**Students Urged to Remember Mexican Massacre**

By Melissa Ann Pline

**Chiapan Situation Explored**

Chiapas, Mexico. Dec. 22, 1997. Forty-five people massacred. Bloodshed in this southern-most state of Mexico made headlines in major papers. The world was shocked. But many soon forgot.

The Social Action Committee of Aquinas, however, hopes to turn that shock into action. They don’t want anyone to forget the pre-Christmas massacre or the other violence that continues in Chiapas. As part of their Chiapas Awareness Campaign, the group educated themselves of the situation and then gave students an opportunity to act.

To explain the Chiapas situation, Jeff Smith, Institute for Global Education Director and a former Aquinas SAC member, spoke at the Gatehouse Feb. 12. Smith spoke of his month in Chiapas as a member of an international delegation.

"Since January of 1994, when the Zapatista uprising occurred, the Mexican military has been occupying the state of Chiapas," said Smith. The Zapatistas is a group of well-armed indigenous people who desire democracy. Since that date, Mexican Federal troops have been trying to put a stop to the Zapatistas rebellion. But in the process, villagers are being killed.

That was the reason for Smith's visit.

"We went to villages in the rural part of the state to act as international observers and document military behavior as a way of derailing violence against the population," said Smith. "The unfortunate thing is that a gringo's life is more valuable than a Mayan's life in Mexico, so they're not likely to do something if there are white people standing around with cameras."

Interestingly, the Dec. 22 massacre occurred in Acteal, a village just 12 miles from where Smith's group was staying at the time. The para-military attackers were not federal troops, but were trained and armed by the Mexican Army.

"This group's name means Peace and Justice," said Smith. "In five hours they murdered 45 Mayan Indians, mostly women and children, all of them unarmed. Using M-16s and machetes, they cut off limbs; a pregnant woman's womb was cut out of the womb.

"This is probably the worst act of violence in Chiapas in recent times, but not an unusual act. The numbers are just big. These kinds of things have been going on for years."

Bringing the message home, Smith explained what he sees as the involvement of the United States in the Chiapan situation.

"The sad thing is that the troops are armed by the U.S. government. Mexico doesn't manufacture their own weapons, so they get them from elsewhere, including the United States. The U.S. has increased their military aid to Mexico in the past four years under the rationale of fighting the drugs. Yet, while no drug trafficking takes place in Chiapas, this is where the weapons are being used."

With this, Smith passed along "Chiapas," p. 3

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**'Friend of Planet, Economics'**

Visits AQ

By Julie Hilton

**Economics**

Times Contributing Writer

Herman E. Daly, Ph.D., in the second annual lecture of the Wege Speakers Series, presented "Economic Growth: in Theory and in Fact" on Wednesday, Feb. 18, in the Wege Ballroom.

Daly received his Ph.D. in Economics from Vanderbilt. He was an economist for the World Bank's Environmental Department. He also taught at Louisiana State University. Daly is now a research scholar for the University of Maryland. He is the author of four books and over 100 articles.

After a few minor technical difficulties, President Harry Knopke opened the lecture with a short welcome. Then he introduced Peter Wege, the President of the Wege Foundation and sponsor of the lecture.

Wege explained the importance of Ecology, which was why the Wege Foundation began sponsoring the lectures.

"It's a space ship. We're on it and we need to take care of it. It's as simple as that," said Wege. Daly then introduced Daly, his fellow "econocologist." An Econocologist is an economist concerned with the economy's affect on ecology.

"He's a friend. A friend of the planet. A friend of economics," said Wege.

Daly's lecture focused on the idea that economic growth, which is usually considered to be very positive, was in fact sometimes negative, especially in respect to the environment.

Daly's main argument was that we have to look at the economy as a subset of the ecosystem, not as two independent things. He presented two graphic representations of the ecosystem, not as two independent things. He presented two graphic representations of the ecosystem, not as two independent things. He presented two graphic representations of the ecosystem, not as two independent things. He presented two graphic representations of the ecosystem, not as two independent things.

See "Daly," p. 3
Financial Speaker Stresses Common Cents

by Chris Manning
Times Contributing Writer

So you graduate from college and, you know, yada yada yada, you and you need to get a job blah blah and you (surprisingly) get one in a stagnant job market. Now what do you do?

A good start might be to look into investments. Yes, investments. Now that you actually have money you might as well make it work for you. Well, Mike McGee offered his two cents to the possibility of investing money can have. So, on Feb. 12, a handful of Aquinas students looking to the future gathered in the Wege Center Ballroom to hear what he had to say.

First of all, McGee knows how to make money. He is a financial consultant with Merrill Lynch where he has managed to make a strong success in his field after graduating from Wayne State University. His clients stretch across the spectrum, a group that is diverse and far reaching in terms of financial success and educational background. Yet they all have the burning need to make their money work for them, as McGee pointed out.

However, senior Duffy Cavanaugh had other things on his mind than just making money. "Is there any kind of investment I can make that will pay off my college loans?" That seemed to be the question pressing on everyone's mind. Sure enough McGee expressed several possibilities.

"You need to start networking right now. Networking can be more important than your grades because without those connections you won't know the people that can get you your first job," he explained. He said that networking for him has provided those much needed connections that would later provide him with clients and client referrals which are so important in business. So, he told students to work on those relationships now, which can be anywhere, even on campus.

McGee also discussed the importance of goal setting in one's career. And, he urged students not to just stop there, he said we should all set goals in our personal lives, in our daily and many other moments.

See "Money," p. 3

Finding a Companion for the Spirit

by Brigid Bulger
Times Contributing Writer

Are you interested in finding God or what is happening around you?

On Thursday, Feb. 12 in the Lucas Room, Diane Zerfas, the co-director of pastoral life at the Dominican Chapel, Marywood, presented "Spiritual Companionship: Guidance on the Spiritual Journey."] Spiritual Companionship is a means to help a person discover what God is doing around them.

