Repairing the “Scattered Pieces” of Aquinas College

Unlikely Presidential Front-Runner Named

by Curt Wozniak
Times Editor-in-Chief

The Search Committee has narrowed down its list of candidates for the office of President of Aquinas College to five names. They were announced in a press conference which was held over the weekend.

To the surprise of many people connected to the college, the list included Andy Holtgrieve (AQ, class of ’94), vocalist of the popular local band, Domestic Problems. The talented Holtgrieve, who has been entertaining Aquinas students for years as part of the much-loved Domestic Problems, showed that his talents stretch far beyond the bounds of music, as the committee explained their unorthodox choice.

Balancing a rock-and-roll lifestyle with the office of President of a four-year institution of higher learning will provide Holtgrieve with a unique dilemma, one that most of his competition will not have to deal with. He seemed optimistic, however, that he could merge his two roles into a cohesive whole, saying, “By being the shoes of the dynamic R. Paul Nelson.”

Holtgrieve went on to say that the experience will make DP a “smarter hand, and better people to boot.”

Concerning his return to the Aquinas campus after being away for a few years, Holtgrieve commented, “I was pretty hesitant at first, but now I’m getting pretty excited about it. Those were good times. I felt safe and sheltered from that scary outside world.”

Fans of Domestic Problems will see their favorite local band assume a changing role in regards to the college. Once a big draw for events such as the Awakening or the “We Made It!” Party, the band will continue to play on campus should Holtgrieve get the Committee’s final nod, but only at cabinet meetings, the Academic Assemblies, and “sing-along” State of the College Addresses.

Holtgrieve plans to utilize the non-musical talents of his bandmates in his college administration. “Ned (John Niedzielski, guitarist) will be my Community Senate Liaison, Tadd (Kimble, drums) will be my Man-at-Arms, Job (Groszky, sax) will serve as my Secretary of Defense, Jason (Moody, bass) will be my speech writer, and Billy (Kenny, trumpet and mandolin), my right hand man for all these years, will be my Personal Secretary.”

Holtgrieve’s administration is still incomplete while advisors look for a new chauffeur for AQ-1, the college’s private mini-van. Holtgrieve said, “I think it’s part of the whole President thing, the AQ mini-van complete with wet bar.”

Summing up his feelings about the position, Holtgrieve said, “It will be difficult following up Paul Nelson. I really hope to keep the momentum going that he has started.”

Holtgrieve added, “Domestic Problems will be part of the RDS (Rick, Darla, and Scott—radio personalities on WGRD) Christmas Party at the Orbit Room on December 19th and play a show in Chicago at the Elbo Room this weekend.”
"Mutants," cont'd, from p. 1

by Maris Branchen
Times Local/Financial News Editor

Aquinas College Campus Computing has called in the Federal Bureau of Investigation in response to allegations of internet brainwashing in campus labs. Several administrators noticed students with glazed over eyes sitting comatose at the computers in the Academic Building. Attempts to remove these students proved futile when they began screaming strange mantras such as "Must find web site," and, "Surfing is cool, surfing is cool, surfing is cool!"

The FBI has arrested three lab assistants, whom Campus Safety has pointed out as ring leaders of the strange computer cult. The assistants have been charged with blatant disregard for students who actually have papers to type or spreadsheets to formulate. It seems as though lab assistants have been rewarding those in the cult who can come up with the most exquisite formula, such as the turkey designed on an e-mail site that was forwarded to most campus e-mail users. The intricate macrame of asterisks and dashes that made up the turkey caused many to wonder, "Who in the hell has that kind of time?" Apparently many students do, as the number of strange designs confiscated by FBI officials has totaled over 1,000. Over 200 students, not related to the cult, have been questioned in regards to e-mail chain letters. The cult members have vowed to make sure that any student who actually needs a computer for homework will be barred from using the lab. One Aquinas student who wished to remain anonymous for safety reasons said, "I tried to get a computer and I waited for over an hour," she said, "Then I approached a student who was clearly surfing for pleasure only. That student turned me over and said, 'Must find web site, must find web site.' It was really scary, the look in his eyes, he must have been possessed."
The FBI has secured all labs for the time being, and is instilling computer security courses. These time habits are drastic, the FBI warned students from using the lab. One Aquinas student who wished to remain anonymous for safety reasons said, "I tried to get a computer and I waited for over an hour," she said, "Then I approached a student who was clearly surfing for pleasure only. That student turned me over and said, 'Must find web site, must find web site.' It was really scary, the look in his eyes, he must have been possessed."
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Does "Bunny Boy" pose a threat similar to that of "Squirrel Girl?"

Aquinas College saw a successful end to the hunting season last month when three St. Joseph Hall residents took to the big forest and bagged a bull moose on the last day before Thanksgiving break. Filling their tables with moose meat rather than the traditional turkey.
The kill occurred in the basin of forest between Wilcox Park and the Campus Safety Office. The area had been known as one of the best hunting spots in the Midwest before the City of Grand Rapids sprawled out to enclose it. Davy Crockett himself was said to have killed seven deer in one day there. However, the master himself had never accomplished what these Aquinas students have—the killing of a moose with bare hands.
The students, who normally hunt with Winchester .270 Magnum, were inhibited from doing so because of strict legislation prohibiting the shooting of guns within the city of Grand Rapids. However, after hours of tracking the moose through the stream and ponds in the three acres around the creek, they decided to jump the moose and inject it with a lethal dose of pain.

