Aquinas Student Assaulted in Fuller Park
Suspect May be Prank Calling on Campus

by Maris Branchea
Times Editor-in-Chief

Fliers posted around Aquinas College last week left those who read them under the impression that a sexual assault had occurred on campus.

According to the flier, a female student reported an incident allegedly occurring near Donnelly Center and the Classroom Building on March 23 at 4 p.m.

Campus Safety Officer Mark McCann said the fliers were posted as a result of misinformation. The victim, an Aquinas student, revealed to the Grand Rapids Police that the assault occurred at Fuller Park, located north of Fulton on Fuller just a few blocks South of Michigan Ave.

The incident, described by McCann as a "physical assault with sexual innuendos" is being handled by Grand Rapids Police. According to McCann, Aquinas Campus Safety is no longer involved, but still concerned.

"We don't want people under the impression that it did happen on campus," McCann said. "But it has made people aware of what could always happen."

The victim has requested not to file charges against her attacker. But just as Aquinas students may be relieved to find out the incident did not occur on the premises, this may not be an isolated event.

According to McCann, the perpetrator on March 23 matches the description of a man who has been bothering other female students.

"We have reason to believe this person may be the person calling more than one girl on campus," McCann said.

The caller has been giving the same name during harassing phone calls, and any student who receives such a call should contact Campus Safety. The attack at Fuller Park involved a white man with dark curly hair driving a white pick-up truck.

According to McCann, the truck has red interior and several identifiable objects hanging from the rear view mirror. These objects include a multi-colored peace symbol, a cross with a black leather necklace, and a "green alligator type puppet."

The incident hit close to home for many Aquinas students, including some who thought the attack had occurred on campus.

"It scares me, that's for sure," said freshman Mary Holmes, "but it doesn't surprise me. (Assaults) happen everywhere."

Freshman Nicole Kwiatkowski said she wasn't that surprised either when she read the flier.

"This just makes me more aware," she said.

Other Aquinas students were unfazed by reports of a campus attack, and even more so when they learned that the incident actually occurred in Fuller Park.

"The campus has the same amount of security for me that it has always had," said sophomore Mario Camilla.

Campus Safety would like anyone who sees the white truck to contact them as a precaution.

Charismatic Religious Speaker Visits Campus

by Angela Bergman
Times Staff Writer

Reverend Dr. Robert M. Franklin advocated strong religious leadership and activism of American faith communities March 17 at the Aquinas Kreischer Art and Music Center. The President of the Interdenominational Theological Center of Atlanta, Franklin lectured as the fifth speaker of the annual Monsignor Charles W. Popell Lecture Series.

Lisa Mitchell, program director for the Grand Rapids Area Center for Ecumenism (GRACE), felt that Franklin was a good choice for a speaker.

"Monsignor wanted the monies from his estate to be used to bring in theologians from various denominations to speak," Mitchell said, "which showed his commitment to ecumenism and unity."

Franklin asserted that, "the winds of change are blowing in African-American churches," and envisioned that "faith communities are the key to reversing symptoms of despair and transforming lives."

He supported his theology by illustrating the emerging African-American clergy, establishing a hierarchy of social ministry, and providing an exemplar for the public theologian.

Social ministry, he said, entailed See "Franklin," p. 2

Learning to Lead
Students Tap Resources of Leadership Experts

by Julie Hilton
Times Contributing Writer

Over 50 students gave up the first Saturday of spring all in the name of leadership.

"Lead On!" the first annual Aquinas Leadership Conference, was held in the Lacks Center for Graduate Studies, formerly the Classroom Building, on Saturday, March 21.

"I hope you maintain your commitment to reversing despair and to transforming lives." President Harry Knopke welcomed the gathering of Aquinas and other local college students led by emphasizing the importance of having leadership qualities.

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"Franklin," Cont'd from p. 1

"basic charity, sustained support, social service delivery, political advocacy, and comprehensive community development." This means direct aid to the needy and enabling people to become self-reliant through counseling and support for those moving off welfare. Also, providing child and elder care as well as literacy and job-training programs, "representing the voice of the voiceless."

Reverend Alfred S. Luke, Director of Race Relations at the Christian Reformed Church in Grand Rapids commented, "I appreciated the clarification about how the faith community can't take the place of government...the state has the responsibility for the poor and can't just shove it off to the church."

According to Franklin, a public theologian is an "anointed spiritual guide, grassroots intellectual, civic enabler, and community development steward." Legitimacy of the leader is granted by the faith community. The leader's vocation is "to take learning into the streets, probe beyond the surface, and disturb the equilibrium...political advocacy would empower local citizens."

Tom Hula, husband of continuing education student Dianne Hula, said, "I always need that reminder that we're all in this together...and to be in it for yourself is one of the big problems today."

Franklin inspired traditional-aged students Dan Timmis and Regina Lungaro. "It was riveting," said Timmis, a sophomore. "I think his keys to leadership really got me. It was incredible. He made it so tangible and within reach. He showed that we all have the ability to lead."

Senior Lungaro related, "His seven qualities of leadership would be a good guideline for a value-based, faith-based leadership style. I like the concepts of grassroots intellectuals and civic responsibility."

Franklin added, "Most Americans are on a journey of profound spiritual hunger where there is a purpose, identity, and sense of needling in life...we still have the capacity to be moved and inspired by authentic moral leadership that challenges us to suspend our cynicism."

Dominican Sister Mary Euphemia Popell, sister to Mon- signor Popell, enjoyed the lecture. "It was very challenging," she said. "He was a good speaker. It pro­vided thinking, and that's impor­tant."

Franklin received his Master's of Divinity degree from Harvard Divinity and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago Divinity.

