A "Goofy" Goodbye to Paul and Ruthie Nelson

by Mindi Evans
Times Campus News Editor

Thursday, April 24 was a day filled with good food, fond memories and baseball. To honor President Paul Nelson's 28 years of service and dedication to Aquinas College, Paul's Ball and Ruthie's Goofies were presented in the Wege Ballroom.

The festivities began in the Wege Cafeteria, where a buffet-style lunch was provided free of charge by Sodexho food services. Centered around a baseball theme, the cafeteria was decorated with red, white and blue tablecloths and balloons. The dessert featured cafeteria cakes decorated with red, white and blue tablecloths and balloons.

Student Senate Chairperson Rendi Palileo, aided by Senators Elma DeLaCruz and Mark Campbell, presented the Outstanding Staff Member of the Year award to maintenance crew member Betty Chambers and Director of Campus Teusink and Sr. Alice Wittenbach, Assistant Professor of Communication Arts Sr. Rosemary O'Donnell, Vice President for Enrollment Management Michael Keller, Student Development's Dee Wagner, Assistant Professor Emeritus of Physical Education Betty Taylor, Associate Professor of English Gary Eberle and Physical Education's Tom Bennett comprised the group that presented the "Goofie" awards to various staff and faculty members. The presentation mixed song and dance as each recipient collected their prizes. April 24, 1997 marked the sixth time the Goofies were presented on campus. However, several years without the light-hearted ceremony had passed before it was revived this year at Ruthie Nelson's request. A hilariously witty video collage followed the Goofies. It was edited and narrated by Gary Eberle.

Residents flocked to a day of festivities. Former Presidents Ford along with their wives and former first lady Lady Bird Johnson, were all present at the festivities. Carter thanked Ford for always doing to heal the country after the Watergate crisis, and lauded his deep personal friendship. Bush called Ford an "example of integrity and civility for those in public life today."

Carter thanked Ford for all he's done to heal the country after the Watergate crisis, and lauded his deep personal friendship. Bush called Ford an "example of integrity and civility for those in public life today."

During his speech, former President Ford impelled everyone towards public service. "Some things must never change: honor, compassion and service to others. You don't need to be a leader to make history. Make history by contributing to your community," he said. "One person inspired by the American ideal can make the world a better place to live."

Aquinas Freshman and Senate Political Affairs Committee member Roger Durham.

The culmination of the event was when it was time to recognize Paul and Ruth Nelson for all their years of dedication to Aquinas College. "You have enhanced our lives by the way you have lived yours," said O'Donnell.

Nelson thanked everyone for their overwhelming support. "It's been a great 28 years. I can't think of a better investment of those years I've spent here at Aquinas. This is a wonderful place; very good ground to nurture and develop students with character and compassion."
Hale-Bopp Comet Sighted at Albertus

by Jeremy Chesles

Times Contributing Writer

In an orbit 1.5 million miles from the sun, the comet Hale-Bopp is can be seen in our darkened sky. The icy snowball, which measures twenty miles in diameter, can be seen with the naked eye. But for those who wanted to get a closer look at Hale-Bopp, the Baldwin Observatory has held scheduled viewings throughout April. The observations took place, weather permitting, from 6:30-8:30 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

At a recent observation, Chuck Frydrych explained, "Hale-Bopp offers scientists a chance to study material that did not come from our solar system." The Hale-Bopp comet was discovered only two years ago by Alan Hale and Tom Bopp. On Saturday, July 22, 1995, Hale was standing in his driveway in Cloudcroft, New Mexico gazing at the night sky, when he noticed a "little fuzzy object." Further investigation proved that the fuzzy ball was in fact a comet. In Arizona that same night, amateur astronomer Bopp also noticed "a faint glow" in the sky.

The Hale-Bopp was last seen around 2213 B.C. The reappearance of this cosmic phenomenon has caused quite a stir in the realm of the unknown. Apocalyptic predictions about the comet's presence in the night sky have accompanied its visit. Sophomore Jeremy Wood stated, "Hale-Bopp was really awesome as it passed its visit. We should be thankful and excited about its return."

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Our education process and its effectiveness have been debated for years. After all of this study we still ask, is there a clear solution? What is our educational system missing and who is responsible for filling that void within it? Aquinas Professor-in-the-College, Dr. Michael Williams, attempts to answer this question in his new book, Parent Centered Early School.

Williams' book discusses the specific example of Highland School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a school that Williams himself helped develop. What separates this school from the public schools? First, the school is based on values. Dr. Williams described an emphasis on cultural diversity within the school. He further described an "etiunctarianism" among the children, blurring cultural and social roles children might otherwise be expected to fulfill.

Parental involvement is another essential value in the program and one that is very rare in public schools today. The Highland School keeps parents at the center of their children's education and, in fact, parents are the key to the school. Parents are involved in the governing of the school, holding parent and chapter meetings, and directing the programs or subject areas they want taught to their 3 to 9 year old children. Despite the parents having such strong role in the school, they still maintain a board of trustees for advice to parents on the curriculum.

Dr. Williams also indicated the importance of autonomy, or the self-government, of the school.
April 30, 1997

Project P.R.I.D.E. Opens
Students' Eyes

by Angela Bergman
Times Contributing Writer

Energetic Aquinas students, faculty, and staff arose bright and early the morning of Saturday, April 26 ready to be a part of Project P.R.I.D.E.: Poverty Relief Is Developing Everywhere. The beautiful spring weather and sunshine motivated approximately 100 volunteers to clean the parks and streets of Grand Rapids' Heartside District from 8:30 am to 1 pm.