After a one hour waiting period, the student-hunters decided to have Campus Safety haul the 1,300lb. beast to their room. In return for all the help which the college's skilled cafeteria staff gave them, the students offered the moose's mounted head as a gift to the college. It is now hanging in the Carriage House.
The kill out of the rusty iron mosquito that another group of students brought down last year, making it the largest game animal ever successfully hunted on the Aquinas campus. The AQ student-hunters were awarded the Purple Sturmion medal, the highest honor a college hunter can receive for bravery, for their daring effort to protect the Aquinas student body and epitomize the spirit of the slaying of a large mammal. Members of Community Senate have expressed interest in holding a contest every year to add to the fledgling trophy collection in the Carriage House. "There are a number of live animals on campus that need to be controlled in order to protect our students," one high ranking cabinet official said, requesting that he be not named. "Sure, squirrel heads may not look as impressive when mounted on a wall, but those little bastards have some sharp teeth!"

Campus Safety praised the students for their prudent handling of the situation. A rampant moose can trample large numbers of people, especially on a college campus. According to a rise on the World Wide Web, over 6,973,998 college students have been mauled by moose this academic year. President Clinton has declared the moose a "national treasure," but added that something must be done to "thwart the tragic deaths of our young people while exercising their right to a college education."
Wege Donates Largest Gift in Aquinas History

by Andrew Pieper
Times Assistant Editor

Peter Wege, co-chair of the Aquinas Board of Trustees, donated securities worth an estimated $5 million to the college last week, making it the largest gift ever to Aquinas.

The announcement was made last Wednesday at the joint meeting of the Academic Assembly, the Board of Trustees and the Community Senate. "I have a very, very soft spot in my heart for Aquinas," said Wege, president of the Wege Foundation. "Aquinas is on its way to becoming the finest Catholic College in the Midwest," he added. "The educational experience is superior, and the faculty and staff are outstanding, talented people."

Wege, who donated the funds for and oversaw the building of the Wege Center, has generously given to the college over the past 40 years, despite the fact that he never attended. He did go to St. Stephen's Elementary in Grand Rapids, where the Dominican Sisters taught him. The gift will be used for endowment, financial aid and capital improvements. The announcement came in a meeting where the finan-

cial people fought back tears while standing and thanking Wege for the generous gift. Wege twice received a standing ovation and the room glowed with optimism even after financial setbacks were studied earlier in the meeting.

President Nelson announced the gift from Board of Trustees Co-Chair Peter Wege (center) as Chuck Frydrych, Co-Chair L. John Snider, and Renee Palileo applauded. Photo courtesy of Mikel Cahill

Presidential reaction varied. "It marked a judgment made by the Foundation about Aquinas' progress in every way that we try to measure excellence," said Ryan. "It's about our faculty, our administrative leaders, and our student body. It was indeed Aquinas at its very best." Added Ryan, "It was a tip of Peter's cap to all of us."

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Brigid Bulger
Times Contributing Writer

The spirit of giving is alive and well this Christmas season on campus. Many organizations have shared a little something extra with not only the Aquinas community, but Grand Rapids as well.

ACCESS Holiday Baskets, a project sponsored by CAVA, provided faculty, floors, and clubs with an opportunity to share some Christmas joy. Each group received a specific family, and provided the items necessary for their Christmas dinner. Making it even more meaningful, they will personally deliver their gifts to the family during the week of December 16-20.

Nancy Timberlake, CAVA Coordinator, shared how the project has put her "in touch with the Holiday spirit." Timberlake adds, "There really is a lot of need out there. It brightens my day to see how we are making a difference."

President Nelson (center) as Chuck Frydrych, Co-Chair L. John Snider, and Renee Palileo applaud. Photo courtesy of Mikel Cahill

Timberlake noted that there has been a tremendous response from the Aquinas community. JAMMIN donated the proceeds from their annual fashion show to further the project. The proceeds from one of the basketball games was also donated to Baxter Community Center.

CAVA also sponsored the "Giv-

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Stella Ferris, Multi-cultural director, shared the importance of participating in these events. "Service is the best way we can service the community, not just the Aquinas campus, but Grand Rapids as well. We cannot drop the ball when we have made a commitment, especially when families are involved." Ferris is the advisor for Los Mentores and JAMMIN, campus groups who have been especially active in CAVA's Christmas events, as well as Director of the Multi-Cultural Office.

Campus Ministry sponsored Christmas caroling to the Holland Home. On Saturday, carolers shared their gift of music, as they delivered cards and cookies to the retirement home. The retired sisters at Marywood enjoyed a sing-along with Aquinas Students on Sunday.

While Aquinas actively participated in the community, many groups also gave their time to provide activities for those on campus as well. Campus Ministry supplied... See "X-Mas," p. 2

Christmas Time is Near: The Campus Celebrates

by Brigid Bulger
Times Contributing Writer

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Winter Blizzard Hits Aquinas

by Heather Karal
Times Contributing Writer

DEC 18, 1996

The walls of the Donnelly Center have never throbbed with so many flailing limbs and spasitic movements as it did on December 6, 1996. It was the Winter Blizzard.

Freshman Gloria Coste summed the dance up when she exclaimed, "We like it. It's really hot!" Considering that there was usually about 200 people on the dance floor and the surrounding area, it should have been kind of hot. Fellow classmate Giesela Classon agreed on both counts in responding that the temperature certainly was "hot."

Perhaps the biggest positive of the dance was that for many students it provided an opportunity to have fun away from their dorm rooms while getting "decked out in their best threads." More importantly it promoted a night away from the boredom of weekends at the dorms and the problems it creates. Gwen Johnson, a sophomore Resident Assistant, also pointed out in replaying, "I think the dance is an excellent place for students to socially interact in a safer environment. It is also a safer alternative to other weekend activities."

The music, selected by "the dripping faucet" radio show's disc jockey team with Kevin DeBruin helping out, kept the tempo bouncing through the first half of the dance. "It's great," commented freshman R.J. Klemczak, "Great music selection!"

