JAMMIN Fashion Show
a Success

by Angela Bergman
Times Contributing Writer

The annual fashion show, "United By Colors," celebrated the diverse cultures surrounding the Aquinas Campus. Sponsored by JAMMIN, the Friday night event at Kretschmer Hall raised money for CAVA and collected canned goods for the Hispanic Center.

The evening was a success, despite some technical difficulties. Felicia Buchanan, JAMMIN fashion show coordinator, was pleased with the event. "It was fun, a little hectic at first, but it all fell into place. I was glad with the turn-out. We made a lot of money for CAVA to make food baskets and collected a lot of cans for the Hispanic Center."

Besides JAMMIN, many other campus groups also joined in the success of the evening.

New ID's Look Promising for Next Year

by Deirdre Johnson
Times Contributing Writer

When one of the current Aquinas ID cards is recovered from the depths of student's pockets, backpacks, or wallets, more often than not the flimsy plastic appears bent, the person in the picture beyond recognition, and meal plan and library card stickers are slowly peeling off. Hopefully, here at Aquinas these inefficiencies will soon be a thing of the past.

Imagine a durable ID card that can be used to do anything from purchasing chips out of a campus vending machine to getting coffee at Kava House, from paying Aquinas' tuition to being used as a debit card when shopping at the mall. The technologically advanced Campus First Card, already in use on large college and university campuses across the country, could possibly be introduced next year at Aquinas. Although nothing has been finalized yet, Assistant Vice President and Campus Card Registration Manager of First of America Bank, Becky Weisner stated, "The Campus First Card offers an all in one card solution, and decreases the number of cards students have to carry. Financially, the card is a secure way to handle financial transactions and students don't have to carry coins or a checkbook everywhere."

Similar to the look and durability of a credit card, the new ID's feature computer digitized photographs and signatures, an integrated "Cash Chip," and a magnetic "bank stripe." On campus, the cards serve primarily as a photo ID and meal card. However, they can also be interfaced with the library system, used as a calling card, and function as a debit card to various student accounts. The "Cash Chip" is what allows small expenditures to be charged to a type of on-campus petty cash account, called the "stored-value function," and eliminates the necessity of pocket change. The magnetic "bank stripe" will provide opportunities for a Demand Deposit Account, an electronic checking through First of America Bank (complete with advanced services such as a savings account, bill payment by phone, a line of credit, and direct deposit of on-campus income), ATM access in the Cirrus Network, Off-Campus Debit Card, Grant/Aid Transfer, and See "Cards," p. 2.

Ireland Faculty Changes Announced for Spring '97

by Patrick Krueger
Times Contributing Writer

It was announced to the general Aquinas community one week after the return from Fall Break that the advisors for the upcoming Semester in Ireland Program would be changed.

Due to a change in advisors for the remaining portion of his dissertation process, Dave Weinandy, Assistant Professor of Communication Arts, made the decision to stay in the States to focus on his degree. Since this was such a crucial time in Weinandy's dissertation process, leaving in January may have meant having to start the program from scratch. Since the team of Weinandy and Dr. Lorraine Straw, Associate Professor of Psychology, were selected together, they both withdrew as a team.

Both of the advisors were justifiably disappointed, but they felt that the right decision had been made and they are happy with the choice of the new advisors. "The Romines have wonderful plans and are acting like pros in a sensitive situation," said Weinandy about the advisory shift, which saw Visiting Associate Professor of Health, Recreation and Physical Education Ernie Romine and his wife being chosen as the new advisors.

Romine and his wife were not the first choices for advisors; Sr. Marie Celeste Miller, Director of the Ireland Program and Associate Professor In-the-College, checked with advisors that had gone in previous years. However, since these options didn't work because of the other professors' scheduling demands, the Romines came up as a logical choice; they have traveled to a number of locations in their presentations and have been very recognized in the field. See "Ireland," p. 3.
Disruptive Student Athletes
Face Judicial Process

by Andrew Pieper
Times Assistant Editor and Editor-in-Chief

Allegations have been raised over the past week concerning ten female students who were drinking alcohol and being disruptive in Wege Cafeteria during dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

According to sources present at the time of the incident, the students, all ten of whom were members of the Aquinas Women's Soccer team, brought beer bottles into the dining hall and were toasting their successful season. They then used an empty bottle as a vase for the flowers that decorated their table.

After complaints by several students, Nancy Michaels, Director of Dining Services, called Campus Safety to handle the disturbance.

Three Campus Safety officers responded promptly to the disturbance and turned a report of the incident in to the Student Development Department, which has jurisdiction over all such matters. When asked for comment, Paul Cardenas replied, "Until we gather more information there is not too much we can say at this time." Cardenas clarified, "We're waiting for word from the Dean of Students.

Brad Winkler, Dean of Student Development, said that as of this weekend his office had not studied the report filed by Campus Safety.

"First we need to determine what exactly happened," said Winkler. He stressed that soccer players may not have been the only students involved, and that punishments will only be within the Student Handbook guidelines.

Terry Bocian, Athletic Director, made it clear he wanted no special treatment for those athletes involved in the incident. "If they are guilty of a rules violation on campus, then they should be dealt with just as any other student." Bocian added that he was working closely with Student Development and Campus Safety to find out exactly what happened. Shannon Besnette, Women's Soccer Coach, could not be reached for comment over the weekend.

As far as any additional action the Athletic Department might take, it is still unclear. Bocian said that all scholarships are awarded on a one-year basis, and incidents like this would play a detrimental role in the development of financial awards. However, since the season had ended already, there would be no action taken by the department until the due judicial process of campus has taken place. "Right now there are many versions of the story out there," said Bocian. He pointed out that there are some who say there was no alcohol, just bottles, and others say there was alcohol there.

"Are they bad kids?" said Bocian. "No. Did they make a bad decision? Yes. He said "Athletes are a privilege, and privileges can be taken away."