Group leaders divvied up to beautify the area behind the VanAndel Arena by US131 and around Division Avenue. Clubs such as the Young Alumni, AWARE, SAVE, ISU (International Student Union), and even the third floor of St. Joe and third East of Regina organized groups to partake in the action. A few adventurous staff and faculty members, including Mary Beth Chambers, Dave Weinandy, and Lorraine Straw, joined the efforts. Sponsored by CAVA (Community Action Volunteers of Aquinas) and Campus Ministry, all participants received free t-shirts. Paul Haagsman, of Degage Ministries, urged students to identify with the people of the Heartside area during their work. Afterwards, a pizza luncheon was provided at God's Kitchen for the exhausted workers. Local businesses such as Pizza Hut, Little Caesars, Fawors, Spad's, JT's, Mama's Pizza, Dominos, and Fulton Heights donated food.

Nancy Timberlake, coordinator of CAVA and Project P.R.I.D.E., felt that the annual event went really well. "The volunteers went above and beyond what they were supposed to do. I noticed a lot of good interaction with the people on the street." The impact Aquinas had on Grand Rapids' Heartside could be seen both externally and internally.

Sophomore Janelle Burden said, "We made such a noticeable difference. You could again see the daffodils growing whereas before all you saw was trash." On the inside, Burden thought that the experience also fostered bonding and team-building.

Group leader Kate Kush agreed. "It was a good feeling. Looking backward much more of a difference can be seen than looking forward.

Although Kush was directing a group, she said, "It (Project P.R.I.D.E.) is more of a team project... everyone does it a leader." Morgan Higginbotham added, "It's a good program, but it's just a start. We aren't here enough hours to get all of the work done."

Ann Leen, a freshman from 3rd St. Joe's, came to the realization that, "we are in an exclusive community at Aquinas... it was an eye-opening experience."

Project P.R.I.D.E. will again arise next year. However, the service aspect is not over. God's Kitchen is having a drive for quality used backpacks and bags to provide the homeless a way to carry their few possessions. To donate, bring items to God's Kitchen on Division or give them to Nancy Timberlake at the Gauchhouse.

classifieds

Roommate/Attendant Needed for Academic Year 1997-1998
Young female roommate/attendant needed full-time to assist a young female with a physical disability. Activities include morning and evening assistance with personal hygiene and transferring. Person must be very responsible, trustworthy, and caring. Free room and board, plus $1000 per term. Resume and references must be sent to Karen Broekstra, AB 320, or call x3741.

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No Smoking In the Dorms: Right On or Butt Out?

by Maris Brancheau
Times Local/National News Editor

Aquinas College has taken effective steps to ensure the health and safety of its on campus residents will be protected. As of the 1997-98 school year there will be no smoking allowed in or near the residence halls. This is a decision that will benefit the entire community and is one that should be commended.

Previous to the new rule, some areas of the residence halls were deemed smoking and other areas could be made smoking by a hall or floor voice. That policy was flawed because non-smokers were often out-voted and hence subjected to an environment that was detrimental to their health and living conditions.

Suites could also be made smoking, depending on their location, if three of four suite mates voted to okay smoking. This policy caused intimidation and hard feelings among smoking and nonsmoking students. With the new no smoking rule, scare tactics and other air fresheners will go out the window.

It will be much easier to catch people smoking, because now there should be no scent of burning ashes at all anywhere near the residence halls. Before it was easy to say that the smoke was coming from another part of the building.

Residence Life has always made policies that are aimed at the protection of students, for example the new security measures at St. Joe's.

No smoking in the dorms is not a breath of fresh air that will help do away with secondhand smoke and environmental hazards. Students with asthma will no longer be subjected to a hallway or doorway filled with smoke.

Students allergic to the toxins in cigarettes will not have to put towels under their doors and keep their fans on year round. And our dorm floors will no longer greet guests and residents with the perpetual reek of cigarette smoking.

Besides protecting non-smoking residents from cancer and smelly clothes, the new policy protects students and college property from fire.

Careless cigarette smokers are a major source of fire damage. Outlawing smoking in the halls is a safe measure that will ensure that the likelihood of fire will decrease.

Besides cutting down on hazards, cutting out smoking will make Aquinas a prettier and friendlier campus. It's really gross to walk up to Dominick and see all of those cigarette butts piled up. Butts just make our campus look bad, add environmental problems, and encourage littering.

It is time that smokers found somewhere else besides our beautiful campus to use an ashtray. Walking into the dorms through a cloud of smoke isn't cool, either.

Just last week, young children from the Child Development Center took to cleaning up campus a little in celebration of Earth Day. The little tykes could be seen around campus with small brown bags tied with string around their necks.

Besides making a statement about future generations cleaning up our trash, the kids helped to set a powerful example to smokers. Their efforts seemed to be aimed at cigarette litter.

One little girl stopped in front of the Academic Building to pick up a cigarette butt. She said only one word, "Yucky." Kudos to Residence Life for agreeing and for kicking those "yucky" cigarettes out of the residence halls.

Counterpoint

by Mindi Evans
Times Campus News Editor

A decision has been made that will prohibit smoking in or within the direct vicinity of the residence halls for the 1997-98 school year. Although this decision may make a number of non-smokers happy, it ultimately points an ugly finger at those who do smoke and reinforces an unfair stigma: people who smoke are bad and should be punished.

Everyone has their vices. Some have a tendency to overindulge and eat that second piece of cheesecake. Others watch too much TV. These particular quirks of the personality, weaknesses of will or bad habits aren't always good for our minds or our bodies. However, as adults we have the right to cut cheesecake or zone out on talk shows... or smoke a cigarette whenever the urge strikes us, as long as the act of indulging doesn't infringe upon the rights of others.

The decision to prohibit smoking in and around the residence halls is a direct violation of our personal rights and freedoms.