Those not up to the demands of the dance floor sought out friends or food from the snack table. Meanwhile a fresh layer of snow added to the atmosphere outside while lights strung across the rooms and glittering snowflakes created a holiday feel inside. Throughout the night, cleanly shaven faces and heads of neatly done hair bobbed with laughter while music rumbled behind them.

Attendance, before this year, had not topped one hundred and fifty students. This year the crowd numbered two hundred and forty-five in addition to the DJ's and the volunteers.

With as much juking and jiving that took place at the Winter Blizzard, slow dances like this were welcomed rests. Photo by Daffy Cavanagh

Second Annual Joint Meeting Explores AQ's Financial Future

by Chris Manning
Times Contributing Writer

On Wednesday, December 11, Aquinas held its second annual joint meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Academic Assembly and the Community Senate. As President R. Paul Nelson stated in his opening comments, the joint meeting is beneficial because "We are able to make more informed judgments and decisions about the business of the college."

The first speaker was Associate Professor of Physics Charles Frydrych, who spoke about changes in trends of General Fund expenditures for colleges in Michigan. Using a graph from the Michigan higher education database, he explained that between 1978 and 1991, the percentage of the General Fund spent annually on utilities and total compensation of faculty has decreased. The percentage spent on repair and renovations, however, has increased. To expand upon the percent decrease in faculty compensation, Frydrych used a second graph to show that ranked faculty and service employees have seen decreases of over 40% in compensation expenditures of the General Fund, while unranked faculty and administration have increased compensation expenditures.

Frydrych compared compensation expenditures in the categories of instruction, academic support, student services, institutional support, plant operations, and financial operations. Michigan colleges have spent a lesser percentage of the General Fund on instruction and student services in recent years than in the past. Academic support and plant operations saw slight increases. Institutional support also increased, but statewide the greatest increase by far was financial operations.

The next presenter was Sr. Maureen Geary, Vice President for Finance, who spoke about Aquinas' specific financial history. Unfortunately, at Aquinas instructional expenditures have seen a drastic decrease in the percentage of the General Fund. Administrative expenditures, debt service, and financial operations have increased in their respective percentages of the General Fund expenditures over the past nine years.

The next speaker was Andrew Pieper, a member of the Senate. Pieper spoke about student-faculty relations at Aquinas. He gave examples of the exceptional dedication which Aquinas professors have to their students. He cited this dedication as being responsible for building a campus community. Even though they are an essential part of the college, the mean salary for Aquinas professors is less than that of some Michigan high school teachers. Mr. Pieper expressed Senate's concern that Aquinas is putting itself at risk of losing excellent professors to higher paying institutions.

Pieper proposed no solutions to the low pay rates, but said "The results of this survey show that the students have given the Board a mandate to raise faculty salaries." He pointed out that curriculum and faculty quality were first and second on the student body's priority list.

The Board of Trustees response to this was given by the Board's Co-Chair, Peter Wege. Wege expressed his belief in the faculty at Aquinas. He also stated his belief that Aquinas has the chance to become the best Catholic college in the Midwest. He then presented the college with a gift of $5 million (see related story, p. 1).

"X-Mas," cont'd from p. 1

twelve dozen cookies for Aquinas students to decorate at a party last Thursday. Students decorated a cookie or two while enjoying Christmas music. Those participating were welcome to enjoy some cookies, with the leftovers being taken to the Holland Home.

The Music Club hosted a Christmas party, open to the entire campus.

A Secret Santa gift exchange provided the opportunity to build community and make new friends. Roger Cardenas, president of the Music Club, stressed this as he said, "We decided to hold this event so that everyone one could get involved. We are not just a club, we are about friendship. That's what Christmas is about—friendship."

It is obvious that Cardenas is right, and not just about the Music Club, Aquinas is alive and well this holiday season, sharing what it has to offer with Grand Rapids.

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Catholic Church Refuses to Perform Disney Weddings
by Michelle Bottrall
Times Contributing Writer

Many young couples dream of a magical wedding day—a majestic castle filled with guests, royal trumpeters, a horse drawn carriage, maybe even fireworks. But the nation’s largest religious body, the Roman Catholic Church, has banned its priests from performing marriage ceremonies at Walt Disney World, the place where magical weddings can come true. According to an online news source, last week the chancellor of the Diocese of Orlando, Sister Lucy Vasquez, wrote to her fellow clerics nationwide, reminding them of the edict put into place by Catholic officials last year. She stated: "No local Roman Catholic priests will marry couples at Disney, nor will visa sponsors be granted permission to perform the rite." Vasquez added, "Marriage is a sacrament, and we believe that all sacraments...must be celebrated in a Church setting." According to Bill Warren, a Disney spokesman, clergy from almost all other denominations have been given permission by the leaders of their denominations to participate in the over 1,700 wedding ceremonies performed at Disney every year.

New Restaurant Sparks Controversy Months Before Grand Opening
by Heather Young
Times Contributing Writer

This February, a restaurant from an Atlanta-based chain is opening between the Olive Garden and U-Haul on 28th Street. No big deal, right? It wouldn’t be unless you know that the restaurant happens to be "Hooters," the bar and eatery made both famous and notorious because of its "waitresses" tight, small tops and hot pants," as stated an article in the Grand Rapids Press.

The chain that gained popularity in the south has been creeping north. Seven out of the eight Michigan Hooters restaurants have been established within the past two years. The new Grand Rapids branch will be employing five managers and 90 general employees—including the scantily clad servers.

One major accomplishment exist in Grand Rapids, of course. Sensations and the Velvet Touch both cater to "adult only" crowds and serve up heaping portions of the female anatomy. The new Hooters restaurant, however, will be opening in a very commercial segment of 28th Street which is otherwise a group of family-owned restaurants.

