Relaxation? Pshaw!

Ambitious service groups forego vacationing for volunteerism

by Mindi Evans
Times Contributing Writer

To most, spring break means a chance to get away and relax from the stresses of daily life. However, several Aquinas students spent their break working and learning through the Jonah House and Appalachia service trips.

A group of nine students, headed by Fr. John, attended the Jonah House project in Baltimore, Maryland. Matt Flannigan, Gwen Johnson, Stephanie Fochtman, Stacie Rozman, Morgan Higginbotham, James Filelski, Thang Le, Bob Fix, and Melissa Plante spent a week learning about the goals of the Jonah House.

The Jonah House is an organization that promotes non-violence and peaceful protests. The members of Jonah House live a simple life, with no extravagant luxuries. The actual house is located right in downtown Baltimore, surrounded by lower income neighborhoods.

While there, the Aquinas students also lived a simple life. "I learned to appreciate our earth's resources. We ate vegetarian meals and learned it wasn't necessary to take a shower every day," said Gwen Johnson of the experience.

Along with daily prayer and discussions, the Aquinas group worked at the Viva House, a soup kitchen distributing meals to the poor, cleaned a cemetery, created paths and even poisoned rats. While in the Washington D.C. area, the Aquinas group was able to enjoy seeing the sites of our nation's capital. They even participated in a protest with members of another group of students against recent budget cuts regarding the homeless.

"When you work side by side with the poor of this country you feel the real meaning of the experience. This trip made me realize the need for a greater understanding of the reasons behind people protesting. I'll never forget it," reflects Johnson.

Mary Beth Pniewski, Marcie Witkowski, Dan O'Donnell, Janelle Burden, Mike Steers, Jonell Witkowski, and Wade O'Boyle participated in the Appalachia service trip. This group, headed by Eric Bridge, spent a week in the undeveloped communities of Eastern Kentucky.

The Aquinas group worked through an organization called Christian Appalachian Project. While there, the participants were divided into separate housing projects. "We tarred roofs, insulated, built a porch with an awning, put in doors and siding, and built a bathroom," said Mary Beth Pniewski. "The couple whose house we worked on never had indoor plumbing. They relied on an outhouse and a well for almost eighty years."

In the five days that the Aquinas group was there, a lot was accomplished. However, the work is far from being done. "There are groups that come before us that start working on these projects and then we try to pick up where they left off. After we leave someone else continues," said Marcie Witkowski.

In the evening, entertainment was provided for the group. The first night, a local artist shared his experiences growing up in the area, and skits were shared on the following night. Cloggers performed the next evening, and the work concluded with an open mike night. The participants even persuaded the local sheriff to give a tour of the area. "It was very fulfilling to see the finished project after all the work we put in after four and a half days. It was amazing. It was a whole house built of love. We didn't have to be there; we were there because we wanted to be," Pniewski reflected.

These students have had an experience that will remain in memories for a long time to come.
Jazz Fest, from p.1

They rehearse for months prior to this, especially the high school musicians. Jeremy Pifer, a junior from Comstock Park High School north of Grand Rapids summed up one of the greatest positives of being in band with the statement, “We’ve been too busy playing to get into trouble.”

Dr. Bruce Early, a member of the Aquinas College Evening Jazz Band, composed of professional area musicians, and professor here at Aquinas, said that “Due to different circumstances, such as the weather and new location, things were a bit hectic at times. However, everything ended up being great. Musically, I thought it was exceptional.” Early added, “Both of the professional artists played extremely well, and the clinic of Dowd’s was standing room only.”

The final band of the night was The Aquinas Evening Band, playing mostly Big Band Swing, with Charles Dowd as a guest percussionist. He astonished the crowd with some of the dreamiest licks he pulled out from his repertoire and ended the night with a “Battle of the Drumsets” with another percussionist.

SENATE UPDATE

by Andy Pieper
Times News and Photography Editor

The Aquinas Community Senate has allocated money from its general fund to allow two major programs to begin. A huge end of the year bash and a trip to Haiti are set to become annual happenings thanks to the donations of the Senate.

At the meeting, Josh Newman, coordinator of the end of the year party, asked the Senate to give an additional $3700 to help bring a large name band to the all day concert and to pay for the smaller bands already booked, which include campus favorite Domestic Problems. However, in order to ensure some Senate control over the event, a committee, which had already been set up to help organize the event, was given a provision to give them some of the final say in who the big band would be. Also, an additional $500 was made available in case the money already raised for the WGRD sponsored event was not enough to bring in a big name act.

The Haiti Connection has been sending money and supplies to a school in Haiti for some time now. A group of students who have been organizing this program are now going to be traveling to the school in May to gain first hand knowledge of what the students there need and to better understand how we here at Aquinas can help them. The Senate gave this group $3,800 to pay for half of the cost of the trip. Look for more on both of these happenings in later issues of the Times.

Women's Center Hosting Events for Women's History Month

by Erin Flynn
Times Contributing Writer

"Women's History Month is tremendously important to me because I don't think women are getting enough recognition for their contributions to history," said student Miriam Lynch. Judging by the support for Women's History Month, she isn't alone in saying this.

Women's Studies advisor Rebecca Coogan adds, "Until the past few decades, women's contributions to history haven't gotten a lot of recognition." She continued, "It is only recently that women have unraveled their importance in history. It is very important we have a few days to recognize women."

The Women's Studies Center has provided many activities to let Aquinas students become aware of women's contributions. They include:

March 20: Midwifery, at 12:30 p.m., a midwife will be at Aquinas to speak of her experiences.

March 21: At 4:30 p.m. in the chapel there will be a women's liturgical mass.

March 27: There will be a movie showing at a time to be announced entitled, "A Jury of Her Peers."

March 28: A representative will be at the women's city club to talk about women in orchestras.

Women's Studies Editor, Lisa Wilkerson, invited those who would like more information on women's history to stop by in the Women's Studies Center, or pick up a Women's Studies newsletter.