Bocian said that athletes overall are expected to perform better academically and socially than the non-athletes on campus, and that this incident will not tarnish that reputation.

"It is unfortunate that after having such a successful season and wanting to create much excitement, they make a mistake and do something like this only days after the season ended," he added.

by Juliana Hilton
Times Contributing Writer

"Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is..." was the theme of the November 10 Youth Rally. The day started off with ice breakers. The Rally's volunteers and coordinators had the tough job of getting over 700 young people energized at 9:30 am. Even though it was a challenge, they met it with enthusiasm.

The next event was the guest speaker. This year's speaker was Tony Menendez. Menendez is a musician of special quality. In his very unique style of guitar, Menendez plays with his feet, gracefully overcoming his physical handicap.

A majority of the students were startled with his ability to play. One student commented, "I didn't realize he wasn't playing with his hands until I moved closer to the stage and saw that not only did he not have hands but any arms, but that he was actually playing with his feet! He is awesome!"

Brian Morano said, "I've heard many guitarists and he can play with the best of them. Because he practices so hard he has made his music sound just like anyone else, and his feet have become like his hands.

Menendez's taught the audience in his enthusiasm. At one point, a group of volunteers ran up onto the stage and began to dance. His performance was concluded with a standing ovation.

After the speaker, came lunch and then everyone was off to the various workshops. The workshops were held in the Academic Building. The four workshops included a lecture covering the topic of charity, a session on prayer conducted by Fr. Phil Shangraw, a section sponsored by the Agape Youth Group, and a question and answer panel called "Real Questions, Real Answers," with the panel being made up of current AQ students.

"The student panel was really inspired at 9:00 am. Even though it was a challenge, they met it with enthusiasm." The student panel was really inspired at 9:00 am. Even though it was a challenge, they met it with enthusiasm.

After the workshops came a Catholic mass. One of the students involved in the set-up and planning of the liturgy said, "I never really realized how much went into this." The Youth Rally Committee planned a very interesting Mass that ran smoothly.

For Mass, the students joined the students at dinner and then wrapped up the evening with a dance in the Wege Ballroom.

"Cards," 'cont'd. from p. 1

Barry Kantz, the Vice President of Operations at Aquinas stated, "Right now we're in the process of getting student input and securing funding. It's a system we will ideally get in place, and build from over time." He emphasized that everything will not all come at once. "The first step is strictly for the card to be an ID, then interface with the food service.

After this, he explained that the card could be used for securing residence halls, computer lab, or gymnasium access.

If in fact Aquinas decides to implement the new system, Kantz ideally wants to start taking pictures in the spring when the machine will arrive. The ID's would then be available next year when software programs are put in place.

Sophomore Jessica Lombardo, who currently resides in Dominican Hall, expressed concern for loss of the card and security access to the residence halls. "For those times you just lose the card in your room, forget to bring it with you, or leave it at home, what can you do for those few days? You would be left out of a lot of things." Additionally, Lombardo questioned if she would have access to Regina Hall, since it is a shorter route to Dominican Hall.

For the most part, student response has been that the computerized program will be beneficial, offer convenience, and overall improve the college.

"I think it would be convenient, because it would be one card. You wouldn't have to carry cash with you when you go to local businesses."

Junior Jodi Jarsma also agrees that the new system, if implemented, would be beneficial for her personally, "We won't have to carry so many cards around," she said with a smile.

Senior Catherine Wiltenburg commented, "I think it will help us catch up to other schools in information technology. We'll have easier access to everything."

Senior Catherine Wiltenburg elaborated, "I think it will benefit Aquinas because it's something we can grow with and expand. You can eventually use it to get in the halls, cash for vending, copy, and laundry machines, and use it as a checkbook."

Service Auction Raises Money
for Recycling Group

by Andrew Pieper
Times Assistant Editor

The men of the SAVE program offered up their time and energy as a service to the people of Aquinas and to the environment last Thursday, Nov. 14.

This was the second annual Knape Hall/SAVE Service Auction. Last year the services rendered included everything from raking lawns to cleaning bathrooms, from reading bedtime stories to dictating paper revisions.

The event's master of ceremonies' job was performed by Aquinas senior Scott Bacon.

This year's top money draw was senior Tim McGabey. A group of students pooled their funds to purchase two hours of McGabey's services for the sum of $85.00.

All proceeds from the auction will go towards the continual expense of emptying the recycling bin on campus and other environmental efforts throughout the year.

Menendez, Youth Rally
Inspire Students

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with groups before, they had visited Ireland in the past, and Mrs. Romine has family there. Mr. Romine feels that in the big picture this could be "...the experience of the students' lifetimes, and the highlight of their Aquinas careers," and is hoping that he and his wife can only add to the experience. 

The students in the program seemed to feel bad that Weinandy and Straw couldn't go, but they feel confident of the new advisors. Sophomore John Krägelow felt that the "best was made out of a very unfortunate situation." Junior Lia Brower-Mix said that she "expected Dave and Lorraine for the incredibly difficult decision they made...The Romines are very well traveled and caring people, and the trip should be wonderful."

One aspect of the change that worked out well for the program was due to the fact that the Romines haven't had time to do background work for the history and literature classes that are required for the Program. These classes will be contracted out to local Irish professors. The students, advisors, and Miller all believe that this will be greatly refreshing for the 25th anniversary of Aquinas College's Semester in Ireland Program.

**Murder Mystery Delivers Fun A-Plenty**

by Heather Karal

*Times Contributing Writer*

Who killed the famous actress, Ruby Red? And what was the motive for the murder?

On November 7, that is exactly what 80 Aquinas students attempted to find out at a murder mystery activity held in Cook Carriage House. The activity was provided by Programming Board, crime was provided by the group "Murder on Cue," and the imaginations were provided by everyone who attended. The evening was totally interactive, with each participant being given a character to play during the evening.