Music Lessons: Focus on French Female Composers

by Heather M. Karal
Times Features Editor

It was more than a concert. It was more than a history lesson. It was an expression of the struggle which women have endured in order to gain recognition. And it was beautiful.

The Aquinas Lecture series was much more than a lecture on Tuesday, March 25 when six women faculty members pre­sented "The History and Music of Four French Women Com­posers" as part of a recognition of Women's History month. The group included the music of a composer whose works date as early as the Seventeenth Century, two Nineteenth/Early Twentieth century Composers, and a contemporary composer.

Mary Hurd (piano) performed sections of Elisabeth-Claude Jacquet de la Guerre's Semele. The Semele is a cantata about a mythological story of Zeus and his lover. Before performing the piece, McCargar gave a brief bi­ography of the composer and a detailed explanation of the piece itself. The piece itself was remark­able, and equally impressive were the credentials of the performers.

See "Female," p. 12

Students Speak Out on Proposed Schedule Changes

by Brigid Bulger
Times Contributing Writer

Friday classes may be just around the corner, but students will have said something about them. On Wednesday, March 25, at 10:30 p.m., Dr. Gary Kieff, Dean of Academic Affairs met with students at the Cookbook Carriage House to discuss the proposed schedule changes. Approximately 78 students attended the event, making their concerns known.

Kieff outlined the four major changes that the new proposal includes. First, one class period will meet during lunch on Mondays, Wednes­days and Fridays. Classes that meet twice a week will meet on Monday-Thursday and Tuesday-Friday giving teachers and students more time to prepare between classes. The proposal also eliminates ten o'clock classes.

Kieff addressed the reasons for the proposed changes. First, during certain times of the day, there were not enough classrooms available. The new schedule will create more usable class periods. Also, it will increase the number of classes available and minimize the overlapping of classes.

Kieff is concerned that if he leaves the schedule as it is, that he will have to double the class sizes or have classes starting at 7:00 a.m. Not all students are excited about the proposed changes. Sophomore Stephanie Zelisko expressed a concern that there is no longer an open lunch for clubs and organizations to host meetings. Kieff explained that at most other schools, if one desires to participate in an extracurricular activity, then one does not schedule a class at the time of that organization's meetings.

Another concern was that some sports compete on Fridays and are gone for the entire day. Kieff said that he has spoken with the Athletic Department and that for most sports, Fridays are mostly evening events or all day tournaments, which are rare. Later, he also said that the coaches are happy with the current schedule.

Other concerns about the proposal included the fact that most students currently use their Fridays to return home, or to spend the day working off campus. Also, the class of 2000 is concerned that the changes might affect their possibility of graduating on time. (The proposal, if passed, will take effect in fall of 1999.) Kieff said that he will bring these concerns back to the division coordinators.

Not all students are opposed to the proposed changes. Shante Mangrum noted that Friday classes are not unusual saying, "Other schools are doing it." She then posed this question, "What's wrong with a few classes on Fridays?"

The comments and concerns mentioned will be brought to the division coordinators meeting this week. On April 8, the Academic Assembly will also be informed about student concerns and will vote on the proposed changes. There are no plans for students to vote on the proposal.

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Plans Finalized for Campus Apartments

by Mary Kropchik
Timez Contributing Writer

Construction on three new apartment buildings will begin at the end of this school year. The buildings will be located north of Regina Hall next to the Dominican parking lot. They will hold eight two-bedroom apartments, with each apartment housing four students. The 900-square foot apartments will also have a combined living room, kitchenette, air conditioning, dish-washer and furniture.

Head of Residence Life Randy MacGeorge is presently putting together a student committee to plan the furnishings and facilities each apartment will offer. They will also be wired for cable, the internet and Aquinas' own computer system.

The apartments will be finished around January of 1999 and will be ready for full-time student living by the following summer. Apartments will be rented first to upperclassmen. There has also been a proposal to designate the top floor of each apartment building as Residence Service Volunteer Program (RSVP) housing like the project house in East Area. This is due to the planned demolition of Burfield Hall in one year. That space will then be used for additional parking.

The cost to live in the apartments will be slightly higher than living in the dorms; $320 per month in the new apartments as opposed to $275 per month in the dorms. It is still unclear if the billing process will be monthly or by the semester.

President Harry Knopke is enthusiastic about the upcoming construction.

"I think it's going to be a marvellous project for the college," said Shefferly. "Our goal is to increase enrollment and we hope this will help. We also want to get the word out that Aquinas is an excellent school and build it up."

The apartments are just one of many changes planned for the future of Aquinas. During the summers of 1999 and 2000, all residence halls will undergo complete renovations.

The halls will receive new plumbing, new bathrooms, internet access and cable. The Manor House attached to the Classroom building will be torn down to build the new Jarecki Center for Graduate Study.

"I'm excited about providing new housing for our growing number of students," said Knopke. "We want the new facilities to match Aquinas' reputation."

One reason for the construction of additional housing is to handle the increase in the Aquinas student population. Starting this year, a cap of 340 students will be put on the freshmen class.

Financial Vice-President Bill Shefferly is also looking forward to the new changes.

President Harry Knopke announced the approval of campus apartments during an interview with campus radio WAQI. WAQI will accept phone questions in a second interview with Knopke on April 21 from 8-9 p.m.

The Dark Mystery of Dark Matter

by Melissa Ann Pline
Timez Campus News Editor

What do you see in the night sky?
The bright stars or the vast blackness?
On Saturday, March 21 visiting astronomer Dr. Mario Mateo focused on the blackness in his talk titled "Strange Dark Maters."
The blackness he spoke of is the dark matter in the universe that can't be seen but appears to be affecting the behavior of stars at the edges of galaxies.