The Aquinas Programming Board will be welcoming Dr. Lawson Fusao Inada, the first Asian-American to publish a book of poetry, to Aquinas next week. As a child during WWII, Inada and his family were "relocated" from their home in California to an internment camp in Arkansas. Dr. Inada has drawn from these and other life experiences to develop his presentation, Seven Lessons of Humanity Through Stories and Poetry.

The Aquinas Programming Board's presentation is one filled with history, poetry, music, and images. You can attend Dr. Inada's presentation March 26, at 12:30 pm in the Wege Ballroom.

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March 20, 1996
**Point/Counterpoint**

**March 20, 1995**

**Should G.R. Shut the Doors of Local Topless Bar?**

*by Andy Pieper*

**Times News and Photography Editor**

There never seems to be and end to the list of topics which can offend the majority of people. Abortion, racism, public smoking, legalization of drugs, and, is go on. Pornography and the like always seem to have people uttering on the edge of really taking a position.

Locally, a new issue has sparked a curious amount of protest. On March 21, Sensations, a topless dancing establishment near Eastbrook Mall, went before the Grand Rapids Board of Zoning Appeals to attempt to renew their permit for topless dancing. About 40 area residents have gotten together to fight against the bar.

Their argument is: Should a place with such entertainment as nude women belong near places such as the mall and "Chucky Cheese," where young children wonder what is in the building with the sign out front that says "Showgirls!" I wonder why they think that anywhere else is a suitable place. Most of them say they think we should stick all of the "dirty" places like that in downtown on Division, so we can run the downtown area a little deeper into the gutter. The inner city is certainly no place for strip bars if we ever wish to bring it back to the respectable commercial strip it once was.

If we are to decide where is a good place for nude bars and where is a bad place, I think we should first decide whether we want them at all. If we truly believe that these places are legal, and they should accept that fact, and not seem to understand that society has given them the thumbs up to these raunchy establishments.

Sometimes the people of this country need a reality check, and those who are fighting against this bar need to realize that they are not the center of the universe.

**Counterpoint**

**by Eric VanDessel**

**Times News Editor**

Whenever someone brings up the topic of pornography there are usually two arguments that emerge. One side claims that it's filthy, degrading and disgusting garbage that should be banned from the face of the planet, and the other, more pragmatic side, usually justifies its existence under the idea of free speech and expression. In the case of a local topless bar known as "Sensations," people tend to look at this issue through these same rose-tinted glasses. If this were an actual real problem then I would tend to side with Andy on this one but, unfortunately for Sensations, this is not the case.

It would be one thing if this argument was about justifying the existence of "nude bars" across the United States but the fact remains that it is not. Sensations, like any other business in America, must present a request to whatever zoning board covers that area, in this case the City of Grand Rapids. When they initially applied for a zoning permit they said nothing about being a topless club. Instead they led the City to believe they were going to be yet another bar in the West Michigan area. They were allowed to operate as a topless club for over six years because nobody really cared or took notice of the discrepancy in their initial request. That is until now.

Trying to get a permit to operate a topless bar in the very religious and conservative West Michigan area is a lot like contesting a parking ticket issued by campus safety - in both cases its pretty much an automatic denial. Why is this the case? I don't know, but it is. But that's beside the point.

Sensations claims that since they operated as a topless bar for over six years they should be allowed to continue to do so. In fact, they were willing to go to court to force the city to allow them to stay open. Using this same reasoning, if I successfully dealt crack cocaine for six years and never got caught, I think I should be allowed to do it indefinitely. Why not? Everybody knew I was doing it. The reason I wouldn't stand a snowball's chance in hell of convincing any judge in his right mind of this is because there are preexisting laws that prevent this type of behavior. The same idea holds true for Sensations: they broke a preexisting law and now they are paying for it.

This is not to say there aren't some other motives behind this citizen group that is petitioning the Board of Zoning: I'm sure the same kind of conservative mumbo-jumbo that involved the near firing of a homosexual teacher in Byron Center is at work here. If someone is worried that their kid will be emotionally scarred for the rest of his life if they every find out what happens in a nude bar maybe they should put a bag over their kids head every time they step into the car.

The problem that Sensations has is that they simply broke the law, they did not inform the Zoning board of their intentions to operate a nude dancing club, so they will probably be shut down by those who enforce the laws, in this case the City of Grand Rapids. Zoning laws exist because people want them. That's why you don't see a McDonalds in the middle of a residential neighborhood or a Walmart on top of Sleeping Bear Dunes or a pornographic book store next to "Toys 'R' Us." The Zoning Board has the responsibility of determining which areas certain businesses can operate in for the overall good of the local community. They are elected officials that are simply listening and responding to the concerns of their constituents.

Whether this type of entertainment is dirty or not is up to each individual to decide, but whether Sensations should be allowed to continue operations under false pretenses is something for the citizens of Grand Rapids and their elected officials to decide.

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**Local Senator Aims at Banning Homosexual Marriage**

*by Maris Brancheau*

**Times Contributing Writer**

Though Hawaii may soon make gay marriages legal, a new bill written by Sen. William VanRengenmorter, R-Hudsonville, aims to halt such measures from being recognized in Michigan. VanRengenmorter opposes same sex marriages as well as expanding health insurance and adoption rights to gay partners.

VanRengenmorter told The Detroit Free Press, "I think it (gay marriage) leads to open communication about gay marriage. He defended the legislation by saying, "My bill makes no judgment on gays, it will make a judgment on marriage."

"Passing such empty legislation is not going to make gay and lesbian families go away," said Tracey Contay.

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He doesn't know when he will introduce the bill but hopes to do so before Hawaii lawmakers take final action, VanRengenmorter also said, "Even if it's only Hawaii, Michigan should proceed with a law that makes it clear that same-sex marriage should not be recognized in Michigan."

Those who favor same sex marriage believe it should be legally recognized. In Contay's words, "Passing such empty legislation is not going to make gay and lesbian families go away."
China Threatens Taiwan's Independence

by Maris Brancheau
Times Contributing Writer

In one of the most pressing foreign policy issues in the new year, China recently launched "test" missiles towards their neighbor's— Taiwan— coast. The two superpowers are often at odds over their respective claims and interests in the region.

