**Aquinas' Castle in the Clouds**

by Mandy Schneider

Elegantly dressed Aquinas students arrived at a transformed Donnelly Center for this year's Winter Dance. Entitled, "Castle in the Clouds." Each table was artistically decorated, as was the rest of the room. The most notable decoration was the ice sculpture of a castle complete with lights frozen within it. This annual event was sponsored by the Residence Hall Association (RHA). The dance, held Friday, Dec. 4, was scheduled to begin at 8 p.m., but didn't get underway until after 9 p.m. The ice sculpture and hors d'oeuvres were seen as people first walked in.

The embellished tables occupied the center of the room, and the dance floor was in the far-left side. RHA was quite pleased with this year's turn out as nearly 200 students attended this event. Freshman Ray Gaiser said, "The music was excellent! The decorations were superb. The ice castle sculpture was real cool, too." Freshman Monique Nadon said, "The dance ran very well. I thought the RHA did an exceptional job." Freshman, Matt McCarthy said, "I really enjoyed my first semi-formal dance at college. I liked the other dances we have had here, but they don't really compare with this one. I am anxiously looking forward to the next big dance."

The DJ played various types of music ranging from rap to country. The dance floor was always filled with energetic students cutting a rug or bustin' a groove. At times, there was so much movement that the floor shook.

The Winter Dance was enjoyed by many who attended. Sophomore, Adam Jauregui said, "It was a lot of fun. I really had a great time and I can't wait until the spring dance."

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**S.A.V.E.—Working to Make Aquinas Better**

by Angela Bergman

S.A.V.E. (Students Against Violation of the Environment), the club that's purpose is to educate students and faculty about environmental issues. The newsletter is used to plan to issue it monthly or semi-monthly.

The residents of Knape work to conserve the amount of waste produced in their house as well as the amount of energy they use. They used to have a compost heap behind the maintenance shed, but they had to stop it because the fruit flies got to be a problem during warm weather. S.A.V.E.'s main project is the recycling boxes in the residence halls. They would like the students who live in the halls to help monitor and take care emptying the bins on their floors to make them feel responsible for their own waste. After Christmas break the recycling program will be revamped and new requirements posted since the recycling center has changed some of its rules. Every month, S.A.V.E. tackles a different environmental issue and works to educate the campus about it. In September, they took on pol-lution awareness and set up a table in the Academic Building to hand out fliers about household chemicals, safe disposal of them and recycling. In October and November, they focused on water conservation and monitored the water use in Knape. They also had the water in Knape tested for chemicals. S.A.V.E. is still awaiting the results of the tests.

S.A.V.E. has also started a newsletter, "The Stall Street News," which they posted in the bathroom stalls around campus. They plan to issue it monthly or bi-monthly and see it as a way that the club can reach out to commuters. The newsletter is used to educate students and faculty about environmental issues, ways to save money and energy, global warming and many other things they think the public should know. S.A.V.E. also has a bin on the first floor of the Academic Building in which they collect pop cans for CAVA. Those add up to a considerable amount of money, which is donated to WEMEAC (Western Michigan Environmental Action Council).

Anyone who is interested in learning more about S.A.V.E. and its programs should contact Molly Huber at ext. 6482 or Melissa Phine at ext. 6478 for more information.

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**THE TIMES**

**December 9, 1998**

**UTEL: Technology for Education**

by Angela Bergman

Technology is increasingly becoming a crucial necessity in the average person's daily life. Technology has already begun to envelop the academic and educational world as well. Is everyone ready? "Using Technology to Enhance Learning," or the "UTEL" program is one Aquinas developed to prepare faculty, staff and students for new advances that will allow the use of technology in the classroom environment. The program, ideally, will increase confidence in the professors' ability to use technology effectively and create an awareness of the types of technology available as supplements to coursework. The UTEL program will be implemented over a three year period, the current academic year being the first. Each month throughout next semester, various speakers will present the many ways they use technology to teach. The second year will focus on a series of workshops designed to train Aquinas educators on how to use the technology that was presented to them. Diverse projects are planned for the third year.

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**Aquinas College Student Press**
A Multicultural Holiday

by Melissa Anne Pline
Times Contributing Writer

The cry against injustice knows no distance, according to the Social Action Committee (SAC). Throughout the semester, SAC members have protested the School of Americas at the Wege Mall, a thousand miles from the School of Americas. On Nov. 20-22, however, members protested at Fort Benning, Georgia. A thousand centimeters from the school that’s sparked so much controversy.

The students joined a 7,000-person peaceful protest at the school entrance.

"There were all types of people from all backgrounds," said Bridie Kent. "It was cool to see so many people concerned about this issue.

Martin Sheen, actor and activist, gave the greeting for the two-day vigil. The events culminated in a funeral procession commemorating those who had been assassinated by graduates of the School of Americas.

During the march, 2,350 people crossed the line and were apprehended by the military police. The Aquinas students also crossed the line, by accident, the day before. "We made a wrong turn and drove onto the base," said Kristin Est. "It took a look of time and effort.

"I liked the different cultures having their stuff together, I really liked the handcrafted beaded jewelry." Other students sang and performed in various ways. A highlight was when Gabrielle Oliveras-Cuhat taught spectators several types of Spanish dances.

Bridge Clark, freshman remarked, "My favorite part was seeing my Spanish professor [Laura Anderson] break into it down to the Saloon on the dance floor! I think that would grab everyone’s attention if the did that in class while teaching reflexive verbs! It was a fun time and benefited a great cause. If only we could see our teachers in the Macarena mode everyday.

Donations were taken at the door and that money and the money made at the tables and from the entertainment was donated to a family in Haiti and one in Grand Rapids. The faculty in the Modern and Classical Language Department hope to make this an annual event, which can help many families enjoy a merrier holiday.

Freshman Crystal Noonan reflected back on the purpose of the event. "It’s comforting to know we are doing our small part to help those less fortunate than us in Haiti and here in Grand Rapids.

SAC Protests in Georgia

by Angelic Denhof
Times Contributing Writer

On Dec. 3, the Aquinas College Historical Commission held a dedication ceremony at Burfeindt Hall in memory of former Aquinas College Professor Dennis Burfeindt.