Employees of the nearby U-Haul company expressed enthusiasm for future lunches to be enjoyed in the provocative surroundings of Hooters. Aquinas freshman, Angie Rivas, does not share such enthusiasm. "It's gross," she said. "The name [Hooters] says it all. It's degrading."

It would seem that many women would be opposed to Hooters, the restaurant whose sign displays an owl, but is definitely not wildlife-oriented. Several female Aquinas students, however, see things differently. "It's not that bad," said Gina Velez. "I haven't heard anything wrong with it. I guess it's a better place for people to go than Sensations [a center for exotic dancing] or Velvet Touch [an adult store]." Amanda Spitzley said, "Actually, Hooters are better."

Some of the establishments of Hooters are being opposed by local women. "I don't think it's sick," said a woman. "It's better than the other places, at least." Additionally, many people though about the opening of Hooters and said, "I don't mind. It doesn't affect me."

Similarly, freshman Denise Moore said, "I don't see anything wrong with it. I guess it's a better place for people to go than Sensations [a center for exotic dancing] or Velvet Touch [an adult store]." Amanda Spitzley said, "Actually, Hooters are pretty clean places."

International student Enrico Jayadi of Indonesia described the validation of the chain in practical terms. "They're just trying to make some money," he said. "If people want to go there that's fine. No one's required to go to that place...it's their choice." Further, Jayadi pointed out that the Hooters restaurant itself is not entirely to blame for a possible breach of morals. "It's successful," he said, referring to the fact that there is always an ample clientele for those types of businesses.

As President of Industrial Belting & Supply, Inc. (IBS), Yob has transformed the company from a three employee company with $250,000 in yearly sales into a supplier that now employs 175 and has $36 million in sales annually.

Local Business Owner and AQ Alumnus Strides Toward G.O.P. Leadership
by Andrew Pieper
Times Assistant Editor

Chuck Yob, Grand Rapids businessman and Republican National Committee member, announced last month his candidacy for Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

Yob has been courting the 165 members of the Committee, which will meet on January 17 in Washington, DC to choose its next leader. Betsy DeVos, another Committee member from Michigan, recently withdrew her name from consideration, citing personal and family reasons.

Governor John Engler, who recently chaired the Republican Governors Conference, called Yob "a strong person" but said that DeVos had been the front runner in the race.

Yob, a former Aquinas student, said in a statement "Our party has the best ideas for America because we listen to the American people. As President of Industrial Belting & Supply, Inc. (IBS), Yob has transformed the company from a three employee company with $250,000 in yearly sales into a supplier that now employs 175 and has $36 million in sales annually.

Although we were unsuccessful in regaining the White House this year, many of our best ideas won the day."

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Point

by Curt Wozniak
Times Editor-in-Chief

Recently, members of the Times Staff approached me, knowing that Point/Counterpoint was my favorite page of the paper, and asked if we could exclude it from the paper’s layout every now and then. The following is my response:

Over my four years at Aquinas, I’ve seen a great deal of improvement in this publication. Not one single area of improvement, however, gave the paper a bigger push forward than did the inception of Point/Counterpoint.

The Times’ bi-weekly editorial page was born over two years ago. In the beginning, there were two separate editorials which ran in the News section of the paper. News Editor for the 1994-95 academic year, Dave Bult (AQ class of ‘95) wove it all with his well-reasoned and sound commentaries in his bi-weekly “NewsLine.”

Eric VanGessel (AQ class of ’96) rede fined poignancy with many insightful “Politics Aside” columns. VanGessel, then only a pup of Contributing Writer status, would succeed Bult and become the Times’ next News Editor and the first in the modern era to write a Point/Counterpoint opinion.

It was our beloved Assistant Editor Andrew Pieper who provided the opposition for VanGessel as Campus News Editor on last year’s staff. Together these two tackled any topic they could wrap their opinionated little hands around, from the legalization of marijuana to tole pipe bars in Grand Rapids. VanGessel, having more seniority, often backed Pieper into a corner, forcing him to write from a position which he often didn’t back philosophically. Pieper worked through it, however, constructing dispassionate, but strong arguments and, at the same time, developing a greater appreciation for open forum and viewpoints outside of his own. Andy once told me that if he ever included his Point/Counterpoint articles in his portfolio, he would never get a job because people would think he was aTHC-guzzling nitwit. Are we going to let that kind of personal sacrifice be discounted simply because it’s time consuming? Simply because it’s no fun?

Simply because we’d rather do our homework? “No,” I say, one thousand times, “No!”

Point/Counterpoint has become the rock on which the AQ Times is built. No other section receives as much fan mail. No other section brings in as much advertising revenue. No other section has as much poignancy with many insightful commentaries in his head, “O.K. So Point/Counterpoint is going to be taken away? What?” He isn’t staring at the computer every other Wednesday afternoon trying to come up with a logical argument on an issue that he cares nothing about.

Take last issue for example. The Point/Counterpoint topic was ID cards. ID cards! I mean, come on. It doesn’t take long to realize that there isn’t much to debate on this campus when the only topic we can find for Point/Counterpoint is whether or not to replace our student IDs. We are truly wasting points! Of last minute debates on issues that really have no bearing on this institution. I see people lining their turtle cages with the Point/Counterpoint section of the Times every week. No one really reads what I or the Campus News Editor have worked so hard to come up with.

What does Wozniak know about Point/Counterpoint? I’ll tell you, he knows nothing, for nothing. He never writes it, save for this issue. He doesn’t leave the Times brainstorming sessions saying anything in his head, “O.K. So Point/Counterpoint is going to be taken away? What?” His paper is a waste of time, ink, and brainwaves. In contrast to what Weiznak hails as a cult journalistic idol, former Assistant Editor Doug Dooley, I could explore the real important issues that face Aquinas. Issues like racism and the future of this college.