President Lee Teng-hui, the current president of Taiwan, was acknowledged by China as a way to intimidate Taiwan's independence. Shen admitted that the tests would "be a good thing to safe guard China's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

Because of the suspicious missile exercises, the Clinton administration has become alarmed. The president called the military exercises "irresponsible" and potentially dangerous. It is also suspected that China has sold missiles to Iraq and Pakistan, therefore providing possible US trade sanctions.

President Lee Teng-hui, the current president of Taiwan, is now campaigning for the upcoming presidential elections and the recent conflict will undoubtedly be a major factor in these elections. According to Chang Ling-Chen of The National Taiwan University, "About 30 percent of the people believe President Lee wants to be united one day with the mainland, 30 percent of the people think he will lead us to be independent and the rest just don’t know." Currently, Taiwan is considered a rebel province by China and is not officially recognized as a country by the United States. China views the upcoming elections as an official step toward independence and has officially stated its consideration as a near act of war.

Taiwan has had to re-route airplane flight patterns to avoid certain areas where missiles have infiltrated. Taiwan's economy is being carefully watched because thousands of nervous Taiwanese are being drawn to make a comeback from the recent economic downturn.

Two, "The routine" military exercises were first acknowledged by China as a way to intimidate Taiwan's pro-Democratic forces. Dole said his momentum was "unstoppable" after the recent victories. Dole celebrated the victory with supporters and said, "It is time to...build a strong agenda for November." Dole also vowed to remain in the race and further stated that no teachers or students will be reprimanded. "If they want better grades," remarked Pat Buchanan, "they're going to have start cracking some books.

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As I was struggling to survive the twenty-two hour ride back from Florida in a cramped van with a tennis team who I had spent enough time with for a week, I was thinking about, of all things, the future of Aquinas College. For all who have been around Aquinas for at least a few years, I think we could agree that transition and uncertainty mark the present state of the college.

From family ties and word of mouth, I know that we have overcome the worst of times — times when the college’s future viability was questionable due to poor finances and a lack of clear direction. I personally think those times are basically behind Aquinas College, but I certainly do not feel it is time to start passing everyone on the back. This college still feels the financial pinch that will simply take years to overcome and we have been somewhat slow to adapt to current trends among colleges. However, as we fulfilled promises which include the Carriage House, Internet access, and improved dorm conditions, Aquinas took a step forward.

Thirty years ago, Mr. R.J. Bennett and others started the first continuing education program in the country, and it was the shining achievement of this institution. Thirty years later, though continuing education is a substantial piece of this college’s mission and revenue stream, it is neither the cutting edge program nor the source of future growth. Aquinas College needs a new idea that will distinguish this school among the lines of traditional age students, those eighteen year olds who generally don’t have a clue how to pick a college.

But there are some eighteen year olds who think they know what they want, and many times they are “pre-med” students. These are the type of students that colleges love. The smart, ambitious student who is willing to incur thousands of dollars in educational debt in order to achieve their long-term goals. I hear that our small pre-med program is excellent, and that is due to first-rate science and math departments which coordinate their schedules, policies, and curriculum to best serve their students.

I really believe that it is time for this school to make a firm and deepened commitment to these departments and put the college’s future in the hands of our science and math departments. But even more importantly, we need a new program that highlights the strength of these departments and signifies the growth of Aquinas College. I think the potential for this is in the area of health care.

To many people’s surprise the industry that is undergoing the most change and growth in the United States is not the software companies or multi-media firms; it’s not even the Internet companies. Rather, it is the business of providing health care.

In terms of both the federal budget and corporate budgets, health care is the single biggest industry in the country. Health care has been undergoing a dramatic transformation in recent years, bringing about changes that will rework how doctors are trained and how health care is delivered and paid for. What about Aquinas College being on the cutting edge of these changes?

In town, we have one of the most important legal battles in the health care industry in the form of the proposed merger between Butterworth and Blodgett. Whatever the outcome, health care in West Michigan is going to change dramatically as it has changed in so many other cities and communities. Many see this as a threat, some see it as simply a challenge to stay in business. Maybe Aquinas can see it as an opportunity. Let me hypothesize: In late April, Federal Judge David McKeague agrees that the efficiencies of a merger between Butterworth and Blodgett outweigh the dated anti-trust laws that the government says will be violated. Within five years, we will have a single, enormous hospital with profits in excess of fifty million dollars expanding to corporate budgets, health care is the single biggest industry in the country. Health care has been undergoing a dramatic transformation in recent years, bringing about changes that will rework how doctors are trained and how health care is delivered and paid for. What about Aquinas College being on the cutting edge of these changes?

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continued on next page
Dear Editor and Aquinas Community,

For the last couple of months, I’ve been debating with myself on whether I should even write this letter to the editor. After all, it seems almost ridiculous to have to address something as simple as respect to people who fit the age qualification for adulthood. But it is something we take for granted and is considered normal, and it is this normalcy I want to challenge.

On two separate occasions in January, I was witness to sexual harassment within the boundaries of our quiet, peaceful campus. One instance, which I will always remember, occurred when a young male student commented to a friend of his, “Slap the bitch already.” Since then it seems that this regard for women (or lack of it) appears to be growing. I can’t stand ten minutes in Wege without the words bitch, ho, slut, c**t, or p***y being spoken about a certain young male student on campus.

Wake up people! We’re talking about sexual harassment, not to mention out-and-out violence and intimidation. None of which is supposed to be tolerated on campus...and yet it still goes on.

Well, I have a suggestion. Everyone needs to view this problem not in terms of interest to the male population but in terms of basic human dignity. Women at this school have a right to be respected, not just to exist in an atmosphere free of harassment, whatever form it may take. And each one of us can help achieve this goal.

First, to my fellow sisters. You have a right to demand respect, a right not to be called a bitch or a c**t. You deserve better, and we, as women, should expect nothing less. And we will get it if we work together. To start with, on behalf of the Women’s Programming Board, I want to ask all women who have experienced sexual harassment on campus to come forward and tell your story. Send your letters to the editor of the Aquinian Times, or if you wish to remain anonymous, send them to the Women’s Studies Center in Wege and your identity will be protected. If enough response is generated, the Women’s Programming Board will be able to hold a forum on sexual harassment at Aquinas. In these ways, you will be able to have your voice heard.