As a non-smoker, I can appreciate the efforts of Residence Life to make our living spaces smoke-free. Regardless of my personal choices, however, I can also appreciate the personal choices of others. However, I fear for the future when students will stop appreciating those personal choices, thus following the example set by our "righteous" college officials.

In a dorm or community living situation, residents have very little personal space. Our rooms are our personal living quarters, all we really can call our own. If the governments of the United States and the state of Michigan can see fit to deem an 18 year old student capable of deciding whether or not they want to consume tobacco products, the Residence Life Office of Aquinas College has no right to tell that student that such products, although completely legal, have no place in the sanctuary of the student's own room.

Prohibiting smoking from the dorms is like prohibiting country music. Just as we are not all Garth Brooks fans, however, those who wish to enjoy country music should be able to listen, even if not everyone on the floor agrees with that particular individual's choice. Everyone has differing opinions and tastes.

The beauty of this nation is that we have the right to have differing opinions and the right to partake in our own particular tastes.

The dangers of cigarette smoking are real. However, a service provider that we, as students, finance exercising this kind of absolute control over personal decisions is an even greater danger in terms of personal freedom.

The dangers of second-hand cigarette smoke are also real. However, when an edict dictates that no individual can smoke within the vicinity of a campus building (that is, within 100 feet of it), no one can say that the health of nonsmokers fearing second-hand smoke could have prompted it. You can make campus buildings smoke-free—that protects individuals from second-hand smoke you can't force smokers out into Wilcox Park just so they can be sure to be outside of the campus buildings' smoke-free buffer zones—that is blatant persecution.

The great outdoors are great enough to diffuse the smoke from their tiny little cigarette, even directly outside of a dorm.

I urge Residence Life to rethink their reasoning. If health issues are that important to the department, push for the declaration of the entire Aquinas campus as a smoke-free property. Otherwise, stop persecuting smokers.

If the education of students is that important to the department, give students a reason to choose not to smoke by forfitying individuals spiritually to better deal with the peer pressure or the preocupation with "image" that make many start to smoke. Otherwise, stop persecuting smokers.

If the proliferation of tyranny is that important to the department, then maybe we, as students, should start standing up for our rights. Otherwise, we may be paving the way for injustice to continue to visit us in our "homes away from home."
Forks Air Base, where approximately 3,000 people have found shelter. The Red River was expected to crest at 54 feet of floodwaters, that's 26 feet above flood stage. Residents of Grand Forks, population 51,000, and 9,000 residents of its sister city, East Grand Forks, Minn., were forced to evacuate after rising waters destroyed their homes, the Detroit News.

McVeigh Jury Selected
Opening arguments in the Oklahoma City bombing trial set under way in Denver on April 24. A jury of seven men and five women sequestered in the trial, yet will remain anonymous to the public and the trial jury pool members were identified only by number. Jury selection lasted just over three weeks and included 99 prospective jurors. Testimony in the trial against Timothy McVeigh, a former Army tank gunner from Pendleton, NY, is expected to last months. McVeigh could face the death penalty if he is found guilty of the April 19, 1995 bombing that killed 168 people, the worst terrorist attack on American soil ever.

Trial Trip-Up
Ionia County Prosecutor Raymond Voet may drop charges against an associate of Dr. Jack Kevorkian so that he may take on the so-called "Dr. Death" alone. Janet Good, 73, is charged along with Kevorkian in the Aug. 30, 1996 suicide of Loretta Peabody. Good, who is alleged to have terminal cancer, must be tried in the same trial with Kevorkian, Circuit Judge Charles Meil ruled on April 15. Voet said a jury could be distracted by Good’s health and thus jeopardize the trial against Kevorkian. Voet said he may drop the charges against Good, in order to focus only on Kevorkian. "I will be giving it close consideration," he told The Detroit News. Kevorkian has acknowledged assisting 45 deaths since 1990. Kevorkian has faced assisted-suicide charges alone in three trials and in all three has been acquitted. The Ionia trial is slated to begin June 10, with or without Good.

Good News for Grads
College graduates in 1997 will make more and have more job offers than those who graduated in 1996, according to an annual survey by Michigan State University’s Collegiate Employment Research Institute. Ninety-nine of the best job markets of the decade for new grads, the survey shows. While jobs in the technical fields are skyrocketing (IBM alone doubled its graduate hiring numbers to 26 feet above flood stage. Residents of Grand Forks, population 51,000, and 9,000 residents of its sister city, East Grand Forks, Minn., were forced to evacuate after rising waters destroyed their homes, schools, and places of work. The main evacuation site is the Grand Forks Air Base, where approximately 3,000 people have found shelter. The Detroit News.

Floodling Forces Evacuation
President Clinton declared Grand Forks, North Dakota worthy of federal disaster relief after torrenting the Red River early last week. The Red River was expected to crest at 54 feet of floodwaters, that's 26 feet above flood stage. Residents of Grand Forks, population 51,000, and 9,000 residents of its sister city, East Grand Forks, Minn., were forced to evacuate after rising waters destroyed their homes, schools, and places of work. The main evacuation site is the Grand Forks Air Base, where approximately 3,000 people have found shelter. The Detroit News.

"Museum," cont’d. from p. 1
ber Angela Bergman was there for the speeches. She said they were "inspiring and motivating."

"Sometimes things get lost in politics," Bergman said, "and we forget that we are fighting for what is right for America, not which party is right or wrong." Bergman noted there was a general spirit in the crowd as a diverse group of people came together to celebrate the "American ideal of being educated on the issues."