Though the hall is scheduled for destruction, the Commission wants to ensure that the historic building and the name for which the hall is named will not be forgotten. The twenty-minute ceremony, according to the plaque, was "warm and cordial." All those who were somehow impacted by Dennis Burfeindt were invited come and share their memories. Among those attending were Dr. Woodrow Hoover, Jr., Chairperson of the Business Administration Department, Dr. Norbert Flury and R. Paul Nelson, both former Presidents of Aquinas College and Patricia Kozal of the Advising Department. Also in attendance were Residence Director and former resident of Burfeindt Hall Eric Bridge and many residents of Burfeindt Hall, including Joshua Cochran, a member of the

Aquinas Historical Commission. Dennis Burfeindt, for whom the hall was named, was an Engineering Administration course at Aquinas. Burfeindt never married, so his students not only do well, but also learn.

Unveiled at the ceremony were a photograph of Dennis Burfeindt teaching a night class and a plaque accounting his achievements, put together by Cochran. On the plaque, Dr. Burfeindt is quoted as saying "My interest lies more in teaching than in research and publishing. I like to encourage students to be makers and doers rather than memorizers."

The residents of Burfeindt Hall who attended the ceremony were impressed with Dennis Burfeindt’s devotion to his students.

"It meant a lot to see the impression that someone of the past made on students of the present," Chair of the Historical Commission Sr. Anne Kieff atext. 3624 or David Vincent at ext. 3603.

"Technology" Cont’d from Page 1

by Angelic Denhof
Times Contributing Writer

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Kieff pointed out, "Grades K-12 are using technology in the classroom more and more. In 2-3 years, faculty will be faced with students that are used to using technology to learn. We need to be prepared for upcoming students that are technologically literate."

David Vincent, student assistant to Kieff, encouraged students to attend the speakers and stated that it is their responsibility to utilize new technology. "I believe students need to take a vested interest in their education," he said. "Shortcomings in the school [technologically] only affect their own education. By showing their support, students will affect the future of the school and of future students."

Vincent is also working on drafting a resource booklet for faculty that will include "Tips for Teaching with Technology," search engines and relevant articles.

The next speaker will be on Dec. 16 at 3 p.m. in the Loutit Room. Todd Hoover, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Department of Curriculum, Instructional and Educational Psychology School of Education at Loyola University will discuss, "So, We Are In This Together...HELP."

On April 15, six panel members, two of which were students, will debate the pros and cons of using technology in the classroom. Student questions will be allowed. December 11 will focus on web-based instruction and web courses.

For more information on the UTIEL program, contact Allison Kieff atext. 3624 or David Vincent at ext. 3603.

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A hurricane swept through Aquinas yesterday. But instead of leaving destruction in its wake, the Hurricane of Help filled the fieldhouse with money and supplies. This aid will be sent to Honduras and Haiti to assist in their recovery from Hurricanes Mitch and Georges. 

"There was an outcry from students asking if we were doing anything," said Dan David, of the devastating hurricanes. "We got together to decide what to do. The alliteration got us started and it built from there." At the eye of the Aquinas hurricane were the many team leaders. Each of these volunteers then recruited students to pledge a minimum of $5, a flat bedsheet, or a first aid kit.

"We wanted to engage at least one student for every 10 students on campus. Our goal was to have 1000 people involved," said Fr. Dan. Donors were given buttons to wear during the week to represent their gift. These gifts were then brought to the fieldhouse throughout the day yesterday, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The money will go to the Grand Rapids Dominican Sister's mission in Honduras. The sheets and first aid kits will be sent free of charge by American Airlines to Haiti. The sheets will be used as bandages, to make clothing, or any other purpose necessary.

"I think everybody's heard about the destruction on the news," said team leader Stephanie Zeldinski. "It's a big deal.

Aquinas Bids Farewell to a Familiar Face

by Bridle Kent
Times Contributing Writer

Dana Hebreard can not describe her typical workday. It does not exist. But soon, that is going to change with her new job. Hebreard's job as Director of Student Activities began when she came to the Aquinas College campus almost three years ago.

"This was my first professional job out of college," said Hebreard. "It's been a pleasure and a privilege to work here."

Hebreard has already begun her new job at Calvin College in the Career Services Department. "It's more of a regular 8:30 to 5-type job," said Hebreard, enthusiastically. "For me, the hardest part of my decision to leave is that I really enjoyed working with the students here at Aquinas."

As the Director of Student Activities, Hebreard has worked with students, staff and faculty. She began her workday at 8:30 a.m. and spent most of her mornings attending meetings with various people, especially students. Normally, her lunch and dinner times also consisted of student meetings and discussions. The job involved planning and implementing student events and overseeing the hub of Aquinas's social activities, the Cook Carriage House. But the work varied from day to day, depending on what the students were doing.

"Dana came in the year I was a sophomore, and I kind of knew the person who was here before her," said Danielle Johnson, a senior and Chair of the Aquinas College Senate leader. Johnson said she wasn't too sure at first about having a new advisor. But, she said that her doubts were quickly erased. "She took a fresh look at things," said Johnson. "She had a lot of ideas and programs."

In addition to her Director position, Hebreard has advised both the Student Senate and the Programming Board at Aquinas. She has worked closely with WAQU, the college's student radio station, Campus Ministry, the Health Center, and the Multicultural Club. She also taught career development courses at the college.

Dr. Dave Weinandy, co-advisor of the Aquinas College Circle, has worked very closely with Hebreard. "We worked together mostly in the first year and a half that she was here," said Weinandy. "It's been a wonderful move for her.

Hebreard's job as Director of Student Activities Dana Hebreard leaves Aquinas to work in Calvin College's Career Services this semester. photo by Chris West

She took up the position because she was around for a lot of the stuff we did," said Huddas. "I think it helps that she is still quite young, but old enough to have the knowledge for an administrator position.

Hebreard received her undergraduate degree from Indiana University. She began studying music, specifically opera, but ultimately received a degree in journalism. However, she continues to share her appreciation for music, evident in the standing ovation that she received for her rendition of "Ave Maria" at Aquinas' Dinner Nightclub this past fall.

"It was awesome," said freshman Alyssa Espinosa. "I almost cried."

Hebreard attended Loyola University in Chicago for graduate studies. She received her degree there in College/Student Personnel Administration.

At Aquinas, Hebreard's workday usually ended around 6:30 or 7 p.m. But it all depended on what was going on, said Hebreard.

