sort of "rebirth."

"We are very proud of this album," said an obviously happy Cleland in a recent phone conversation from the band's hometown of Minnesota. "I think that this album is a sort of culmination of our best. After Kill Mice Elf was released, we had just gotten our new drummer, Paul (Bradley), and we were still sort of getting to know each other.

"When you're in a band, it's so important to know each other on a personal level probably more than it is to know each other on musical basis," continued Cleland.

And with Little High Sky Show, Chicago's most underrated export has more than something to be proud of. With the help of famed producer Steve Albini, the band has created a sort of "live" sounding album that suits me just fine playing rock 'n' roll. That suits me just fine because I'm a James Bond fan.

But Goldeneye has some great changes from past plots. Of course, Bond's nemesis definitely has it in for him, but the typical bad girl-turned-good—because she falls for Bond isn't here. Instead, "the girl" is just caught in the wrong place at the wrong time (and, incidentally, doesn't like Bond much), thus making our hero change his approach in order to win her.

Brosnan brings in a fresh look to 007 fans, and keeps Goldeneye in the tradition of previous James Bond episodes, making it well worth your time. Ladies, look out. Brosnan and Bond could steal you away from your man. But don't worry, there's enough high-tech toys in the show to keep any man busy...for a while.

On the North side of Chicago, Sweep The Leg Johnny vocalist/saxophonist Steve Sostak sits in an attic of an old apartment building with producer Chuck Uchida. Staring at a sea of knobs and buttons, Uchida (of Astica Recording Studios) and the soft-spoken Sostak are putting final touches on the first four songs of STLJ's forthcoming untitled release.

"When the establishment of the eSTaTe, we have just taken another step towards being where we want to be," and while walking in the rain after a long seven hour day of recording, Sostak wanted nothing more than to be back home helping eSTaTe bands Streganona and Sweetcar get ready for their show that night at the University of Chicago.

Besides being an independent record label that includes STLJ, Streganona, and Sweetcar — two other indie labels from Chicago — on it's roster, the eSTaTe is a cooperative that involves certain ideals revolving around community and self-expression. The eSTaTe promotes education, art, literature, and, of course, music.

It's these ideals upheld by the eSTaTe which set the bands and the people involved apart from the monotonous rigamore bouncing around in the heads of many self-compromising musicians today.
November 22, 1995

HOPS AND BARLEY

By Josh Newman
Times Entertainment and Photography Editor

’Tis the season to be merry, and no one ever accused Samuel Adams of being a scrooge. So for all of you who are just starting to feel the warmth and joy of the holiday season, remember that the fine folks at the Boston Brewing Co. have created the perfect holiday gift for you and your friends.

The Samuel Adams season sampler 12-pack includes two bottles of six different kinds of your favorite SA beers, all boxed up in a nice, classy package—perfect for giving, or taking home for yourself. The season sampler includes Thanksgiving favorite Cranberry Lambic, Honey Porter, Boston Ale, the new Scotch Ale and Old Fezziwig Ale, and our pick, Winter Lager.

Winter Lager — Quite possibly one of the best beers available to man, SA’s special seasonal ale. Eighth Street delivers everything you could want in a beer. This brew is murky and deep red in color, giving off a pleasant aroma that clues you into the quality before it even hits the old taste buds.

The dark wheat bock has a strong potency, and a bitter taste, as fermented beverages go, yet tempered with a strong herbal flavor. A perfect beer for dinner, relaxing in front of the fireplace (or the L.V.), or hanging around with old school buddies over the holiday break. (****)

UNDERGROUND CHUCK

By Josh Newman
Times Entertainment and Photography Editor

Wow! After all of the days and nights travelling to Eastown for food, who would have thought a place such as Azara’s (1499 Wealthy, located next to the hub lab) could have been overlooked. While the lines at Subway, Today’s Taco, Yesterdog and a few other small food joints may be long, the line at Azara’s probably will be none such the case...and length wise...because the food is bad. Not at all.