The display starts with a 1970's exhibit to give visitors a feel for the mood of the era in which Ford served as president. Surprised visitors are greeted by flashing strobe lights and posters of '70's rockers, Jimmy Hendrix and Janice Joplin. Near the ceiling, a large screen television is running episodes of the Mary Tyler Moore Show as well as news broadcasts from the day. As you continue down the gallery, you will see a purple silk bonnet and blue gown.

As one progresses through Ford’s life, the technology of the exhibit advances. News clips from the troubled Vietnam era play on almost every wall you see, and guests are invited to sit behind a long wooden table and watch the Senate confirmation hearings for Ford's Vice-Presidency. A duplication of the oval office has been recreated right down to the pipe rack and sound recordings from a typical day in the historic room.

Perhaps the crowning glory of the new museum is the authentic VH-2 Heavy Helicopter that was used to rescue civilians during the fall of Saigon. Also in this room is a giant interactive map in which you can touch to explore the diplomatic challenges that faced the Ford administration.

"I think it’s a lot cooler than before," said Matt the Leonard, a Caledonia 5th grader who was visiting. "I can touch almost every-thing now!" Even Ford agreed. The new museum "won't just tell you the story, but put you inside the story of a typical day," said Ford. "We must learn from our past and live for our future."

AMA to Host Open Meeting in May, College Students Invited

by Susanne Wheelock
Times Contributing Writer

Business and marketing majors are invited to what the American Marketing Association is calling a "great opportunity." On Thursday May 8th, from 7:30 am to 6:30 pm, the AMA is sponsoring a conference at Grand Valley State University in Allendale.

The AMA is the world’s largest and most comprehensive professional society of marketers, consisting of 50,000 worldwide members in 92 countries and 500 chapters throughout North America. The keynote speaker for the event is Al Ries, who according to a press release has "captivated business professionals everywhere." The news in business is to "Focus" and Ries will tell those in attendance how to do just that. Some of the sessions offered will include: Understanding the Future Consumer, The Power of Core Beliefs, Marketing Amid Rapid Change, Measuring and Improving Customer Satisfaction, Breakthrough Advertising, Marketing Specialty Healthcare Services. Panel discussions will also take place with presidents from Amway, the University of Notre Dame, and the EIdon Group.

Students who would like to attend should contact Carolyn Devers at 456-6200.
It has become something of a regular feature at the Aquinas Times for the faculty advisor to write a “year in review” column for the last issue. And while I am always willing to offer my own spin on our performance over the past year, I feel the most objective assessment of our accomplishments comes from what people from the Aquinas community tell us over the course of the year.

Having been the advisor for the past seven years, I remember when the feedback I received wasn’t always what I wanted to hear; each year, however, the response of our readers has become more positive. And if we were to judge our performance strictly by the comments we received from students, faculty and staff, this would have to be the best year yet.

The Aquinas Times has had an excellent year, and, in my opinion, one of the big reasons for our success is that the editorial staff has made a commitment to continuity and teamwork. Each year we build on the success of the previous year and identify new areas for improvement. More writers and editors return to the staff, even though they could better meet their financial needs working elsewhere. With each year there is a greater appreciation for covering the news and understanding its importance.

Another reason for our success is that there have been many important stories to cover this year. On campus there was Peter Wege’s $55 million gift to the college, Paul Nelson’s final year as president, the search for a new president, and the successful seasons of many of Aquinas’ sports programs. In Grand Rapids we had a visit from three former presidents, the opening of the Van Andel Arena, and a debate between candidates for the U.S. Senate. On a more cosmic level, we were treated to the spectacular visit of Comet Hale-Bopp.

The good news for us, and, we hope, for the college community, is that most of the members of our team will return next year. Maris Brancheau, who has really expanded the scope of our local/national news coverage, will be next year’s Editor-in-Chief. Andy Pieper will return as Assistant Editor-in-Chief. Because they both have plans to study abroad next year, Mindi Evans and Melissa Pline will each serve a semester as Campus News Editor. Three of our consistent and effective staff members will remain: Andy Pieper, without whom this paper wouldn’t have been a reality; Mike and remaining my friend through some of my more difficult moments; and an even bigger thanks to Wozniak, my mom and dad, who you’ve shown in me by raising the successful seasons of many of Aquinas’ sports programs. In Grand Rapids we had a visit from three former presidents, the opening of the Van Andel Arena, and a debate between candidates for the U.S. Senate. On a more cosmic level, we were treated to the spectacular visit of Comet Hale-Bopp.

Whether you cook, paint, write or cross-stitch, you know what it’s like. That intoxication brought about by the creative process. Sometimes it frustrates you, but in the end, it satisfies you. It takes control and changes you. It extends who you were. Is that called growth?

If it is, the 1996-97 staff of the Aquinas Times has grown a lot this year. We’ve sure been creative, anyway. Fourteen 12-page issues, 168 total pages, made up volume 16 of the Times—over 400 articles and commentaries created, approximately 150 photos printed. But besides the actual concrete “stuff” we can all hold on to or put in our scrap-books or whatever, the Times staff has, over the last three years, created an ideal. Loosely phrased, it’s something like this: bring together all of the elements that make up a good newspaper, put them together and you (guessed it) you’ll have a good newspaper. More economically: team-work. Creating something as part of a team can be particularly satisfying. That was the case for me, as Editor-in-Chief, with this year’s staff. And in the self-indulgent tradition that the year-end issue letter that the year-end issue letter from the Editor has become, I would like to thank each of them for doing their part to make me look like I actually knew what I was doing. An extra special thanks goes to Andy Pieper, without whom this team’s player-coach (me) might have never gotten his butt off the bench, for helping me make sure that the last possible minute was always plenty of time.