We know Mr. Ed. is in favor of Point/Counterpoint: rather it is a waste of time, ink, and brainwaves. In contrast to what Weiznak hails as a cult journalistic idol, former Assistant Editor Doug Dooley, I could explore the real important issues that face Aquinas. Issues like racism and the future of this college. You never saw Dooley writing Point/Counterpoint. Or if he did, it was because he had something important to say. I’m tired of debating with Mindi Evans every week. I’m tired of coming to Times meetings and acting like a fool when I can’t think of a topic for Point/Counterpoint.

And as the Aquinas community you should all be tired of having your student paper consist of the joke that is Point/Counterpoint. There is nothing American about Point/Counterpoint: rather it is a waste of time, ink, and brainwaves. In contrast to what Weiznak hails as a cult journalistic idol, former Assistant Editor Doug Dooley, I could explore the real important issues that face Aquinas. Issues like racism and the future of this college. You never saw Dooley writing Point/Counterpoint. Or if he did, it was because he had something important to say. I’m tired of debating with Mindi Evans every week. I’m tired of coming to Times meetings and acting like a fool when I can’t think of a topic for Point/Counterpoint.

Why do I have to write such garbage when what I really want to do is write my own column. Why do I have to write such garbage when what I really want to do is write my own column?
Next semester, Aquinas College will have the honor of hosting Fr. Daniel Berrigan—author, poet, philosopher, and Vietnam War protestor. Unfortunately, by looking at the posters around campus promoting his visit, all that a passer-by would know about Fr. Berrigan is that he was a jailbird. A criminal. The posters showing Fr. Berrigan smiling as he is being led away in handcuffs are not the proper way to advertise the visit of this respected activist.

There are many reasons why some may find the poster offensive. Perhaps some do not like the fact that Fr. Berrigan protested against the war while others served their country. I doubt, however, that many of those feelings linger on this campus.

My objection to this promotion is that to someone who does not know the history of such a figure, this is hardly the portrayal that should be made of someone we would like the students to respect. Unfortunately, those on this campus who do not know much about Fr. Berrigan and his movement far outnumber those who do. This is understandable since many of us were not even alive during the anti-war effort.

I understand no malice was intended by those who decided on this method of promotion. Just the opposite, I am sure they respect him a great deal, specifically for his anti-war work, and maybe his getting arrested. However, it was a mistake to assume that all students would understand and appreciate his work by just seeing his photo on a poster.

Several dozen students’ lives will be enriched, and the campus enlivened, by Dan Berrigan’s visit next semester. I am sure they respect and appreciate his work by just seeing his photo on a poster.

Unfortunately, those on this campus who do not know much about Fr. Berrigan and his movement far outnumber those who do. This is understandable since many of us were not even alive during the anti-war effort.

To someone who sees this poster and nothing else, an image is conjured of someone who is just an anti-war criminal. Not a famous philosopher and poet. Not a life-long priest. Why is it that we are advertising something that anyone who was not alive at the time cannot grasp? I can understand that he works with AIDS patients. I’ve become familiar with that in my lifetime. It is difficult for me to appreciate something I have never experienced.

Now, I know there are many strong feelings out there concerning the war. Whether or not one agrees with Fr. Berrigan’s actions is not the issue. The issue is how we are portraying him to an audience that cannot appreciate what this poster really means. It is important to keep in mind that Fr. Berrigan is not coming here to teach “War-Protesting Techniques 101.” He is coming to officially teach Aquinas students about poetry written under harsh conditions and the book of Daniel.

It has come to my attention that the photo used on the poster is a famous photo from the anti-war effort. How would one know this unless that had experienced the anti-war movement? And if we are portraying him to an audience that cannot appreciate what this poster really means, then how do we expect from the AQ Times over the past few years.

I feel that the lampoon takes nothing away from the seriousness of the writing contained within the actual newspaper. Indeed, Issue 7 covers some big articles, including the tremendous financial boost our college received from Mr. Peter Wege and Assistant Editor Andrew Pieper’s insightful editorial on the promotional methods for Fr. Daniel Berrigan’s upcoming visit. The care that went into producing all serious articles for this issue should not be overlooked because the outside four pages are less than serious.

To all readers who got a laugh out of the gag stories, and to all who thought they were garbage, Happy Holidays just the same.
December 18, 1996

Daylight

by Erin Hearn
Times Contributing Writer

What do you get when you add Sly Stallone, three juvenile convicts (one is played by Sage Stallone, Sly's son), a budding writer, a family of three, a security guard, an elderly couple, some gross ugly rats, and some roaches? You get Daylight, a Universal picture that makes you wish you would have stayed in the dark.

This movie is just like every disaster movie, and if you have seen one, then you should feel secure in the fact that you have seen the basic plot for all of them. Basically, there is a tunnel that runs under the Hudson River from Manhattan to New Jersey. In it, one night, three petty thieves hit a waste disposal truck and cause a chain reaction into two other waste trucks which causes a huge toxic explosion. This explosion blocks off both sides of the tunnel. Stallone plays Kit Latura ex-Emergency Medical Service (EMS) chief. Of course he continues to play in these action movies. He tends, I think, to never show any degree of water for it. It became him. He just follows the rest of the survivors out of the tunnel, but who cares? This is not real life and when you have one of the greatest action heroes of our time helping you, what can go wrong? Especially when again and again Stallone displays more strength than any human has ever before. The story becomes totally unbelievable. These people, who just barely escape the horrible explosion, stand in 38 degree water for over an hour and never show any sign of hypothermia. I guess what I mean to say is that they suffer extreme amounts of stress and are hardly the worse for it. It became ridiculous, near the end, that I could hardly resist laughing. I was really disappointed in this movie, not just because of its bad writing but its bad use of actors too. Sylvester Stallone is so much better than the roles that he continues to play in these action movies. He tends, I think, to never take full advantage of the talent that was shown so well in Rocky. Sly has so much personality and charisma that is taken for granted in these limited action films. Sage Stallone at the beginning of the movie shows himself to be as talented and charming as his father, but for the rest of the movie he has very few lines, in fact he is not even considered a main character. He just follows the rest of the survivors around the blocked tunnel.