The activity began with a quiet party to celebrate the Hammy Awards, but once the award ceremony began, things became crazy. The evening began with a tribute to celebrate the Hammy awards. Best actor and best actress were announced, prizes were also provided by every department. Ruby Red shortly before she died. Steve Snickers, had a girlfriend who wanted to play Ruby's part in the film. Another woman, the actress who got Ruby's part when she died, Dr. Opium (played by junior Rene Palileo) testified and explained that Mick had been poisoned by the murderer putting something into the flask from which he was constantly drinking. The mystery was baffling. In the end, Aquinas junior Dirk Steenwyk won a Murder On Cue T-shirt for having correctly determined Kirk's profits; if Kirk lost his acting career. T.J. Morris, killed Mick Slick as a dog named Killer. In addition, actor Kirk Boulders had been having an affair with Ruby Red shortly before she died. There was rumor that he knew secrets about him that could ruin his acting career. T.J. Morris, Kirk's agent, was receiving 30% of Kirk's profits; if Kirk lost his acting career then Morris lost money. Steve Snickers, had a girlfriend who wanted to play Ruby's part in the film. Another woman, the actress who got Ruby's part when she died, Dr. Opium (played by junior Rene Palileo) testified and explained that Mick had been poisoned by the murderer putting something into the flask from which he was constantly drinking. The mystery was baffling. In the end, Aquinas junior Kirk's profits; if Kirk lost his acting career. T.J. Morris, killed Mick Slick as a dog named Killer. In addition, actor Kirk Boulders had been having an affair with Ruby Red shortly before she died. There was rumor that he knew secrets about him that could ruin his acting career. T.J. Morris, Kirk's agent, was receiving 30% of Kirk's profits; if Kirk lost his acting career then Morris lost money. Steve Snickers, had a girlfriend who wanted to play Ruby's part in the film. Another woman, the actress who got Ruby's part when she died, Dr. Opium (played by junior Rene Palileo) testified and explained that Mick had been poisoned by the murderer putting something into the flask from which he was constantly drinking. The mystery was baffling. In the end, Aquinas junior Kirk's profits; if Kirk lost his acting career.
Grand Rapids' new Van Andel arena stands like a shining jewel amidst the struggling businesses of the downtown district. However, will building this facility help to rejuvenate the area or only heighten the current state of neglect that the surrounding community faces?

Parking in downtown Grand Rapids before the addition of the Van Andel arena was already next to impossible; now it's horrific. In order to deal with the traffic in a cramped and complex system of one-way streets, not to mention the added confusion of construction, special police units have been called in. Pedestrians attempting to cross the street without the aid of a policeman take a major risk. With increased traffic comes increased noise pollution, air pollution and littering. The people who live around the downtown area certainly didn't ask for their neighborhood to be disturbed by elevated traffic levels.

Although a few bars and restaurants will benefit from the opening of the arena, retail stores will still struggle to attract customers. Most of the money brought in from downtown will be from its nightlife. Unfortunately, this limited growth won't be enough to make any significant changes in revenues generated from most downtown businesses.

It is surprising that the promoters of this arena would chose the Heartside area, one of the worst neighborhoods in Grand Rapids, to build in. Spectators don't want to be bothered by the disturbing images of the homeless or prostitutes; they're just out to watch the game and have a good time. In addition, building the Tiger's stadium in that particular neighborhood didn't rejuvenate or help community growth. If it had, plans wouldn't be in the works for moving to a new location.

It's amazing to me that building a multi-million dollar sports complex takes precedence over helping people that already live in the area. Why couldn't the money spent on erecting this jewel of the downtown district be used for other purposes? Community beautification projects, adult education centers, soup kitchens, battered women shelters or even improving the existing elementary and secondary schools in the area are all needed. It's sad when attracting tourists is more important than trying to alleviate the plight of our neighbors here at home.

Detroit, legislation has recently been passed to allow for an extra tax that would be allocated for building a new Tigers Stadium. The old Tigers Stadium is not located in the best part of town. Apparently, building the Tiger's stadium in that particular neighborhood didn't rejuvenate or help community growth. If it had, plans wouldn't be in the works for moving to a new location.

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Point/COUNTERPOINT

by Mindi Evans
Times Campus News Editor

New stadiums are a multi-million dollar sports complex. They take precedence over helping people that already live in the area.

It's amazing to me that building a multi-million dollar sports complex takes precedence over helping people that already live in the area. Why couldn't the money spent on erecting this jewel of the downtown district be used for other purposes? Community beautification projects, adult education centers, soup kitchens, battered women shelters or even improving the existing elementary and secondary schools in the area are all needed. It's sad when attracting tourists is more important than trying to alleviate the plight of our neighbors here at home.

Typical of many cities, the proposed new Tiger Stadium. This vote of support shows that the proposed new Tiger Stadium. This vote of support shows that the new stadiums will hire. Yet, a new arena sparks new interest in the team and in the urban area. If Detroit builds a new Lions stadium, for example, it has been promised the opportunity to host a Super Bowl. It is this type of rejuvenation that fuels the demand for stadiums.

Van Andel Arena is our own tribute to the national phenomenon. We are helping to put Grand Rapids on the map, by revitalizing tourism and sparking community unity. Perhaps someday, thousands of fans will line the streets of downtown for a ticker tape parade.

Van Andel Arena gives Grand Rapids something to do and somewhere to go, and it builds tradition for residents and tourists. These communities aren't just building stadiums, they are making memories. Some agree that the replacement of stadiums is a shot at tradition, but argue that we are a changing world.

There is no tradition anymore, that is simply a sign of the times. Society wants comfort, modernity, and drink holders for our seats. User-friendly stadiums help bring in big crowds, something the old Tiger Stadium just can't do anymore. Community spirit aside, stadiums help cities by increasing the market for restaurants and bars. Downtown Grand Rapids is now flooded with people who normally wouldn't be in the area. These people want to eat before the game, or grab a drink afterwards. This helps the businesses around the arena and in turn leads to employment of service staff.