To those staff members who are returning in the fall, please support Editor-in-Chief Maris Brancheau as she carries on our creation. This year’s team encompassed more than just the Editorial Staff. The consistent contributions of our contributing writers and photographers were the rocks on which we’ve built each issue. Thanks to all of them for their time and dedication.

To Dr. Dan: Thanks for every last bit of patience and understanding (I hope you have some left for next year) and for trying, at least, to keep your dog from jumping on me every time I dropped off thumbnail.

In their support of our work as a staff, the Community Senate also deserves a note of thanks, not just for the financial backing and computer time, but also for putting up with me whenever I slipped into “editor mode.” Thanks Rene, Scott Bacon, Tim McGahey, Eric Mullen. Scott Schmidt. You have kept the spirit of First Joe alive for four straight years. Immenseable thanks for that. In the darkest hours of frustration, newspaper or otherwise inspired, that vigilance has always helped.

To my roommates, Kevin and Lendell, who didn’t have much to do with the paper but shared the view from our Robinson Road apartment, thanks for all the laughter. It’s been too sweet. To my other roommate, John Serba, last year’s Editor, thanks for the faith you’ve shown in me by raising the standards for the Times last year and remaining my friend through some of my more difficult moments.

Thanks to everyone who read this stuff, and an even bigger thanks to anyone who looked forward to reading it. Finally, an ever bigger thanks goes to Lisa and Norm Wozniak, my mom and dad, who have been, without a doubt, the most dedicated Times readers throughout the year.
To the Aquinas Community

Thirty years of experience in economics has ill-prepared me for the set of perverse incentives found in the faculty of Arts at Aquinas College. Traditional explanation of differences in salary would suggest that productivity and performance would be the major causes of salary differences. At Aquinas, or any college which administrates itself as a publish or perish institution, productivity would be equivalent to the number of students taught and performance would be approximated by student evaluations. Experience is self-explanatory.

The problem with the salary matrix is that it ignores completely productivity and performance, while it caps salaries when a professor reaches an upper limit for experience. This produces a set of salaries which rewards something quite different from what should be rewarded; i.e., teaching and performance in the classroom.

As an example we have a professor with only two-thirds the experience of another professor (and associate professor) who makes $3000 per year more than the other. Lastly, we have two professors with the same experience of another professor; the former with only two-thirds the experience is self-explanatory. Thus the faculty salary matrix provides very little incentive to do what should be foremost at Aquinas; teach students and teach them well.

This is not only a perverse set of incentives, but it runs counter to the set of values we are attempting to promote at Aquinas. It is also counter to the teaching of the Catholic Church as found in the papal cyclical, "Quadragesimo Anno."

Gary L. Robertson
Associate Professor of Economics

Dear Aquinas Times Editor, In regards to last week's edition, we are disappointed with your lack of coverage on "Aquinas College's Second Annual Ability Awareness Week." However, we feel very fortunate to have been covered by the Grand Rapids Press. Your focus could have been helpful to us if you would have assisted us in the promotion of this vital week. There were over two hundred students involved in our activities, thus making it successful.

It appears that our "awareness" did not touch you.

Sincerely,
Project Open Heart
Karen Broekstra, Advisor
Jill Straub, Vice-President
Tammy McCormick

AG Times Responds:
We are sorry that the students and staff of Project Open Heart felt slighted by our coverage of their second annual Ability Awareness Week. However, with only twelve pages to print every two weeks, it is truly impossible to extensively cover every event that takes place on campus. Again, our apologies.

Curt Wozniak, Editor

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APRIL 30, 1997

LETTERS

to the Editor

writers from the past year will move up to section editors: for Features, Heather Young; for Sports, Stacey Addis, President; and Justin Smith, who have dramatically improved our coverage of Aquinas sports teams, will return as Sports Co-editors. The position of Arts and Entertainment Editor will be filled by the duo of outgoing Editor-in-Chief Curt Wozniak, who is so committed to the Times that he has put off his own graduation for a few months (well, not exactly), and Joe Thongkiew, a valued contributor over the last two years. Our new Business Manager is a newcomer to the Times' staff, Jason R. Bennett.

I'd like to thank and offer best wishes to those who will not be with us next year:
* Duffy Chapin, who was instrumental in making the Times' darkroom fully operational for the first time since I've been in this advisor.
* Anna Badrynski and Scott Buncon, both of whom are graduating, for a lot of hard work in keeping up with the entertainment scene
* Mark Campbell and Brian Matake, who each served a semester as Business Manager, for their valiant efforts to keep us out of the red.

I also want to thank Curt for the care he put into each issue of the paper and the very many hours he has spent getting the layout just the way he wanted it, and Andy for his insight and the example he sets for the rest of the staff. In management style, academic pursuits, and aesthetic taste these guys are as different as night and day, but together they have made the Aquinas Times what it is.

Finally, I would like, on behalf of the Aquinas Times staff, to join the rest of the college community in saying goodbye and offering best wishes to Paul Nelson. It occurred to me recently that his departure is comparable to that of Comer Hale-Bopp, which will no longer be visible after this month; once he is gone, what we are left with is only the certainty that the likes of Paul won't be seen again in these parts for a few thousand years.

Curt Wozniak, Editor
VOLCANO

by Lori Anna Budzynski
Times Entertainment Editor

The musical sounds of bands 256, Triplefastaction, Sarah Spelsberg and the Drovers filled the Aquinas campus on the afternoon of Saturday, April 19. It was the Awakening, the second annual end-of-the-year music festival sponsored by the Senate Public Relations Committee. Besides the bands who were at the lawn in front of Touchdown Mary, there were food, shopping and information booths set up by the Eastown Loft, Yesterdog, SAVE, and AWARE.