According to Zerfas, the idea of spiritual companionship dates back to the Roman Empire. After Christianity was legalized, a small group of Christians moved into the desert and lived in caves because they felt that the now legalized faith was not challenging enough.

They found that living in the caves was not helping them grow in faith, so they would visit a neighbor's cave to talk and pray about their experiences. These people soon became monks, and rather than living in caves, they moved into the abbot or abbey, according to Zerfas.

Today, this early practice can be found in the form of spiritual companionship. "The min-
Crossword Craze Challenges
Campus Community

You won’t believe it, it’s bigger than you. It’s the World’s Largest Crossword Puzzle. Located in Room 320 of the Academic Building, the puzzle measures seven feet by seven feet and contains 28,000 clues to unlocking the gigantic word web.

The puzzle can be found in the headquarters of the Academic Achievement Center and Student Support Services, the sponsors of this all-campus activity. The centers provide free academic counseling and tutoring in reading, writing, math and study services.

Student Support staff member Dean Robertson is the driving force behind this crossword mania that has aroused so much attention in the Aquinas community.

"I received the puzzle as a Christmas gift," explained Robertson. "My husband and I couldn’t decide on the perfect place to hang it, then it hit me. I’ll take it to work!"

That proved to be a great idea because everyone from Aquinas seems to be getting into the act. Students, faculty, and even maintenance staff are taking moments out of their busy schedules to pencil in a few answers.

"The clues [on the puzzle] are manageable," said Robertson. "Nothing’s too hard. This is not a New York Times style crossword." Robertson reports that the puzzle has clues for every person’s area of expertise: movies, literature, science, math, pop culture, and more.

Starting Tuesday, Feb. 24, and every Thursday thereafter, donuts and orange juice will be available starting at 8:00 a.m. for all interested in trying a hand at puzzling.

"We’ve had a great response already," said Robertson, "but we hope the breakfast will encourage even more folks to drop by."

The World’s Largest Pizza Party will celebrate the completion of the World’s Largest Crossword Puzzle, tentatively scheduled for the last week of classes before final exam week. So stop by AB 320 with your brains and your pencils.

"Money," Cont’d from p. 2

"Daly," Cont’d from p. 1

"Chiapas," Cont’d from p. 1

the plea for help sent from the villagers.

"The Chiapans were telling us to inform the American public about what is going on. They want us to stop sending weapons to Mexico because they’re being used to kill their own people," SAC presented the Chiapan situation to Aquinas through their educational table in the Academic Building Feb. 18. Videos and pamphlets as well as SAC members helped explain the complex situation.

"We hope to present the situation, then have addresses of officials to let students get involved and voice their opinions," said Martha Krayzewski, SAC coordinator. "Even though we’re on a small campus, we can’t forget what’s going on in the rest of the world."

SAC member Nick Comerford first learned about the situation in his high school Spanish class.

"Human rights violations occur all over the world, but Chiapas should be a special concern for the United States because we deal and trade with Mexico," said Comerford. "There are direct things we can do about it."

Jeff Smith will be offering a class titled, "Our Southern Neighbor: Understanding US/Mexican Relations" to further explore the past 20 years, including NAFTA, the War on Drugs, and Chiapas. The eight week class will meet Tuesday evenings starting March 10 at the IGE in East Grand Rapids. To sign up contact Smith at 454-1642.
By human nature, those of us accustomed to a regular daily schedule don’t like change. But the current scheduling options at Aquinas are not meeting the educational needs of students and faculty. Aquinas should promptly adopt the new class schedule which would take effect in the fall of 1999, proposed by Division of Academic Affairs Gary Kieff and Division Coordinators.

The existing schedule is not academically logical. Students are expected to cram four, five, or maybe six classes into four days. Aside from the unnecessary pressure and heavy workload, students have shown that learning potential is greatly reduced when students are fed a lot of information in a short amount of time. Gradual and more evenly dispersed learning is how most courses, such as the Inquiry and Expression courses, have been designed. It makes no sense to have the same workload in one day as in, essentially, a four day week.

Under the current format, faculty cannot design courses to meet their fullest potential. According to Cindy VanGelderen, Chair of the Business Department, “It’s often difficult to have only one day between class sessions. It will benefit instructors and students to distribute assignments more evenly between class sessions.”

The scheduling problem is one of extreme significance for the short-term as well as long-term goals of the college. Right now, class times are so full that there is literally not enough classroom space. When enrollment increases next year, this problem will be magnified.

The new schedule proposal is very workable and solves the intrinsic problems with the current schedule. The schedule has eliminated the 10:00 time slot that interferes with other class times. Classes will run during the noon hour on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to accommodate students who need another time between 8:00 and 3:00. This will allow time for lunchtime lectures on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The ultimate responsibility for setting a class schedule will remain with the individual student. Gary Kieff emphasized that “the new schedule will allow for some additional class time, better room utilization, and more options for students. I think we have helped considerably with students’ scheduling problems.”

In fact, there are so many advantages to the new schedule that they will outweigh initial inconvenience. For one, all of Aquinas College will have to become part of the ‘real working world’ on Fridays. Also, having classes on Fridays will help student involvement in weekend activities at the college. We have long since complained that we are a "suitcase" college, and that everyone goes home on the weekends.

Kieff said the new plan will be flexible and he is willing to work with students. “It is ready to get beat up and torn apart,” he said. We need to encourage the implementation of the proposed schedule. There is no other way to solve the old scheduling problems and the new schedule will give us unique advantages.

One more concern I have deals with meeting times. Since most students currently have time free starting from between 11:30 and 12:15, clubs, organizations, boards, and committees know that they can count on that time to convene.

Speakers come to the Ballroom and we’ll bring up our trays. Events like the Labyrinth and the Aquinas Family Picture on the steps of the Academic Building during Saint Thomas Aquinas Week could never have happened if we didn’t know that most people have a moment to pause during the lunch hour.