"If it's a 'What the Heck Night,' sometimes I don't leave until 12 or 1 o'clock in the morning." What the Heck Nights are one of the student activities that Hebreard worked on with the Programming Board and the Senate.

Johnson said of Hebreard, "The relationship that I formed with Dana became a friendship." They met several times a week to plan and discuss Senate activities. Hebreard decided to make the move to Calvin College because, she said, "I've always known that my long-term goals were in career services."

She will be working with employers, bringing them onto the campus and helping them with recruiting students for jobs in her new position at Calvin.

"I think that having this new job will allow me to do more," said Hebreard. More, she said, outside of her job. "My church choir meets on Thursday nights and I haven't been able to attend yet," she said.

Weinandy said that Hebreard brought her vast knowledge and ideas to the Aquinas Campus. "She was always thinking of new events and challenging the students," he said. Her academic credentials and command of student development issues especially impressed Weinandy. He mentioned, in particular, her work on a student leadership conference at Aquinas.

That's exactly the type of thing we needed on our campus," said Weinandy. "There's no doubt that her presence will be missed."

Johnson said, "Dana has been really good for Aquinas College. The students are going to miss her and we wish her the best of luck."

Although Aquinas students and faculty will miss Hebreard, Weinandy added, "Professionally, I think this is a wonderful move for her."

Dean of Students Brad Winkler is currently reviewing applications to fill the vacancy in Student Activities.
**British Parliament to See Changes**

by Joshua D. Cochran
Times Local/National Editor

Recently, Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain, along with British Prime Minister Tony Blair, announced sweeping changes concerning the House of Lords in order to make it more "democratic." The new system, unveiled in a speech by the Queen on Nov. 27, calls for the removal of hereditary ascendency in the House of Lords. The reforms are supported by the Labour party in Great Britain, which is the party with the majority in the Lower House, the House of Commons. The aim is to make the Upper House one that will be entirely elected.

The Queen's speech last Wednes- day contained what many on the Labour side of Parliament are referring to as "Phase One." That is, giving 750 of the potential 1,272 members of the House of Lords their pink slips. However, many are uncertain as to how those seats will be filled.

Several proposals have been suggested to revise the House of Lords, which is primarily responsible for revising and delaying legislation. Some believe it should be comprised of both nominated and elected members, much like House of Commons. Membership in the House may also be extended to encompass new regions.

Some see the role of the new chamber as functioning as a court to settle disputes within the kingdom, primarily with the new Scottish Parliament and the new Welsh Assembly. There has been no official word on what a possible "Phase Two" will entail. Many Conservatives who just recently recognized the need for some reforms, believe that the first phase will not go forth until a "Phase Two" is in play.

The plan is strongly pushed by the Labour party in Great Britain, which is currently led by Prime Minister Tony Blair. Those in the party advocate the plan because it seeks to make the political system in Britain more democratic. Liberals cite that most countries around the world, including the United States, have an upper house that is popularly elected.

With the new plan, the Queen and other members of the Royal family would also have rights to vote in the upper chamber. For this reason among others, the Liberal party has come under attack by conservatives for their support of this plan. Many have accused the Liberals of tampering with the monarchy. In addition, some conserva-
tives see the move as attempt by Liberals to secure more seats in the upper chamber.

Under the current setup in the House of Lords, 1,148 people are eligible for a seat based on birthright. There are presently 156 conserva-
tives, 158 Labour, 68 Liberal Democrat, 323 independent and 103 other members of lesser mi-
nority parties in the House.

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**Holiday Traffic Crowds Roads, Airports**

by Mary Kopchick
Times Local/National Editor

With gas prices at a four-year low and an unusually warm weather forecast, Michiganders had ideal conditions for holiday travel during the Thanksgiving weekend.

The American Automobile Association (AAA) estimated that 14 percent of Michigan's population—that's 3.1 million people—took to the roads, air and trains on their way to their holiday destinations.

Kent County International Airport estimated over 6,000 people crammed into the growing airport starting the Wednesday before Turkey Day and didn't stop until the Monday after. The usual number is around 4,800 people a day.

"It was chaos," said Amy Verarkin of Travel Consultants located in the airport, "it was really busy Wednesday with people coming in or out.

As a corporate travel agent, Verarkin said there has been a recent, visible increase in air travel.

"There's definitely more people flying lately. Air fares aren't as expensive, the economy is good and people are willing to spend money." However, the ongoing construc-
tion at the airport slowed down the flow of travelers rushing to catch flights. The $50 million project, which includes a new wing on the east side of the airport and a remodeling of the west wing of the airport terminal, is currently scheduled to be complete in March 2000. In the meantime, Verarkin suggests in order for travel to run more smoothly, passengers should have all documentation ready, including a picture ID, passports and tickets before reaching the ticket counter.

It wasn't only airline traffic that increased during the holiday weeken-
d, though. For those who decided to drive, AAA reported drivi-
ers paid and average of $1 for a gallon of regular gas. That's down 18.7 percent from last year. Com-
pared to last year, Michigan roads will handle 5 percent increase in road travel. With the 1998 con-
struction season over, many expe-
rined a smooth ride home.

"Over the summer there was a lot of construction on my ride home," said Shannon Holmes, a junior. "But this time it was all cleared up and I got home a lot faster." Michiganders also experienced unseasonably warm temperatures over the weekend. Although little or no snow was predicted for the region, temperatures were ex-
pected to remain chilly. Instead they hovered near 60 degrees all weekend. November only had 0.2 inches of snow, according to Kent County International Airport, com-
pared to last year's 11.3 inches of snow. (For further information and issues about Michigan's unusually warm winter, see "Promises of La Nina Taunts Skiers" on page 5.)

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**Credit Cards Cause Trouble for College Students**

by Robert Brown
The South End (Wayne State U)

(U-WIRE) DETROIT, Mich. — Before grabbing a free T-shirt, Frisbee or can of pop just for signing on the dotted line at the credit card application tables in the Student Center Building or the cam-
pus book store, you may first want to listen to what students like Charles Williams have to say about their experience with credit card debt.

"I wish I never got them," he said. "It was like opening up a Pandora's Box. You think you can restrain yourself, but you look to credit cards as a crutch."

Williams, who hopes to go into medicine, had five credit cards by the time he was 18 and admitted the things got out of hand to where he "had to close some accounts." Now, at 22, Williams has his debt under control, and he said he sees having credit cards as being a good experience enabling him to buy his first car.