The new stadiums themselves are a tremendous source of employment. Construction alone provides many jobs, not to mention the upkeep, concessions and ticket taken that the new stadiums will hire. Stadiums may not be the solution to the many urban problems faced by American cities. If nothing else, however, new arenas provide fun for families, jobs, and promote team spirits. If ten thousand people are willing to face the bitter cold in order to break ground for a new stadium, communities and sports teams must be doing something right.

by Maris Brancheau
Times Local/News Editor

Two weeks ago, ten thousand people gathered in Milwaukee, WI, to take part in the groundbreaking of the new Miller Park. Miller stadium will replace County stadium as the home of the Milwaukee Brewers baseball team.

Elderly people, families with children, and sports buffs came out in droves in support of a phenomenon that has been happening in cities all across America. Some just wanted to watch, others filled bags with the dirt that will be their new stadium. Milwaukee is a striking representation of a new trend in urban areas. "If you build it they will come" has been the resonating motto of Atlanta, Nashville, Detroit and even Grand Rapids.

Voters in Detroit recently passed a proposal allowing for an extra hotel and rental car excise tax in order to fund the building of the proposed new Tiger Stadium. This vote of support shows that stadiums and sports really mean something to the people of the area.

Stadiums and arenas provide the opportunity to get away from reality, if only for a few hours. The arena provides a sense of community spirit which in the fragmentation of our daily lives has been lost.

Some argue that the old Tiger and County Stadiums are just fine and don't need to be torn down and re-built.

The arena provides a sense of community spirit which in the fragmentation of our daily lives has been lost.
Schmitz admitted to shooting Scott Annoude three days after it was revealed that Annoude had a crush on him during a taping of the Jerry Jones show segment on "same sex" crusades. Schmitz defense said that he was misled into believing he was going to meet a woman who had a crush on him and that the surprise of a homosexual man publicly humiliating him. Schmitz could receive up to life in prison when he is sentenced in December. The trial was drawn into the national spotlight, especially the appearance of Jones herself on the witness stand in Pontiac, MI.

It's Your World; Stay Informed.

AQ Times News Wraps-Ups

by Michelle Bottrall
Times Contributing Writer

State
The Jenny Jones talk show trial came to an end Tuesday, Nov. 12, when the jury found Jonathan Schmitz guilty of second degree murder.
Gridlock is bipartisan democracy. Despite all of the loveliness talk going on in Washington in the post-election spin fest, don't expect much less gridlock in the beltway than the political tradition of the Constitution has given us in the recent past.

Yes, I know, we are going to head the country. We are coming together for a common cause. The good of the country is most important in our minds. The rhetoric flows from both sides of the aisle, and the American people have both fallen for it, and caused it, once again.

What will keep them from really doing it you say? Simply enough, there is still no consensus in America, and even less in Washington, about which direction the country should take. Yes, we all want a balanced budget, but what to cut to get it. Raise taxes? That is the political equivalent of a Michigan coach losing the bowl, but what to cut to get it. Raise taxes? That is the political equivalent.

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If there were no gridlock, we would probably have abolished the federal government. Or maybe we would have imposed the death penalty for those who pin up the swimsuit issue of Sports Illustrated. We would have imposed the death penalty for those who pin up the swimsuit issue of Sports Illustrated.

That is the purpose of gridlock. If there were no gridlock, we would probably have abolished the federal government. Or maybe we would have imposed the death penalty for those who pin up the swimsuit issue of Sports Illustrated.

Some might say more progressive taxes or not? Maybe just flatter? Of course, the partisan bickering continues on Whitewater, Filegate, Travelgate, and the Clinton civil trial. More likely than ever, we should get rid of the IRS and implement a flat tax, and you think, although that would help you out financially, it would put too much of a burden on those who can't pay, and help the rich too much. How, if we can't settle among ourselves the problems we face, can we expect those who represent us to settle on something? What is there to compromise? Flat tax or not? Maybe just flatter? Some might say more progressive taxes or not? Maybe just flatter? Of course, the partisan bickering continues on Whitewater, Filegate, Travelgate, and the Clinton civil trial.

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Dear Aquinas Community,

Do you feel the need to express yourself? Do you have enough time to write a letter to the Editor? Well, we have good news for you! There is a new spirit to be taken into the Student Activities Office in the Cook Carriage House or see Dave Weinandy in lower Alb. Once that is accomplished, just go to 10 events and you will receive a FREE T-shirt. The fun doesn’t stop there, though. You can continue to get cards stamped with 10 stamps. Each card of 10 you turn in, that is a greater chance to win great prizes. The drawing will take place once a month. If you need more information, stop by the Student Activities Office in the Cook Carriage House. Good Luck to all participants!

Events:
- November 23—Men’s JV and Varsity Basketball home against Northwood University
- December 2—Women’s Basketball home against Alma College
- Men’s JV and Varsity Basketball home against Saginaw Valley State University
- Peter Pan, the classic fantasy by J.M. Barrie, $2.00, Grand Rapids Civic Theatre
- RHA Winter Dance
- Chicago Bus Trip, bus leaves 8:00 am
- Women’s Basketball home against Hope College
- Men’s Basketball away against Hope College
- AQ Super Fan, students must go to Student Activities Office in the Cook Carriage House or see Dave Weinandy in lower Alb. Once that is accomplished, just go to 10 events and you will receive a FREE T-shirt. The fun doesn’t stop there, though. You can continue to get cards stamped with 10 stamps. Each card of 10 you turn in, that is a greater chance to win great prizes. The drawing will take place once a month. If you need more information, stop by the Student Activities Office in the Cook Carriage House. Good Luck to all participants!

Gazelle Sports

is looking for active sports and fitness enthusiasts who are highly motivated, genuinely concerned about others, excited about quality merchandise and committed to go the extra mile for each customer.