The designated time slot for Senate meetings in the new schedule proposals is Friday evenings, not the traditional Wednesday lunch hour. The Aquinas College Community Senate can have some rousing and controversial meetings, but I have a hunch that attendance will be somewhat lower than when students must choose between going out, going home, or going to a Senate meeting.

One of the reasons behind the drive for a schedule change is that some students, in their final semesters here, have difficulty packing their schedules in both classes from their major and the liberal arts classes they need. Once again, I’d have to say that I am less-than-compassionate for people who have their schedules in such crisis when it comes to the home stretch. I think people who don’t think ahead often learn lessons the hard way, and if it’s a dose of reality that they need, they’ve got it right there. Most students with genuine scheduling crises are dealing with the heavy burden of science major requirements, and they’ve got Friday classes anyway.

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I realize that the new schedule could potentially solve lots of problems, but that’s not to say it doesn’t introduce a whole bunch of a different nature. At风险 of sounding too harsh, I’d like to see that students can just buckle down and deal with things the way they are.
College Students Come Together to Simulate Arab League
Aquinas to Take Part in GVSU Convention

by Mary Kopchick
Times Contributing Writer

For the first time in Aquinas' history, 12 members of the Political Science Club will represent Aquinas along with seven other Michigan colleges Feb. 26-28 at Grand Valley State University as part of the Michigan Model Arab League convention.

Schools involved in the convention include Grand Valley, Hope College, Kalamazoo College, Calvin College, Spring Arbor College, Albion College and University of Michigan-Dearborn. Students from each college will assume the role of one country in the Arab League.

There are 22 countries represented in all. Aquinas will represent both Somalia and Libya. Months before the convention, students research the country's history, culture, government and diplomatic relations strategy.

They then choose one of five committees to serve on (Security, Economic, Social, Political or Palastinian Affairs) and draft resolutions pertinent to their committees. The resolutions are then presented to the entire committee for debate. Some of the issues being dealt with are women's suffrage, inspection policies in Iraq, and the idea of forming a separate country for the Palestinians.

The students attending are all members of Aquinas' political science club, Polis. Members representing Libya are John Krajewski, Regina Lagarce, Mike Gallagher, Angela Bergman, Noreen Loukas, and Mickey Chichester. Representing Somalia are Nare Jonjive, Renee North, Mike Umbach, Ted Nicholson and Matt Meyer.

"We put a lot of hard work, time and energy into presenting the guidance of Roger Durham," said Krajewski, who is on Libya's Security Committee. "We've created great solutions to bring peace to the Middle East. We've also worked really hard to get the new club rolling and learn about global issues.

"The students will be accompanied by Dr. Roger Durham who is in his second year at Aquinas and responsible for the formation of Polis. He decided to name the club Polis after the Greek city-state that represents democracy, participation, citizenship and knowledge.

Before coming to Aquinas, Durham was the undergraduate chair to the Model Arab League at a small college in Oregon. He hopes to succeed in the Model Arab League this year and, depending on the growth of Polis, compete in the Midwest Model United Nations next year.

"This is a great opportunity for students to role play and assume other countries," said Durham. "It is especially challenging for Aquinas because Libya is a rogue state and Somalia doesn't even have a government right now."

The National Council on US-Arab Relations is a nonprofit organization based in Washington D.C. The council was started in 1983 at Georgetown University. John Vandenberg, Program Coordinator of the National Council in Washington D.C., will attend the convention at Grand Valley.

"These conventions stress leadership development and issues that affect the globe. This is an educational experience, some study for months. It really gives students a chance to explore the issues," said Vandenberg, who majored in Mid-East Studies.

GRCC Faculty Contract Approved

by Elizabeth Dudek
Times Contributing Writer

The Grand Rapids Community College Board of Trustees approved a six-year faculty contract at their meeting on Feb. 16. This faculty version was reached after teachers at GRCC had been working under a contract imposed by the administration. Jackson Day, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, commented, "Our primary goal is to provide quality instruction and an effective learning environment for our students, while at the same time maintaining fiscal responsibility to our community."

The old contract imposed by the administration cut overtime pay, and raises were not provided in the first year. The new contract for the college will be retroactive to the 1995-96 contract and will be implemented in the 2000/2001 school year.

The key issues surrounding the contract include clearer language, the addition of regular special conferences between management and faculty, an enhanced evaluation process, and a modified compensation and benefits package. GRCC student Nick Staal agrees with the new contract.

"The contract was a good thing. I am glad the teachers didn't have to strike. The study day the school held (in November) was a let down for students since new material couldn't be taught," said Staal referring to a down time students encountered before the contract was finally hashed out.

The details for the new contract are as follows: The new contract language reflects the reorganization of articles. Language was rewritten to clarify intent, to reflect current practices and be consistent with college priorities. The special conferences between management and the Faculty Association will be scheduled regularly to provide a forum for discussion on contract or other mutual issues of interest. The faculty evaluation process will be revised with the goal to have a new one in place by Oct. 1, 1998.

Items included in the new Compensation and Benefits Package include: a pay increase of 22% in base salary over six years, an overload contract hour cap set at 22 hours per academic year, increases in reimbursement for orthodontics and vision care, and a liberalization of the personal leave policy.

Another GRCC student, Chris Wilcox, stated his opinion about the new contract.

"I agree with the contract. Teachers kept working even though this whole thing was going on. They deserve it. They should be making more [money]. Teachers told students about what was happening but gave the students both sides of the story, they didn't force the issue on us. I was glad to see that the faculty didn't have to strike," said Wilcox.

GRCC is the oldest community college in Michigan. Established in 1914, the contract effects 236 full-time and 556 part-time instructors.

Babies Found in Dorm Basement

Police in Lawrenceville, VA, are interviewing students at a woman's college dormitory where the bodies of two newborns were found in the basement. Investigators suspect the infant boy and girl found dead at Saint Paul's College on Feb. 16 were twins because they appeared to have been born at the same time and place. It was not clear if the pair was born dead or alive, although they seemed to be full-term babies. A housekeeper at Saint Paul's College found one of the bodies early in the morning, and rescue workers found the second body when they arrived. The newborns did not appear to have suffered physical abuse before death.