However, Mark Rosen, commu-
nity relations manager of Con-
sumer Credit Counseling Service of Michigan, said he sees prob-
lems with the current practice of credit card companies soliciting 17- and 18-year-old students with-
out prior credit experience. Rosen, who "educes people on money management and what to do in a money crisis," said "the danger-
ous thing is that most people, when they're of that age, don't really understand what credit is and how it should be used. You'll apply for a credit card, and if you have $1,000 limit, you have $1,000 to spend."

According to the data of the Pub-
lic Interest Research Groups, 38 percent of students pay off their balances each month before they are charged any interest. WSUjun-
ior Latosa Johnson said she's among that group.

But a whopping 62 percent of students are like graduate student Karen White, who has average monthly unpaid balances of around $1,000.

One, who's in the Library and Informa-
tion Science program, shook her head and said, "I used to think, "Why do people do that?" But now I'm a broke student and it's happening to me."

If White were to pay only the minimum at three percent on a $1,000 balance at a typical 18 percent annual percentage rate, it would take six years and the woman would pay $559 in interest.

"Rather than paying 89 cents, you're paying $10 for a can of Coke," Rosen said.

Graduate student Stacy Kajinovitch, 24, a speech patholo-
gist with an undergraduate degree in sociology, also has a running balance of $1,000 and said she uses her card for living expenses like groceries, books and clothes.

Kajinovitch says she never man-
dages to pay it off and feels trapped into using her card. "For a lot of students, it's the only way to get through. In grad school you can't work, like with medical students, and internships—it's a full-time job."

But Rosen said it is important for college students to build good credit. Bad credit history—espe-
cially bankruptcies—could harm people for the rest of their lives, he added.

Some universities, experiencing more dropouts from credit card debt than from academic failure, are concerned enough to either ban credit card companies from solicit-
ing on campus or they are conduct-
ing educational seminars designed to teach students how to avoid credit card debt.

"Credit is a wonderful thing; it makes things very easy," Rosen said. "It all depends on how re-
 sponsible you are. What I think should happen is that the credit card companies) should send in-
f ormation along with the credit line on how to budget and manage your money and what to do if you get into trouble."
When it comes to winters in Michigan, people seem to split right down the middle. Half of them chant "skiing" in a low, rhythmic chant, gradually rising in tone and in volume until the earth trembles and their throats begin to scream "Ricola," and the other half mumbles "shoveling the driveway" in a slightly less enthusiastic growl.

Last winter, the skiers walked around with big posting faces, while the driveway shovelers basked in the warmth of El Nino. But this year, those skiers want their revenge. Enter El Nino's annoying sister, La Nina. According to the National Weather Service and the local meteorologists, La Nina will bring with it anywhere between 60 and 100 inches of snow to the Grand Rapids area, along with bitter cold and harsh winds.

The collapse of the Jarecki Center guards was due to one of her tantrums. But, the real question for all the locals is, how is this going to affect us? Perhaps the most temperamental businesses in Michigan, especially this far south, are ski resorts. The owners here create a demand for sales and service of snowblowers as well. Though the weather is still warm, Vos has noticed a definite increase in snowblower sales as well as in pre-season service of machines grateful for a rest this year. Nobody in Michigan is seeing very much of the heavy snows La Nina is supposed to bring from the north. But everyone is feeling her effects as we begin to brace for winter. Not only will snowblowers and skiing be affected, but nearly any other business in Michigan will see changes occurring very soon. Airline companies will see a definite decline in business this winter as many travelers will hesitate to buy plane tickets for fear of being stranded in some at airport.

The marine community will be hit extra hard this year as well. Boater's World associate Jacob Cresc remarkedly said: "This winter will be especially difficult on the discount marine stores, because only a few ice fishermen and full-fledged boating fanatics think about shopping here when the lakes are iced over. But if the snowfall is extreme, maybe everyone will need GPS systems to find their way home."

The predictions are in. Bundle up, get a pair of skis and a snowblower and brace for a harsh winter. It may not look like winter yet, but La Nina likes to surprise.

Epilepsy Drug May Help Drug Addictions

Animal studies suggest a European epilepsy drug might one day help people quit smoking by blocking nicotine's effect on the brain. The drug, known as GVG, might also help cocaine addicts kick their drug habit. In animals, a proper dose of GVG can stop their drug habit. In animals, a proper dose of GVG can stop nicotine's addictive effects entirely. There is a possibility that the drug will be tested on American addicts within several weeks. However, GVG has been linked to a rare side effect that can damage patients' voices.
Dr. Death On-Air: Truth or Indecency?

Point

by Angela Bergman
Times Campus News Editor

The best example of the public “killing the messenger” is the common complaint that the news media is always to blame for reporting only “bad news” or using victims to boost ratings. In this regard, both advocates and opponents in the euthanasia debate have questioned the moral and ethical aspects of “60 Minutes” decision to air Dr. Jack Kevorkian’s video of active euthanasia on national television.

The same people who argue active euthanasia is dignified, will argue that it is no longer dignified when aired on public television. Those who argue euthanasia is murder will consider it too graphic for everyone in the nation to see.

The producers of “60 Minutes” may have been just trying to boost their ratings, but unknowingly their decision was in fact not only moral and ethical, they depicted exactly what the nation desperately needed to see.

Truth is a moral and ethical value. The truth—i.e. reality—isn’t always dignified, and sometimes it is quite graphic. To even begin to comprehend the Holocaust, Lynchings in the South, or the most intimate points of existence, one must see the horrifying pictures—even when they do not dignify the victims in a dignified light or they are extremely graphic.

Euthanasia is an abstraction to most people. From the rhetoric they have heard, some would guess that it has something to do with “mercy killing,” “death with dignity” or the “right to die.” Some might identify euthanasia as swift, inhumane elimination of the elderly and the sick. Some would argue that the media has a tendency to “glorify” active euthanasia.

From my perspective, “60 Minutes” did a good job. They showed Kevorkian’s tape, interviewed him and let people decide for themselves what “compassion” means. After watching the tape, active euthanasia is concrete in people’s minds. Now any rational person can better decide what euthanasia actually is. He or she no longer has to be confused by rhetoric. Anyone can watch a victim in pain sign away their right to life to another human being—and coincidentally allow the human being killing them to videotape it and show it on public television.