According to Mateo, dark matter is searched for by searching dwarf galaxies, how they evolve, and their relationship with larger galaxies such as our own Milky Way galaxy, Aquillas in searching for an explanation to the "dark matter problem."

"I don't know what dark matter is," said Mateo. "If you do, please tell me. I would love to see the resolution of this issue."

Mateo was a guest speaker co-sponsored by the Aquinas Physics department and the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomy Association. For nearly 12 years, Aquillas and G.R.A.A. have co-hosted visiting astronomers.

"It's a complex concept, but Dr. Mateo explained it in a way that made sense," said Moira Boehm about dark matter.

"If you do, throw away the formulas that work so perfectly for everything else?"

Throughout history, Mateo said, there have been a number of these emerging crises. First, Uranus' orbit, it was discovered, didn't follow the predicted path. Astronomers explained the inconsistency as dark matter suggesting the presence of another planet. Soon Neptune was discovered and the mystery was solved. Later, Mercury's orbit was discovered to be off, too.

This dark matter problem was later solved by Einstein's Theory of Relativity.

Today, the dark matter problem has to do with the behavior of stars near the edge of galaxies. It has been discovered that these stars do not revolve around the galactic core at rates slower than those nearer the galactic center.

Normally, objects revolving around a center of an attracting mass take a longer time to complete their orbit if they are further from the center, than if they are closer to it.

So what is causing the stars unusual behavior? Mateo suggested the possibility of comets, planets or black holes. But the research continues.

"Throughout history, people have found small discrepancies that couldn't be explained using the science of the day," said astronomy professor Charles Frydrych.

"Now, we've found a small discrepancy that we're calling dark matter. We see the effects but can't see it."

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**Point**

How easy is it to feel safe on any college campus where students are not really sure what kind of crime is taking place? How easy is it to feel confident that vehicles will not be vandalized, dorms will not be broken into, or that a dream date will not turn out to be dangerous, when there is no public record of these incidents?

It’s very easy to feel invincible. That’s why every college student who cares about safety and crime prevention is compelled to support the Accuracy in Campus Crime Reporting Act of 1997. This legislation guarantees the right to know the truth about campus crime in every institution across America.

Although most colleges are fairly accurate in reporting crime statistics, not all of these institutions make them available to the public. The legislation would require campus safety officials to keep a public log of specified crime incidents, documenting the date, time, place, and nature of the crime. Compiling the log may cause campus security another headache, but it will be well worth it.

Yes, it’s more difficult to feel safe under the new legislation. Maybe a great deal of concern has been raised by Angela Bergman, Times Staff Writer, in her article titled “Campus Crime: A Matter of Public or Private Record?”

**Counterpoint**

Doing anything with “all holds barred” is reckless because some holds are held for a reason. Similarly, the H.R. 715 Bill that Congress is currently grappling with is an example of mindlessly, wrongly focused good intentions.

The general purpose of the bill is to make colleges and universities safer places by publishing the information surrounding campus crimes. Thus the the populace is informed and aware of the safety climate of the institution in question, and potential offenders should be deterred by the threat of publicity of their crimes.

It is always a good feeling to “crack down on crime,” and anyone who would ask me if I wanted a safer campus, I would readily answer yes, but as residents and students of a college campus, we need to consider the implications of making public our every crime. The argument against the proposal is not simply an institution’s fear of airing its dirty laundry. Especially when one considers small schools like Aquinas, where a list of crimes committed would most likely be disappointing. No, this is not my argument.

One fault of the bill is that it lumps all colleges and universities with different existing policies and needs (based on size, history, and location) all into the same group. Stanley O. Ikenberry, President of the American Council on Education, said that all campuses are unique and are doing an excellent job of campus safety using the publication/punishment policies that are “tailored to the circumstances and needs of each campus.”

Advocates of the bill tend to cite an end to on-campus cover-ups, suggesting that crimes are brushed under the rug because of loose accountability on the part of officers, Ikenberry says, quite to the contrary, that he knows of “no college or university president who would retaliate against their victims. Colleges and universities groups could also pose a threat to campus peace.

Another concern is that the bill calls for every campus official (administrators, deans, disciplinary officers, athletic department officials, housing officials, councilors) to students who might report crime to divulge everything for public ears. This means either sloppier reports by people who are not trained to handle crime and punishment, or “a complex and expensive training burden,” as Ikenberry puts it.

The bill is riddled with flaws. Especially when we realize that one size does not fit all when it comes to dealing with crime in a college setting, we can consider the methods of crime prevention that already exist. Is Aquinas laden with crime and fear? The school needs to do an okay job.
New Police Chief Takes Reins of Leadership at GRPD Today

by Elly Gusmano and Heather Young
Times Contributing Writer and Local/Editor

The new Grand Rapids Police Chief is coming soon and he wants to visit Aquinas. Harry Dolan is interested in Aquinas because of its Catholic identity, and the community of Grand Rapids because it offers opportunities. Already, said Chief Dolan in a phone interview, "I have been overwhelmed by letters and calls from folks from Grand Rapids."

On March 6, Grand Rapids City Manager Kurt Kimball announced the appointment of Harry Dolan as the new Chief of Police. Dolan, a towering 6'8" inches tall, grew up in the New York area, and had extensive experience with the Police Department there since his father was a police sergeant. He was formerly the Chief of Police in Lumberton, North Carolina, in addition to being a deputy sheriff in Asheville, North Carolina. Dolan received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Western Carolina University, and his Master's Degree from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in Organizational Leadership and Management.

After a series of interviews with the city's Executive staff, Dolan beat out four other finalists for the position. Dolan was sought after for other job opportunities, so a quick decision was necessary to assure that the family man from North Carolina would take the position. Dolan said that it matters little that he is not from the area because the people of Grand Rapids were "looking for change," and such a competitive nationwide search was necessary.