We are hiring full and part-time sales staff for our store located in the East Paris Shoppes.

We offer competitive compensation, based on experience and ability, flexible scheduling, plus employee discounts.

For an application, stop by or call Gazelle Sports

3987 28th St. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512
(616) 940-9888

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Grand Rapids, MI 49512
(616) 940-9888
Faculty Recital Showcases AQ's Finest Talent

by Chris Manning
Times Contributing Writer

If you happened to walk past the Kreutzer Recital Hall around eight or nine o'clock on Nov. 16, you might have been lucky enough to hear the musical stylings of the 1996 Aquinas College Faculty Recital.

The evening began with Sidney Hoeksena singing Vivaldi. Mary Hard (piano), Melissa Johnson (violin), Sara Hoekman (violin), Jessica Hauser (viola) and Julia Anema (cello) accompanied him. Barbara Witham McCarger followed with four Italian art songs. Hoeksena returned to follow McCargar, this time performing three pieces by Henri Duparc. Upon conclusion of these pieces, the crowd and the performers momentarily dispersed for the intermission.

The second half of the evening opened with a little Schubert as performed by McCargar, with accompaniment provided by Hurd and clarinetist Michael Kornacki. McCargar concluded the evening performances with a string of crowd-pleasing selections.

In the Be-Guinea There was Yikes!

Yikes! Records Compilation Vol. 6

Yikes! Records

by Scott Bacon
Times Entertainment Editor.

In the be-guinea there was Yikes!...and it was good. Oh how true. The year was 1992, and while most people were trying to keep up with what flannel clad northern westerners had to offer, two women from East Lansing had different concerns, namely the promotion of local music. While Yikes! Records was invested simply as a way to distribute compilation CD's, it has evolved into a full-on independent label, handling promotion and distribution chores for a handful of Michigan bands (ie: dt's, Grin, Monkey Chuck, Mental Landscape, and Powerface). Volume 6 of their compilation series is out and has much to offer. Here is a track by track breakdown...

Track 1 – dt's - “Exit to Stay” - Very poppy modern rock. This would be right at home on WQGO's play list.

Track 2 – Nineteen Wheels - “13 Seconds” - A satisfying dose of jangly rock with major label quality vocals.

Track 3 – Blue Dog Pict - “Reel!” - Meandering guitars, off kilter breakdowns, good indie music.

Track 4 – Powerface - “Big Plug” - Yeah!!! White Zombie, baby. These guys are angry. Arrrrrrgggghhh!!!!

Track 5 – The Caustic Pop! - “Finger to the Scene” - This one is a rocker, with a killer guitar solo to boot.

Track 6 – Monkey Chuck - “Can’t Go Back” - Pseudo angst. Think of your little brother REALLY FRUSTRATED. Give me the melodic Monkey Chuck please.

Track 7 – Grin - “Cut Me Down” - Geek Rock Supreme. The Dead Milkmen and the Violent Femmes on a bus trip to Graceland. Stellar.

Track 8 – Domestic Problems - “I Think It’s Funny” - Typical perfection from AQ’s favorite sons. These guys are angry. Arrrrrrgggghhh!!!!

Track 9 – The Tails - “Koo Koo” - Good harmonies blended and 1960’s style chord changes with a few ounces of feedback just to keep you honest.


Track 11 – Fat Amy - “Million Days” - Think about what would happen if Candlebox covered Dag Nasty.... and you have Fat Amy doing “Million Days”.

Track 12 – Mental Landscape - “Regret” - A industrial/pop amalgamation complete with fuzzy vocals and old style staccato hardcore beats.

Track 13 – Quee-Cup - “I Hate Mr. Einstein” - Something very unique is going on here. Acoustic guitars, samplers, male and female vocals, all with a flash of From 242?

Track 14 – Storyville - “Very Bad” - Sensitive boys singing about lost love. A little too sensitive for me, but the piano is a nice touch.

Track 15 – Dorothy – “Plastic Tambourine” - Natalie Merchant???

Track 16 – Drew Howard - “Uh-huh” – Brother Drew is doing some sort of marriage of indy/dysleastic rock thing that is quite amusing. I like that this song is very hard to classify.

Track 17 – Chip Diver and the Sack Attacks - “Nerf Pants” - Information was sketchy on this band. Sounds like the soundtrack to Plan 9 from Outer Space. I think Yikes is having some fun at our expense.

In all, this CD is an excellent showcase of what local music has to offer.

Volume 6

In the be-guinea there was Yikes!

Ransom

by Rob Luebke and Kathy Hochstetler
Times Contributing Writers

Touchstone Pictures’ particularly unmemorable Ransom managed to make a killing at the box office its opening weekend, and unfortunately, our twelve bucks helped contribute to its success.

By now, everyone knows the scheme: good guy Tom Mullen (Mel Gibson) ends up in any parent’s nightmare when his son Sean (Hollywood unknown) is kidnapped. Ransom: $2 million. Of course Mullen can easily afford this sum, yet to the dismay of his wife (Renee “All-I-Can-Do-Is-Cry” Russo), the FBI, and the rest of the world, he offers the cash as bounty on the kidnapper’s head. Great idea, huh?

First, no matter how great of a butt (read as “beautiful eyes”) Mel has, one just can’t get around it, his character is a jerk. We have no sympathy for men of Tom Mullen’s kind. For those of you who haven’t seen the movie yet, you’ll see what we mean. Besides, as for that ransom bit, if anyone on our side of the movie cameras tried to pull a stunt like that, their kid would be road kill for sure.

Besides our basic problems with the plot, we would like to reiterate that the storyline sucked. The worst thing about this movie is that it thinks it’s making some sort of valid point. There’s no point! Sure the shots are good, sure the actors are great, sure Mel has a nice butt (beautiful eyes), but come on Ron Howard, can we say gratuitous violence? There’s more blood in this film, ounce for ounce, than in Pulp Fiction. What ever happened to those happy days?