Cadet Guilty in Murder of Boyfriend's Lover

Former Naval Academy midshipman Diane Zamora, who confessed to helping her fiancé kill his one-time lover and afterwards telling a story she was not involved, has been found guilty of capital murder. Zamora, 20, automatically received a life sentence because she is young. The jury deliberated for six hours Feb. 18, then needed only minutes the next morning to convict Zamora of the Dec. 5, 1995 slaying of 16-year-old Adrienne Jones. Zamora's boyfriend, David Graham will stand trial for murder some time in the next few months. Graham is believed to be the trigger man in the shooting that occurred apparently as a result of Zamora requesting that Graham prove his love for her by killing Jones.

Manhunt Continues for Abortion Clinic Bomber

Federal investigators in North Carolina are combing a remote and rugged area near the Great Smoky Mountains in search of the suspect in the nation's first fatal abortion clinic bombing. So far, they have not had any success in finding Eric Robert Rudolph, a 31-year-old ex-soldier and survivalist. Rudolph was last seen in the area a day after the explosion in Birmingham, Alabama that killed an off-duty police officer. Officials fear the area's remote location may prove to be the perfect hiding place.

Line Item Veto Ruled Unconstitutional

A United States district judge dealt a major setback to the power of the president by declaring the line-item veto law unconstitutional Feb. 12. This law gives the president the power to strike items from tax and spending measures without vetoing the entire bill. According to Time, U.S. District Judge Thomas Hogan ruled that the law violates the traditional balance of power between the branches of government. The law may have been adopted by Congress as an effective way to control runaway federal spending, but nonetheless violates the central tenants of the U.S. system of government. The line item veto, strongly supported by President Clinton, was passed in 1996. The ruling means the next step in the legal dispute will go directly to the U.S. Supreme Court, where Clinton believes the veto will be ruled constitutional.

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Black History Month is now nearing its completion, and as a white American, it served as yet another reminder of how much I cherish, and at times, abhor, this magnificent country of ours. On one hand, it is with pride that I live in a country that has the diversity of ethnicity and cultures to actually have such a celebratory month. On the other, the disappointment that such a month was even necessary.

As most should know, the American History we were taught was mostly white history. Some of this can be explained away by the fact that the majority of U.S. citizens, especially in the first 100 years, were white. But many whites and blacks, by an unwritten rule of perpetuating myths about white superiority, were probably not informed about black accomplishments.

For example, I stumbled across the purpose of Black History Month while teaching last week at a local Catholic Elementary school. When studying the pre-Revolution period in government class, I spoke to four English majors, and only one had heard of Phillis Wheatley. Actually, another one was in London that Wheatley published her work. Not the colonists. Was this just circumstance? Perhaps. She wrote it while in Europe. She was there because the family that owned her (she was a slave AND a poet) was gracious enough to recognize her potential and take responsibility for her education.

But Phillis Wheatley is an anomaly in Black History. She is actually studied—not because she was a civil rights leader or abolitionist, but because she was a brilliant poet, and her contribution to American culture is important.

Without these role models and examples, is it any wonder why our society has evolved further? Even to this day we are hindering black history through our education system. Who knows how many Phillis Wheatleys, Thurgood Marshalls, Langston Hugheses and Miles Davises there are caught in the trap of underfunded education. Before, America just didn't report black history. Now, we (I hope) inadvertently prevent it from even making itself.

Perhaps eventually enough of America will be educated about black American history that we can start having Black Future Month. Then dialogue will occur on how to improve the future of African Americans. Hopefully, they forgive, and don't exclude us, but encourage us to improve America that they will build.
Times View:
An Editorial Comment

"I may disagree with what you say, but I will defend to my death your right to say it." – Voltaire

In the rush to advance the name and prestige of Aquinas College, some may misjudge or jump to conclusions about the value of high technology and computer education. But careful consideration must be taken before embarking on the college on a trip down "fast" street.

Distance learning is the wave of the future and Aquinas has jumped on for the ride. Currently, projects are underway for at least three courses to be taught on the World Wide Web in the fall. The efficiency of such courses is unmatched, surely. But is it the quality what we should expect of higher education? We think this must be examined further before Aquinas embarks on such an adventure on more than an experimental basis.

Another concern arises with the completion of the technology upgrade itself. Windows 95 is being installed only months before Windows 98 is being released. We trust that College Computing has judged that Windows 98 is not sufficiently superior to the 95 version to warrant such a delay.

Also, Aquinas professors are in the planning stages of Internet courses before the proper technology is installed. The method of such a class will include students getting on the Internet (whether from campus access or through their own provider) and receiving the information in that manner. Remember though, in the current technology plan, residence halls are not currently on-line, and there is limited ability to upload websites due to FTP unavailability.

The innovative and technological approach is certainly one Aquinas should hope to be on the cutting edge of, but not without thorough investigation. At what cost should such impersonal courses be offered at AQ? We pride ourselves on our low student to faculty ratio and our individual attention to students and their development. Internet courses may produce less academic and thorough results and our individual attention to students and their development.

I wanted to write a nerve-grinding column about how I believed the Aquinas Student Senate’s money to be given to clubs on campus that are losing more than they are gaining. I’m sure we all know which ones are in question. It has been on the table for as long as I have been an AQ student or longer that WAQU lacks the drive and productivity it needs to continue receiving Senate money. There are endless arguments for both sides, and it seems the student body is fairly equal in its division. I happen to stand on the side of cutting losses and discontinuing the station until a better way can be found. That’s just where I happen to be.