Anne Heche plays Dr. Amy Barnes, a scientist who tries to convince him not just of the possibility, but of the reality. It's an impossible mission at first but in the end she teams her scientific know-how up with his get-things-done attitude to save the day.

The action begins fast in Volcano with an underground eruption that sends a sea of lava on a path of destruction throughout the city. Roark and Barnes are fighting against time as the volcano brings couples together, makes ordinary men into heroes and seems to solve the problem of racism in Los Angeles: and this all happens within 24 hours! Volcano was extremely far fetched and predictable. This doesn't mean it wasn't enjoyable, but I would suggest waiting for the home video.

Near Perfect Weather, Performances Help "Awakening" Overcome Poor Turnout

by Lori Anna Budzynski
Times Entertainment Editor

At 2 pm (when the event was scheduled to begin) the booths had been set up, the roads had been blocked and the first band (256) had sound checked. There was only one problem—no audience. When 256 began playing at 2:20 pm, however, students slowly started drifting out of their dorm rooms. By the time Triplefastaction took the stage at approximately 7 pm there was one lone dancer on the lawn. Some played frisbee or read as they listened to the bands.

Triplefastaction was followed by Sarah Spelsberg and the Drovers. The crowd was at its largest and sounded a bit more lively for the Drovers. When Chicago's Celtic rockers took the stage at approximately 7 pm there was one lone dancer on the lawn. But soon she was accompanied by a handful of other fans determined to have a fun time. "Beautiful day, beautiful girls, great music, everyone should have been here," commented audience member Eric Bowman.

Whatever the case, those who were at the event enjoyed the quality performances put on by the bands as well as the beautiful weather and will remember to attend again next year and spread the word to others.

Schulte, Maggini Showcase Diverse Artistic Endeavor in BFA Exhibit

by Lori Anna Budzynski
Times Entertainment Editor

The BFA exhibit by Kristine Schulte and Judy Maggini on display at the AMC gallery is a must for all to see. The show features a huge selection of artwork produced by the two artists throughout their years at Aquinas.

Schulte's work features photographs and sculptures that transport the viewer on a fantasy trip through different cultures and eras. Schulte, who is the model for her own pieces, transforms her self from everything from a geisha girl to one of the characters on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

"Anticipation of Spring," a mixed media piece by Kristine Schulte.

Volunteer Jessica Lombardo attributed the low attendance to the fact that "It (the Awakening) isn't known as an established event yet." Whatever the case, those who were at the event enjoyed the quality performances put on by the bands as well as the beautiful weather and will remember to attend again next year and spread the word to others.

Her characters and forms often give the feel of old silent movies with one actress playing many different roles.

Maggini's work features large paintings, drawings and sculptures that reflect her near perfect ability to capture the beauty of the human form. Her sculptures seem to evolve out of the stone or clay in a naturally beautiful way and her two dimensional work is equally breathtaking. Schulte is a Photography major with a minor in sculpture and plans to teach photography after graduating school. Maggini has a double major in Sculpture and Painting and wants to keep on working on her painting and sculpture, with hopes of finding a central, shared space in which to work with even larger formats. Their shows run through May 11, so stop by and check them out.
College Art and Literature

Sampler Set to Impress

The end of the year has finally arrived. The final exam week may be fast-paced and grueling for some but don’t forget to take some time out of your busy schedule to pick up a copy of the “Sampler.”

"The Aquinas College Literary Sampler" is an annual publication that showcases the literary and artistic talents of AQ students. Marking the ninth year of its publication, the college literary magazine can trace its roots back to the ‘70s.

According to Lit/Writ Club advisor and Assistant Professor of English Miriam Pederson, the magazine has been produced with the help of Public Relations and a local printer who is also an Aquinas alumnus. According to Lit/Writ Club advisor and Assistant Professor of English Miriam Pederson, the magazine has been produced with the help of Public Relations and a local printer who is also an Aquinas alumnus.

Submissions for the 1997 "Sampler" were accepted from early February to the end of March when a jury consisting of Lit/Writ Club officers and English Department faculty began the process of selecting pieces for publication. Twenty-nine pieces made up of poetry, short fiction and creative non-fiction were accepted out of 59 submissions.

More student art than any other "Sampler" has ever published. "The Aquinas College Literary Sampler" is a publication that Archivist, then a member of the English Department, Sr. Jean Milhaupt organized. According to Lit/Writ Club advisor and Assistant Professor of English Miriam Pederson, this is the ninth year of its publication. The magazine has been produced with the help of Public Relations and a local printer who is also an Aquinas alumnus.

"The Aquinas College Literary Sampler" is an annual publication that showcases the literary and artistic talents of AQ students. The launch party will include readings by many of the "Sampler" students, writers, b’ORDERS and musical interludes provided by the guitars of Associate Professor of English Dr. Dan Brooks and Associate Professor of Art Steve Schouerus.

Happy reading!"
Inherent Problems Plague Aquinas Golfers

by Justin Smith
Times Sports Editor

As the spring sun begins to shine and the warm winds start to blow, the Aquinas Men's Golf team is finally ready to begin their spring season. In this season, the team plays mostly invitational events, and the season culminates with regionals, which will determine who travels to the national finals.

The success of the Saints has been limited this spring after a fall season in which the team made strides toward improving its league record. Their most recent tournament was the Bay Valley Invitational, held at Bay Valley Golf Resort, and is hosted by Saginaw Valley State University.

The Saints finished with a total 671, over 65 strokes off the pace set by Oakland University, which won the tournament with a two-day score of 605. The Saints were led by junior Brian Ebel, whose scores were 78-77, for a 155 total, only nine strokes off the medal score of 146. Also scoring for the Saints were junior Ford Turrell, 85-84-169, junior Phil Situma 86-87-173, and freshman Mat Grzadzinski 89-86-175.