Finally, to the men on this campus. If it seems that this letter has wrongly stereotyped all men as sexist and insensitive, that was never my intent. I know that all men are not like that. But don’t think you’re off the hook yet. As enlightened as you are, you need to be out there, helping the women of this campus by setting the positive example as we seek to get the respect we’re being denied.

Sincerely,

Shawna Russell
Aquinas Senior
Women’s Programming Board Member

More Milwaukee

which sits only one block from President Nelson’s Willowbrook estate. Think about Aquinas College opening the first undergraduate health care education center in the country in the old Blodgett Hospital. It could be a site that not only serves the pre-med administrators, managed care administrators, physical therapists, nurses, and students but provide a learning environment for the entire campus. The goals and objectives of the Multi-Cultural Office, least of all Michael Travis, are not about harmony and unity but about detachment and preoccupation with self, specifically herself. Michael Travis, director of Aquinas College’s Multi-Cultural Office, says she “feels it’s a victim of racial discrimination.”

Boy, could I stand an African-American to tell her some stories about “refused entry.” First of all, without any thought to the repercussions that her statements might have on the Multi-Cultural Office, least of all Michael Travis. Ms. Williams chose to slander an organization that not only stands for equal rights among the masses, but strives to maintain a friendly and peaceful atmosphere for all, through the good of the entire population of Aquinas College in order that Aquinas can provide a liberal arts education to all students. The Multi-Cultural Office, headed by Stella Ferris and Assistant Director, Michael Travis, have done a superb job of preserving, safeguarding and upholding this organization’s goals and objectives, which are many.

The morning the article came out, the phones were flying off the hook. Many arguments took place. I also remember talking to a group of first year students (white and black) trying to explain the why, when, where, and hows of this particular incident. As a senior and someone who has been very involved in school activities, particularly those involving multiculturalism, I feel I need to respond. Michael Travis came to J.A.M.M.I.N. (the multi-cultural club on campus) and asked if we would be interested in helping fund a lunch and lecture series for black History month.

We were told lunch would be provided for two sessions and only twelve people would be able to attend. Mr. Travis also stated that the lecture series would be for “black individuals only.” The last series would be open to all members. None of the members had a problem with sponsoring the lunch. Later a letter was sent out to all African-American women and men. Some sessions were for ten to twelve people and other sessions stated “men only” or “women only.” The lunch that Ms. Williams was referring to was on that day for “women only” — black women.

So maybe asking yourself how did Ms. Williams even get a flyer? — well, she didn’t. She read her roommate’s (that was addressed to the roominate and not to Ms. Williams). Just because my sister gets invited to the ball does not mean I get to go. So the story goes. Ms. Williams was there with a tape recorder sitting on the table. Mr. Travis asked her if she was planning to tape the lecture based on the premise that she was a “reporter” and not a white woman. I know this because there were other white individuals that came to other lectures and they were “not asked to leave.” Ms. Williams, you indicated, “In so not many words, Mr. Travis told me that I had to leave because I was white.” By the way, Ms. Williams, how many ways does it take to say, “You have to leave because you are white.” Or did Mr. Travis really say that or did you confound what you thought you heard?

If you are so outraged, as you stated, what satisfaction did you get from writing this editorial? Your outrage did nothing but cause division and dissension among the racial minorities, women, men, and women, etc. Hope you’re satisfied.

You see to have such an interest in the mission statement and African-American women. Where were you heroes when that letter that cried racism (all you blacks go home) circulated my first year? Where were you overseas and champions of causes when the word “nigger” appeared on the doors of the third floor of the Academic Building? I do not see you writing about our Campus Safety posting stereotypical pictures of men that have committed crimes that fit characteristics of every African-American male I associate with, including my brother. I am truly moved you feel you have experienced what every black male and female experiences most of their lives. Ms. Williams, it is in every moritorius that you tried to use your power as a reporter and your “privilege” of being white to lessen the sting of the Multi-Cultural Office and Michael Travis. I must say that Michael is not a villain. He loves his job and all students no matter what race, culture and gender. Stella and Michael have done a great deal for many students including planning events open to all, events that I rarely see you at, Ms. Williams. Would you be involved in these types of activities if you were not a reporter?

Brooke Davis
Get in the Van

Times News Editor Andy Pieper chronicles the Knape Hall spring break excursion to Florida

Spring Break has always been a time for rest and relaxation for some, and for others, as you read earlier in the Times, for service and volunteerism. This spring break, the members of Knape Hall planned a trip to Panama City Beach, Florida, for a more traditional college spring break of bar hopping.

A journal was kept by one of the 11 members, and a summary follows. The trip was to be taken in a large passenger van owned by one of the member's parents, and in a Safari mini-van, which had made the 18 hour trek only a year earlier. The plan was to leave Thursday night at around 8:30.

The men of Knape pose at an Alabama gas station, when they are in desperate need of oil (and a little bit of Ketchup).

The Results are In...

by Phil Stimac
Times Contributing Writer

It was hard for one to miss the political action here at Aquinas College before spring break, as many of you witnessed distinguished Aquinas students seeking signatures and throwing campaign posters nearly everywhere. For those few that may have missed the action, the race for Senate Executive positions just recently concluded with the election of Rene Palileo, Chair, Elma De La Cruz, Vice-Chair, and Cathy Wiltenburg, Secretary. Rene Palileo was running uncontested for the Chair position and received 96% of the vote, with the balance of the ballots going to various write-in candidates. Elma De La Cruz ran against Jantelli Orazowski to become the next Vice-Chair by capturing 58% of the vote. Cathy Wiltenburg defeated April Carpenter by capturing 54% of the ballots.

De La Cruz, currently the Senate Secretary, was excited about the results, and also relieved: "I do not think I will be very tired because I did not do a lot of campaigning. I was disappointed at the turnout at the debates, but I am very relieved it is over." She added, "I would like to see more people participate in the process and run next year."

