Countdown Begins at 100 Days Dinner

Class of '98 to Give Garden to AQ

by Melissa Ann Pline
Times Campus News Editor

Acclaimed Economist to Speak at Aquinas

by Andrew Pieper
Times Assistant Editor

Flowers will be blooming at Aquinas College, thanks to the graduating class of 1998. At their 100 Days Senior Dinner, Saturday, Jan. 31, the class decided their Senior Challenge gift to the college will be a garden area in their name.

"The most popular gift for the senior challenge was a garden named after our class," said Andie Richmond, Senior Challenge co-chair. "It will include a fountain and landscape gardening. The location will be determined in 2002 when all the pledges are in and it will be carefully designed to fit into the master plan of Aquinas College."

The 17 member Senior Challenge Committee had brainstormed ideas, then presented three choices to the seniors in attendance. The two other choices were a wetland restoration project to revamp the Wege pond area and a Senior Fund that would provide funds for future class reunions and future 100 Days Senior Dinners.

Now that the gift is decided, the committee will focus on gathering pledges to pay for it. "Senior challenge '98 hopes to raise $25,000," explained co-chair Nate Richardson. "The suggested amount is $49 a semester over a 3 year period, or $8 dollars a month. The payments start in the fall of 1999, so by 2002, our gift will be a reality."

But along with kicking off Senior Challenge and reaching seniors personally about pledging, the 100 Days Dinner gave the seniors time to plan for the approaching big day. A variety of booths allowed seniors to view the "Dating Doctor," a variety of booths allowed seniors to view the "Dating Doctor,"

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"How many dates does it take to be considered a couple on campus?" surveyed Coleman. Junior Danielle Johnson referred to the intimate atmosphere of Aquinas by exclaiming, "A phone call!"

Coleman suggested we are "brand loyal" when selecting a mate. "We become creatures of habit," he implied. He taught that a positive, negative, or neutral attitude upon hearing the word "relationship" reflects how much work an individual is willing to put into a high level of audience participation during his lecture. On blank notecards, participants specified

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Daly received his Ph.D. in economics from Vanderbilt University in Nashville and is now a research scholar at the University of Maryland. He has been a visiting professor at Yale, and was also the Alumni Professor of Economics at Louisiana State University for 20 years. He has written several books in the

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Massage Therapist Brings Spiritual, Physical Message

by Melissa Ann Pline
Campus News Editor


These self-healing suggestions and many others were presented by massage therapist Sr. Mary J. Fedder when she spoke at Aquinas, Feb. 5.

But before giving advice on massage techniques, Fedder presented her theories and foundational thoughts in the area of healing and religion.

"We are consciousness ever evolving, seeking union with God or oneness," she said. "These are all organized as one total being before we choose to break off as sparks of light. God gave us this creative world to use this human condition to find our way back to that oneness. It stretches us to think about life differently, to think about who we really are."

She went on to explain what this search has to do with disease, stress, and healing.

"The body and soul need each other," she said. "Our body records the impacts of the events of our lives, no matter how small or insignificant. Some diseases are environmental, but much pain and discomfort are caused otherwise. We need to listen to our bodies, for they are messengers of what's going on."

This is where massage comes in, said Fedder. Massage can help relieve some of this pain and disease. Fedder then invited students to take their shoes off and give themselves a massage, a simple energizing routine.

In the theory of reflexology, every body part has a reference point on the feet. Massaging the foot in these certain places helps to relieve stress in these other body areas.

"I didn't realize a part of your foot related to every part of your body and can be used in therapy," said sophomore Elly Gusmano.

For the past three years, Fedder has worked at Dominican Center at Marywood as a massage therapist. Though she originally worked in parish ministry, Fedder has worked a wide range of areas within the healing field including massage, healing touch, and process acupuncture.

The seminar was sponsored by AURA, Aquinas United in Revitalizing Activity, the group that also provides aromatherapy four times a week. "We hoped to open minds to different ways to relieve stress," said AURA member Staci Valley. "Her ideas were different, but it was neat how they included the spiritual aspect.

Salt, Scheduling, Sledding: Students Give Input

by Chris Manning
Times Contributing Writer

When President Knopke, Brad Winkler, Randy MacGeorge and Rob McCarty are all in the same room with you, you've either done something or they want you're input. Luckily, they just wanted our input on Wednesday night.

Aquinas students gathered in the Carriage House on Feb. 4 to speak their minds. However, the goal wasn't necessarily to create solutions but to simply open the door for students to express their own concerns.

Starting the discussion was a concern about the use of the AQ van. The vehicle, which has a tendency to break down and has no emergency kit aboard it, has been a pressing concern for those using it. The need for a cellular phone and emergency kit aboard it, has been a concern.

The vehicle, which has a ten-seat capacity, is currently not used. "We are concerned about students being able to get around the campus," said sophomore Elly Gusmano.

"A lot of students miss classes because of the AQ van," said sophomore Andrew Emswiler.

The students also brought up the idea of an automated parking system. "We need to know where we're going," said senior Patrick Hruby, due to Payroll moving to Bank's Environmental Department.

"I'm hoping we'll get even more," said sophomore Elly Gusmano.

Another channel for CE students was a concern. "It's more a lack of CE messengers of what's going on," said Fedder. "Our body records the impacts of the events of our lives, no matter how small or insignificant. Some diseases are environmental, but much pain and discomfort are caused otherwise. We need to listen to our bodies, for they are messengers of what's going on."

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Students paychecks can not be picked up in Student Accounts in the Office of the Comptroller. "It's just too much trouble," said senior Elly Gusmano.