Looking like your typical Party Store on the outside (and for the most part, the inside too), Azara’s houses a small food prep area that produces some of the best gyros (pronounced yu) that this critic has ever had. Hearty and authentic, Azara’s makes a gyro that not only is oozing with quality, but has the quantity bases covered as well. A meal in itself, this culinary gem features a fat free pita, stuffed with a heaping helping of perfectly seasoned lamb meat (we’re not talking about savory lamb meat), topped off with your choice of onions, tomatoes, green peppers, sprouts, cucumbers, etc. etc. All combined, the Azara’s gyro is one of the best deals in town, at a fairly priced $4.25.

The rest of the menu, though understandably somewhat limited, features items like a fried cheese gyro, a chicken gyro and more. And on the way out, don’t forget to pick up your favorite Greek newspaper, a box of cereal, a quart of oil or your favorite beverage. (****)

CD REVIEW

by Joe Theuerkauf
Times Contributing Writer

Supercrude ESTaTe Records I guess I’m just a lucky guy.

Lucky, that is, when it comes to the music I sometimes get the privilege of reviewing. The rest of the menu, though understandably somewhat limited, features items like a fried cheese gyro, a chicken gyro and more. And on the way out, don’t forget to pick up your favorite Greek newspaper, a box of cereal, a quart of oil or your favorite beverage. (****)

Funny, but nobody ever said that these guys were about sing-along melodies or flowery artistry of the likes of this Windy City foursome.

That’s only half the story, and half the fun these guys will force you to have. Watch out world, here they come. (****)

VIYNL REVIEW

by Curt Wozniak
Times Copy and Features Editor

The ESTaTe Records 7” (****)

Sweep the Leg Johnny/Streganona

No Headline Does Them Justice

The Verve Pipe:
No Deadline Does Them Justice

By Josh Newman
Times Entertainment & Photography Editor

Now, STLJ is no Hootie and the Blowfish, but when “The Law of Conservation of Bluesy Folk Rock Hit Makers” finally comes into effect, we’ll be left with the raw musicianship and visionary artistry of the likes of this Windy City foursome.

The lineup of STLJ combines unorthodox guitar chording, driving bass, saxophone grooves, drumming which brings the most can out of stretched skins and hammered metal, and haunting vocals, both when whispered and screamed. The result is exemplified in “Similarities.” This track opens with a few grinding measures which must have gotten somebody’s amp smoking. STLJ mellows, shaping the tune into something remotely jazzy, then a return to smoking amps, but this time on the same jazzy tip. Lyrics are whispered in twenty-five lines, then the song ends abruptly after a bit more smoke. Conclusion: “Similarities” is unlike anything this reviewer’s ever heard, but then again, I don’t get out much.

The two-song seven inch is just a taste, but more from both bands is on the way. Streganona and STLJ, along with Sweetcar (see separate review, this page), will still whatever size crowd gathers on November 30 in the next installment of the Thursday night Cook Carriage House Concert Series. P.S.: if Aquinas College has never seen a mosh pit, be ready. One may be on the way.
Young Mackers Team Shows Potential

The Grand Rapids Mackers dropped the opening game of their season Friday night. After leading for most of the game, the Mackers fell behind with 3.1 seconds to go for the first time in the second half and were unable to come back. Senior Derek Donnelly, the Mackers starting point guard, finished with 19 points and seven assists, while AQ shot an acceptable 44.1 percent from the field, grabbed 10 rebounds, and scored a game-high 25 points. The starting point guard, Nicki Biggs, played 36 minutes and had seven assists, while AQ shot 8-10 from 3-point range and scored 23 points that the team needs to work on, but the Mackers are developing this year. The loss to Grand Valley will ultimately help the Lady Saints in the long run. It (the loss) emphasized some of the weak points that the team needs to work on, but look for the Saints to bounce back from the loss and play some exceptional basketball games this year.

The Saints are ranked 21st in the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Preseason Poll and they have a solid core of returning players as well as some exciting newcomers. The Saints play Ferris State at 6PM on Friday, November 24 in the Grand Rapids Press Tournament. Come out and cheer your favorite women's basketball team to victory.

by Angie Walden
Times Contributing Writer

Dickens wrote, "It was the best of times. It was the worst of times. For the Aquinas College Men's basketball team, who recently began to undertake the 1995-96 campaign, nothing could be more true than those words. This year's varsity team consists of thirteen AQ men: Seniors Derek Donnelly, Brian Zawierucha, and Bill Lengemann, Juniors Mark Hughes and Jenny Booker and Hughes: and underclassmen as well.