If you actually want to pay for this movie, you also might recognize Amy Brenneman, who plays the budding writer Madeline Thompson. She also played the stepmother in last year's teen-age drama Fear. All in all this movie was badly written, and badly acted. The special effects were pretty cool, but otherwise it was pretty awful. So for the holidays go see something positive and relatively believable, or instead save you money to buy a nice present for your sweetheart because Daylight is not worth the electricity to turn on the projector.

'Tis the Season for Christmas Music

by Melissa Ann Pline
Times Features Editor

'Tis the season when holiday music is everywhere, from the loudspeakers in the malls to every station on the radio. But there is something about hearing "Silent Night" and "Jingle Bells" performed live that brings out the real spirit of the season. This year, the Aquinas College Music Department offered two chances to relax to holiday tunes.

A Candlelight Holiday Concert was held on Sunday, December 8 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church next door. The celebration of music drew a mixed audience of Aquinas students, faculty and alumni, as well as members of the local Grand Rapids community. The voices and instruments filling the candle-lit church were those of the College Chorus, the Valenti Handbell Choir and the Chamber Ensemble.

By having the concert in a church setting, the groups were able to offer unique musical experiences, such as an organ accompaniment and performances from the balcony.

This was the first time Aquinas had a concert at St. Thomas. "I felt at home here," said Director Barbara Witham McCargar. "St. Thomas was very welcoming."

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Hand bells ring in the Holiday Season from the stage of the AMC.

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Victory over Division II SVSU Keeps Saints Rolling

by Leslie Palmer
Times Contributing Writer

Aquinas College’s Men’s Basketball team was back in action last Tuesday evening against the Cardinals of Division II Saginaw Valley State University. The Saints defeated Saginaw 80-74 in overtime.

Once again the Saints excited the home crowd with an explosive start, as Brandon Lowe hit the first jumpshot of the game. This was followed by two consecutive Troy Wilbon steals, which combined with another Lowe bucket pushed the Saints to a 4-0 lead. This lead did not hold up for long, as SVSU ditched their pre-game jitters.

Despite Saginaw’s scoring streaks, the Saints stayed strong, answering back-to-back three pointers with a 42-38 lead after less than 5 minutes had elapsed in the half.

For the next twelve minutes the Cardinals and the Saints traded baskets and turnovers until three Saint fouls, turned into points at the line, giving Saginaw Valley a 61-55 lead, with under three minutes to play.

The Saints never gave up, though, as Brandon Lowe hit the first of a 21-15 run, with only 9:19 left in the first half. Albro was forced to call a time out, realizing back-to-back three pointers within the first minute of the second half.

Jim Richards added to Crittendon’s streak with two three-point plays that staked the Saints to a 42-38 lead after less than 5 minutes had elapsed in the half.

This time junior Joe Crittendon stepped up to the challenge, delivering back-to-back three pointers within the first minute of the second half. This led to a 61-55 lead, with under three minutes to play.

The Saints never gave up, though, as they stepped up their defensive intensity. Senior Troy Wilbon answered the call, as he hit an outside jumper and three crucial free throws to tie the game at the end of regulation.

Determined to get the win, the Saints took total control of the extra session, taking an early lead and never looking back.

Lowe, Crittendon, and Richards all added four points a piece in overtime play. Willick’s free throw with nine seconds remaining sealed the deal, and allowed the Saints to secure a hard-earned 80-74 win.

It was a sweet victory for the Saints, who were trounced by the Cardinals 85-59 last year.

Coach Albro said that he didn’t appreciate the importance of his team’s win until later, when he had time to really think about it.

The Cardinals were the seventh Division II opponent on the Saints schedule. The win over SVSU, the Saints first in seven tries against Division II schools this year, was big for the team.

"It was a lot bigger win than I expected," said Albro. "We found a way to earn ourselves a win, and we had many clutch performances."

Women's Hoops End Semester on Winning Note

by Ryan Smith
Times Contributing Writer

The Lady Saints Basketball Team finished off their first semester schedule last week by beating Indiana Tech 68-67 on Friday. Jen Stoom led the way with 19 points and Bridget Lamoreaux grabbed 10 rebounds. This win, coming after a heartbreaking 6 point loss to undefeated Calvin College, the Saints' second to the Knights this year, snapped a two-game losing streak.

The Lady Saints' 4-7 overall record may be a little deceiving considering the strength of their schedule and the fact that most of their games have been on the road. Add to this the fact that three of the Saints' losses are to NCAA Division II schools, and it's easy to see why first year coach Linda Nash remains optimistic. Last year, the Lady Saints tackled a similar schedule, but most of their early season games were played in the friendly confines of the Aquinas College Field house. Even coach Nash agrees that being away from home has had an effect on her team, "The number of road games and the caliber of our opponents have made it difficult to have many clutch performances."
defend last season's WHAC title, effort and hustle of everyone on the team for the WHAC season quickly approached. The Lady Saints have fought through the many injuries and have relied on great balance, with Bridget Lameca assisting in regular season and the very end, but that should make the Lady Saints have been in most of their games until the very end. This is indicative of where we are as a coach Nash also believes that the team's record doesn't tell the whole story. "We attack other team's defense trouble, and their recent games have been evidence of this. The Lady Saints have been in most of their games and this year's championship. At the end, but that should make us a better team when the WHAC season rolls around."