In a press release from the Police Department, Manager Kimball said, "I am pleased that the selection process has successfully concluded with the appointment of Harry Dolan as Grand Rapids' new Police Chief." Kimball also cited Dolan as a "visionary and effective community leader" that also closely matched the profile of what many citizens in the Grand Rapids community said they wanted in a Police Chief. Dolan said that he will work on that "vision" in meeting with the police department, the city manager, and the community over the next couple of months so that he can gather a sense of direction. Dolan's duties begin today.

U.S. Senate Bill Brings Public Hearing to Aquinas

Aquinas students had a voice in national regulatory reform recently. On Monday, March 23, 1998, at 7:00 pm, the voices of Aquinas College, Grand Rapids and Michigan sounded together in a public hearing, held in the AQ Donnelly Center. The topic was Senator Carl Levin's Regulatory Reform Bill of 1998, otherwise known as S.918. The event was hosted by the East Lansing chapter of Clean Water Action (CWA), a non-profit organization with 750,000 members nationwide, as well as the Students Against the Violation of the Environment (S.A.V.E.) at Aquinas College.

According to Mae McDonald, from CWA, Senate Bill 918 affects the regulatory process in our nation. The bill proposes regulating or re-regulating for every existing or future regulation in our country. This includes standards such as those for our water quality, worker health/safety, food and highway safety. He says the bill will subject every U.S. regulation to a "Peer Review Panel" for evaluation. On this panel will sit representatives from industry, which can afford to grant its employees time away from work to review all national regulations.

However, the largest environmental organizations, such as the EPA, have but a fraction of the lobbying dollars to support such representatives. This makes it impossible for many public interest groups to sit on the review panel. He maintains that if S.918 passes, only those people with financial interests will be deciding on issues affecting those in the public interest. These facts helped participants form arguments at the hearing. Monday evening featured a central panel of speakers: Rick Tormala, Regional Director for Carl Levin, Tom Leonard, Executive Director of the West Michigan Environmental Action Council (WMEAC); Lana Boldt, Region 1 Director of the UAW; and Cyndi Roper, Michigan Director for Clean Water Action.

The audience was composed of student representatives from S.A.V.E. and the Social Action Committee (SAC). In addition, several members from the city and state attended, including members of CWA, the Michigan Environmental Council, and the Kalamazoo Environmental Council. Andy Smith, a student at Aquinas, said, "It seems like this could be another loophole for businesses and polluters." Unfortunately, Smith thought, even regulations which currently succeed in protecting people will be analyzed to determine if they are "worth it."

Several audience members felt unjustified with statements from Tormala, who was a member of the panel who apologized for not being an expert on the bill, Maris Kryzewski, the SAC Coordinator at Aquinas, felt, "We didn't get real answers. It would have been helpful having someone...who was more knowledgeable." Tami Orendorff, an Aquinas S.A.V.E. member concluded, "I'm still unsure of my opinion of the bill. I don't think I heard enough evidence from the supporters to make a decision yet."

Tormala assured participants that the Senator has already met with other public interest groups.

By Jennie Larmus
Times Contributing Writer

Five Killed in Fire Drill Shooting

Four students and a teacher were killed after an ambush at Westside Middle School in Jonesboro, Ark., on March 24. Mitchell Johnson, 13, and his cousin Andrew Golden, 11, opened fire on their classmates and teachers after allegedly being told to exit the school with a false fire alarm. Eleven others, 10 students and a teacher, were wounded in the attack. Johnson had warned friends a day earlier that "he had a lot of killing to do" after he was jilted by a girl. Authorities said as many as 27 shots were fired from the nearby woods as students and teachers scrambled to get back into the locked building. The two boys were caught near the school with handguns and rifles. Authorities are working on trying to identify the adults as suspects because under the state's current system they could be released from custody at age 18.

EDA Approves Measure for Safer Chicken

Salmonella and other harmful microbes could be reduced or eliminated from chickens by a new technique that grows harmless bacteria inside them. The Food and Drug Administration approved the use of E. coli, which is harmless, two weeks ago. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced the breakthrough in a speech, but the technique will not be ready for public use until May. Tests on 80,000 chicks had reduced the presence of salmonella to zero with only one application. The department is now focusing on whether it can prevent salmonella from getting into eggs.

Sappy Song for a Sinking Ship gets Sapper

It seems like America can't get enough of the Titanic hype—thus far, except for Randy Price, when he left high school choir director set out to break the record for nonsong playing, he made the mistake of taking requests. Everyone present at the Charlotte, NC, fund raiser wanted to hear the film's theme song My Heart Will Go On. "I played it 40 times in 50 hours," Price said told USA Today. "There has got to be a psychosis assigned to it. I now hate everything about that movie. I swear, I never want to hear that song again."

Price played for fifty hours straight, collapsing hourly pledges to raise money for the Northside Christian Academy's choir.

Not Such a Great Lake Afterall

The five Great Lakes can share some research funding with Lake Champlain, but not their great name. There are five Great Lakes, not six. Senators agreed March 25 in a compromise measure which deleted the name of Vermont's Lake Champlain as one of the "greats." The senators agreed Lake Champlain will be known as a "cousin." The controversy started March 6 when President Clinton signed a bill into law that designated Lake Champlain as a Great Lake for the purpose of compensing for research funds under the National Sea Grant Program. The decision to make Lake Champlain "not-so-great" was made after the legislation that other landlocked states might also try to dump some Sea Grant funds.