Director of the elections, Andy Pieper, said the turnout this year was only slightly lower than last year. "I think a lot of it had to do with the fact that last year there was a hotly contested race for Chair, while this year there was not even a contest, much less was it hotly contested." He added, "Quite often, the Chair position is the only one the students see as being important, which it certainly untrue, but that is probably the reason for the slight decline."

The elected executives will take office April 10 at the Senate meeting, where they will begin leading the Aquinas student body toward the goals of the next year.

Thursday, March 7
8:55 p.m. Well, the big van made it out of the driveway, and then proceeded to stall. Earlier we tried and failed to change the spark plugs, and after putting everything together the van did not seem to want to run properly. We look quite foolish with a huge van stalled in the middle of Woodward Lane, attempting to be jumped started in the sub-zero temperatures and minus 30 degree wind-chill.

11:35 p.m. After failing to jump start the van, we drive it with the pedal to the-metal (15 mph) to the Eastown Amoco station, where we learned they do not do service work after 6 p.m. We drive it back to Knape.

Friday, March 8
12:30 a.m. After much debate, we are traveling down 131 at a clip of around 85 mph, radar detector on, in another house owner's driveway, and then proceeded to stall.

12:30 a.m. Last night was quite a momentous night as two of us paid to get in to Harpoon Harry's and the rest of us scaled the steep and dangerous walls, evading alarm systems and big tough bouncers to enter this beachside club. After replicating the stamp on our hands with a ball-point pen, we "D" the night away, experiencing rejection, expulsion, and thanks to a drunken woman, very clean stomachs along the way.

Saturday, March 9
1:45 a.m. We stumble home from the first bar of the week, the Barefoot Beach Club. After a lot of doing things which begin with the letter "D," one of which is dancing, the place begins to die down and we are still tired from our crazy excursion on the way down.

9:30 a.m. I awake and take a walk on the beach in my shorts and T-shirt. I then walk back, because I am freezing to death. High 40's doesn't cut it for me.

Monday, March 11
10:30 a.m. I awake and attempt to piece together the last two nights. Saturday night some of us drank a lot of dirty Mexican water, and last night, one of the party fell upon his face after arrival at the hotel. The Barefoot Beach Club thought it would be funny to let us in for free and to drink all of the suds we could, so we did, and when we awoke from our slumber, everybody was still in fact, with the exception of one particular forehead, which left some of its portions on the Florida asphalt. Ask him about it sometime, I'm sure he'll fill you in on all of the details.

Tuesday, March 12
5:30 p.m. We went to the World's Largest Beach Party today, which boasted of 100 Kegs, 1000 pizzas, 2000 subs, and 500 gallons of the infamous jungle juice. I do not doubt them. We are acting very silly right now, and two people seem to be very tired, probably from the sun. We cannot wake them up, which is too bad because we are going out for a change tonight. Probably mix it up a little and go do the "D's."
DOMESTIC PROBLEMS: A Stroll Down Memory Lane

by Josh Newman
Times Entertainment Editor

For the past few years, campus band Domestic Problems has been a mainstay in campus and community entertainment for Aquinas students. From the band’s first ever performance as a three piece, to its landmark performances with the Verve Pipe to its debut CD (see more information on this page) released later this week, this campus product has given AQ students much to enjoy and much to be proud of. Enjoy this “over the years” pictorial salute to your friends, DOMESTIC PROBLEMS.

The 1992 lineup: (l-r) Kenny, Landry, Ned, Kimble, Newman, Hauser and Holtgrieve. This DP conglomerate would play a monumental show at the Intersection with the Verve Pipe, which heightened their popularity considerably.


Two summers ago, DP began playing on riverboats in Chicago, a unique experience for all. Here (right), the band, along with sound engineer James Taylor and band friend Kevin Liddy, jam it up as they float along.

All photos courtesy of Domestic Problems.

Domestic Problems TRIVIA

1. Who were the original members of Domestic Problems and where was their first public performance? (Hint: there were three original members).

2. What hardware store is represented on mandolinist/trumpeter Billy Kenny’s favorite hat? (Hint: the hat is red and he wears it for most all performances).

3. What other campus band was drummer Tadd Kimble and guitarist John Niedziewski in before joining Domestic Problems, and who was their enigmatic lead singer? (Hint: Chris LaPorte and Josh Newman were the other members in this band).

4. What DP song talks about the “dreaded four leaf clover” and which member of the band wrote it? (Hint: The song is on the new CD).

5. Name all of the members that have been in DP at one time or another. (Hint: there have been 12 altogether).

** Win Free passes to either of DP’s release parties! (See right.) If you have answered all five of these completely and correctly, then write a brief synopsis of why you like Domestic Problems in 50 words or less (this is the tie-breaker).

One winner will be chosen by Domestic Problems and Times staff members. You can turn in your entries through campus mail or by dropping them off in the Times office.

DOMESTIC PROBLEMS RELEASE PARTY

There’s good news and there’s bad news concerning the new debut CD from Domestic Problems. The good news is that the CD’s are in, along with some merchandise and other goodies, and everything looks and sounds like a million bucks. But, the bad news is that you’ll have to wait until this weekend to get a hold of the goods.

Here’s a rundown of what you can expect from the DP CD Release Party, this Saturday, March 23:

* 8:00 pm, Pioneer Auditorium inside the Wealthy Elementary School, 2018 Wealthy, in East Grand Rapids. An “All-Ages” show — your first chance to pick up “Scattered Pieces.” Only $2 at the door, so bring all your friends and all of those youngsters who won’t be able to get in to the gig later that night.

* 10:00 pm, the Intersection, 1520 Wealthy, in Eastown. This show will be the big one. Special guests the Brian Gerrity Project and Professor McBeefy, with Monkey Chuck kicking off the night. At midnight, DP will kick it old school ’til the end. 19 and over can get in for $5 and 21 and over can get in for $3.