New laundry machines are being looked into for all of those who are seeing laundry become a full contract endeavor. Residence Life Director Randy MacGeorge mentioned several possibilities for the future. He also brought samples of new carpeting being considered for several floors in desperate need of it.

If you don't like sand on the sidewalks rather than salt, keep in mind that salt is dangerous to important ecosystems at AQ, as CSO officer Bob McCarty pointed out. Also the idea of a handrail going down the St. Joes hill was also mentioned and well-received. As 11:30 p.m. rolled around, the students had many concerns regarding toward the proper channels.

Sr. Mary J. Fedder talks about massage as part of an AURA program. Photo by Katy Tucker

Indian Reservation is Site for New Semester Study Program

Some Hope to Spend Fall In Montana

by Mary Kopchick
Times Contributing Writer

Ireland, Oxford, New Montana! Aquinas students are traveling the globe.

Beginning next fall, Aquinas students will have the opportunity to spend a semester on an Indian reservation in northern Montana learning about local Indian tribes, history and literature.

Students will leave Sept. 8, 1998 on an Amtrak train and travel to East Glacier Park, Montana, an Indian reservation ten miles from the Canadian border.

During their four month stay on the reservation students will earn up to fifteen semester hours taking classes such as the History of Literature of Native Americans, Indian Culture and Religion and the Natural Ecosystem of the Rockies. The classes will be taught by Dr. Mike Denty and Native American Longstanding Bear Chief, a Blackfoot Indian.

Along with classroom, students will do service learning activities in and around the reservation, such as tutoring in Indian schools and helping to start a local fish hatchery.

"This is a wonderful way to immerse yourself in a different culture," said Denty, head of the Montana Trip. "So far, we have 16 interested students and ten was the limit. I'm hoping we'll get even more."

Interested staff members were invited by President Knopke to submit proposals for a new semester trip, such as the present Ireland trip. He hopes to expand such semester opportunities at Aquinas.

The semester in Montana is open to all upperclassmen of all majors. The cost is the same as a semester at Aquinas, plus expenses. For more information, students are encouraged to attend the informational meetings held on Thursday, Feb 12 at 12:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. in AB 119 or contact Dr. Mike Denty at ext. 4497.

"Economist," Cont'd from p. 1

including Steady-State Economics (1977) For the Common Good (1989) and Valuing the Earth: Economics, Ecology and Ethics. He is a co-founder and associate editor of the journal Ecological Economics and serves on the board of directors of the Beijer Institute for Ecological Economics of the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences. Daly was also a Senior Economist in the World Bank's Environmental Department.

"Seniors," Cont'd from p. 1

nors to take care of graduation details, from ordering yearbooks, rings, class rings and invitations, to being fitted for cap and gown.

Featured guests, speakers President Knopke and Alumni Association President P. Alberini spoke to the seniors.

"Thirty years ago tonight I too faced 100 days until my college graduation," said Knopke. "It was a very different 100 days, as there was the prospect of being drafted for Vietnam. Yet, tonight I encourage you to gain a more acute appreciation of time; enjoy your time, make use of your time."

Finally, the evening concluded with a raffle of prizes and gifts donated by various clubs and departments. These items included Aquinas apparel and paraphernalia and various gift certificates.

About 50 students attended this first ever event sponsored by the Alumni Department. The Department plans on making the dinner an annual event.

"I wish there would have been more people," said Melissa Wysicki. "It's a good idea, but it needs to be hyped up."

"It was little less than we hoped, probably due to it being the first year," added Richard. "But I'm glad for those that did come."
Annual Medieval Banquet, Insignis Play Delight
Dancing, Feasting, Music Conclude St. Thomas Week

by Angela Bergman
times Staff Writer

Slaying dragons and fighting battles were the fare of Aquinas academics. Yet, after a feudalistic day, chivalrous knights courted elegant ladies to the Medieval Banquet in Wege Castle, Jan. 30.

The feast began with grape juice as wine, fire-baked loaves of bread, luscious fruit, and cheese accompanied by the ancient airs of Quoddlibet. Guests gathered around rectangular tables and toasted by candlelight. A banquet of plump turkey legs, potatoes, and green beans was served. Dimmers soon found that they would be devoting the meal without the convenience of silverware.

"It was nice being able to eat like an English king and to go against all my mother's rules of table etiquette," said junior Kyle Baldwin.

Sophomore Staci Val- ley also relished the cessation of 20th century etiquette. "I enjoyed watching Elly eat with her fingers," she said of her roommate Eleanor Gusman.

As guest became filled, Professor Gary Eberle announced the start of the medieval dancing. "In medieval times you would eat and dance, you wouldn't just retire to the living room and turn on the television set," he said.

"The Physician's Banquet and Insignis play are annual events in conjunction with St. Thomas Aquinas week.

Quoddlibet provided music for the annual St. Thomas week medieval banquet. The group consists of Professor Gary Eberle, Sr. Mary Navarre, Macia Good, and Ralph Alluredis.

"Dating," Cont'd from p. 1

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Covering Clinton's Bedroom Policy: Did We Go Overboard?

**Point**

President Clinton has monopolized news media again. No, not for campaign financing, Whitewater, or the Paula Jones incident. Not for foreign or domestic policy. With tribute paid to the mass media, I assert that there is not one person reading this who hasn't heard, read, or seen the allegation that former White House intern Monica Lewinsky had a sexual relationship with the President. It is good to see the press doing its job. There is a common feeling that the media has become out of control. But remember, the press has a fundamental right to expose whatever information it believes to be relevant. The First Amendment states, "Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press..." Our founding fathers wouldn't want true democracy to be any other way. If the government licensed, regulated, or restricted the press, this bureaucracy would be an infringement upon our very basic freedoms. If we don't want Congress controlling what journalists and editors print, then who does the media have to answer to?