Kareem Comes Clean at Canadian Border

Former Los Angeles Lakers center Kareem Abdul-Jabbar found himself in trouble with the law after surrendering a small amount of marijuana to U.S. Customs officials at a Canadian airport. March 15, Abdul-Jabbar was stopped after a drug-sniffing dog smelled something on him. He turned over the marijuana, which amounted to six grams, without protest. Abdul-Jabbar, the NBA's career leading scorer, said Customs officers at Toronto's Pearson International Airport told him they had migraine headaches, and declared recommend he use the drugs. Abdul-Jabbar was released without condition by Customs officers who said they handled the case as an administrative situation, not a criminal one.
To the Editor:

I would like to address some of the legitimate concerns about the web courses planned for Fall 1998 that were expressed in a February 25, 1998 AQ Times Editorial. The concerns can be summed up as 1)Are we hastily jumping on the bandwagon without due consideration?, and 2)Will the quality of Aquinas instruction be compromised in the process?

I should say at the outset that distance learning is hardly a fad, as opined. Educational television courses have been offered for 30 years, and correspondence courses even before that. Site to site satellite, cable and land line courses have been offered for years.

Today, many colleges and instructors not only offer web courses on academic subjects, but colleges offer online courses to assist teachers to construct online courses. So, not only is there a long history of distance learning, but there is a wide and deep variety of resources in order to construct the best possible product.

As part of that effort to draw on experience and not create web classes in a vacuum, we are seeking a student to join the “webslingers” and help plan the courses. Any student who is interested can e-mail Michael Cushion at: cushenw@aquinas.edu.

You are right to question why the college is doing this, but you are selling the college short to imply that we are doing this to be trendy. Marketing is a way of life in late 20th century higher education, but our purpose goes beyond that. In fact, we have set forth our purpose in the following statement: The purpose of our working group is to explore the adaptation of the world wide web medium to college teaching in a way that meets or exceeds the current standards of course presentation at Aquinas. Not only will we draw upon the experiences of those who have preceded us, but we will build a foundation upon which others at Aquinas may follow.

Our web-based instruction will create an active learning environment in which students will master content and develop skills. The web course format will strive to create an electronic learning community that maintains the primacy of content and learning over the technological format.

Through the process of creating and presenting web-based courses we will extend the reach and reputation of Aquinas by attracting new students and making Aquinas more accessible to those currently enrolled.

As you can see in the statement, we do not intend to sacrifice AQ quality to be part of the crowd. We want to make AQ courses accessible and convenient, but we fully recognize the risk that people might mistake convenience for easy or, as you put it, diluted. We intend to let students and other know that web courses at Aquinas are not lesser entities nor are the students taking them 2nd class citizens. You are also right in questioning the extent to which we can maintain the personal touch that is the hallmark of the college. The limited class enrollment of these web courses is designed to ensure the ability of the instructor to appropriately attend to all of the students’ instructional needs. Each instructor is evaluating the requirements for personal contact as they apply to the course she is planning to offer and will build in face-to-face meetings, as appropriate. It is appropriate for students and faculty to raise questions about course quality and instructor accessibility in any course.

It is no secret that Aquinas is not at the cutting edge of Technology utilization. However, the technology, as it currently exists on campus, will allow for the effective implementation of and access to the courses.

If we wait until there is unanimous consensus by the AQ community to move forward, the project will never occur. In the final analysis, the quality of the courses will have to be judged by those who have completed the courses. We will assess these web courses even more thoroughly than on-site courses are evaluated and use those evaluations to ensure and enhance the quality of the offerings.

Sincerely,

The Web Course Design Group
aka “Webslingers”
Michael Cushion
Allene Keef
Breni Chestley
Kim Kenward

To the Editor:

First, I wish to thank you for your article in the March 18 edition about the death of two Dominicans in an automobile accident. Much of your information seems to have come from an article in the Grand Rapids Press, but you added recollections of a person who knew Sister Marie Emile. If you had realized that Dominicans could provide information about Sister Mary Angus, you would have discovered a close Aquinas connection.

From 1943 through the 1950s, Sister Mary Angus provided food service for both resident women and the rest of the college. During most of those years she cooked in two locations. She served breakfast for residents of Marian Hall. Between 1945 and 1955 her campus operations were from a tiny kitchen in the basement of the Administration (now Academic) Building. When the Administration was completed, she had a larger, more modern kitchen.

Sister Angus always looked out for the interests of her student helpers and at times put on fund-raising spaghetti dinners with student help. In 1960 Saga Food Service took over the college cafeteria, and Sister went as food service director to various houses of the Dominican sisters.

To do justice to a former member of the Aquinas family, I think you might print some of this information in your next issue. Thank you for your consideration.

Jean Milhaupt, OP
Archivist

See "Letters," p. 7

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Page 6
The history of this country has been shaped by the efforts and sacrifices of millions of people. Some have contributed more than others, but few have taken away more than they have given. In no particular order, here is a list of the "Greatest American Heroes."

Robert Kennedy-A child given all the tools, name, money and looks to contribute to society, but his idealism, vigor, and vision personified a generation of leaders who have molded, usually for the better, sometimes for the worst, the last 30 years.

Earl Warren-True a surprise Supreme Court Justice, in the sense that this conservative Republican Governor- turned jurist- pushed through landmark court decisions that found segregation illegal, increased civil liberties, and paved the way for a more progressive America.

Molly Dewson-Who, you say? None other than the woman who almost singlehandedly provided hundreds of thousands of women (including Frances Perkins) with patronage jobs during FDR's first term. She was responsible for rewarding those women who paid their dues in the Democratic Party, and set the ball rolling for the inclusion of women in the game of politics and policy making.

Duke Ellington-One of the main men of the original American art form- jazz. This Big Band leader kept America hopping during the war years, and created a sound that can be created only through heart, talent, and elite musicians.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton-Women and men have her to thank for doubling the size of the voting age population. She fought for women's rights for over 50 years, and was the inspiration for hundreds of women to continue her fight for women's suffrage, which was not realized until 18 years after her death.