The yearbook has a similar scenario. People make statements to the effect that it’s a big waste of time, or they think it’s a great idea and a wonderful keep sake of the college experience. I stand directly on the fence of this one. I think the concept is a good one, but I have seen the job done by past yearbooks, and I was not pleased about surrendering my $20 to own one. There are clubs on campus people complain about, and those that people think are doing really well. I’m sure there are those who believe this newspaper is a big waste of our beloved trees. Especially when some hot-head is given a guest column. That’s fine with me. After all, I was best on making people mad with this little purge.

My original intent was to present some controversy and say, “Hey, these clubs are becoming a burden to our student body and need to be reconsidered before given more money next year.” I was going to, but I found out what kind of hoops one must jump through before one can do something like that. I bowed out, realizing that the support was in the places where I needed discontent. And that’s fine too. I never intended to discredit the efforts of the people involved with any group on campus. I think anyone who takes initiative to do something outside of their required daily life and attempt to make a difference is to be commended. But, to abuse a cliché: battles must be chosen wisely. That’s all.

So I changed my direction. I decided to address the fact that people are on this campus doing their best to make a difference, and they are to be recognized for their efforts. I think it’s great. Unfortunately, sometimes things don’t go as we expect and sometimes things come unhinged.

Who knows, maybe whoever started the radio station knew there was no hope; maybe he/j she wanted an excuse to talk to a bunch of people at once without being talked back to. As far as the success or failure of these groups goes, I’d be a hypocrite to say they’re a waste of time (remember, this is coming from a guy who writes about concerts he went to). But I do hold the opinion that something has to change.

I knew, that by raising questions and inquiring about budget reports and check requests by certain clubs, I would be starting a ripple in a tranquil pond trying to keep its peaceful beauty. I wasn’t expecting people to assume a worst-case scenario, causing all those big waves to come crashing to shore.

I guess I have to relax, and remember that once the rock reaches the bottom, the water will eventually become calm again.

HEY! The Times is looking for next year’s editorial staff.
Have you met your hero? The man/woman/plant/etc. you look up to and model your life after? Well? I meet Henry Rodlin, face to face. If anyone knows anything about him, it’s that he’d like to be nobody’s hero. He’s not a celebrity making a buck off telling kids he’s not a role model, he simply avoids that kind of fame. But I met him, and before I could choke, I said what I went there to say: thank you.

(Now!!) Meijer, Vinyl Solution, Believe in Music, Arts’ Disc Shop, etc.: The Big Blue III is out. Make sure and pick up a copy of WKLQ’s local rock anthology featuring the best of West Michigan music talents. Thirty bands on THREE discs. Cost: A mere $9.45, proceeds going to charity.

(3/25) Check with Student Activities in the Carriage House for tickets to the last showing of “The Sound of Music,” which goes on tonight.

(3/27) AQ’s Donnelly Student Center: Dinner Night Club. “Murder Mystery” is the theme, and I always miss it. But I’m told it’s a lot of fun. Plus it’s on your meal plan anyway. Starts at 7pm.

(3/29) Calvin College Fine Arts Center: Ladysmith Black Mambazo. I don’t know much about this one, but it looks pretty cool. Jamaican performers (and for once it’s actually a real band). Starts at 7pm.

(3/30) The Orbit Room: Leping Bizkit w/ Clutch and Sevendust. L.B. opened for Korn a couple years ago, and Clutch is pretty wacky. Sevendust will make you cry. $13.50 through Ticketmaster (456-3333), must be 18.

(3/30) Cook Carriage House: Tom Cotter, comedian. Go check him out, get a good laugh. Start time: check with Student Activities (x4126).

(3/31) Intersection: Hair of the Dog. It might be worth checking out. Besides, live music is a shoe-in for a good time. Must be 18 and able to count to three.

(3/30) Orbit Room: Our Lady Peace w/ Headswim. Good times, excellent live show, can’t beat the price (considering you could have paid $50 for sold-out Puff Daddy tickets). $8.50 through Ticketmaster. 18+.

Dunn Captures Essence of Love, Life in Poetry Reading

by Elizabeth Dudek

Times Contributing Writer

Walking with an air of knowledge about him and a leather satchel on his shoulder, Stephen Dunn entered the crowded auditorium in the Class Room Building on Feb. 19. Dunn is the third poet to speak at Aquinas College as part of the Contemporary Writer’s Series. The series has been made possible by Dr. Tony Foster and his wife Linda Nemer-Foster, and has been a success from the start.

Stephen Dunn read from his poetry to a very attentive audience. His throaty voice told the audience, “I don’t really have a plan for the reading. I think I am going to move around a lot.” He read from various works. Scott Rippey, a freshman, said “It was interesting to see the way he portrayed life’s experiences. He has a different twist on how he thinks of things. If you paid attention, he made you think.”

A poem that pulled me to catch the attention of the audience was “Something Like Happiness.” Dunn read, his hushed voice saying, “The sweet combat of Love. Careful about deaths we won’t remember.” Another poem which captured the attention of the audience was “Secret Lives,” a poem about the secret life we all have which we won’t admit to. The poems that dealt with relationships between human beings were amazing. The way Dunn can capture the essence of the love between two people is something not every author can do. His voice, as a professor of English, raved about the poem’s reading. “It conveyed with a real compassion. The poetry was quite musical. He is a very wise person, able to convey the wisdom through poetry. Stephen also has a good rapport with the audience.”

He ended the reading with a poem which was plagiarized in a poetry contest by a fifty-year-old graduate student called “Walking the Marshland.” “I remember one of my friends who was judging the contest thought they knew the poem,” he said, “Of course, they went to look it up and it was mine. The only things they changed in the poem were my name and two words in the poem. I wrote this poem a note which said two words: quit it.” He continued, “the guy writes back and says ‘thanks for the advice’.” Lisa Farmer, who attended the poetry reading for inquiry and expression, said, “Everything he wrote was made into reality, it was something we all could relate to.”