Journalism is a business just like any other. Media's mission is to compare newspaper sales and media ratings rather than the news that it is disseminating. When readers sink their teeth into the plentiful articles about Lewinsky's stained dresses and other "propositions" the president may or may not have made Paula Jones, I doubt that they are concerned for the good of the nation.

This can't be good for the nation. The news continues on, but the coverage remains focused on our president who perhaps had an encounter with the "first mistress." I really can see no benefits the American populace can gain from scrutinizing with soap-opera-like interest, the underbelly of White House activities. Certainly, we have the right to be appalled that the president could have, once again, let his hormones overpower the boundaries of acceptance, but we should really consider what's best for the nation and the national image we project to the world.

Legally, the issue which could sack Clinton is whether or not he lied under oath. He did deny the sexual affair with former White House intern, Monica Lewinsky. If it really took place, he violated his oath. If fraudulently were appalled at this abuse of trust I would be completely proud. Somehow, however, I think that the masses especially riled about the scandal are not concerned with the real offense—that lie. It is the morality of the alleged affair that's got us all wrapped up. And we are definitely wrapped up. The Jan. 30 issue of USA Today alone featured eight articles, covering the many facets of the scandal concerning Lewinsky, previous affairs, and other possibly related topics.

Knowing that we are pursuing this for the moral implications rather than the legal, it seems a bit like a source of entertainment rather than the news that it is usually found near impulse buys at the grocery store checkout. Its identity as a national concern really just makes a nice excuse for readers to get their hands on some good dirt.

**Counterpoint**

The numbers prove the issue is relevant: we will pay to hear about it, and we want to talk about it.

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by Angela Bergman
Times Staff Writer

by Heather Young
Times Local/National News Editor

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Knowing that we are pursuing this for the moral implications rather than the legal, it seems a bit like a source of entertainment rather than the news that it is usually found near impulse buys at the grocery store checkout. Its identity as a national concern really just makes a nice excuse for readers to get their hands on some good dirt.
Steelcase Inc. will make its stock available to the public this month, allowing the Steelcase family to give even more to the Grand Rapids Community. The sale of the stock will yield an amount near $380 million to those in the Steelcase family, most of whom have chosen to donate heavily to charities in the area.

Peter Wege, benefactor to Aquinas, stands to gain the most as he currently owns 20% of Steelcase stock. Specifically, the Wege Foundation is expected to double in size. This foundation, in its gifts and support, focuses on improvements in the community, education, the environment, and health care.

Aquinas has already known the warm and generous hand of the Steelcase Family through the leadership and gifts of Wege. "Hearse more money with Aquinas," said Maribeth Wardrop, Vice-President of Development. "Peter Wege is a good friend and strong leader who has generously shared his vision, passion, and support (both emotional and financial) for Aquinas and our city. His many gifts have already had a substantial and long-lasting impact on the future of the college."

The support Aquinas has enjoyed will perhaps now be paralleled in the Grand Rapids community in the respect that the gifts are long-lasting investments in our future. For the city, the stock sale is a big event. Not only will members benefiting appropriate owners of the community have opportunities to own part of the booming office furniture business, but money made from the sale should enrich Grand Rapids in many ways as most of the Steelcase family members in position to move out well in the sale plan to give generously. Additionally, Aquinas College stands to gain from the sale. Part of the $5 million Wege donated to Aquinas of last winter was in Steelcase stock. The value of this gift will increase as the price of the stock.

The 123.5 million shares entering the New York Stock exchange this month are sure to go fast. Some are already trying to wag the dog, or perhaps feel a serious threat from Iraq and the possibility that they are ready to strike in response to a speculation made in the Feb. 1 issue of the Grand Rapids Press. No fear to those who worry about the previously "family business" falling into new hands. Wege and the other top shareholders will continue to control a majority of shares.

Government

However, Arab League sources say they are working toward peace. Iraq is a last resort for forcing open sus-

pect weapons sites. Albright has said that massive progress in gaining support since previously only Britain stood with the US in supporting an attack on Iraq as a last resort for opening suspect weapons sites. When she returned home Wednesday, Albright reported support in the Arab world had grown, and her aides said France had drawn closer to the U.S. views. However, the American League Secretary-General, Esmat Abdel Meguid, said, "It's difficult for me to believe that any Arab country would accept a military strike on Iraq. We are endeavoring today to find a peaceful way out of the crisis."

Other than support from Britain, the United States may be on its own. And even considering U.S. military bases in Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain, which all could contribute to a successful attack on Iraq, no country, during Albright's travels, public opportunities, or use of their bases. However the Post reported, Albright did hint at a general understanding of Arab support, and suggested later that Arab leaders must be guarded in what they say publicly about an attack on another Arab country. "They have different ways of expressing themselves," Albright said. "I do believe we will have that cooperation."

Sophomore Eleanor Gusmano says, "President Clinton is either trying to wag the dog, or possibly does feel a serious threat from Iraq and the possibility that they possess chemical and biological weapons. However, he continued, "Iraq is in violation of an international treaty with the U.N., not a treaty with just the United States. Thus, the situation should be dealt with by the U.N."