Malcolm X-Black civil rights leader who led the Nation of Islam and militantly promoted the rights of blacks. He presented arguments that vehemently challenged the racism pervading society, and championed black nationalism and pride.

Harry Truman-Our last "Farm boy" President was the one to lead us from isolationism to interventionism after the disaster of WWII. His simple living and straightforward talk are not emulated enough today, and his Marshall Plan helped us get the spoils.

[to be continued...]

I am writing this letter on behalf of WAQU in response to your A&E Editorial on February 23. After careful review and of the editorial, WAQU realizes that students are not fully aware of the work we have put into running the station around.

WAQU has given away dozens of CDs and t-shirts from least five different new local bands that have performed around the area including The Intersection. We have also given away free concert tickets to The Beach Boys at Van Andel Arena and free movie passes to A Life Less Ordinary.

WAQU has provided studio services for clubs and organizations to create commercials on upcoming events around campus to be played during broadcasting times.

WAQU has also done special recordings and helped the Dance Team create mixed music tapes for the great routines performed during halftime of the home basketball games. All of this has been accomplished on a $500.00 budget.

We have worked with local stores and businesses by paying for commercials run during shows and to gain some of the profits given away by us. Commercial are set to start running for the next school year.

This has been an exciting year for the station. Equipment slowed down the start of our broadcasting. Now, we have new executive board members and a new advisor who is very familiar with the broadcasting industry. He has helped us get set up contacts with local stations. Some of our new programming includes live-on-air interviews with Dr. Harry Kropka for a special question and answer forum in which students can call in and ask questions of the President. We will be expanding this program next year.

We have also worked on our staff development by bringing in local experts, such as Phil Tower from WGR, to talk about FCC regulations and radio broadcasting. We have put together a proposal to revamp the station to eliminate commercials run during broadcasts over the telephone lines and interrupting listener conversations.

We are also planning to purchase a remote broadcasting unit to broadcast both local and road subletic events and organized activities around campus, increasing our potential to serve the Aquinas community. Our plans for 1998-99 will be presented to student senate.

WAQU is not only expanding and improving its ability to provide quality programming to the student body while giving volunteers real-time experience on a growing communication network, as well as provide the Aquinas community with a uniquely run station with the simple motto "WAQU is run by the students, for the students." We are excited about the 1998-99 academic year. If you have any suggestions or if you would like to get involved, please contact us.

Sincerely,
Malvo Camill
WAQU Student Manager
April 1, 1998

A Capella Group Regency Heats Up the Cook Carriage House

The Cook Carriage house rocked Thursday night, March 18, with the hot R&B a capella group Regency. The five talented men are from Baltimore, Maryland. Milton Amet, Aubrey Brown, Dwanye McNeal, Wayne McNeal, and Isiah Simons make up the group. They have been singing together for 14 years. Ames said that they started out in the Musical Theater in high school. They became a musical band, then they decided to become an a capella group. They have toured all over the United States. Kimberly Thomas, Aquinas senior, said, "They were great! We should have groups like Regency come to Aquinas all the time."

Like Thomas, many other students had a good time watching Regency sing everything from oldies (but goodies), to Hip Hop songs. An imitation of Usher let the crowd know that they were "the bomb." People were up dancing and singing with the group of fine gentlemen.

One student in particular, sophomore Kimani Shillingford, was the highlight of the night, when he got up and sang a Boys II Men song with the group. The women in the crowd went crazy. The group was so good and well-received they did one extra song than planned. Freshman Michelle Vera agreed that the group was "the bomb!"

Group member Brown said, "I would love to come back to Aquinas. The crowd was so live I could hardly believe it!"

The group spends nine to ten months on the road. Some of the members were married, but others were available bachelors. In an interview of one of the singers said that if there was one thing that he wanted to pass along to the students of Aquinas about Regency it is that, "Regency is drug-free, and alcohol-free."

The group was brought to campus by members of Programming Board. Regency is currently headed to Ohio for many more performances. If they keep up the energy they had here, Ohio better watch out.
Celebrating 25 Years of Jazz

The Aquinas College annual jazz festival took place March 21-22. The weekend celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of a show that has grown throughout the years. Highlights of this year's show included the Aquinas Alumni Jazz Band with Gene Smith (trombone), Vince DiMartino (trumpet), and the vocals of Sunny Wilkinson. The show also included the Air Force Band of Flight: Night Flight Jazz. Over 25 high schools, colleges, and universities took part in the collaborative effort that brought jazz to life for those in attendance.

Spacehog

The Chinese Album

Sire/Warner Bros.

by Joe Theuerkauf

Times A&B Editor

You may not realize it, but you've probably got a Spacehog song stuck in your head. Well, I do. Several, actually. Beginning with the first single from this album, "Mungo City," it's just too catchy and irresistible.

Spacehog didn't really impress me with their first album, but I'm convinced that was due to poor choice in a radio single. Their new disc, The Chinese Album, gives a much better impression than their freshman effort, maybe due to a change in producers. In this shot the band shows they are just as goofy as some of their lyrics, but endearing just the same.

SPACEHOG MAY HAVE STRUCK GOLD WITH THEIR NEW SINGLE "MUNGO CITY" NOW RECEIVING PLENTY OF AIR TIME. THEIR NEW single "MUNGO CITY" FROM JAPAN'S "THE CHINESE ALBUM," MAY HAVE STRUCK GOLD WITH THEIR NEW SINGLE "MUNGO CITY."
Baseball teams usually look to the south for some winter refuge from the blistering winds and snow of March weather. Aquinas baseball is no different. Over Spring Break, the Saints traveled to Florida to play the likes of William Jewell College of Missouri, Thomas Moore College of Kentucky, North Carolina Wesleyan, Central Methodist, Anderson College of Indiana, and St. Xavier College of Illinois.