Scores were quite low for the tournament, thanks to the extremely mild weather. Usually the winds and rains whip around the course, sending scores soaring. But the sun dominated the unusually calm days, giving the players a chance to attack the course. Unfortunately, the Saints have had a tough season thus far.

"I don’t really know what our problem is," said Situma. "There is a lot of potential, but the spring season makes it difficult to get into any steady rhythm. Without range privileges and regular practices, it's difficult for a college golf team to adjust to the spring season."

Situma added, "Golf is such a time consuming sport, and class responsibilities make it difficult to practice as much as we should, especially when we have to pay to use the range."

Ebel, who has stepped up his game this spring, said he is confident in the team's abilities. "I expect a turnaround soon," said Ebel. "There is far too much skill on this team to be shooting these scores. With a tweak here and a tweak there, we'll see the scores start to fall!"

Regional's are being held in Lexington, Kentucky, and provide an opportunity for the team to redeem themselves after a less than stellar season. "Maybe we can pull ourselves together for that tournament, and surprise some people," said Situma.

"There is a tremendous amount of travel in the saying that golf is 90 percent mental. We need to get our minds to believe that our bodies can play, because they can."

The More the Merrier Largest Track Team Ever Rounds Season's Home Stretch

by Alan Plum
Times Sports Editor

This year's track team was the largest in school history, as a total of 50 athletes laced up their spikes for the varsity squad. This past weekend saw the Saints host their second ever home meet as they welcomed GVSU and SVSU to Homecoming Field. The women placed second behind Saginaw Valley, while the men finished third overall. Taking home a first place finish for the men was Kevin Cook in the triple jump. For the women, Angela Newcomb won the javelin and the hammer throw, while Nicole Michale also took home win in two events: the long jump and the 800 m.

Completing their fourth year of competition for Aquinas were seniors Angela Newcomb, and Mike Wojslawski. The Saints' final meet of the season will take place this Saturday in Toledo, OH.

Photo by Donald Corrigan

with 

Playin' the Field

Sports Commentary

Piston's Will Win Michigan's Next Sports Title

In seven short months its going to be 1998. That means it will have been nearly a decade since one of Michigan's professional sports franchises won a championship. I'm not talking about semi-pro radio, because nobody cares about arena football, and you can't count the Whitecaps, because those ripples in the baseball pond are now lapping the walls somewhere else. The Whitecaps are now the Tigers' affiliate, so Old Kent Park has a completely different tenant this season.

Nope, the trophy case hasn't had any new additions since the NBA Championship won by the Detroit Pistons following the 1990-91 season. With the NHL and NBA playoff underway, I began to wonder which franchise, the Tigers, Red Wings, Pistons or Lions will be the next to make Motown into Titletown. I know it might hurt a little, but I think this topic definitely merits some discussion.

Let's look at the Tigers first, since the light at the end of their tunnel seems to be the dimmest. I know they are holding their own so far this season, but the major league season is 162 games long. Sure the Bengals can hit, but they still have a miffing feature only one seasoned major league hurler. Compare the Tigers to any other "contender" in baseball. They simply don't measure up. In fact, the Tigs get a chance to play the best of the best this season thanks to inter-league play. One of those National League opponents happens to be the Atlanta Braves, the best franchise in baseball over the past five years. War until the Tigers feel the tomahawk chop—it won't be pretty. The Tigers won't bite into a championship, much less a pennant. At least ten more years. Building a new stadium will help, but when a team depends on so many young players it has to see a title any time soon.

Since the NHL draft has just finished up today (with the 6,092nd pick the Lions selected), let's examine the Lions. Brian Westbrook and Tia Thomas will try to plug the hole left by Benny Blades in the defensive secondary, but everyone knows the first round is not where the draft is won and lost. Bobby Ross and Ron Huggins, the Lions VP of Player Personnel focused on defense in this year's draft, so lets hope their later picks, most of which were defensive, pay off. Without the Cowboys and 49ers hovering over the Vince Lombardi Trophy like it was the last Philly cheese steak sandwich at Wege, I think the Lions chances are much better. I'm curious to see what Bobby Ross can do to utilize Barry Sanders in a more traditional NFL offense. With a new stadium also on the horizon things don't look that bad for the Lions. Unfortunately, the Lions have a window of opportunity about as long as the remainder of Barry's career in the Honeysuckle Blue. If you can't win a Super Bowl with the best back in the league and a damn good receiver in Herman Moore, then move the franchise to Cleveland and call 'em the Browns.

The Red Wings are and interesting bunch. Even as I write this, the Wings are in a first round struggle with St. Louis Blaunt, whom most people predicted to outclass quite easily. Of the original 8 teams that formed the NHL, the Red Wings have gone the longest without hoisting Lord Stanley's Cup. They were off to close two years ago, but that seems like a fond memory now. If this year's squad doesn't get it done, Mike Illitch may need to start rebuilding the whole team. Scotty Bowman is a hussie as far as I'm concerned, so it does no good to analyze this team. Hickey got hot in the play-offs, look out. The franchise made some pretty big moves this season, but they kept most of the team's nucleus. I see the rest of the league getting better, and the Wings staying about the same. If he's such a great coach, let's see a title. The Wings have the talent, go down their roster. Something's messed up along the way. If the officiant doesn't try this year, it may be a while before anybody in Detroit sits up from the cup.