Is this compassion? People can now listen to the reactions of family members. They can question a family’s approval given freely on television, appearing a bit crazed and asking to die on television so that “Dr. Death” would be arrested and tried. The man, at one of the most intimate points of existence, was exploited, so that a possible euthanasia precedent can be established in the courts.

The issue I’m debating is not whether the man had a right to choose to end his life or not. Thomas Youk was suffering from Lou Gehrig’s disease, and he and his family agreed that this was the “right” thing to do. None of them even minded that Dr. Kevorkian would broadcast the death. That is the problem. The minute something as serious as doctors administering death makes families feel compelled to let loved ones act as martyrs for such a cause, a huge inversion of values has occurred.

For some reason Youk’s family and Dr. Kevorkian all agreed that this was a cause worthy of exposing a moment of human weakness. “60 Minutes,” a program that bills itself as a news provider, saw fit to broadcast the death of a man with no reservations. Dr. Kevorkian’s motives for the broadcast are clear cut. He said, at the end of his spot on the program, that he was doing this for himself. He recognized that he is fast becoming elderly and wants the option of assisted suicide if his suffering becomes unbearable in the future.

There is no mistake that both for his cause and for himself, Dr. Kevorkian sees fitting one of his patients. Pushing the mark is the most important thing here, not easing human suffering during its final stages.

In choosing martyrs among his patients, Dr. Kevorkian is doing himself no favors either. Regardless of which side of the fence folks stand on, this indecency violates any value system for life and death. Now seeing Kevorkian on television, appearing a bit crazed and fully willing to exploit what had been sold to the public as a personal decision and a very personal solution, support will shift.

I’m not expressing support of the cause on either side, but it is frightening that the Kevorkian is willing to show to such an ugly and selfish side of himself. Even a man willing to help end life should respect it tremendously as a force. When “60 Minutes” came on just weeks ago, there was no such respect.

Counterpoint

by Heather Young
Times Assistant Editor

He did it as an example. Dr. Kevorkian put this man who was suffering from the end of his life and asking to die on television so that “Dr. Death” would be arrested and tried. The man, at one of the most intimate points of existence, was exploited, so that a possible euthanasia precedent can be established in the courts.

The indecency violates any value for life and death.

Summary:

About three weeks ago, Dr. Jack Kevorkian invited news program “60 Minutes” to broadcast a video of himself assisting a man in suicide. With the permission of Thomas Youk and his family, Kevorkian hoped to prompt authorities to arrest him so his case would have to come to a head.

The producers’ decision was in fact not only moral and ethical, they depicted exactly what the nation needed to see.
An open letter to Kris Kringle

Dear Santa Claus,

Every year at this time you undoubtedly receive thousands of letters from children all around the world, asking you to deliver Christmas cheer come December 25. We at the Aquinas Times realize that this time of year is extremely busy for you, with making lists and checking them twice. However we do wish to present you with a letter that may seem a bit non-traditional.

Santa, it has become apparent that over the past few years you have become a victim of the technology age. It used to be, not so long ago, that you stayed in your Arctic abode until Christmas Eve, only occasionally venturing out to make an appearance at a local mall. Now it seems you have become a marketable commodity for numerous corporations and industries. It has become difficult to go anywhere, or turn on the television without seeing your image.

You’ve done numerous movies and commercials. This Christmas season we have seen you peddle items ranging from cellular phones to Jeep Grand Cherokees. Our image of you used to just come from timeless classics, such as “Miracle on 34th Street,” the old Coca-Cola ads and C. Clement Moore’s traditional poem, “‘Twas the Night Before Christmas.” When you did those promotions, everything seemed alright. They were limited in scope, and you did them because they conveyed the true meaning and beauty of Christmas. Now we see them twice. However we do wish to present you with a letter that may seem a bit non-traditional.

Just mention the word indulgences, and many Catholics will cringe. As Catholic history goes, indulgences are often grouped with the Crusades, the Inquisition, the children of former popes and other uncomfortable subjects that we hope to sweep under the altar cloth and forget about. They are things that we don’t want to think about, refuse to talk about and try not to remember. Now the cobweb-covered tradition of indulgences is being brought back in to the Catholic limelight by Pope John Paul II as he suggests ways to help Catholics prepare for the next millennium. However, while most people envision indulgences as something to be purchased, the Church does not condone the sale of indulgences. Rather, the pope, in advocating the renewal of this spiritual preparation, has explained that indulgences are acts which a Catholic can do to relieve suffering either in this life or the next. They are also believed to purify the soul of sins that have already been absolved in confession. Such acts include giving up smoking or drinking and giving time and money to charity.

Although many Catholics still think at the idea of indulgences, they certainly have merit, for both spiritual and moral reasons. In this highly materialistic age, it is a refreshing change to see people being challenged to think about the consequences of a secularized lifestyle—especially during the Christmas season.

Too often we become wrapped up in immediate goals and do not pay enough attention to the moral obligations to our communities. Making the grade, getting the next promotion and finding just the right outfit to wear to the Christmas party are all understandable concerns. Yet, we must consider whether such acts, which will only serve as instant gratification, are consuming all of our attention and energy. A renewed attention on indulgences encourages a much-needed focus on a Christ-centered life and an awareness of God’s mercy.

Similarly, at Christmastime it is easy to get caught up in the shining, twinkling decorations, social obligations and, of course, the hours of shopping for gifts. It is precisely during these hectic weeks, that it is most important to take the time to do something nice for others who are in need. Also, with the New Year and its infamous resolutions around the corner, this season is the perfect time to examine our lives and find where we can improve. Perhaps, many Catholics will consider taking advantage of indulgences as a way to develop spiritually in the coming year. By fasting or giving up smoking or alcohol, Catholics are able to focus on what is in control of their lives and what their ultimate goal is.

For Catholics, like the followers of so many other religions, the focus of our lives should not be satisfaction in this life, but in a life yet to come. Indulgences offer an opportunity to make that a more central point of our lives. Furthermore, as moral people, these encourage Catholics to give to those in need. So, although the idea of indulgences is highly controversial, the goals and ideas, which they represent, are a common theme to more than just Catholics and they embody things which most of us already profess to value.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

The Staff of the Aquinas Times
The Vault

A list of things to do for the socially starved

Compiled by Elizabeth Dudek
Times A&E Editor

Christmas is nearly upon us, only a few shopping days left! Don't forget to leave Santa cookies and milk (or whatever else you want to leave the jolly guy). Hope everyone is cramming hard for exams, just don't wait until the last minute! Gleamplenty of rest, but most of all have a happy holiday season.