Afterwards, the performers seemed pleased with their show. Said McCargar, “My partners sounded wonderful and I was very happy with the turnout and performance.”

Just two of the many breath taking performers at the annual Faculty Recital. Photo by Sarah Newell
by Scott Bacon
Times Entertainment Editor

On Friday November 22nd, Aquinas College welcomes local rock greats Troll For Trout to dinner Night Club. The performance will take place at 7:00pm in the Wege Ball Room. For the small price of one meal card swipe for campus dwellers, or six dollars for commuters and non students, one can enjoy a tasty restaurant style meal and the sounds of a local band perched on the edge of national success. When the beast is made that Troll For Trout (TFT) is bound for national success, it is a claim made with much merit. TFT has three commercially successful releases to its credit, the most recent being the full length album International Harvester. Singer/songwriter/manager Michael Crittendon, percussionist/vocalist Jim Le Valley, keyboardist John Neil, bassist John Connors, drummer Brian Merrill, and lead guitarist Peter Dunning all offer forth their collective musical talents to the crafting of mature pop songs. TFT’s sound relies on delicate interplay of instrumentation, held together by strong vocals and layered harmonies.

Lyricaly, International Harvester is a lesson in the benefits of simplicity: each song telling its story in an intimate conversational style, each word delivered with clarity. From the slow musical drawl of Promise, to the up tempo harmonies of Resolving, to the country twanged sounds of Map Song, International Harvester is a satisfying album, top to bottom.

To purchase the album requires a short trip to Vinyl Solution, Media Play, Harmony House, or local Major Stores. Calling up the band’s homepage on the world wide web (www.cqlcorp.com/troll) is a good testament to the professionalism involved in anything that is Troll For Trout. In contrast to the anemic concoctions that many bands call homepages, TFT provides interviews, album information, tour dates and other tidbits. The homepage is also the easiest way to align yourself with what is going on at Mackinaw Harvest Music (the band’s label), providing an e-mail link to join TFT’s mailing list. If this weren’t enough, I can’t go without spouting about how dam aesthetically pleasing the page is. Opening this URL brings you to a world where tied fly fish hooks serve as icons, and hunting and fishing references abound. It seems that the Troll For Trout moniker is more a concept than just a name (lead singer Michael Crittendon was on a much anticipated hunting trip at press time). TFT receives local airplay on a host of stations and sports a mailing list of over 1800 people. Touring has taken them to Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

TFT’s talents have not gone without notice on the national scale, either. The group is in the final rounds of Musician Magazine’s Best Unsigned Bands competition. Of the 10,000 entries submitted, TFT is one of the 180 bands still with hopes of winning.

Two Days. Two days is the amount of time left to get in on the action dinner night club has to offer. Reservations will be accepted until Thursday the 21st. The student activities office is offering a special perk to commuters, waiving the six dollar price of admission to the first 20 commuters signed up. Call the student activities office at 46177 to guarantee a night of good food and music on the Friday, November 22nd! Troll for Trout will be fishing for compliments at Friday’s Dinner Nite Club. The local band on its way to national recognition will take the stage at 7 pm. Photo Courtesy of TFT

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"Here a Bean, There a Bean, Everywhere a Mean, Mean Bean"

Crisan’s Coffee Company
by Scott Bacon
Times Entertainment Editor

Nestled in the confines of East Grand Rapids’ Galilght Village is Crisan’s Coffee Company. Crisian’s offers an extensive menu with many upscale, gourmet items. Cheesecakes and tortes shipped from New York, rotating soups du jour, interesting salads, and a large variety of coffees, teas, and pastries are available to satisfy every taste. The atmosphere is typical 90’s: PC and smoke free. The shop sports a very classy color scheme that goes from decoration to mug and saucer to employee uniform. The floor plan makes good use of space while utilizing decorative partitions to provide a cozy atmosphere for patrons.

For those of you who entertain thoughts of brewing gourmet coffee while sitting in front of your hot plate reading a good book, Crisian’s can accommodate you. Nineteen different varieties of coffee beans are available to the home brewer along with a host of different teas, including my personal favorite, Chai.

After a run down of the menu and a sample taste of the house brew (Thank you, Ahmad), I decided to partake in a Butterfinger sample complemented by a cup of Sumatra blend coffee. My partner in crime opted for the White Chocolate Macadamia route. True to what many would consider to be a traditional scene, the pastry was smaller in size and less sweet than the scones one will find at most java sites in Grand Rapids. The Sumatra blend was pure heaven. For those of you out there who are fans of black coffee, and aren’t in the mood for sugar and saucer to the balance of color of the coffee and steamed milk. While the review is just a drink, he swears he ‘just couldn’t taste the macadamia.’

While not the social mecca that other favorite beaneries in town are, Crisian’s provides an excellent atmosphere for either quiet studiy time or intimate conversation. Atmosphere, presentation, and depth of selection come at a price, however. Expect your wallet to be a little lighter than usual after a trip to this upscale coffee shop.

"A Cause for Celebration"
Sierra Nevada Celebration Ale
by Curt Wozniak
Times Editor-in-Chief

Most been brewed by the large breweries of North America offer several minor variations on the same bland theme, pseudo-pilners that run high in carbonation and low on flavor. However, out of Chico, CA comes the Sierra Nevada brewery, an American brewery that is胖 through the large breweries of North America in this respect. Far from it, and this winter it is drifting even further away.

Unique ales for the winter season have been a tradition in the “old world” for centuries. Sierra Nevada’s tip of the hat to this tradition is a welcome change in the foo-foo berry brewed seasonals with which the micro-brew market has been flooded. Celebration Ale is British-style brewing at its best, well, at its best in America, anyway. It’s both hoppy and malty as well as surprisingly potous (as Marco from Martha’s Vineyard warned, “It’ll knock you on your butt!”) — a perfect winter-upper coming in from the cold. And believe it or not, it actually tastes better closer to room temperature.