Stephen Dunn is a nationally known poet who has won countless grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Theodore Roethke Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Academy of American Poets Award, and other awards. Dunn writes much of his work about family relationships, love among men and women, to everyday objects. Dunn, originally from New York, lives in New Jersey. He has written ten books and published a compilation of essays and memoirs. He has taught at Richard Stockton College since 1974.

Stephen Dunn’s poetry is on sale in the bookstore in Wege Student Center. On March 31, Naomi Shihab Nye will be the fourth poet in the series.

Play it Again, Black History Month Players

by Morgan Higginsbotham

Times Contributing Writer

Once again Aquinas has put on a thought provoking and entertaining Black History Month Play. The annual production was under new management this year. This year’s play was directed and produced by Stella Ferris the multidisciplinary director and Stacy Jackson, her assistant here at Aquinas College. Jackson stated “I think that the students did a superb job. They made my job much easier. I hope more students will become involved in years to come.” This was the first year that the duo put on an Aquinas production, and against monumental time constraints, a majority of the feedback suggests that they did an outstanding job. Senior Jennifer Youseff stated “I thought the play was very good. The actors and storyline were very good. It was very touching.” Freshman Candace Ruff echoed Youseff’s assessment of the performance. “There’s a lot of talent on AQ’s campus.”

Alice Children’s “Wine in the Wilderness” takes place in 1964 Harlem during a riot. It is a tale of deceit, misunderstanding, forgiveness, redemption, and enlightenment. The show starred AQ stage veterans Pierre Petiet, who has been involved with Black History Month productions for four years, and Theodore Henderson along with efforts by Carus Henry and Nikesha Griffin.

The play also showcased a bright new up and coming star, Schianti Dixon. Dixon’s portrayal of Oldtimer captivated the audience. Both Henry and Petiet were so realistic in their roles that they suggested heartbeats during their many exchanges of carefully worded dialogue. Henderson and Griffin also gave memorable performances as a married couple during the three night run of Wine in the Wilderness.

Between acts and as a show opener, Kimani Shillingford pleaded the crowd with some of the best lip-syncing/facial expression to hit the AMC in years. Those that missed this play really missed out.
Aquinas Jazz Festival to Celebrate 25th Anniversary

by Joe Theuerkauf
Times A&E Editor

It started when Bruce Early came to Aquinas from MSU to direct our budding Jazz Band, and got Grand Valley State University and what was then Grand Rapids Junior College to come and play with the AQ band. The setting was friendly, and since the AMC didn’t exist then, the Fieldhouse was used for more concert-type events, it fell into place inside the Wege Student Center.

"The place was packed," said Early in an interview regarding the upcoming 25th Jazz Fest. "People really turned out for that first performance, and over the years the attendance and audience turnout snowballed. Within eight years, we were at the rafters of the Wege Building," and had to move the event to the Fieldhouse.

With over 400 schools currently on the invitational mailing list for this event, it's easy to believe how quickly the Jazz Festival grew in popularity, giving a stigma for Aquinas' present musical reputation. It went from a few schools doing what amounted to public jam sessions to the present two-day phenomenon.

This year marks the silver anniversary of one of the five biggest jazz music festivals in the Midwest. There will be a heavy regimen of bands performing over the two days, going from Saturday morning to late Saturday afternoon, then beginning again Sunday shortly after lunch. On Saturday (March 21), several schools will perform, one after another, until about 6:00pm, where there will be a break for dinner before headliner Vince DiMartino (on trumpet) takes the stage with a special Aquinas treat. To commemorate the event, Bruce has worked with the Alumni Department to gather together an Alumni Band, who will perform with DiMartino and feature Gene Smith on trombone. It promises to be a spectacular gathering of talents.

Sunday (March 22) will be no different. Early estimates there is expected to be a fantastic turnout. Early estimates there is expected to be a spectacular gathering of talents. Sunday (March 22) will be no different. Early estimates there is expected to be a fantastic turnout. Early estimates there is expected to be a spectacular gathering of talents.

Running the sound boards will be two former adjunct teachers of the Studio Recording Class that Aquinas offers: Roger MacNaughton and Joe McCargar. They will be assisted by the Music Department’s current studio tech, Reuben Martin.

"This is a major undertaking, to say the least," said Early. "We are always looking for people to help out, and Doug Greenplate’s set-up crew has always been very helpful to us.

Planned to perform will be several university bands as well as smaller college bands, assorted local (and not-so-local) high school bands, and even a military band. "The Night Flight Jazz Ensemble from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio will be here," said Early. Universities will include MSU, U of M, CMU, WMU, Bowling Green, and GVSU. Many community colleges (including GRCC) will be present.

The bottom line is that you really should witness this event. You can go and just watch, or help out and be a part of making the 25th Anniversary Jazz Festival the best one yet. Look for a schedule of performances in our next issue.

Vince DiMartino will showcase his mastery of the trumpet on March 21 in the Fieldhouse.

Sunny Wilkinson will perform on Sunday, March 22 as the headliner for day two of AQ's 25th Jazz Festival. Wilkinson is best known for her vocal work in the jazz genre.

To sign up to help at the Jazz Festival (ticket-taking, seating, refreshments, etc.), see Sharon at the AMC during regular office hours. Students who sign up will be granted free admission to the festival and will receive a free Jazz Fest Staff t-shirt.

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Dream Weaver

Sleepy Saint Scores Big for Aquinas Basketball

by Damon Bouwkamp
Times Contributing Writer

Three tests and an interview in two days. Not a problem, right? It's all part of a typical college student's week.

Add to that a full time job, a full load of classes, caring for your baby daughter, basketball practice and games, and there might be a little time left for homework. Oh, and what about sleep? It can wait.

For Aquinas junior Nashune Hickman, many times it does. There is nothing normal about Hickman's week, but the 6'3" guard would have it no other way. Instead of seeing it as a difficulty, Hickman has accepted the challenge.