With all the adversity that the Lady Saints have faced in their pre-conference schedule they are looking forward to the chance to defend last season's WHAC title, which they shared with Siena Heights.

Buisness Manager Wanted

The Aquinas Times is accepting letters of application for the position of Business Manager for the Spring Semester (beginning Jan. '97).

Applicants who are skilled in Accounting and/or Marketing are preferred.

If you would like to become a big part of the Times team and gain valuable experience, send letters of application to: AO Times, 1607 Robinson Rd. S.E., G.R., MI 49506.

IM Volleyball Action Heats Up

by Matt Farnsworth

The Aquinas Times Business Manager

The road to the intramural volleyball league championship started on November 25. There are ten teams battling for bragging rights and this year's championship. At this point, Private Property is leading the league with a record of 5-0. However, the rest of the league is determined to even the score. A few teams have talked about Private Property taunting their opposition while on the floor, but coach Travis Hardin denies the allegations. "We attack other team's ability, not their manhood. We do not have to stand over them and taunt them." He also states, "We don't consider ourselves a team we consider ourselves family." The rest of the league's standings are as follows: Kick the Can (3-0), McGuire (3-1), Get Spiked (3-2), The Yacht's (2-1), Drizzle (2-2), No Name (1-3), and Super Models, The Spikers and Some Team which are all tied for the basement at 0-4.

When asked about her team's position, Spikers captain Gina Mazzoni remained positive, "We're out here to just have a little fun." This year's league is run by junior Amy Bishop. "I can't believe how well things are going, we're getting a lot of participation from people that you normally don't see out playing sports," she said.

The season is long, however, and the winter is cold. The IM Volleyball champ certainly will attest to the survival of the fittest.
Jingle All the Way... to the APOCALYPSE!
by Dirk Lockwood
Times Opinionated Media Expert

History, being a fickle pickle, has never been consistent in its treatment of those among us with an uncanny gift for prophecy and interpretations of the Almighty's ultimate power and message. Deciphering in the desert both of Amon's conclusions with his much read Cowardly and R.E.M. with their hit "It's the End of the World (As We Know It)," the notion of Armageddon is embraced in tremendous accolades from both heads of state and fresh-faced teenagers. Yet, more often than not, as in the case of Jim Jones, the doomsday sayers end up with egg on their face. And all the biblical "proof" and spiritual exhortations can't stifle the laughter of the cynical masses when your day of Judgment passes unnoticed, without even the slightest hint of a pool of fire.

Secure, yet not afraid, in the knowledge that my message will fall on deaf ears, I feel it is my duty as a God-fearing member of this society of fire. My name in Hebrew is Abaddon, in Greek the name is Appofiygon, meaning "The Destroyer." Rev. 9:11-12 (In hurt people... they have a king ruling over them who is the angel in the abyss!!!)

"It's a real honor," said Stimac. "I'm left with but one nugget of Holiday wisdom to chew on: REPENT ALL YE WHO SIN!"

The same light and fluffy December snowfall that accentuates the Aquinas campus' natural beauty has also revealed one of its darkest and most sinister secrets. Sources revealed to the Aquinas Times last week that dangerously harmful levels of radioactive waste are being stored in underground holding vessels on the Aquinas College campus. The "sources," who requested to remain nameless, couldn't afford that luxury. They were Aquinas students Irving (junior) and Wynonna (freshman) Silkwood.

"Our mother worked for the company that did it (dumped the waste on the Aquinas Campus)," said Wynonna Silkwood. Her brother added, "Yeah, they started it in the early 90's when the college was going through some financial problems."

The area of campus containing the reservoirs has hardly been inconspicuous. Line-up end to end, the vessels form a twelve-foot-wide cracks to form in their lead-lined, concrete walls. These small openings have allowed trace amounts of radiation to be released into the air. The radiation melts the snow that accumulates over the stretch of reservoirs.

This phenomenon has been witnessed by students and staff alike since the contract to hold the waste here was signed in 1990. Little concern was generated by the strip of exposed grass at first, but tines are changing. One student who was also secured with his role in The Terminator.

FACT: Leading film critic and historian Rex Reed was quoted as saying: "Forged Martin and Lewis, forgot Hoffman and Bratty, forgot Sagan and Cothier. The comedy team of this year in Hollywood, becoming the highest paid actor in the nation.

IT IS WRITTEN: "It is with their tales that they have the power to influence people... they have a king ruling over them who is the angel in the abyss." His name in Hebrew is Abaddon, in Greek the name is Appofiygon, meaning "The Destroyer." Rev. 9:11-12 (In hurt people... they have a king ruling over them who is the angel in the abyss!!!)

"It put up quite a fight," said Pieper. "It broke my pole right in half, and then it tried to eat the line and my pole." Guinness Book of World Records officials have verified the catch, saying it outweigthed the previous record of a 1 pound, 2 foot 10 inch minnow caught in the Dead Sea in 50 B.C. The new found fame of Coldbrook has fishermen lining its banks day and night in hopes of catching a record of their own. Other Aquinas students have cashed in on the opportunity, with several bate sets up set outside of Wege Center. The Admissions Office has gotten caught up in "Fish Fever," changing its recruitment slogan to "Would You Choose a College for its Fish?"

"It's a real honor," said Stimac. "I really think we should start a scholarship fund for those outstanding high school anglers who want to attend our college." The duo is also scheduled to appear on the cover of next month's Field and Stream Magazine with their catch.