* Merchandise will be available at both shows; CD’s will sell for $10, new short-sleeve T-shirts will go for $10 and new long-sleeves will sell for $15. Stickers and mailing list registration are absolutely FREE!
**HOPS AND BARLEY**

*Guinness Stout*

by Josh Newman

*Time* Entertainment Editor

"Our blood runseth garnett, our bear runneth black!" Don't that sound to be gold? Not in Ireland. Happy St. Patrick's Day to the Irish-folk and non-kin alike. Keeping in the spirit of the holiday, we've decided to sample some traditional Irish fare, Guinness Stout. Now for you folk that think that Guinness is like "od or black lava" or what have you, keep in mind that some of the greatest things in life come to us as acquired tastes (I'm sure the first time that each of us tried beer, on or after their 21st birthday of course, that the reaction was probably an unfavorable one). Guinness is one of those acquired tastes that, once accustomed to, can become a life-long friend (much like a good cigar or a good dog).

When poured properly, and out of a tap (of course), a pint of Guinness can be one of the most beautiful sights known to man and woman kind. A smooth, tan, frothy head capping off a dark reservoir of delightful refreshment can only be described as enlightening. It's hard to explain Guinness, so you must draw your own conclusion. Give it a try... and more than once. Your life will be much better.

(You can find Guinness on tap at various hot spots around town, including Flanagan's Irish Pub, downtown on Pearl Street, and DW-3 on 28th St. located in the same plaza as Bavarian Village and Vinyl Solution.)

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**UNDERGROUND CHUCK**

The Cottage Bar

by John Serba

*Time* Editor-in-Chief

I don't know about you, but every time I drive downtown, I begin drooling while passing the corner of LaGrave and Fulton. Why, you may ask? Well, that's where the Cottage Bar is located. If Pavlov himself were ringing a bell inside this place (one of the oldest bars in Grand Rapids), inciting my canine response? Probably not, unless he's in the kitchen, making the best damn cottage fries this side of the Emerald Isle herself. The Cottage Bar at one time was praised as having the best hamburger in the city, and I don't doubt it. The hamburger seems to be fresh off the cow, and is juicier than a trash talk show topic. Not only are the burgers beautiful, but the chicken sandwich I engulfed last Saturday was nothing to shake a stick at. However, be warned, thou fears of halitosis, for it comes nestled on a toasted onion bun (which may be a plus for some, and an easily remedied negative for others).

If you're lucky enough to visit the Cottage Bar around St. Patrick’s Day, you can order the traditional corned beef and cabbage, or, even better yet, the killer (read: really good) Irish stew. Served in an authentic (as far as I can tell) bowl made of bread, this stew, combined with a pint o’ Guinness, makes for one hell of a filling meal. My only complaints with the Cottage Bar is its location; parking is a problem in that area, and plopping the old Buick in a dark alley may be taking a risk.

However, don't hesitate to try this cozy little establishment the next time your stomach rudely ruffles its rugae. Besides, you can easily escape with a burger, some amazing cottage fries, and a good, imported beer for under ten bucks (including a tip for the waitress). Not recommended for vegetarians... (***1/4)

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**Verve Pipe: Ready for the World**

by Josh Newman

*Time* Entertainment Editor

Throughout the short history of Aquinas College, we have played host to many big name musicians. Some guy named Billy Joel, another named Harry Chapin, L e o Kottke, H a r r y n a m e d R O R E Sounbegan all made appearances here at Aquinas before going on to the big time. And soon, a couple more names will be added to that list.

A few years back, Doug Corella and Donny Brown were students at Central Michigan University and Michigan State University, respectively. Both were taking part in the highly coveted Aquinas College Jazz Festival when they met. The rest is history. Corella and Brown are now with the Verve Pipe, one of the most popular bands that this state has seen in recent years. And those two, along with brothers Brian and Brad Vander Ark, along with A.J. Dunning, make up one of the most talked about acts of the year within the major record label ranks.

And with good reason. The band, since forming in 1991, has released two independent albums — 1992's If We've Suffered A Head Injury and 1994's Pop Smear — both of which have been amazingly successful. The band also appears on several national compilation releases, including the new XTC tribute album Testimonial Dinner, which also includes cuts from Sarah McLachlan, Joe Jackson, They Might Be Giants and others.

Now the band is getting ready to release its first major label release, Villains, on RCA Records. And the band can't wait.

"We're very excited for this (album) to get out there. We're definitely happy with our effort," said the group’s drummer Donny Brown, from a hotel room in Burlington, Vermont, where the band was on a tour stop.

"It's hard to retain your objectivity sometimes when you're listening to your own work, but I think this album really captures each individual (band member's) personal- ity in the songs," Brown continued. The album was produced by Jerry Harrison (Live, Crash Test Dummies) of the Talking Heads. Though still in the same vein as most of the other Verve Pipe efforts, Villains marks a new beginning with Corella playing an integral part in the orchestration.

"Doug's keyboards are really becoming a big part of our music," explained Brown. "A.J.'s guitar is still very prominent, but the keyboards add a bit more spice to the songs."

Corella, who is now on the phone while Brown tends to another call, agrees.

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**MILKHOUSE BRAND**

by Josh Newman

*Time* Entertainment Editor

Local act Milkhouse will be releasing its second album, Bred To Be Milked, on Friday, March 20. The festivities will begin at 6:15 pm at the Robert B. Chalcoff Planetarium inside the Van Andel Museum Center downtown. A 20-minute laser light show, which is set to some of the material on the new release, will kick off the evening. The new album features a CD ROM track and computers will be set up in the foyer area, and plopping the old Buick in a dark alley may be taking a risk.

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**The Verve Pipe, 1996**

The Verve Pipe's Villains will be officially released this coming Tuesday, March 26. The group will also make an appearance at Vinyl Solution on Thursday, March 28. Tickets for the group's April 11 performance are on sale now and can be purchased at the Orbit Room box office or by calling Ticketmaster.

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**THE VERTIGO EFFECT**

*By John Serba*

*Editor-in-Chief*

Throughout the short history of Aquinas College, we have played host to many big name musicians. Some guy named Billy Joel, another named Harry Chapin, L e o Kottke, H a r r y n a m e d R O R E Sounbegan all made appearances here at Aquinas before going on to the big time. And soon, a couple more names will be added to that list.

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Expectations High
For Men's Tennis

by Stephen Greene
Times Contributing Writer

When the Aquinas Men’s Tennis team embarked on their annual Spring tennis trip, it began a season of excitement and high expectations.