U.S. on Brink of Military Action in Iraq

by Angela Burrows

The United States military forces are ready to strike in response to Iraq's violation of a treaty it holds with the United Nations regarding the ban of chemical and biological weapons. U.N. inspectors suspect Iraq is trying to wag the dog, or possibly docs feel a serious threat from Iraq and the possibility that they are ready to strike in response to a speculation made in the Feb. 1 issue of the Grand Rapids Press. No fear to those who worry about the previously "family business" falling into new hands. Wege and the other top shareholders will continue to control a majority of shares.

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China Bans Record Hopeful Balloon

by Jennie Laret

A team of European balloonists set a world endurance record Feb. 3, but may miss out on their main goal of flying around the world non-stop. The Chinese government refused to allow the team to cross into Chinese airspace, which would be the shortest and safest route to the Pacific Ocean. Beijing rejected the request for security and safety reasons, although the Foreign Ministry may reconsider its decision.

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A team of European balloonists set a world endurance record Feb. 3, but may miss out on their main goal of flying around the world non-stop. The Chinese government refused to allow the team to cross into Chinese airspace, which would be the shortest and safest route to the Pacific Ocean. Beijing rejected the request for security and safety reasons, although the Foreign Ministry may reconsider its decision.

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I recently heard a radio commercial that targeted men who didn’t have a clue as to what their significant other wanted for Valentine’s Day. It went something like this, “If you don’t know what it is she isn’t telling you she wants, your wife or girlfriend will be very cranky on Valentine’s Day.”

Turns out what every woman wants is diamond earrings, and if she doesn’t get them then every man in her sight better watch out. At first I laughed at the marketing tactics of the jewelry store, but then I thought the message they were sending really isn’t funny. In fact it’s kinda sick.

Society seems to be way too caught up in the whole greed thing. As if affluence can be bought with a lavish gift. I don’t know too many women who will be expecting diamonds in the middle of February, but it is true that most attached people are expecting something and we can’t blame that on the jewelry stores or the flower shops.

Human nature is to want what is unattainable. And isn’t life much more fun that way? Always going after something that you just know you’re never going to get. We want more, and when we get it, we aren’t satisfied.

Everybody says the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence, but now that I seem to be over here grazing I don’t see what all the hype is about.

The materialism of the world today is fueling our markets, but it’s ruining our holidays. Just look at Christmas and we can tell that the true meaning was lost somewhere between the mad rushes to the mall and the endless wondering about what was waiting for us under the tree on that glorious morning.

I bet Saint Valentine is turning over in his grave. As we bolt for Hallmark and Flowerland and rack our brains thinking of the sweetest Valentine’s gift we can find, we seem to forget that what is important is that tiny four letter word called love. But by the looks of things these days, love is spelled C-A-S-H.

Maybe this Valentine’s we should just step back and be happy that we have someone to hold close. Or if you don’t, at least you have your friends and a cool bottle of something to help pass the time. Or be thankful for your health, or the chance to receive an education.

Maybe I’m being snide when I say that Americans are obsessed with material things, when people in other places are in want for basic needs like food and clean water. But something has gone terribly wrong in society when emotions can only be expressed with gifts and when Feb. 14 is thought of as D-day in relationships. And yes, to some that D stands for diamonds.

Sometimes I wish Feb. 14 was just another day. But alas, we are living in a material world and there is so much pressure to be a material girl. I can’t wait for Saturday, wonder what I’m gonna get.

By the way, my ears aren’t pierced.

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  - You will work closely with seasoned members of our business team to analyze and improve business processes. You will be responsible for identifying new business opportunities, analyzing business processes, and preparing business documentation.

At Old Kent, our employees are expected to make decisions and pursue challenges, as well as actively participate in our innovative efforts to enhance traditional lending practices. Many opportunities exist for growth and advancement. If you are interested in a challenging career and want to be part of a dynamic team, please apply.

We will be at your campus holding open interviews on March 26. Please contact your Career Services Office for more details. EOE.
Over the last six or so months, the phrase "Master Plan" has been the buzz throughout campus. Rumors abound as to the feasibility and actual contents of this plan, which in truth is actually three plans which are merely drawn up for many "what if" scenarios. However, the decisions that such a plan could make in the physical development of campus should be important to students. The physical beauty and layout of our campus makes it one of the strongest attractions Aquinas has, and enhancing that is in the interest of students, because as our quality increases or decreases, so does the value of our degree.

We suggest a few guiding principles to abide by when the administration, and it will ultimately be the administration, despite various committees, makes the decision to change the physical aspect of the campus.

First, save the forest, forget the trees. Large plots of woodland should be protected at all costs. However worrying over a couple of dozen trees for a huge building is needless. Twenty-five trees can easily be replanted. One thousand cannot. For instance, the path of thousands of trees across the field of the AB. A new residence hall should be placed easily be replanted. One thousand cannot. For instance, the path of thousands of trees across the field of the AB. A new residence hall should be placed.

Secondly, avoid adding on to buildings, especially Holmdene and the AB. Buildings have their own unique character, and additions rarely are as effective as entirely new buildings. Nothing can ruin a campus as much as "patching" things together, which extended buildings, with their different colored bricks and design generation gaps, can, and usually do, appear to be.

Third, do not centralize the campus. It will lose its beauty if students only have to see 400 square yards of it. A new library should not be constructed next to the AB. A new residence hall should be placed as far from Regina as possible. Some colleges have parking lots the size of Aquinas. We should encourage the growth of our campus, but within its current limits.