The starting point guard, Nicki Biggs, played a game yet. Definitely a winnable game. From the very beginning, with two turnovers in the first 1:03, the ball didn't seem to bounce the Saints way the whole day. The Saints did hold a 36-33 lead at the end of a very sloppy first half in which both teams committed 12 turnovers, but the lead wouldn't last long.

Both teams opened the second half applying full-court pressure. The Lakers effectively used the press to force AQ into five turnovers in the first 3:14, and outscored AQ 14-2 to take a 47-38 lead which they would never lose.

Sophomore Jen Forkner, who earlier in the week set back may have been a disappointment, but for the Saints, the best is yet to come.

by Brian Matzke
Times Sports Editor

November 22, 1995

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The WHOLE story IN ONE view

by Chris Hubbard

X-Country Finishes Season at Spring Arbor

Saturday November 4, 1995 was described as judgment day by the Aquinas cross country team members. Their year-round training and racing finally came down to one meet, the WHAC Cross Country Championships at Spring Arbor.

The Saints have had an outstanding season, making their name known throughout the WHAC today and in the future. The spirit of the Saints ran high, and both the men's and women's team had their best races of the season.

Well, it feels as though the temperature outside has dropped to fifty below zero and that snow has begun to fly, which to many loyal sports enthusiasts can mean only one thing...hockey. Amidst the constant talk of the seemingly inevitable firing of Lien's head coach Wayne Fontes and the seemingly imminent probable resurgence of the Pistons, the Detroit Red Wings have quietly begun their quest to return to the Stanley Cup Finals. After last year's loss in the Finals to the New Jersey Devils, Detroit had much to atone for coming into the new season.

Opening up against the Colorado Avalanche, formerly the Quebec Nordiques, Detroit again encountered their nemesis Mephistopheles (a.k.a. Lucifer, Claude Lemieux), and once again left town with a disheartening loss. Compounding this negative start were trade rumors which were floating around the NHL and included the names of Steve Yzerman and Dino Ciccarelli, two of the most popular Wings among Detroit fans.

In spite of this, the Red Wings have really come on in the last month and made their way into first place in the Central Division with a 10-5-2 mark. Detroit traded away left wing Ray Sheppard to the San Jose Sharks in return for center Igor Larionov, a 35 year old former member of the Soviet Red Army Team. Larionov has been centering a line with Slava Kozlov and Sergey Fedorov who, together with defensemen Vyacheslav Fetisov and Vladimir Konstantinov are jokingly referred to around the league as the Soviet Reunion.

As far as Yzerman is concerned there does not appear to be any hurry to renew talk of trading him in light of his recent performance. Coach Scotty Bowman moved Yzerman back to center from the left wing where he had been playing, following the injury of Keith Primeau. Yzerman has responded with 5 goals and 4 assists since being moved back to his usual position and has silenced, at least temporarily, the critics who said that he was losing his edge. Another Red Wing who has begun to earn some much deserved recognition is Chris Osgood, Detroit's goalie. Osgood, who started the year alternating with veteran keeper Mike Vernon, finally impressed the coaching staff enough to earn six straight starts in net. Vernon has recently been bothered by a sore back and has seen limited playing time. The most glaring weakness that Vernon has is that he gives up a lot of goals through the five-hole (the area between his legs). This sports writer is pretty sure that it is possible to drive the zamboni through his legs without even scraping the sides, which makes putting a hard rubber disc through seem like child's play. While Vernon would make a pretty decent backup to Osgood, it remains to be seen if Bowman will return to alternating between his two goalies.

With the increased production of Steve Yzerman, the solid performance in goal by Osgood, and overall solid play from the rest of the hockey club, the Red Wings look to be well on their way to another great season. Currently ranked 3rd in the league in both scoring and defense and in first penalty killing, the Wings are a tough match-up for any team in the NHL.

The Wings Begin Quest for the Cup

by Robert LaBarre

The future also looks bright for the Saints, who will be losing only a few members of their team. Their year-round training and racing finally came down to one meet, the WHAC Cross Country Championships at Spring Arbor.

Vernon would make a pretty decent backup to Osgood, it remains to be seen if Bowman will return to alternating between his two goalies.