Now, in case anyone gets bored while studying for exams and preparing for the holiday or finds some extra time during break, here are a few suggestions for things to do:

12/9 Radio/Activ People's Choice Showcase at the Intersection. This will feature musical acts Daddy Longlegs, Gemini Nation, Wireless Green, and Wordenhaus. This is an 18 and over show. To satisfy your appetite for music, this is the place to be.

12/10 The Dave Matthews' Band and Maceo Parker play the Palace of Auburn Hills

12/11 Papa Vega, Dozey Joint, and the Interpreters play the Intersection. This is an 18 and over show. For a heaping helping of local talent, stop on by. The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion plays Clutch Cargo's in Pontiac—this is an all ages show.

12/18 Kose Deep Sling plays the Intersection. If you are in the mood to dance and listen to some GREAT music, this is the place to be.

12/20 Kiss plays the Van Andel Arena. Grand Rapids, get ready to ROCK!

12/21 Ring in the New Yearskating with Mustard Plug! They play the Intersection.

For more holiday fun and excitement, why not get to the Village Inn Pizza Bar & Grill, with locations all over metro Grand Rapids! Their motto is "Celebrating sing-along for over 24 year" Since they have over 3,000 songs available, you might be able to sing your own rendition of "Grandma Got Run Over By A Reindeer" (and be able to take home a cassette of your lovely singing...this might make a great Christmas gift for that special someone).

Hit the Grand Rapids Museums, for a cheap date for those of you who don't have enough cash to go to the Village Inn for a sing along. On Friday's after 5 p.m., free admission is coupled with local jazz performances at the Art Museum. (For more information about Grand Rapids Museums, see Page 12 "Opportunities for a Rainy Day ").

Also, the Frederick Meijer Gardens has a display of Christmas decorations from around the world. If the flashing lights and plastic reindeer at the mall don't fulfill your need for the Christmas spirit, check this out.

The Intersection

The Intersection nearly exploded Saturday night when Troll For Trout took the stage to open their CD release party. The new album, titled Rancho Relaxo, is anything but relaxed. The band promised at the beginning of their set to play every song from the new disc, and they followed through even throwing in some old favorites ("Mrs. Martin") and an encore (a fifteen-minute-plus version of "Wish You Well"). The material was tight, fun and witty.

Opening for Trout was Chamberlain, a band from Burlington, IN. Their set was well-played and the group is very talented. They played their hearts out, but were reminiscent of the kind of rock music played by guest bands on Beverly Hills 90210 at the Peach Pit before hip hop took it over. The band played great, but the music and lyrics lacked any real soul or originality, and even their talent couldn't hide that. On the plus side, they did do a great cover of "Drift Away" by Dobie Gray.

The Trout songs are catchy, and fun. They had some qualities of Domestic Problems, sans horn section. The pace was sharp, and the crowd ate it up. They opened with the title track to Relaxo and went through the next two hours punching out tune after tune, passing for the occasional bottleneck tip-up and to try to calm ecstatic female fans. The band seemed tight and were very on the ball.

"We've been trying to give as many live performances of the new material as possible while trying to record it," said keyboardist John

Troll for Trout's Saturday show at the Intersection was well worth seeing.

Sabbatical Show is Worth a Look

Chamberlain showed their talent as when they opened for 'Troll For Trout at the Intersection.

Two Great Bands Rock Intersection

by Joe Theuerkauf
Times Contributing Writer

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The Rumors Have It...

by Elizabeth Dudek
Times Art and Entertainment Editor

In the crowded Wege cafeteria, amidst the clinking of silverware and chatter from the Aquinas student body sit some of the band members of Ponch. In between bites of gooey pasta and sips of water, Andy Hollander, Alex Nudd and David Schnell discuss future plans for their band. Ponch was created at the beginning of the school year and consists of Christian Vanantwerpen (drums), Scott Bannevich (bass guitar) and Kevin Jollineau (bass guitar), Hol­lander (lead vocals) and Kevin Schnell (lead guitar). The idea of Ponch, a rock-funk band with a heavy blues influence, was the idea of Ponch Enters Local Music Scene in Full Force

by Bridie Kent
Times Contributing Editor

Rumors, lies, accusations and sarcasm highlighted the Aquinas College Thespian’s production of Rumors, a farce by Neil Simon. For the first time in ten years, Aquinas students directed, pro­duced and performed a theater production. Rumors debuted on Sunday and ran through Monday. The play, directed and co-produced by Aquinas sophomore Denise Fournier, attracted a mixed audience of students, profes­sors, family of the performers and even children. "It was easy," said a visibly ex­hausted Fournier after Sunday’s perfor­mance. "It was a really good experience."

The play opens at the house of Charlie and Myra Brock. Chris Gorman, (senior Wendy Boguer) is having a desparate nicotine fit, as her husband, the Brock's law­yer Ken Gorman (freshman Nathan Peck) tries to dissuade Chris from revealing informations over the phone to Dr. Dudley about the events that took place earlier that day. Charlie Brock, suffering a flesh wound to the earlobe, is upstairs for the entire play. One by one, the couples who have been in­vited to the house for Charlie and Myra Brock's 10th anniversary celebration arrive to find that Myra is missing. Charlie is up­stairs with his car injury, and the help hired to serve at the party are nowhere to be found. In their house's absence, some guests begin to dream up intricate and scandalous scenarios about the couple, based on rumors that they’ve heard. As these stories get repeated, newly arrived guests learn of the circumstances sur­rounding the party and jump in on the outrageous hypothesizing, lies and rumors.

The plot thickens when Officer Welch (Sian Warszewski) and Officer Dudley (Fournier) arrive to investigate a car crash that they believe involved the beat-up BMW that is sitting in the driveway. The play then goes on to its famous line: "I don’t think you know how to rock and roll." That is, they write incredible lyrics, but when it comes to putting them to music, something is lost.