Avid fishermen Andy Pieper and Phil Stimac landed the 45 pound, 2 foot 10 inch minnow in the stream near St. Joseph Hall. "It put up quite a fight," said Pieper. "It broke my pole right in half, and then it tried to eat the line and my pole." Guinness Book of World Records officials have verified the catch, saying it outweighed the previous record of a 1 pound, 3 inch minnow caught in the Dead Sea in 50 B.C. The new found fame of Coldbrook has fisherman lining its banks day and night in hopes of catching a record of their own. Other Aquinas students have cashed in on the opportunity, with several bate sets up set outside of Wege Center. The Admissions Office has gotten caught up in "Fish Fever," changing its recruitment slogan to "Would You Choose a College for its Fish?"

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World Record Minnow Caught in Wege Pond

Aquinas' Coldbrook Stream has turned into a fishing hot spot after the world record minnow was recently pulled from its waters. Avid fishermen Andy Pieper and Phil Stimac landed the 45 pound, 2 foot 10 inch minnow in the stream near St. Joseph Hall. "It put up quite a fight," said Pieper. "It broke my pole right in half, and then it tried to eat the line and my pole." Guinness Book of World Records officials have verified the catch, saying it outweighted the previous record of a 1 pound, 3 inch minnow caught in the Dead Sea in 50 B.C. The new found fame of Coldbrook has fisherman lining its banks day and night in hopes of catching a record of their own. Other Aquinas students have cashed in on the opportunity, with several bate sets up set outside of Wege Center. The Admissions Office has gotten caught up in "Fish Fever," changing its recruitment slogan to "Would You Choose a College for its Fish?"

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Allegations Unable to Topple AQ Sumo Team
Saints Overcome Lawsuit, Look to Defend National Title

by Alan Plum
Times Sports Editor

The price of success was nearly too high for Aquinas College. After winning the National Championship in school history, the two rice producing companies engaged in the courtroom, after Rice-a-Roni accused Uncle Ben's of tampering. According to the Rice-a-Roni lawyer, Uncle Ben's representatives made illegal contact with Aquinas athletes after the school had verbally agreed to a multi-year sponsorship deal with Rice-Roni. Terms of the deal were never announced. The judge eventually ruled in favor of Uncle Ben's, after the alleged contact was discovered to have occurred when two AQ sumo wrestlers, whose names were not released, accepted Uncle Ben's samples at a local Sam's Club. The school has since severed ties with Rice-a-Roni. It was rumored that the three hour time difference between headquarters of Uncle Ben's and the San Francisco Treat and AQ had also caused problems. Members of the coaching staff were not available for comment, but the Aquinas Athletic Department did release a brief statement. "The school, and Athletic Department are disappointed that Rice-Roni decided to question the integrity of Aquinas athletes." Had the allegations been proven, the athletes in question would have been disqualified from all of last year's competitions, including last years NAIA Collegiate Sumo Wrestling Tournament. During the lawsuit, all team activities were suspended indefinitely. Unfortunately, the trial did not begin until four days after the first official practices could be held. Although team members admit the layoff will make their chances of repeating as National Champions difficult, they remain confident that their off-season training can push them back to the top. This season will be the first time Aquinas will be able to host sumo bouts. Due to structural inadequacies at the Aquinas Fieldhouse, the team was unable to host bouts last season. As Aquinas' main revenue producing sport, however, funding for the renovations of the Fieldhouse floor was available.

Aquinas Sets National Attendance Records

by Justin Smith
Times Sports Editor

Aquinas College has set national records for attendance at the school's sporting events this year. The interest in soccer was apparently great this year as sidelines at both the men's and women's games were filled to capacity. Though there is a lot of space around the AQ field, there was a definite concern throughout the season about people being pushed against the fence and being trampled. The cross-country teams enjoyed their best seasons in recent history, in terms of both record and attendance. In the meet that was held at Riverside Park, an unanticipated 13,523 spectators showed up, and X-country is not normally considered to be a spectator sport. Busloads of followers made the pilgrimage to Elite Kaufman Golf Course each time the AQ golf teams took to the links. The course will never be the same since the fans at AQ's last home contest tore up the 18th green, bringing pieces of sod home with them as souvenirs. The Aquinas Fieldhouse has been the site of many thunderous cheers for all this year's basketball teams. Both varsity teams have averaged over 50,000 people at home games. Why the sudden increase in fan support? There has been speculation that this is because of the success of the teams, or that Aquinas parties have become boring. Whatever the reason, people can't get enough of the AQ sports teams. Nearly every student athlete contacted in reference to this phenomenon has said that they really haven't noticed anything different at their games this season. Could it be that the intensity with which they approach their individual sports, from golf to sumo wrestling, is so great that they do not even notice the throngs of fans that have been turning out to see the Saints turn it up? Could it be that those fans themselves are mesmerized by the athleticism and fail to notice that they are a part of a record breaking crowd? Still, the numbers don't lie.

Holtz Signed, AQ Football a Reality

by Brian Matzke
Times Business Manager

At a press conference held in the Fieldhouse earlier today, the Aquinas College Athletic Department named former Notre Dame head coach, Lou Holtz, the inaugural coach of the brand new Aquinas College football team. Holtz has already been busy looking at film of this year's powder puff and intramural games. He says that he sees a lot of potential out there. Holtz also brought with him 24 transfer football players from Notre Dame. He expects them to "...fill in here and there, sealing the cracks in the roster." A new 75,000 seat stadium is to be built in front of Touchdown Mary. Next year's schedule has quickly been put into place. Holtz, who in the past has been known to build up lesser opponents, calls the Saints' season opener against Boy Scout Troop 231, "the toughest game of the Century." Holtz is looking to lead the Saints in their inaugural season to a perfect record, and hopes for a birth in the Aquinas Coors Light "Wide Mouth/Cotton Mouth Party Bowl."