That leaves the Pistons. With Michael Jordan on his way out, and Grant Hill quickly establishing himself as the league's premier player, I think 3 Championship Drive may need to be pushed sooner than later. Grant Hill is a winner, plain and simple. He's not extremely talented, the man has averaged a triple double over the final weeks of the season. No, they won't win the title this year, their late season slide wasn't a fluke, but I don't think it's far to far down the road. With Grant Hill, Lindsey Hunter, Theo Ratliff, and Don Reid, I think the Pistons have a solid young nucleus both on and off the court. Lindsey Hunter has learned to shoot and play the point like a point guard should. You won't see him shooting 35 times a game like Allen Iverson with the Thorns, and I doubt if you'll ever see Grant Hill tank one game, much less an entire season like Shaun Kemp. Ratliff and Reid banged with the NBA's best big men this season, and more or less held their own. Teams in a few draft picks, and maybe a big trade, and I think you have a winner. Don't underestimate Joe D's contribution. He may not be around when the next burner goes up at the Palace, but he should get a ring anyway. I bet Dumars has probably taught Hunter and Hill more than the Piston's coaching staff combined. Detroit's late season wins over Chicago didn't mean a whole lot for this season, but it did show that Hill and company have the ability to compete with the best. Hill will be hoisting a title in at least four years.
A Day at Old Kent Park: Bad Timing As Saints’ Winning Streak Snaps on Paul Nelson Day

by Justin Smith
Times Sports Editor

When the Aquinas College Baseball Team stepped out on the field against Grand Valley State University on Thursday April 24, there was excitement in the air. The jingles of metal bats echoing in the air, the smell of freshly cut grass, and the sight of the red Aquinas uniforms provided the crowd and players with the same high level of excitement that the college community still had a lot to smile about. Other aspects that made this particular game special included the Paul Nelson Day theme (in honor of the outgoing president), and the Saint’s 24 game winning streak. At the beginning of the streak, Whitecaps took place at Old Kent Park, home of the West Michigan Whitecaps. The AQ baseball team presents Paul Nelson with an honorary jersey as part of pre-game festivities. Photo by Duffy Cavanaugh

by Alan Plum
Times Sports Editor

Is it real, or is it a sham? That question follows big-time professional wrestling anywhere it goes. Most wrestling fans answer that question in two words: Who cares?? The WCW’s popularity was certainly verified on April 19 when nearly 8,000 rabid wrestling fans packed the Van Andel Arena to catch a card featuring among others “The Total Package” Lex Luger, and the New World Order (NWO) Kevin Nash—a native of Detroit, MI. Clearly nobody in attendance cared whether or not a flying drop kick by Guerrero’s loyal fans, Psychosis, kept his opponent from sustaining any retribution. His attack was capped off by a guillotining leg-drop from the top rope. Perhaps some of the most intense drama of the whole evening occurred when the evil Super Calo nearly moves across the top rope. Perhaps some of the most intense drama of the whole evening occurred when the evil Super Calo nearly moves across the top rope.

The WCW Drop Kicks Grand Rapids

La Parka returns to the ring after a suicide that wreaked havoc on the Van Andel floor. Photo by Alan Plum

WEST MICHIGAN’S OLDEST MARCHING BAND

The Saint’s 24 game winning streak. At the beginning of the streak, Whitecaps took place at Old Kent Park, home of the West Michigan Whitecaps.

After several lead changes and a 40 minute rain delay, the Saints finally lost their momentum for good. Fourteen to nine was the final score in favor of Grand Valley, although Aquinas gave a valiant effort. The college community still had a lot to smile about.

President Nelson throws out the first pitch as the Saints take on Grand Valley at Old Kent Park. Photo by Duffy Cavanaugh

It provided a fitting end to the two and a half hour event, which marked the second time the WCW had rumbled into the Van Andel. Both events were very successful.
That Was
The Year
That Was

September
* New Director of Student Activities: Dana Masucci
* Access gained: Internet and E-mail come to Aquinas
* Linda Nash takes over as women's basketball coach
* Brian Matzke and Terra Moore named Homecoming royalty
* 4th annual Undy 500 by men of First St. Joe's

October
* Van Andel Arena opens in downtown Grand Rapids
* Back Into the Streets: Aquinas students serve Grand Rapids
* Fall Break trips: Saddles and Paddles, L'Arche, Wilderness
* St. Joe's Halloween Haunted Hall: the Spooky Tradition Continues

November
* New recycling policy eliminates Styrofoam recycling in the corner cafe
* Election results: President Bill Clinton re-elected
* Soccer men and women rule the WHAC conference
* Five runners compete at Cross Country Nationals
* Volleyball WHAC Champions are 1 win short of Nationals

December
* Peter Wege donates $5 million to the college
* Winter Blizzard: Annual Semi Formal Dance a success
* Hard work pays off as basketball seasons begin
* AQ Times Gag Issue tickles (or tries to, anyway) campus funnybones
* Time to study: exams

January
* Acting Globally: students participate in Oaxaca, Mexico Service Trip
* Christmas vacation: a needed break
* Ireland program leads for Tully Cross, County Galway, in the Republic of Ireland
* School canceled Jan 16: snow and bitter cold wind closes college

February
* Harry Knopke named new President
* Senate election results: Renee Patillo - Senate Chair, Renee North - Vice-chair, Amanda Spitzley - Secretary
* Black History Month Play: The Amen Corner
* Jazz Fest '97: thirty-four groups bring "America's music" to campus
* 100th win for Rick Albro

March
* Women's hoops end successful season one win shy of Nationals
* Spring Break trips: students serve in Appalachia and Edmundite
* Music Marathon: Erik Satie's "Vexations" played 841 times in record time
* Cult Commits Mass Suicide in Rancho Santa Fe, California
* Lights in the sky: Hale-Bopp comet and the full lunar eclipse

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Events that Shaped Aquinas

Peter Wege announces his generous gift to Aquinas.