He succeeds regularly, which is what makes his juggling act even more remarkable. Each week, Hickman balances 40 hours of work at Grand Rapids Job Corp, 12 credit hours of classes, basketball practices on non-game days, games on the other days, coming home to a family including his 10 month old daughter NaChara, homework, and MAYBE sleep.

Still, the Grand Rapids native has been a key cog in the Saint's success.

"Sometimes, NaShune plays on 2-3 hours of sleep," said coach Rick Albro. "I give him all the credit in the world for what he is doing this year. In addition to taking time from his schoolwork and family we've even taken him out of his comfort zone as a scorer and given him the point position, but he continues to give this team the competitive toughness we've needed."

A Business Administration Sports Management major, Hickman started his basketball career as a younger in the inner-city of Grand Rapids, playing against his uncles. "I started playing all the time with my uncles at family reunions," said Hickman.

"We have a great family history of playing basketball." From the outdoor play-ground game, Hickman went to Grand Rapids Union High School where he became a two-time All-City League and All-Area performer. After graduating in 1991 he enrolled at Lake City Common Academy.

Lowe Moves Up on AQ's All-Time Scoring List

Senior is Second Best in History

by Justin Smith
Times Sports Editor

During the Saturday, Feb. 22 basketball game versus Madonna University, senior guard and co-captain Brandon Lowe became the second all-time leading scorer in Aquinas' history.

In his career, Lowe has shot for 2,037 points in 118 games for Aquinas. This gives Lowe a 17.3 points per game average. Lowe, a two time All-American, passed Dennis Alexander (1963-67) on the AQ stat record with his last basket of the game.

Lowe moved into second place on a three point shot that came in the second half. Shortly after, Head Coach Rick Albro stopped the clock for a time-out and recognized Lowe's efforts. He awarded Lowe a game ball and the announcer gave the news of Lowe's accomplishment to the fans.

Laray Hardy (1982-86) holds the number one spot on the Aquinas all-time scoring list with 2,042 points, and a 22.8 ppg average in 116 games. Aquinas went on to defeat Madonna 77-52, with 19 points from Lowe.

The win moves Aquinas to 7-5 in the WHAC and 19-10 overall. The Saints host a first-round playoff game against Spring Arbor on Wed. Feb. 25.
Hidden Treasure: Van Andel Arena Houses More than Hoops and Hockey

by Alan Plum
Times Sports Editor

The walls at the Van Andel Arena don't talk, but they do tell a pretty good story.

In addition to being the home of the IHL's Griffins, the CBA's Hoops, and most recently the Arena Football League's Rampage, the 16 month old arena also houses the Grand Rapids Sports Hall of Fame. Located on the inside walls of the arena's main concourse, this little known memorial recognizes some of Grand Rapids most celebrated sports figures. From past presidents to ping pong pool, this hall of fame has a little of everything.

Originally located in the Grand Rapids Civic Auditorium, later renamed Welsh Auditorium, the Hall of Fame was created by the Grand Rapids City Commission in 1972. It welcomed its first class that same year, and inducted eight more athletes in 1976. It disbanded in 1982 however, after the commission ran out of funds to finance it.

Thirteen years later, reforming the hall became a common dream of Jerry Shoemaker, and James Weiss Sr., who were brought together by Grand Rapids Press Sports Editor Bob Becker. In September 1995, the Grand Rapids Hall of Fame again became a reality. Shoemaker, an original member of the hall's board of trustees, became its president, while Weiss assumed the position of vice-president.

Weiss, an Aquinas College graduate, never doubted Grand Rapids' ability to support a hall of fame. "I've always felt that Grand Rapids was large enough, metropolitan enough, and had enough great athletes, that it should have a hall of fame," Weiss said about his motivation to recreate the abandoned institution.

The hall's historian, James Harper, agreed. "It was definitely something that was long overdue," he said.

Beginning with its first class of nine inductees in 1972, the hall sought to recognize Grand Rapids' many athletes who rose to national prominence. That first class included boxer Sunley Ketchel, who turned professional at age 16, and Marion Ladewig, a nine-time winner of the National Bowler of the Year award.

Another member of that class, two time American League Home Run Champion Wally Pipp, eventually surrendered his place in the New York Yankee line-up to a little known rookie named Lou Gehrig. It was Gehrig's first professional start, beginning a streak that allowed him to set the major league record for consecutive starts. In addition to the 29 plaques currently on display, plans are also being made to set up display cases with memorabilia from the hall's various members.

According to Harper, the cases will be on display somewhere in the arena, although an exact site has yet to be determined.

The funding that allowed the hall to reopen came from seed money donated from 30 sponsors such as the Amway Corporation, the Grand Rapids Hoops and Griffins, the West Michigan Whitescaps, and Old Kent Banks. Approximately $15,000.00 was raised to buy the new plaques and signs for the display. Money not used was donated to charity.

Six new members will be inducted into the hall in a ceremony at the Van Andel Arena on April 16, 1996.

Run by volunteers as a non-profit organization, the hall continues to sponsor events like the Old Kent Classic Men's Basketball Tournament which has featured Aquinas, Cornerstone, Hope, Calvin College and GVSU.

The tournament raised over $25,000 to help fund fifth and sixth grade basketball for local youth. By running this and other fundraisers, the hall is able to supplement its operations and upkeep, giving all additional money to charity.

All the hall's members have been nominated by public ballot in the Grand Rapids Press. The members are selected from the nominees by the hall's board of trustees. Using this system, the hall hopes to add four to six new members a year, although the members aren't set in stone, according to Harper.

"I guess we'll add members as the public sees fit," he said.

Spartans Miss Responsibility 101

"Saints," Cont'd from p. 10

slam dunks this season. U of T Arlington, a NCAA Division I school, plays in the Southland Conference against the likes of McNeese State, the alma mater of Detroit Piston guard Joe Dumars, Nichols State, and Stephen Ausin

"The major difference between Division I and the NAIA is that the players are a lot bigger and more athletic," said Handick. "I played against Theo Ratliff of the Philadelphia 76ers and Erick Strickland of the Dallas Mavericks. Playing in front of 25,000 fans is another adjust­ment.