At the onset of the season, Aquinas traveled to Orlando and stayed at the Orange Lake Tennis Club. On the day of their arrival, the Saints played Moravian, a Division III team from Pennsylvania, and won easily 9-0. The following day Aquinas played Indianapolis University and lost a tight contested battle 5-4. “It’s unfortunate we lost this thing, I know that we are a better team, and we had chances to win this thing, but we just didn’t come through,” said a disappointed team captain Eric VanGessel after the match.

Aquinas rebounded by cruising against a feisty St. Ambrose team 9-0. The team was led by VanGessel who had AQ to a convincing doubles win, and followed it by capturing his 1000th career win for Aquinas, a three-set singles victory. However, there was little time for celebration. That same day Aquinas played a tough Division I team from South Carolina, Liberty. Liberty beat the tired Saints, 5-1, including many tightly contested matches.

On the final day of the trip, Aquinas played their last match. Wilmington College was the opponent and Aquinas won 9-0. Freshmen Chris Brehm, Dan Camaveli, and Ryan Zeisler all had big wins.

Aquinas traveled home and had twenty-four hours to get ready for the annual Grand Rapids City Tournament. Competition from Calvin, Grand Rapids Community College, and Grand Valley was tough, but the Saints finished tied for first with Calvin, giving them a share of their first ever City Title. Everyone was at least one match in their respective flights, with John Proulx being the biggest contributor, winning his flight in both singles and in doubles with his partner David Acedavo.

After winning three WHAC titles in row and having five returning starters from last year’s squad, expectations were high entering the season. In their first week of action, the tennis team met these expectations and showed that they will be a force all season long.

The very diverse team consists of team senior captains, Eric VanGessel and Doug Dooley, Junior Scott David, Sophomore David Acedavo, Stephen Greene, and John Proulx, and freshman newcomers, Chris Brehm, Dan Camaveli and Ryan Zeisler.

The experience and depth of the team should carry them a long way.

Fifth year coach Jerry Hendrick summed up the start of the year by saying, “I was very pleased with the quality effort we gave in Florida, both in the matches and in practice. We set us up for a good showing at the City Tournament. We have a long season ahead of us, and we have gotten off to a good start.

We have said from the beginning that our goal was to make it to Nationals, and if we keep working hard, we will realize that goal.”

However, Aquinas must first make it through the regular season. The Saints have a tough week ahead of them, including a road-match against Ferris, and home matches against Valparaiso, Calvin, and Wheaton.

Springtime. For many people that word is directly related to thoughts of warmer weather and sunny days. For the Lady Saints, it’s uninviting Spring Cleaning binge. At least as far as that last thought goes the NHL is no exception. In an effort to gear up for the playoffs, which are looming large on the horizon, many teams are moving players in an effort to streamline their rosters. The general rule come playoff time is to try and load up with the largest, most talented or experienced players possible in order to achieve the more physical play expected in the grueling playoff grind. However, there are exceptions to this rule.

Enter the Detroit Red Wings, who are currently leading or are at least in the top five in every statistical category in the league. In comparison to most other teams in the NHL, Detroit has opted to forego size in favor of smaller, faster, and generally more skilled players. It speaks a great deal to the success of this system that while Detroit is third in the league in goal scoring, they do not lead the league in assists, and Scotty Bowman set the record of personal milestones. So far this year, Detroit has put the first ever all-Soviet unit on the ice, Steve Yzerman has become Detroit's first Stanley Cup in 41 years.

Yet even with the level of intensity the players are maintaining they still manage to remember to have fun. Just ask Chris Osgood, or “Sniper,” as he was dubbed after scoring a goal a few weeks ago in a game against the Hartford Whalers. When asked how he felt after becoming only the third goalie to ever score a goal, Ozzy smiled and replied, “It would have been nice to do it at home.” At the current time that is about the only thing Osgood could possibly want to change in light of his current 17 game unbeaten streak. During the streak the young Detroit team has not forgotten the hard lesson that they learned in last year’s Stanley Cup finals at the hands of the New Jersey Devils. The four game sweep that they were handed was an eye-opening experience to the team that had finished the season with the best regular season record and effectively showed them just how empty such accomplishments really are.

It is the resulting focus that has come from that particular disappointment that has led the Wings unfairly through a season filled with distractions and the achievement of personal milestones. So far this year, Detroit has put the first ever all-Soviet unit on the ice, Steve Yzerman has become Detroit's first Stanley Cup in 41 years.

Aquinas Women’s Softball team went down to Florida to begin their season. The Lady Saints went to Fort Myers to compete against colleges and universities from across the United States. Good pitching would be the story of this trip as the team had one of its most successful starts in years. When the smoke had cleared, the Lady Saints ended the week with a four and four record.

The team played two games a day starting on Monday. On Monday, they played Rockford and Treikyo Post University. They won their season opener easily, beating Rockford 12 to 3. However, hours later they lost a heartbreaker to Treikyo Post University by a score of 2 to 0 despite some excellent pitching from Shanon Freehling.

Tuesday provided another split. They beat West New England, but dropped their contest against the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. On Wednesday, the team had a day off and relaxation in the sunny weather of Florida, with games continuing on Thursday. On Thursday, the ladies dropped their game against Butler, but they came back to beat New Haven. Finally Friday came, the last day of the games for these Aquinas women. On Friday, good pitching and timely hitting prevailed as the ladies beat Elms College 12 to 7, before dropping their final game of the trip to North Dakota University.

In Florida, the Aquinas women put in a lot of hard work, but they also had some fun. First baseman Laura Kohler said, “I think we did really well. We learned a lot about each other and we now know which each of us is capable of.”

“We got good pitching from all four pitchers (Shanon Freehling, Tonya Kavanagh, Lima Brooks), and playing in Florida has gotten us ready for our upcoming season.” added freshman catcher Katie Murphy. Look for this good pitching to continue the team until the hitting becomes more consistent when the Lady Saints open the northern portion of their schedule.
Pace Americans and that something must be done before it is too late.

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the winter, whereas a basketball player is more likely to play year round.