The Saints saw 7 of the top 11 players graduate last season. Breaking it down, four of the top six infielders, two of the top four outfielders and one pitcher are gone. This includes 1997 WHAC Player of the Year and All-American Chad Addicott. They do however return 11 of their 12 pitchers from last year, which for now will require the Saints to rely on their Kings of the Hill. Also, returning are seniors B.J. Barnard (C, DH), Ryan Vellanti (OF), Brian O'Toole (1B, DH), Mike Mumpire (OF), and Jason Bialochowski (INF). Junior Travis Hardin (INF) rounds out the rest of the league has depth problems with their pitchers, but have strong returning field players, while we are exactly the opposite. We have a large nucleus of pitchers that possess experience, but at the same time we have problems with our depth at several positions in the field.”

The spring break trip saw the Saints beat William Jewell 3 out of 4 times, sweep two games from Thomas Moore College, beat St. Xavier and Central Methodist once each, and lose twice to Anderson College.

Providing most of the artillery for the Saints was Barnard, O'Toole, Bialochowski, Mumpire, and Vellanti, who together accounted for 54 of the 84 RBIs. Sophomore catcher Trey Kubizna also helped the Saints with 11 hits in 16 at bats. It looks as if the hitting is already catching up with the pitching. All told, the Saints played 10 games (winning 7 and losing 3) on the trip before coming back to Grand Rapids with more than a foot of fresh snow standing between them and the base paths. By starting the season strong in Florida, it appears as if the team is ready to play ball, even if the Michigan weather won't. This leaves the Saints hoping not only for more wins, but for the type of weather they saw in Florida.

"We are looking for some good weather so we can start to get some games in,” commented senior pitcher Jim Hood. "Our goal is to get as far as we can get in the post-season, and to do that we have to improve everyday. We can't do that until we see the sunshine.”

"Our schedule is the most competitive of all the sports at Aquinas,” said Bocian. "This is our challenge: to go out every day and compete. But that's what it is all about. If we get good weather and complete some doubleheaders, we can use our pitching depth to our advantage in competing with Siena Heights, Madonna, and Spring Arbor for the division title.”

Amidst all the (pardon the pun) hoopla of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, last week some more athletes petitioned for special privileges. Earvin 'Magic' Johnson, Mo Vaughn, or even Casey Martin. In fact, few people in the United States had even heard of these athletes until two weeks ago. When four former Cuban baseball players were dragged ashore in the Bahamas on March 20, they attempted to use their athletic talents to quickly obtain asylum in Costa Rica.

They waited their appeal in a Nassau detention center, along with dozens of other Cuban refugees. All of them were seeking the same thing—freedom—and a chance to escape Cuba’s severe poverty.

The detention center doesn’t just hold potential major league prospects, it also holds regular citizens. According to an article posted on the Internet by CNN/SI, it actually holds 136 Cubans, 100 Haitians and a couple dozen Chinese, some of whom have been detained for more than three months. These people too seek better lives, only they can’t throw 90 mph, or hit a curve-ball.

Under Fidel Castro, the Cuban government began suspending baseball players from playing organized baseball, in effect denying these athletes the right to make a living. Extended travel has traditionally provided better opportunities for defection.

This meant professional baseball players, Cuba’s most treasured national resource, were forced to resort to setting themselves adrift in the Bahama Channel, labeled a “death trap” with an estimated 46% mortality rate reported in a recent Sports Illustrated article.

Common sense says that these athletes should have to wait in line behind all other refugees, who will probably be deported back to Cuba. A prime example of course is Orlando (el Duque) Hernandez, brother of World Series MVP Ivan Hernandez, who was quickly granted asylum and promptly signed with the New York Yankees. This system isn’t fair, but I imagine the Hernandez brothers appreciate their million dollar contracts more than most of today’s golded stars.

Don’t be surprised if el Duque is a success this season. He’s already taken two of the biggest chances of his life: 1) that he could cross the Bahama Channel on a flimsy raft, and 2) that he could throw a fastball by Major League Super Stars like Ken Griffey Junior. Personally, I’d probably have a better chance hanging ten between Cuba and the Bahamas. At least these Cuban athletes have incentive, something sorely missing from professional athletics.

The Hernandez brothers, and the recent Cuban defectors, have a skill, and it’s a skill that people in the United States will pay for. Not that baseball has some kind of great value to society, but at least these Cuban players will have something to contribute. Pro athletes pay income tax too.

These Cuban stars pay the price though, most leaving their families behind, with little to no chance of ever seeing them again, and I can only imagine the penalty for those athletes whose attempts at defection fail.

One of the players in the latest group left behind his 1 1/2 year old son, all because Castro took away the only other thing he loved—baseball. His mom said he didn’t even want to play in the U.S., but the government left him no other choice.

Not that each of the refugees still contained doesn’t have a similar story, but this player, 27 year old Jorge Luis Torres’ widow of opportunity was disappearing quickly. He had a chance, and he took it. Hopefully one day he will take the chance to save his son from the same conditions he himself fled.

If nothing else these refugees from Cuba help bring some attention to the sad situation which has left nearly all of Cuba impoverished.

Baseball is the bridge to freedom for these athletes. Can you really blame them for crossing it?"
Softball Team Hitting Their Way To A Fast Start

by Justin Smith
Times Sports Editor

Through March 25, the Aquinas College softball team had compiled 11 games (for a 7-4 record). Yes, the Lady Saints are in full swing. This year, coach Jerry Hendrick, that wasn’t so bad.