There is nothing on "Misguided Roses" to distinguish it from other modern rock bands. In the massive wave of new modern rock bands, Edwin McCain gets lost in the jumble. The band does add a bluse influence to the song "How Strange it Seems" in an attempt to add some variety to an otherwise mediocre CD. There are a few songs that stand out as being better than the rest, "I’ll Be," "See the Sky Again," and "Darwin’s Children" are all worth a listen. The verdict: If you love "I’ll Be," pick up the single; but borrow the CD from a friend before you dream of buying it.

Visit Edwin McCain at: www.edwin.com

Holiday Happenings Around W est Michigan

Here are some activities for the holiday season:

• Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, in Kalamazoo, will be hosting the "Benefit for Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes" Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. Local talent, bluegrass music, solo instrumentalists and much more will be in attendance. For curious minds (and for those who are interested), Loaves and Fishes provide food to shelters and to the "Ministry with Community Soup Kitchen" and two day emergency food supplies to families. Admission, guitar event is a "free-will" donation of cans or bags of food and other staples.

• "Christmas Around the World" is happening at the Fredrick Meijer Gardens. For more information, call 531-5020.

• "Inspecting Carol," a comical play that results when the original songs the band en­joys playing, especially for Hol­lander and Schnell are "Confused," "Broken" and "Love Reaction." Ponch is backed by manager Justin Orlik. Orlik enjoys the position and wants to help expose the band. "I like doing this, it is a lot of fun. I want to help bring the music to the people," he said. Curious people and fun-loving fans can catch Ponch playing at the Inter­section on Dec. 10 around 10 p.m. According to Orlik, "We are playing either second or third and will be playing with bands Modia, Smoke Ring and the 27 Dead Club." This show should not be missed, the music will be fantastic, and fans are guaranteed to dance, espe­cially to Ponch—all for these guys know how to rock and roll.

Edwin McCain
Misguided Roses

by Katy Moore
Times Contributing Writer

Who They Are: Craig Shields - Saxophones, keyboards Dave Harrison - Drums, percussion Edwin McCain - Vocals Larry Chaney - Guitar, Lap Steel Scott Bannevich - Bass

How you know them (current single): "I’ll Be"

Lyrics worth repeating: 
"Misguided roses we bloom in October emerging triumphant in time for the season’s first snow." - from the song “The Rhythm of Life.”

Thoughts on Misguided Roses: 
Judging from the success of it’s first single, I assumed that the CD would be as good. However, I was wrong. Edwin McCain falls into the trap that so many other musicians seem to be entering lately. That is, they write incredible lyrics, but when it comes to putting them to music, something is lost.
For Adoption Assistance
a Mother Can Love
Call 1-800-Bethany

Every life a promise
www.bethany.org

The Final Score
The Quest for a National Champ
by Damon Bouwkamp
Times Sports Editor

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Former Aquinas Coach Inducted into Hall of Fame
by Damon Bouwkamp
Times Sports Editor

Patti Tibaldi, who roamed the Aquinas sidelines as women’s basketball coach for 18 seasons, has been named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Hall of Fame. She was also recently inducted into the Basketball Coaches of Michigan (BCAM) Hall of Fame.

Tibaldi, who gave way to current head coach Linda Nash in 1996, is presently coaching at Traverse City West High School. During her tenure at Aquinas, Tibaldi led teams known for their tenacious, hard-nosed defense. While at Aquinas, the Saints won 340 games, four WHAC championships and qualified for the national tournament twice.

“Patti was before her time in regards to women’s basketball,” said Athletic Director Terry Bocian. “She was a pioneer in women’s athletics and held the banner at a high standard for those who followed her. We are proud to count her as an Aquinas alum.”

“I am extremely honored and so appreciative of all my players who made our successes possible,” said Tibaldi. “I am also grateful to those who mentored me, my assistants, especially Mary Tahas and my husband, Joe, and my colleagues, both those I have coached against and those I have worked with. Aquinas was a great fit for me, and I feel very lucky.”

Tibaldi will be officially inducted during ceremonies at the NAIA Division III Women’s Basketball National Championship in Sioux City, Iowa in March of 1999.

The Aquinas Times would like to wish Sports Editors Ryan Smith and Damon Bouwkamp as well as Local/National Editor Mary Kopchick good luck as they leave the Times Staff to travel abroad for the Spring Semester.
An All-American Season
by Nate Thomas
Times Contributing Writer.

It was an All-American fall for Aquinas sports as seven individuals helped the Saints bring home numerous awards. Leading the way was junior Ken Baginski who finished 21st place finish at the Men's Cross Country Nationals earned him All-American honors for the second year in a row. Along with Baginski, the rest of the men's team outsmarted the competition and brought home the National Academic Championship. The women's team had two players receive academic success for the Saints as they rolled to an 11-1 record. Senior Nate Thomas was named Academic All-Conference, while assistant coach Terry Bocian said, "The Lady Saints finished fourth in the running for the National Academic Championship, but still had repeat Academic All-American performances from seniors Melissa Plate (3.96 GPA) and Holly Huber (3.55). In women's soccer, juniors Amira Lama and Pam Bierzenia were both awarded Academic All-Americans. Lama had a 3.69 GPA and Bierzenia 3.55. "It's nice anytime our student-athletes earn any All-American honors," Bocian said.

A Q finished nine players for All-Conference, in men's soccer, two in volleyball and five in women's soccer. Seniors Rob Bondy and Mark Szuckowski were both awarded Academic All-Americans. Lama had a 3.69 GPA and Bierzenia 3.55. "It's nice anytime our student-athletes earn any All-American honors," Bocian said.

Lady Saints' Performance Builds Loyalty in Winning Streak
by Damon Bowkamp
Times Sports Editor

The Lady Saints basketball team has some uncertainties with the start of the season. The Saints find themselves with a 4-5 record after having lost to the Ballard of Ferris State on Dec. 5, 82-50. This loss capped a two-week period with wins against Hope College and Lake Superior State University before losing to Calvin College last Wednesday against Rochester. The Saints were outrebounded 32-26.的事宜 with games against Hope College, Lake Superior State University and Calvin College. The key to the win was the Saint's shooting percentage of almost 50%.

The Saints hope to add to their winning streak as they host Calvin on Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m.

Lady Saints' Performance Builds

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Courtenay Norman paved the way for the Saints with 21 points that included a monstrous first half dunk. The Saints never looked back after that as they stretched their seven point halftime lead into a 34 point final spread. Norman also contributed on the boards with 14 rebounds to complete the double-double. Senior Mike Jackson chipped in with 26 and seniors Teins and 9 rebounds.