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looking around, baseball experts see the 10 teams that "have" and the rest that "have

Chicago Cubs roster this spring?

The second problem that I see with major league baseball is the rapid movement of

That year the World Series was wiped out, and much of the season was lost. Many

former fans have never forgiven the money-hungry owners or players for that loss.

The second problem that I see with major league baseball is the rapid movement of

Player's Association. Many fans have decided that the 10 teams that "have" and the rest that "have

not". Now it would be great to see a team of no-names go some place, but realistically

they are out of the expanded play-off picture by the Fourth of July, rendering the

rest of the season useless.

A final blow that baseball takes is that other sports have become year round. Now

there are basketball and soccer summer leagues, and younger athletes that excel in one

sport will play it year round rather than playing many different sports. Year round

training is demanded of them, and in most parts of the country, baseball is not a year

round sport. Thus, a baseball player is more likely to pick up another sport to play in

the winter, whereas a basketball player is more likely to play year round.

Recently baseball has started to come around to the fact that it is losing ground to

other sports. Its answer is to begin interleague play. This is a good start, but more must

done to recapture America's youth. The fact is that baseball is losing interest among

Americans and that something must be done before it is too late.

by Dana Samonis
Times Contributing Writer

Women's Basketball Season Ends

The Aquinas women's basketball team was eliminated from season play on Wednesday,

February 28. They lost to their inter-conference challenger, Spring Arbor, by three points,

72-75. In regular season play the Saints won at Spring Arbor 61-57 and lost at home 68-72.

In the playoff game Nikki Tuttle led in scoring with 16, followed by Alyssa Dykgraaf who

was hot beyond the arc swishing four threes and shooting 100% from the stripe for 14. The

unsung hero for the Saints was reserve Sarah King who had an outstanding effort grabbing

eleven of the glass and netting twelve points. Nicki Biggs was also a spark, contributing ten

points and leading the team in assists with five. The team ended with a 17-11 record and tied

for first place with Tri-State for the WHAC title.

Juniors receiving special league recognition this season were Nicki Biggs and Carrie

Carlson. Biggs made the All-Defensive team while Carlson was named to the Academic

team.

All-Conference was earned by another junior, Bridget Lamoreaux. Lamoreaux started for

the Saints down low, but could also step outside when needed. She often stamped the

opponents with her moves to the bucket as well, with her knock to find the open teammates.

Lamoreaux led the team in assists with 10, and averaged eleven points and five rebounds.

Jennifer Norman and Nikki Tuttle, senior co-captains, both received conference honors as

well. Norman, who carries a 3.55 grade point average, was selected to the All-Academic

team for the third year in a row. She was also WHAC player of the week in December. "I

learned the discipline and respect of being part of a team and the commitment that comes

with achieving goals," Norman said as she looked back on the year of hard work and

overcoming injury.

Nikki Tuttle earned All-Conference for the third year in a row. This was just one of Tuttle's

many accomplishments on the Court at AQ. Her sophomore and junior years she was named

WHAC player of the year and in 1994 was named to the All-American second team.

This year she helped lead the school scoring record, scoring 40 points against Albion. She led the team

in scoring and rebounding, with 18 points per game, and 8.3 rebounds per game. On top of all

of the awards Tuttle sees other aspects of her career at Aquinas as most rewarding.

"Overcoming all the obstacles, the pressures and coming together as a team," Tuttle said.

While Aquinas women's basketball has big shoes to fill next year without Norman and

Tuttle, they have several key returners that will help lead the way.

by Alan Plum & Justin Smith
Times Contributing Writers

Oh yes, it has begun. March Madness is in

full swing as the first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament have been completed.

Moving on to the sweet sixteen will be #1 seed UMass, UConn and those Kentucky

Wildcats. Purdue, as many expected, has already been sent home. Winning a third

tournament has proved it Michigan, Penn

State and Indiana never even escaped the first round. As for sentimental favorites,

Toby Bailey and the defending champions UCLA were bounced by none other than

those Princeton Tigers. This may be the only team in the nation whose coach receives

more attention than the players. Pete Carroll in

his final season with the Tigers, used the backdoor to slip by the Bruins. However,

Mississippi State proved to be too much for the Tigers. They rolled over Princeton in the

second round, thereby ending the career of one of the greatest college coaches ever.

As the field of 64 is now reduced to 16, the Big East and the SEC are both well repre­
dented. From the SEC, Kentucky, MSU (not the Spartans), Georgia, and even #12 seeded

Arkansas have all qualified for the sweet sixteen. Georgetown, UConn, and Syracuse

have advanced in representing the Big East. Despite the presence of All-American Kery

Kikutle, who returned for his senior year in

hopes of winning national championship, Villanova was downed by Denny Crum's

Louisville squad. We also witnessed the departure of a Boston College team that

wasn't even expected to make the field. This year all the Cinderellas are home by mid­

night. Arkansas may be the one exception, but let's not forget that the Hogs were last year's

runners-up.

Looking ahead to next week, we foresee some matchups with classic potential. Ar­

kansas will seek revenge against UMass, hoping to wipe away the sting of being

blown out early last season while they held the #1 ranking. Previously, Sherryl Swoopes

was the most famous Texas Tech hoopster. However, after bringing down a backboard

and perennial powerhouse North Carolina, Darvin Ham, Jason Sasser and company are

looking for some respect. Georgetown should be leery of the Red Raiders, who have come

into the sweet sixteen sporting a 30-1 record. Another #2 versus #3 seed game that should

prove interesting matches Cincinnati against the Bearcats, whose front line features Danny

Forison and Art Long could pose problems for the finesse of Drew Berry and Freethman

sensation John Marbury.

The rest of the games could prove to be

burner as well as Utah battles Ken­
tucky, Arizona meets Kansas, Mississippi

State meets UConn, Louisville plays Wake

Forest and Georgia attempts to defeat Syra­

cuse.

Regardless of what happens, the Final Four

should provide a lot of excitement. Once

again there is no definitive favorite. Look

for Villanova in Kansas, UConn, UMass, and

Kentucky to try and reach East Rutherford.

As for the eventual champion, choose your own because it is a toss up.