My first tip of Sierra Nevada Celebration Ale surprised me. My last one gave me no choice but to welcome it into the fold of my favorite winter beers. I have to say boldly that it is heads and tails above Sam Adams’ Cranberry Lambic and even my old favorite, Pete’s Winter Brew. The only strike against it is that the formula varies from year to year. However, supplies for the 1996 variation should last through Christmas.

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Men's Soccer Finishes Strong

by Ryan Smith
Times Contributing Writer

The Saints accomplished their goal last week and they did it with style. The Saints finished off the regular season with an overall record of 12 wins and 6 losses and a conference record of 7-3, good for second place in the conference and an opportunity to host a playoff game against Siena Heights. The Saints held off a feisty Siena Heights team and eventually won 2-0 in overtime on goals by Damian Nicey and Abraham Shearer. The win meant the Saints would have to travel to Tri State for the WHAC conference championship game. This too was a hard fought game that found its way into overtime with the score tied 1-1. The game remained tied after thirty minutes of overtime meaning the teams would now play thirty minutes of sudden death. The Saints did not make the second overtime last long as Kristian Raridan headed home a Damian Nicey free kick in the sixth minute of sudden death. The Saints' win led to a wild celebration and a spot for the team in the Great Lakes Regional Tournament, a spot they had not advanced to since 1981. The Saints received the sixth seed in the tournament meaning they would have to travel to Chicago to take on the third seeded Cougars of St. Xavier. The Saints knew it would not be easy and they eventually fell 3-1 with the lone goal being scored by sophomore Andy Williams.

Despite the loss, the Saints still had a very successful season. The team finished with an overall record of 14-7. Along the way, the Saints recorded not only a win over perennial NAIA contender Kalamazoo College, but also achieved a rare sweep of arch-rival Cornerstone College. These two victories were especially sweet for the Saints, who welcomed former Cornerstone head coach Joe Yeal to the program. Add to this the Saints two victories over Tri-State University and its easy to see why the team is optimistic for next year.

Complete Domination:

WHAC Opponents Feel AQ Volleyball's Wrath

by Alan Plum
Times Sports Editor

On their way to a perfect 10-0 record in the Conference, the Women's Volleyball Team didn't spend too much time on the court. At least during their matches anyway. For the Saints, many of their conference matchups didn't last half as long their practices. Disposing many of their WHAC foes in less than an hour and a half was a regularity for the Saints this year. In fact, the ladies lost only three games to their WHAC foes during conference play. That means the Saints played only thirty-three games while winning all ten of their conference battles. Only two teams, Cornerstone and Tri State, were able to avoid being swept 3-0 by the Saints. The closest the Saints came to a loss was a five game match played at Cornerstone. The Golden Eagles, inspired by a raucous home crowd, extended the Saints to five games, with the Saints eventually winning 3-2. After splitting the first two games, the Saints dropped game three before rallying to capture game four. This win silenced the Cornerstone crowd, and the Saints outlasted the Golden Eagles in game five to claim victory. This match tested the not only the Ladies' skill but their desire to win as well. Aquinas had already clinched the league championship, and the number one seed in the conference tournament. Cornerstone however was still chasing Concordia for second place in the WHAC. This was surely an indication of the fact that the Saints clearly had been labeled as THE team to beat by their WJAC adversaries. The Saints then closed out the season by traveling to Angola, IN, to face Tri State. Even though the Thunder finished at the bottom of the league, they were determined to give the Saints a struggle, as they managed to steal one game from the Saints. Eventually though Aquinas was able to wear down the Saints. With a week off to prepare for the WHAC tournament, a spot they had not advanced to since '81, the Saints claimed the Championship that they clearly deserved. Representing Aquinas on the WHAC First Team were WHAC Player of the Year, Pauline Burgerino, senior Emily Schultz, junior Liz Overkamp and sophomore Allison Kissinger. Junior Tara Becker was named to the WHAC Second Team. Next up for Aquinas will be the NAIA Great Lakes Regional this Thursday at U of M-Dearborn. The Great Lake Region is the best in the nation, with powerhouses Grace, IN, and St. Francis of Chicago.
Cross Country
Crosses the Finish Line

by Chris Hubbard
Times Contributing Writer

If there was one particular phrase to describe the Aquinas Cross Country season, it would be “Nothing but blood, sweat and tears.” After running 60-plus miles a week and racing at some of the biggest invitationals in the country, the Saints proved that they were a team to be feared in the WHAC. Their talent was not only recognized by other teams in the WHAC, but by the entire NAIA as well.

The Saints demonstrated why they had achieved national recognition on November 2, at the WHAC Cross Country Championships held at Spring Arbor College. Both the men’s and women’s teams had phenomenal races, despite the severe weather conditions. Aquinas placed second in both races, just on the heels of WHAC Champions, Siena Heights.

The men in particular had an outstanding performance, placing six runners in the top 20. Finishing first for the men and third overall was junior Jackson Fox with a time of 26:02. Close behind Fox in a tight pack, was sophomore Knutt Mass (26:20) and freshman Ken Baginski behind Fox in a tight pack, was placed second in both races, just gaining a time of 26:01. Following them was Melissa Pine (20:37), Shannan Ottenweiler (20:39), Molly Haber (20:39), and Courtney Rodgers (20:45).

“We all ran extremely well, even though it was so cold,” said senior Collen Cone. “All of the girls had outstanding races. We almost had Siena, but we’ll get ‘em next year!”

Both teams just barely missed qualifying for nationals as a team, however they did manage to qualify five runners on an individual basis. Jackson Fox, Knutt Mass, Ken Baginski, Leslie Ervin, and Brooke Vandermeulen represented Aquinas on Saturday November 16 at the NAIA National Championships in Kenosha Wisconsin.