We don't pretend these are easy goals. Certainly price will come into play, as well as other concerns. But let's please leave the grandeur of Holmdene for the large wooden desks and philosophizing professors, and keep it from the Steelcase cubicles of paper-pushing administrators. We would hope that in 20 years upon returning to Aquinas, current students will be able to recognize the campus they once called home.

If one looks hard enough, there are plenty of places to build moderate-sized buildings on campus. Unfortunately the optimism of the last year argues for nothing other than fantastic construction projects. Perhaps those on the planning committee should keep in mind the words of an attorney who once argued before the Supreme Court on behalf of Dartmouth College, "It is, sir, as I have said, a small college, and yet there are those who love it."
Happy Valentine's Day to those to whom this tidying applies. To the rest of us, a reminder: roasted fruits and vegetables never lose their humor value. I wouldn't want to give anyone malicious ideas. I'm just saying, the sight and sound of a spoiled tomato, cantaloupe, or even a soggy cheese wedge hitting, say, two unsuspecting hand-holders (or better/worse, the face-suckers), never fails to make me laugh hysterically. But I'm just saying.

[2/11] Cuppa Java, E. Lansing: Wally Pleasant. He's touring the southern states very soon, so make sure to cancel ALL your plans for tonight and see him before he goes. Believe me, it's worth it. (517) 333-5962 for info.

[2/12] AQ Wege Ball Room: "What the Heck Night" installment called Video Dance Party. My guess is lots of videos, lots of dancing, and one big party. Really. Since when has an Aquinas dance been boring? 10pm-midnight.

[2/13] K-Zoo State Theater: Smokey Wilson. Well, the blues are coming through Michigan, there's no reason to overlook it. Check him out if you can; better than getting drunk to Marilyn Manson videos. Only $8 through Ticketmaster (456-3333).


[2/20] Intersection: The Lash. Fresh from their CD release party, this sextet is ready to show you that there are no formulas to good music. Make sure to check these guys out. I think they outplayed the Drovers when they met up at the Intersection last fall.

[2/22] Intersection: Life of Agony w/ Fair. The 'Section has been a little slow this month, but these guys will make up for it. Expect to be exhausted. Must be 18 with ID, b!@h b!@h...

[2/23] Intersection: The Why Store. This band has gained a lot of momentum and popularity lately, so why not check it out? Same legal routine as above.

Multi-talented Group Teaches AQ about R.E.A.L.L.I.T.Y.

What the Heck Series Continues with African Oral Tradition

You can't get much more real than the group R.E.A.L.L.I.T.Y. On Thursday, Jan. 28, the African Oral tradition group called A Touch of R.E.A.L.L.I.T.Y. (Refine Everyone All Life Lives In The Young) performed in front of approximately 50 people in the C.C.H. The group consists of three young African Americans, who all met and graduated from Kean College in New Jersey. The performers used a variety of techniques which included rap, acapella singing, free verse poetry, and theatrical skits. The topics that were touched on were issues that face our society, things that we encounter on a day to day basis, even if some people seek to ignore them. The issue of being homeless in America and society's perceptions of homeless people was dramatized in the form of skits. The issues of sex, AIDS, and venereal diseases were discussed, as well as how fast life can lead to an early burial. The question was asked "How many people have, or know someone that has, a beeper?" how "beepers" are used on the streets by drug dealers to corupt the neighborhoods. The experience of the black male in America was also expressed, as well as the use of the "N"-word and why it is not necessary for it to be used. There were some students that felt offended by what the group said at the event. Overall, students and staff agreed that A Touch of R.E.A.L.L.I.T.Y. was definitely a group that needed to be brought to Aquinas. Piper Priest, a senior and Programming Board member, stated, "I thought that they were excellent and I think that they were a much-needed voice on campus... People who weren't there should have been." Professor Sharon Smith brought her Sociology of Women class to the event. She stated that, "...this was one way to step into another culture. I think the Programming Board should be applauded for letting students experience part of their environment in their culture.

The group stated that they hoped that those who had questions would stay after to have them answered. A Touch of R.E.A.L.L.I.T.Y. also expressed that they realized that some people may get offended by what they had to say, but they hoped that they would later educate themselves on what they had heard that night. The group is dedicated to the uplifting of their people as well as the world as a whole.

Photo by Amanda Miscisin

Two members of the trio, R.E.A.L.L.I.T.Y. strut their stuff in the hopes of opening the audience's eyes. R.E.A.L.L.I.T.Y. touched on different issues in society during their show. The group came to Aquinas as part of Programming Board's What the Heck Night series.

Compiled by Joe Theurerkauf
Times A&E Editor

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Compiled by Joe Theurerkauf
Times A&E Editor
Stephen Dunn to Read at AQ as Part of Writers Series

by Joe Theuerkauf
Times A&E Editor

On Feb. 19, be sure to attend the reading performed by poet Stephen Dunn, the fourth writer invited to Aquinas as part of the Contempo­rary Writers Series.

The reading will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Classroom Building Room 109, and is free and open to public attendance.

Dunn will read from his most recent collection of poetry, "New Selected Poems, 1974-1994" (W.W. Norton Publications) as well as past works, which includes nine collections of poetry.

His poetic subjects include ex­aminations of familial relationship­s, as well as between men and women. He also writes about everyday topics, shifting from the light-hearted to the pro­found.

Dunn, who has been through a myriad of life experiences, has gone from playing semi-professional basketball to traveling to Spain to find his calling or as Dunn put it to "try to change my life and see if I could write poetry."

His accomplish­ments include sev­eral grants from the National Endow­ment for the Arts, a Guggenheim Fel­lowship, the Theodore Roethke Prize, the Academy of American Poets Award, and others.