After playing at U of T Arlington one year, Hickman was held up after he had difficulty with transferring credits. He decided to come home and to coach Albrow about playing with the Saints.

He transferred back to Grand Rapids and sat out a year at Aquinas, concentrating on the many other aspects of his life, knowing that one day he would be back on the hard court.

"The first semester this year was tough, not getting much sleep and all," said Hickman. "But my family helps out, my job is flexible and coach Albrow has helped out a lot as well. I also find strength in playing for my grandmother that recently passed away. I have dedic­ated this season to her.

And what a season it has been. Hickman is the Saints second lead­ing scorer (17 pts/game) and third leading rebounder (4.2 rebs/game). Opponents may notice him more at the other end of the floor, where he's tied for the team lead in both steals (16) and a (10).

His latest heroes came in the Saints' double overtime win against the Spring Arbor Cougars on Feb. 18. Hickman netted a team high 26 points, ensuring the Saints of home-court advantage in the first round of the WHAC play­offs. Due to their fourth place finish in the WHAC, the Saints will host the Cougars, who finished fifth, tonight at 7:00.

Basketball is only one facet of Hickman's life, where he has proclaimed himself a winner on and off the court. His efforts certainly haven't gone unnoticed.

"He is a very responsible and mature young man who per­forms a drill out of being a father, which is his first responsibility in his life," said Albrow. "He will soon take his degree and make a great contribution to his community in the inner city and make Aquinas College proud."

Not a bad position for a guy who needs some serious shuteye.
All Photos by Amanda Miscisin

"I would be extremely dedicated to this position. I know it's going to be hard work, but I have a lot of good ideas."

Campaign Focus:
Joelle Kwiatkowski
Major(s): Business and Economics
Class status: Freshman
Running for: Secretary

Kyle Baldwin
Running for: Chairperson
Class Status: Junior
Major(s): Business and Economics
Campaign Focus:
"I want to represent the student body. I want to improve communication between Senate and RHC. I also want to...put freshmen and sophomore senators on committees where they will be heard."
"I am energetic and 100% dedicated to Student Senate."

Campaign Focus:
Danielle Johnson
Running for: Chairperson
Class Status: Junior
Major(s): Communication Arts
Campaign Focus:
"The students' opinions are important to me. Not only do I want them to speak and have us hear what they're saying, I want them to be listened to--because hearing and listening are two different things."
"I'm not just talk. I have an idea, I have a thought, and I don't wait for those to happen. I take action."

Campaign Focus:
Amanda Spitzley
Running for: Vice-Chair
Class Status: Sophomore
Major(s): Business/Communication Arts
Campaign Focus:
"I am involved with Programming Board, so I would have the connection to do both Senate and that, making them work together."
"I have a great commitment to the student body and Senate."

Campaign Focus:
John Krajewski
Running for: Vice-Chair
Class Status: Sophomore
Major(s): Political Science
Campaign Focus:
"I enjoy being involved and I love Senate."
"I'm hard working, dedicated, and I care."

Campaign Focus:
Joanne Ferris:
Major(s): Psychology
Campaign Focus:
"I had a great year with Senate and I want to get more involved."
"I would be extremely dedicated to this position. I know it's going to be hard work, but I have a lot of good ideas."

VOTE THURSDAY FEB. 26

Cast Your Ballot:

Senate Debates Give Voters Insight

by Heather Karal
Features Editor

Who will represent you at Aquinas for the 1998-99 year? Who will you choose to voice your opinions and lead the group which must take necessary actions in the Aquinas Community? That question will soon be answered as the race for positions on the Aquinas Student Senate comes to a close.

The final debate is today, Feb. 25, in the Wege Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. At this event, students will be able to ask questions of all the candidates. Questions may be directed at all candidates at once, or be asked of specific individual candidates. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

The first debate between the candidates for officers of Aquinas Student Senate took place on Feb. 19. Approximately 30 Aquinas students came to hear a faculty panel consisting of Dr. Roger Durham, political science professor and advisor of AQ IMAGE, Dr. Michael Cushion, sociology professor; Dr. Rebecca Coogan, English professor and representative of the Women's Studies Center, and Stella Ferris, Director of the Multicultural Office, who each asked questions which all five Senate candidates answered.

Following are some of the questions asked at the first debate and a summary of the candidates' responses:

Dr. Cushion: If a Senator feels very strongly about a certain issue, but his/her constituents disagree with the Senator's view, how would you advise the Senator to vote on that issue?

Krajewski: Vote with your constituents.
Spitzley: Vote with your constituents.
Kwiatkowski: Vote with your constituents.

Dr. Durham: Should students have a voice in changes in academic policy?

Baldwin: Maybe students do not need to have a say about what is taught in a particular class, but students should definitely have a voice in many academic issues including the quality of courses.

Johnson: Yes, students should have a voice in academic policy. Some important issues for them to have a say in are the decisions to add more classes and incorporating gender issues into classes.

Krajewski: "Certainly students need to have input, but it has its boundaries."

Spitzley: "Students should have input... on anything they feel strongly about."

Kwiatkowski: "Students should definitely have a voice in academic issues."

Stella Ferris: How would you improve attendance at AQ events?

Baldwin: "As a former basketball player I know that it hurts when people don't attend events to support you. We need to give 100% of our support. AQ IMAGE is a great addition at Aquinas.

Johnson: We need to have a variety of events. "Getting people involved is a challenge, not a problem. A problem is something negative, but a challenge is just something we have to work through to find a solution."

Krajewski: "Aquinas students have a tendency to be apathetic... We need to get people pumped!" AQ IMAGE is doing a great job.

Spitzley: "Lead by example." The Promotions Committee is an important tool.

Kwiatkowski: Student involvement could be improved through communication. "The Promotions Committee is an important resource that many students are not aware of."