In Wisconsin, the Saints again turned in impressive performances. Knutt Mass finished 44th overall in a time of 26:01. Right behind Mass was Baginski (26:02), and Fox (26:08). For the women, Ervin finished 113th with a time of 19:36 and Vandermeulen came in at 19:57.

Although the season is officially over, team members are eagerly anticipating next season. Only two seniors will depart, as Mike Wojciakowski and Collen Cone will be lost to graduation. With the veteran runners backed by this year’s talented freshmen, Aquinas will definitely be the team to beat next year.

The most successful Women’s Soccer squad in Aquinas history.

Women’s Soccer Earns First Ever Conference Title

By Justin Smith
Times Sports Editor

The Aquinas Women’s Soccer team recently finished its most successful season in school history. The short history, which now spans a whole four years, makes the Saints’ success even more satisfying.

The women, who two years ago had trouble even gathering enough players for road trips, finished this season with a record of 11-5-3. The Saints finished conference play with an 8-0-2 record, which gave them the school’s first ever WHAC Championship in Women’s Soccer. To earn the Conference Championship, the Lady Saints had to travel the road that led through Angola, Indiana, and arch rival Tri-State.

Taking place on the last weekend of the regular season, the Aquinas vs. Tri-State game could best be described as classic. Each team took their turn dominating the play, despite snow flurries, and numbing temperatures. Though Aquinas was behind most of the game, excitement was far from removed. The game ended in an overtime tie 3-3, with the Saint’s Becky Pylar scoring the tying goal with under two minutes to play in overtime. Also tallying for the Saints were Robin Beseste and Holly Burtyn.

The tie would give Aquinas the Conference Championship and with it came the opportunity to host a regional playoff game. After a few days of waiting, Aquinas was told that they would be squaring off against Transylvania, Kentucky (17-2) on the year. Aquinas looked good as they dominated the play for most of the game. Transylvania’s defense put out a fantastic showing however, making it difficult for the Saints to get good shots on net. After a hard fought battle and a few unlucky incidents for Aquinas, Transylvania squeaked out a 3-1 victory. Robin Beseste scored the Saint’s lone goal.

Despite the loss, the women were optimistic. “We’re all disappointed about being out of the play-offs so early, but next year we’ll be back” claims freshman Christy Townsend. Team captain Holly Burtyn added “we’ve come a long way, and the future is looking good for the team.”

Along with their impressive record and accomplishments, the team also had four All-Conference selections. Heading up the All-WHAC team was Holly Burtyn, who was also named WHAC Player of the Year, in addition to earning All-America status. Burtyn didn’t stop there though, she also represented the Saints on the WHAC All-Academic Team. Joining Burtyn were All-Conference selections Robin Beseste, Lauren Mullane, and Christy Townsend. Although the Saints first ever post-season appearance didn’t last long, in only four seasons the Saints have transformed the Women’s Soccer Program. The Saints have not only won a Conference Championship, they have also captured respect, and gained sense of pride that will last them for years to come.
Personalizing the Dorm Rooms and Offices of AQ

By Melissa Ann Pline
Times Features Editor

There’s a “Dave’s World” sign hanging over the entrance to Communication Arts Assistant Professor Dave Weinandy’s office, but you don’t have to read to sign to know you’ve entered another world. Upon entering the interior of his office you’ll notice thousands of eyes looking at you as there’s a picture of every student he’s had in a class in his five years at Aquinas.

“It started out with pictures on a small bulletin board to help me learn students’ names,” said Weinandy. The original board is still there, but is now surrounded by a wall papered with people. Opposite the picture wall is a wall covered with what looks like children’s finger paints. Rest assured though, writing on the wall is an honor granted only to Communication Arts graduates.

“I wanted graduates to have a mark on the college, so I let them write on walls at end of their last class, the ritual of signing the wall.” Next door to all the hoopla is the distinguished office of Visiting Instructor-In-the-College Russel Pitts, trying to protect his area from the progression of “Dave’s World.”

“There’s always been stuff (around Dave’s office),” said Pitts. “But last year it seemed to be accumulating at a more rapid pace, coming closer to the line between our offices. Then on Valentine’s Day, he hung a string of hearts over the line. To stop any further advances, I put up toy soldiers in battle position on the line.” Thus began the battle that has seen the mutual re-decorating of each other’s outer offices.

The inside decor of Pitts’ office is by a wall papered with people.

There’s always been stuff (around Dave’s office),” said Pitts. “But last year it seemed to be accumulating at a more rapid pace, coming closer to the line between our offices. Then on Valentine’s Day, he hung a string of hearts over the line. To stop any further advances, I put up toy soldiers in battle position on the line.” Thus began the battle that has seen the mutual re-decorating of each other’s outer offices.

What’s Your Room Personality?

by Molly Ann Huber
Times Contributing Writer

Remember the day you first moved into the dorms when everything was formless, and void of personality or color? Remember how barren the industrial bunk beds looked, and how lonely the desks stuck in the corners appeared?

Well, since that time you have transformed the concrete, wood and steel into a place you call your home away from home. Ah, and what a great place it is, your room. But have you ever stopped to think how your room reflects your personality?

Heidi Stephan, a third year Resident Advisor who lives in Burfeindt Hall, has put a lot of thought into the inside decor of Pitts’ office.

“Through the interiors of our offices are much different, I think we’ve each decorated the way we have for the same reasons. But that doesn’t mean they’ll stop helping each other decorate as well. I have a plan for second semester,” warned Pitts. “I think it’s about time to redecorate.”

However, it is his own choosing. The subdued lighting of the bookcase lined room suggests a den where one might relax in the comfortable chair, light a cigar, and ponder the classics.

“I believe certain things. This is I have a plan for second semester,” said Stephan. “Though the interiors of our offices are much different, I think we’ve each decorated the way we have for the same reasons. But that doesn’t mean they’ll stop helping each other decorate as well. I have a plan for second semester,” warned Pitts. “I think it’s about time to redecorate.”