The Saints picked up their most impressive win of the season on Saturday night as they upset the Flying Dutchmen of Hope College. This was a spotlight game as the rivalry has heated up in the recent years. The Saints came out on top this time as senior Nate Thomas was named Academic All-Conference for the second year in a row. Along with Baginski, the rest of the men's team outsmarted the competition and brought home the National Academic Championship. The women's team had two players receive academic success for the Saints as they rolled to an 11-1 record. Senior Nate Thomas was named Academic All-Conference, while assistant coach Terry Bocian said, "The Lady Saints finished fourth in the running for the National Academic Championship, but still had repeat Academic All-American performances from seniors Melissa Plate (3.96 GPA) and Holly Huber (3.55). In women's soccer, juniors Amira Lama and Pam Bierzenia were both awarded Academic All-Americans. Lama had a 3.69 GPA and Bierzenia 3.55. "It's nice anytime our student-athletes earn any All-American honors," Bocian said.

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The Saints meet Grand Valley Dec. 8 at GVUS7 at 7 p.m. Then they travel to Hillsdale on Dec. 10 at 6 p.m., with a New Year’s trip to California to follow. The next Saints’ home game is Jan. 9 against Madonna University to open up conference play at 7 p.m.
Opportunities for a Rainy Day
Variety at Van Andel Museum

by Dave Flack
Times Contributing Writer

"Want to see political integrity again?" It's in a museum off US-131. So reads a billboard on the way into Grand Rapids, and that message rings true for the Gerald R. Ford Museum.

In a day when many people seek escape from mudslinging and stained dresses, the Ford Museum offers a way to get away from it all. To make the Museum bigger and better, they moved and expanded it. "It's better now," said Aquinas student and East Grand Rapids resident Casey Vandam.

The Museum that brought GRAND RAPIDS 1980's and the big whale skeleton now offers some new exhibits. Some belong to the growing Collecting A to Z exhibit. This is composed of a number of permanent exhibits that the Museum continually adds to. There are also some temporary and seasonal events at the Museum Center.

Some exhibits dedicated to Ford include a Leadership in Diplomacy display, which explores the Vietnam conflict, a display of the professional lives of Gerald R. Ford, and a display of the personal collections. Exhibits range from door knobs and music boxes to Tarzan memorabilia. The collections vary during the exhibition period of Sept. 19 through Jan. 3.

For those who want to hit the Museum now and are feeling the Christmas spirit, rejoice! The Museum has even put up spectacular decor for the season.

A Hometown President

by Chris Manning
Times Features Editor


The Van Andel Museum, on Pearl St. N.W., offers something for everyone. Photo by Joshua Cochran

The problem with television and movies is that the picture just keeps going. Once in a while a movie might have a great scene, but as soon as the pause button's pressed it looks like a frame filled with a lot of melodrama and pale color. In fact, it's kind of a 1970s-sitcom, and that's something most would rather avoid.

Instead of passing through a taped Mary Tyler Moore episode, try enjoying visual art. Now, some might cringe at the thought of visiting the Van Andel Museum on this screen and won't blow up, but the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) has the bases covered for many different interests during the next few months.

Those who admire American painting might enjoy the exhibit entitled Mathias Alten: Journey of an American Painter. Despite his local roots, Alten's images include subjects from his travels and various Michigan scenes. A few places he depicts are the Netherlands, Spain, New Mexico and California. This particular exhibit runs until Feb. 24.

Those seeking a little of the heavy might be interested in the Saints and Angels in Art exhibit, which is a joint effort between the Martin D'Arcy Gallery of Art at the Loyola University of Chicago and the GRAM, runs from Dec. 15 until March 7. The exhibition includes paintings and sculpture from the medieval times to the early 1900s.

From Feb. 12 to Feb. 21, GRAM is conducting a special project with Kent County elementary students. Fourth and fifth-grade students will paint murals highlighting important people and successes for African-Americans. Celebrating local Dutch heritage, GRAM will spend four months bringing a three-part exhibit entitled Quiet Grandeur: Four Centuries of Dutch Art. This exhibit April 16 until Aug. 15. Cost of admission to the museum depends on the current exhibit.

Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. except Friday when hours are extended until 9 p.m. Admission is $3 for adults, $3 for senior citizens and free for under 16.

American bicentennial, the events leading to Ford's appointment (including a case containing authentic Watergate break-in tools), the Nixon tapes—and his Capitol Hill confirmation hearings. There's a section devoted to Ford's early years, complete with Christening gown, cans from his step-father's paint and varnish company, high school and college football programs and wedding invitations. 

Sophomore Jason Vogel was especially impressed by the tribute to Ford's football career, including his playing years at the University of Michigan and his coaching career at Yale and the University of Grand Rapids, where Aquinas College is now located.

"I have a great deal of respect for Gerald Ford's abilities, both as an athlete and politician," Vogel said. In addition to the regular features, the museum rotates temporary exhibits. Currently on display is "The Great War, World War I and the American Century," which incorporates the sound of machine gun fire, large scale airplanes hung from the ceiling and a replicated trench to simulate warfare in the early twentieth century. Artifacts on display include the original draft of A Farewell to Arms, Kaiser Wilhelm's naval cape and Woodrow Wilson's death mask.

The exhibit runs until Jan. 10. The museum, which is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except New Year's, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, is located west of the Grand River at Pearl St., N.W. For those who want to hit the Museum now and are feeling the Christmas spirit, rejoice! The Museum has even put up spectacular decor for the season.

Art for Everyone

The address, for those who would just say.) There is no better reason to call a cab and visit the Van Andel Museum Center. The 145 seat Digital Theater offers an excellent holiday presentation. Christmas music is played while you view colorful laser patterns on the dome ceiling. You won't strain your neck and the seats are fairly comfortable. The shows are Sunday and Saturday at 1 and 2 p.m. It has already begun and continues until Jan. 3, 1999.

The Planetarium also offers a chance to discover history and traditions and their origins. The show explores possible explanations of the Star of Bethlehem. Shows are Sunday through Friday at 2 p.m. and Saturdays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The history as well as the laser show are $1.50 each plus Museum admission and last until Jan. 3.