Dunn defines poe­try as "an act of co­herence amidst the fragmentation of modern life."

Currently, Dunn teaches poetry and creative writing at numerous schools and workshops, but con­tents his life in Pomona, New Jer­sey at Stockton State College.

For more info contact Cathy Neis.

Poet Stephen Dunn will read on Feb. 19 in CB 109 at 7 p.m....

Celtic Band The Lash Releases Debut CD

by Joe Theuerkauf
Times A&E Editor

Some of the coolest people I get to talk to are local bands that are getting themselves established in the area. It’s not even because they are local but to hear some but and get their name in the paper. I think it’s more because they just have a better attitude toward what they do than more jaded, famous bands do.

Tom Meyers of the East Lansing band The Lash spoke with me about his theories on the "rock attitude," the band’s new CD (entitled Celtic Mayhem Live), and why the Pogues have made Celtic rock one of the most fun music genres to play.

"The band started when Mike Lynch, accordion) and the band’s original singer were really into the Pogues and wanted to do a tribute to St. Patrick’s Day," said Meyers (drums and background vocals).

"They just kept doing it. It ended up getting put on paper and then they went on tour. From that tour came the new album."

The CD is a project which has been under construction for five months. Recorded live and engineered at a time by Lynch, the official release date is Friday, Feb. 13. There will be a release party at East Lansing’s Small Planet. The band is also doing in-store performances and radio appearances to support the disc.

"We want to use the CD as a tool to get us out more, to spread the word around. We don’t have much," said Lynch, "we only book a few shows at a time until we can spread out and get more recognition."

The band also isn’t letting the idea of a musical career delay them, "if we end up doing it as a living," Lynch stated sensibly, "it’s not like we’re going to pass it up," but they’re not expecting success to drop into their laps.

"I’m kind of testing a theory when we play," Lynch said. "It seems a lot of bands now are just one-hit wonders. They put out one or two songs people go crazy over, but when people buy the disc, the rest of the songs are just bad. No one seems to achieve lasting success anymore. We don’t want to do that that way. Very good plan, especially for the type of music The Lash plays.

"The best of the band is testing another theory," Lynch continued. "We don’t see the ‘traditional rock formula’ keeping people’s interest anymore. People seem to be looking for more experimental music. The old four-piece rock quartet isn’t doing it anymore."

If the Lash sticks with such re­freshing philosophy, let’s hope they stick around. For a true taste of the old bands that are Big Wreck is aspiring to produce. It seems as if all the songs on this CD, except for maybe the Helmet-like "Fall Through the Crack" and the almost delightful "Prayer" are just on the threshold of becoming good.

No common factor is holding the different influences of folk music, blues and classic rock together, and the result is a very uneven, flat and almost a pathetic annoyance which doesn’t grow on you even after three times listening through the whole thing.

The saga of the birth of Big Wreck is about as unique as their debut CD. With their debut CD these guys have proven to be just another blah commercial band.

Cracks" and the almost delightful "Prayer" are just on the threshold of becoming good.

No common factor is holding the different influences of folk music, blues and classic rock together, and the result is a very uneven, flat and almost a pathetic annoyance which doesn’t grow on you even after three times listening through the whole thing.

"Memory is very obviously a debut, far away from the level of great rock’n’roll. Big Wreck is aspiring to produce. It seems as if all the songs on this CD, except for maybe the Helmet-like "Fall Through the Crack" and the almost delightful "Prayer" are just on the threshold of becoming good.

No common factor is holding the different influences of folk music, blues and classic rock together, and the result is a very uneven, flat and almost a pathetic annoyance which doesn’t grow on you even after three times listening through the whole thing.

In Correction

The Big 8 listing in the last issue featured two shows that failed to materialize. Paula Cole canceled her show at Calvin due to a Saturday Night Live appearance, and Sister Machine Gun never performed as expected. Sorry for any inconvenience we may have caused by trying to promote these artists.
February