“We’ve played too many good schools,” said Hendrick, who watched his team compete against the likes of the University of Indiana at Indianapolis, and Davenport College, which competes in the NCAA Division II level, along with NAIA power Embry Riddle College (Fla.)

“Last year we would have killed us, but this year we’ve played them close. We’ve already seen all the best teams on our schedule,” he said.

It definitely wasn’t all fun in the sun for the Saints, who played seven matches in five days. Assistant coach Scott David said during one day of competition in Florida, the team spent eight hours on the court.

The team arrived back in Grand Rapids to the sight of snow, which meant adjusting back to the indoor facility on March 11. “It’s a little hard from the warm to the cold,” Hendrick said.

“Still, we are nice. I’d rather play outside, but at least one can play the Saints are hope to adjust, if they hope to make it through the remainder of the season,” Hendrick said.

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“Still, we are nice. I’d rather play outside, but at least one can get in a little warm weather training before returning home to start the season and face Mother Nature. In the past, the Aquinas College men’s tennis team didn’t partake in this ritual. This year they did.

As for the rest of the season, the team has its sight set on the WHAC Championship. A goal that they think is definitely within their reach.

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A.C.T. (Aquinas College Thespian), "Genderly Speaking" was a night of poetry readings, music, and one act plays in celebration of Women's History Month. Poets such as Marilyn Nelson and Maya Angelou and passages from writers such as Mother Teresa were read by students.

Freshman Elizabeth Dudek was one of the readers Thursday night. She stated that she decided on what to read by picking poetry that she loved. Dudek also felt that the poems read really described everything that women are. She also expressed how much fun she was having taking part in the program.

"I'd do it again in a heartbeat," Dudek commented.

A.C.T. professor and advisor to A.C.T., enjoyed the program.

"It was wonderful to see so many students, women and men, spend a Thursday night here," stated Avery.

Dr. Rebecca Coogan, English professor and Director of the Women's Studies Center also enjoyed the program.

"I thought it was great...a variety of perspectives and art forms were expressed."

The evening was not just for the ladies however, Men participated in the evening as well.

"Women's History Month culminated with a few tears, just as many smiles, and some excellent student work last weekend. The second annual student conference on Women's Studies took place March 28. Thirteen student presenters and keynote speaker, author Margaret Willey took part in Resourceful Women: Celebrating Women's Contributions, Past and Present.

Willey, a Grand Haven native, is a nationally acclaimed writer who came to the conference to speak on "Memory as Resource: Reclaiming Our Adolescence." Her keynote address focused on the concerns of young women and on remembering the trying times of being a teen. Willey called the learning experience from embracing the past, "a jewel beyond all price."

Dr. Rebecca Coogan, Director of the Women's Studies Center, which sponsored the conference with help from the Programming Board and the Humanities Program, said that Willey did "a wonderful job presenting a meaningful subject for college age women."

The real focus of the conference though, is the students, who present their papers, poetry, or artwork as a tribute to women of the past and present. The all-day conference saw participation increase this year. Twelve students gave talks, and Aquinas Alum, Anna Budynski showcased her expressive photographic strength. Last year, in the inaugural effort by the Women's Studies Center, eight students participated.

The conference also included students from Michigan State University and Grand Valley State University. Aquinas sophomore Megan Stephany, who spoke on Chaucer's representation of women said, "I think it is really important for women to have a voice and for this month to be recognized." Stephany raised an important issue during her presentation when she divulged a stereotypical image of "wistful women, blowing in the breeze. Just waiting for someone to come scoop them up, sweep them off their feet."

Junior Meadow Rose Snyder also presented a paper dealing with Chaucer. Snyder said she was glad to take part in "Celebrating the history and diversity of women."

Senior Jeff McCrystal, and GVSC student Barbara Ritter both presented papers on gender issues in the workplace. AQ Continuing Education student Mary Reach presented a paper that celebrated the Goddess image in folk and artwork. Aquinas students Heather Young, Helena Signore, Penny Morningsun O'Shaughnessy, and MSU student Cinda Elzroth all presented under the theme "Women and Creativity." Signore summed up the entire day when she spoke of her poetry and the women in her past.

"There is so much inside that is so precious," she said.

AQ students Jill Straub, Denise Mack, and Anne Keller each gave presentations under the topic "Women, Marriage, and Autonomy." Straub saw the conference as good pre-professional experience. "I will help in graduate school," Straub said.

"Female," Cont'd from p. 2

Besides teaching at Aquinas, Fre诗her and Torkalo also play in the Grand Rapids' Symphony Orchestra. The second performance was Cecil Chaminade's Certoire forecast and Piano, Op. 107 performed by Karen Beitz-Griewahn on flute and Hurd, an Aquinas piano and keyboard instructor, on piano. This piece was particularly enjoyable to watch as well as hear. Beitz-Griewahn, who plays in the West Michigan Flute Ensemble as well as teaching at Aquinas, is a dynamic musician who moves her body with the music.

After the performance, she explained her impromptu playing. "I feel that I can express myself through music. Moving allows me to communicate as well as to feel," Beitz-Griewahn, who plays in the West Michigan Flute Ensemble as well as teaching at Aquinas, is a dynamic musician who moves her body with the music.

The last performance was a piano piece, Deuxieme Suite, written by Rhene Jaque and performed by Mary Hurd. Hurd commented that "As a musician you always try to interpret what the composer meant by a piece. This is an interesting piece to play because the composer is still alive."

This piece was also much more contemporary than the other three, and it had a much faster tempo and a stronger rhythm.

Overall the performance was well explained and beautifully performed. Beitz-Griewahn best summed up the feelings of the women presenters by saying, "Women composers have a very important part in the history of music. I'm glad that I can perform women's music to share it with others."