Globetrotters are all show and no this game dispelled myths that the Globetrotters and a team of Col ber of the team, record at 12 feet. The newest mem son who set the slam dunk world flyer Michael " Wild Thing" Wil son to a lifetime contract. be theonly basketball coach signed to a former Globetrotter himself, may be Charles "Tex" Harrison. Harrison, was promptly relieved of the ball fluttered above. Included on the roster was high with the introductions, as the Globetrotters took the floor through a smoke screen, while a strobe light fluttered above. The Globetrotters brought a squad of 10 players and head coach Charles "Tex" Harrison. Harrison, a former Globetrotter himself, may be the only basketball coach signed to a lifetime contract. Included on the roster was high flyer Michael "Wild Thing" Wilson who set the slam dunk world record at 12 feet. The newest member of the team, was "thoroughly embarrassed," her husband found it "thoroughly enjoyable." In a seemingly rare unscripted moment during the third quarter, Jackson flung the purse at the preoccu pation their opponents, to figure out which Aquinas team was on the floor late in the game. After convincing him to strike numerous body building poses with out his shirt, the boy was given a Globetrotters t-shirt. Jackson then returned the boy to his fa ther, but not before trying to charge him $20 for the shirt. As time wound down, and Michael Wilson threw down one more ferocious jam, Grand Rapids quietly etched itself in his tory. The Globetrotters have more consistent performer. She also led the Saints to a 3-0 record in the WHAC, earning the title of conference champion may not mean all that much. Nash began tinkering with her lineup to see what the Saints were really capable of. She thinks the results will be a much more ver sale and balanced team when the WHAC Tournament rolls around at the end of the month. For a while, it might have seemed that the team was going through an identity crisis. Ten different players have started for the Saints this season, making it difficult for the team, not to mention their opponents, to figure out which Aquinas team was on the floor. Add in a pair of identical twins, freshman guards Rene and Rhonda Bolitho, and figur ing out the Saints' rotation may be a little deceptive. After beating Concordia, Crossroads, and Siena Heights, the Saints quickly fell back to 3-3, losing the road to both to Tri-State and Spring Arbor (OT), before being blitized at home by a red-hot Ma donna team that made more shots then they missed. Two weeks ago, the Saints were in a 5 way tie for first, with Spring Ar bo r, Tri-State, Madonna, and Siena Heights, which would indicate that the title of conference champion may not mean all that much. Nash began tinkering with her lineup to see what the Saints were really capable of. She thinks the results will be a much more versatile and balanced team when the WHAC Tournament rolls around at the end of the month. For a while, it might have seemed that the team was going through an identity crisis. Ten different players have started for the Saints this season, making it difficult for the team, not to mention their opponents, to figure out which Aquinas team was on the floor. Add in a pair of identical twins, freshman guards Rene and Rhonda Bolitho, and figuring out the Saints' rotation may have been more difficult than eating soup with a fork. Ironically though, a fork has been the Saints' utensil of choice for most of the season. Senior forward Jen Forkner has started every game this season, and leads the team in scoring, averaging around 17 points a game. She also leads the Saints in assists, averaging almost three a game, and has played a team high 709 minutes. Forkner has easily been the team's most consistent performer. Consistency doesn't come easily, which is why the Saints struggled slightly in their first three games. That is to be expected though and for now, the team's roles are much better defined. According to assistant coach Ray From, the team has taken all the lineup changes in stride. "We were confused, but I think everyone has adjusted pretty well," he said. Most of the lineup juggling has come in the Saints' backcourt, where Carmes DeCook, Pam Bierzyński, Jolene Loonin, and the Bolithos have averaged above 12 minutes of playing time per game. This has allowed Nash to use a variety of combinations depend ing on the team's needs. Nash believes Bierzyński has emerged as the team's defensive stopper, while DeCook, and Loonin have shown the ability to provide an offensive spark off the bench. Despite playing limited roles early in the season, the Bolithos have proved to be quite See "Hoops," p. 11
Roller Coaster Season Continues for Men’s Hoops

by Alan Plum
Times Sports Editor

After suffering a loss at home to Orchard Lake St. Mary’s, the Aquinas Men's Basketball Team seemed to have reached the crossroads of what has been a very strange season. Holding a commanding 10 point lead with less than 10 minutes to play, the Saints’ offense went south, while the Eagles caught fire. What resulted was a 88-80 loss that left coach Rick Albro’s team to painstakingly wonder what had gone wrong.

With the second half of their WHAC schedule still waiting to be played, it clearly was time to sink or swim. The Saints responded by beating back league doormat Concordia College last Wednesday after trailing the Cardinals by two at the half.

In a game which they desperately needed to win, Aquinas pushed down on the accelerator and cruised past the Cardinals. A loss would have been costly for the Saints, but the win enabled them to keep WHAC frontrunners Siena Heights and Tri-State University within shouting distance.

Still, a larger challenge loomed on the horizon. It came in the form of Cornerstone College.

After clinging to 15th in the latest NAIA national rankings, the Golden Eagles were looking for a victory to put the Saints down for the count.

It was the Saints who delivered the knock-out blow, as they routed the Saints victory at the Van Andel Arena on Nov. 28. Didn’t count towards the WHAC standings.

Relying primarily on their outside shooting, the Saints led by as many as 35 points at one point in the second half.

As a team, Aquinas shot nearly 67 percent from the field, knocking down 37 of 57 shots, including a phenomenal 13 of 15 (.867%) from behind the three-point line.

Seniors Brandon Lowe and Joe Crittendon paced the Saints’ attack with 21 and 18 points respectively. Crittendon finished the game shooting a perfect six of six from way downtown, scoring all of his points from beyond the arc.

Every player scored for the Saints who were actually out-rebounded (31-29), and committed more turnovers (21-20).

With the win, Aquinas moved to 5-4 in the WHAC and 16-9 overall, putting them within one game of Cornerstone who fell to 6-3 and 19-7.

The WHAC has become one of the home of some of the NAIA’s national’s basketball. Spring Arbor, Siena Heights, and Cornerstone have all spent some time in the top 20 this season’s national rankings.

Cornerstone is the second nationally ranked team to leave the fieldhouse with a loss. Siena Heights was the other.

With big road games still to play against Spring Arbor, and Tri-State, the Saints will be looking to build some momentum and possibly earn home-court advantage in the WHAC Tournament.

To do this, consistency will be a key as usual. The Saints have proved they are more than capable of playing with the nation’s big boys.

Every player scored for the Saints, putting up team totals with 14, and 10 points respectively. A great rivalry. Yes, it was merely another great and entertaining game between two of the most perennial powerhouses in college basketball.

The second half of their series 119-79 dating back to 1920, always been arguably the nation’s most interesting rivalry.

Take the last game for example. North Carolina pre-season All-American Antawn Jamison erupted for 35 points, 23 in the first half alone. Vince Carter must have had five inadvertent dunks for the Tarheels, each one more impressive than the previous.

That includes an incredible missed dunk attempt off an Ed Cota backboard (alley-oop) pass which if made, would probably have been the play of the year.

The win didn’t come without a price though, as the Saints lost freshman forward Julie Murray to what may turn out to be a season ending knee-injury. The Saints’ versatility may once again be tested, as frontline players Sarah King, Nicole Miehke, and Lisa Terrill will all be expected to pick up the slack.

Despite the three conference losses, which could possibly be attributed to the Saints’ soul searching, Nash remained positive about the team’s chances.

“I feel really good at this point,” she said prior to the game with Concordia. “The way I see it, we’re only one game out of first.”

Things can always change.
Students of Color Dish on What AQ Life is Like

by Piper Petzet
Times Contributing Writer

Step for a minute and think about what your experience at Aquinas has been like. What kind of effect has your college experience had on shaping who you are now? Now, stop for a second and think about what it is like to be a student of color on Aquinas’ campus. Is their experience any different from your own?

Out of all the students who are enrolled at Aquinas, only 77 are students of color, according to Stacey Jackson, the Assistant Director of the Multicultural Department.

Kimberly Thomas, a senior, described what it is like for her as a student of color. “Socially, being black means feeling excluded from the mainstream, social groups and study tables.”

Zee Velez, a sophomore said something similar, “I feel more isolated, and I feel that no one knows or understands how I feel.”

Socially, Jackson believes the students of color differ from that of their own, according to Ferris, students of color should consider how their experience differs from their classmates.

Ferris suggests that one way of helping the situation may be having a more diverse faculty and staff. “Students spend much of their time in the classroom, and there aren’t enough professors who are coming from a perspective of a student of color,” she commented.

Jackson agreed. “The students need a representation of people who look like them. “They don’t have enough professors of color to go to when they need help.”

Velez added that the Aquinas community has been very friendly and supportive. Higginbotham stated, “I’ve enjoyed my time at Aquinas, but just that wish that things were better situated to make me feel more comfortable.”

Ferris hopes that soon there will be more acceptance for how the students feel. She said there should not have to be proof that there is a struggle. Instead, Ferris hopes students will learn to see that even the experiences of students of color differ from that of their own, the experiences are still very real. As a resolution, Ferris offers this advice when relating to students of color: “Just accept their experience and be understanding about their feelings.”

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Special Events

The following is a listing of the events that remain for Black History Month:

Feb. 12 Speaker in Ball Room Michael McGhee “Money Talks: How to Budget Your Money” 12:15p.m.
Feb. 13 Heritage Newsletter “Racism: Better or Worse?”
Feb. 15 Movie in CCH “Imitation of Life” 7:00p.m.
Feb. 17 Movie in CCH “Mrs. Ever’s Boys” 7:00p.m.
Feb. 18 JAM Session in CCH and Get to Know Me Panel: “Breaking the Stereotypes of People of Color” 7:00p.m.
Feb. 20 Heritage Newsletter “Interracial Dating: How do you feel?”
Feb. 20 Play “Wine in the Wilderness” AMC 8:00p.m. - $3 students/$5 general admission
Feb. 21 Play “Wine in the Wilderness” AMC 8:00p.m.
Feb. 22 Play “Wine in the Wilderness” AMC 3:00p.m.
Feb. 23 Movie in CCH “Soul Food” 7:00p.m.
Feb. 25 Speaker in PDR Beverly Hair “Black Inventors” 12:15p.m.
Feb. 27 Heritage Newsletter “Minority Faculty & Staff: What are we doing about it?”

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The Scoop on Heritage News

During the month of February, the Aquinas Multicultural department is offering several opportunities for students to find out about the issues which concern students of color in our community.

One of the best ways to become informed is to pick up a copy of the Heritage Newsletter which will be dedicated to such issues as racism and interracial dating. Stella Ferris, Director of the Multicultural department, describes the Heritage newsletter as “a chance for students of color to voice their point of view” and “an avenue to vent.”

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High Valley's annual Black History Month play is "Wine in the Wilderness" chosen for annual Black History Month Play

by Amy Briggs
Times Contributing Writer

It's a love story, it's a tragedy...it's the Aquinas Black History Month Play!

Don't miss "Wine in the Wilderness" as the Aquinas community celebrates February as Black History Month.

The play will be performed Feb. 20-22 in the Art and Music Center. Friday and Saturday shows will be at 8:00 p.m. and the Sunday show will be at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are $3 for students and $5 regular admission.

"Wine in the Wilderness" is the story of Bill, an artist, as he follows his commission to paint three portraits. It takes place during the Harlem riots, and it is about love, manipulation, and the "glory of black womanhood," stated Stacey Jackson, Assistant Director of the Aquinas Multicultural Department.

Jackson's character is tested when he meets a woman named Tommy. This woman is one both he and the audience will not forget.

Bill is played by junior Carlus Henry, who feels that students shouldn't miss this year's dynamic cast in action. "The play hits on the fact that there is not a lot of black history in educational institutions," Henry said. "Aquinas has been producing a play for Black History Month since 1991, and the play is always put on by students and the Aquinas community. In the past, students have written plays that were performed, but Jackson chose Childress' play for her directing debut. "It's a small cast of just five people," reported Jackson, "but the play has a powerful message." "The beauty from within" theme permeates the story line according to Jackson. "Joining Henry in the small ensemble are seniors Piper Petzet, and Theo Henderson, junior Nikesha Griffin, and freshman Schianti Dixon.

The play committee is still in need of students on hands-on tasks such as set building and technical work. Contact Stacy Jackson at ext. 4169 to assist.

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"Wine in the Wilderness" has a powerful message and is the Aquinas Black History Month Play chosen for annual Black History Month Play.