Flag Day
Aquinas hosts flag football tournament
by Jason Vogel
Times Sports Editor

Watching Aquinas’ flag football team play on Saturday, one would have thought that each game would affect the B.C.S (Bowl Championship Series), a college football rating system that determines who will play for the national championship. It didn’t affect the standings, Aquinas moved up, beating both Eastern Michigan and Central Michigan by a total of 65 points, hoping for a call from Sugar Bowl officials in New Orleans.

Well, maybe Aquinas would not quite qualify for the Sugar Bowl with a win in Sunday’s State Flag Football Finals at GVSU. They would, however, ensure themselves a trip to New Orleans in late December to represent Aquinas and the state of Michigan at the national level.

As part of a day event, Aquinas agreed to host some first round games on Saturday, despite budget cuts in the Intramural program. The visiting teams could not detect any cuts though, as Aquinas’ Intramural Program provided everything from a field with yard line markers and an AQ painted on the 50 yard line, to doughnuts, pizza and coffee for spectators and participants.

“I’ve gotten a lot of favorable comments from opposing teams about the way this tournament is being run,” said Chris Simons, who is the driving force behind Aquinas hosting the event. “The other teams commented on what a pleasure it was coming out here.”

Aquinas showed its opponents how to play football, embarrassing the two teams they faced. In the first game Aquinas blunted Central Michigan, a team that took 4th out of over 70 teams during the regular season in Mount Pleasant. After the game, freshman Scott Colaer laughed as he commented, “We were just toying with them.”

The Aquinas flag football team watches tournament action on Saturday. Aquinas hosted first round games and then moved onto Grand Valley State where they finished 3rd in the state, losing in semifinals, 33-27.

WAQU budget freeze
by Heather Young and Amanda Smith
Times Assistant Editor and Contributing Writer

Aquinas’ WAQU radio station is making changes to prove they are worthy of a budget. Students involved with the radio station aim to continue their work despite a budget freeze prompted by some spending problems.

According to Josh Greenwald, Community Senate Budget Director, WAQU’s budget was frozen because, “over the last two years, there have been two major equipment purchases made without Senate’s consent.” These purchases drove the budget up and beyond WAQU’s limits by an amount close to $1000.

At the beginning of this year, Senate Cabinet and the Budget Committee (with the agreement of Jeremy Bolker, president of WAQU) made the decision to freeze the station’s regular budget because of the overspending. As Greenwald pointed out, this decision does not mean that WAQU will be completely without funds. Those at the budget meeting agreed that funds. Those at the budget meeting agreed that

Knopke responds to student concerns
by Marquise Blakeslee
Times Contributing Writer

WAQU gave students a chance to ask and President Knopke a chance to answer some of the most pressing questions on campus. Questions of the students, and the hosts of the show Will Lemanski and Terry Keller, covered a broad range of campus topics from the rumors about the budget to housing to the new addition that will be added to the fieldhouse.

When asked about the budget, Knopke gave three main reasons for the deficit. The first reason was that of an accounting error. This error was an entry made by a former employee regarding a gift to the college. It was mistakenly entered twice into the books and that error was missed by the independent auditing firm that is responsible for overseeing the books of the college.

The next reason Knopke gave was lower than expected tuition revenue for second semester and summer classes. The tuition problem was compounded by the small number of continuing education and graduate students this year. Another area that contributed to the deficit was the unexpected expense for part-time staff and adjunct faculty. This led to the topic of canceled classes. The president felt that part of the problem with some of the classes is that there has been “registering by rumor.” He stated that classes that are needed for majors will not be cut. He said that most of the classes that are being cut are electives.

Lemanski asked, “Will the drop of these electives hurt the feeling of Aquinas as a liberal arts college?”

In response to this question Knopke said, “Fundamentally, Aquinas is a liberal arts college. I
Fr. Berrigan to teach at AQ
by Melissa Ann Pline
Times Contributing Writer

Not much keeps Father Daniel Berrigan from spreading peace. Be it turning Vietnam War draft files over to the FBI or writing social justice poetry in jail, this internationally known peace activist has dedicated his life to acting against injustice. As a guest professor and featured speaker during fourth quarter, Berrigan will bring his message to Aquinas and the Grand Rapids community.

"He's a person who dares to tell the truth about the world," said Fr. Dan Davis, Chaplain at Aquinas. "He's humbling and demanding, presenting a true assessment of our culture and challenging us to live our lives authentically."

In his two courses, Berrigan will reflect on current peace and social issues. "War and Peace: Ethical Choices" will deal with events in political history that have challenged the public to make ethical decisions. "Poets in Trouble Across the World in Our Century" will focus on poetry written under conditions of prison, torture, war, displacement and poverty.

Berrigan will also speak to the entire Aquinas community on a number of occasions. Planned appearances include "Hunger and Homelessness Week" in March and the Contemporary Writers series in April.

Berrigan's visit won't be limited only to Aquinas. "I've received over a dozen requests from the community for Fr. Berrigan to speak," said Miriam Pederson, Aquinas Associate Professor of English, who is helping to coordinate Berrigan's visit.

Pederson also helped to plan Berrigan's semester-long visit in 1996. Due to an illness, though, Berrigan had to cancel. In 1997, Berrigan came to Aquinas for two weeks, giving readings and workshops. During that visit, he found Aquinas students to be friendly and receptive.

Fr. John Gradwohl, the former chaplain at Bukowki, originally invited Berrigan to Aquinas. Gradwohl had known Berrigan from their days together in Haiti.

During his stay, Berrigan will reside with Fr. Davis and Fr. Paul Collison in their home in the Heartside Neighborhood.

"He wants to live in the inner city, among religious and the poor and be able to walk to school," said Davis.

Berrigan is best known for his action at Catonsville, Maryland, where he and eight others burned draft files at the Selective Service office in protest of the Vietnam War. After hiding out several months underground, he spent 18 months in prison. Berrigan has also spread his message through words and prose. During that stay, he wrote over 50 books, films, plays, poems, an autobiogra-phy and over 50 books.

At the age of 78, Berrigan continues to reach out for peace. He recently returned from the peace talks in Northern Ireland.

Berrigan's fourth quadmester class: SR 400, "War and Peace" on Thursday and EH 366, "Poets in Trouble" on Wednesday.

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Speaker forgives embezzling employee

by Angela Bergman
Times Campus News Editor

Imagine being a business owner and discovering that your most trusted employee has been embezzling thousands of dollars over five years from your company. What should be your course of action? A local business owner, preferring to be called "Rick," spoke to students and faculty on Nov. 18 about his action in this situation.

The discussion was sponsored by the Accounting Department of the School of Management.

"Buck" began by explaining the various accounting issues that his business faced. "We did a poor job collecting our receivables," Rick explained. He said that the creditors were demanding to be paid. When he hired a new accounting manager for his company, things turned around.

"I'm back in business, I'm making money, and I'm collecting my receivables," Rick said. His new accounting manager also helped him achieve his personal goals of buying a truck and building a house.

By "Buck" one afternoon, Rick received a call from a bank manager asking about an account number on the back of a check. Even- tually, Rick discovered that the individual whom he had entrusted with his business and personal goals had embezzled about $289,000 over the past five years.

"That was the best five years of my business career," Rick said. A week earlier he had been on a fishing trip with the accounting manager, and his wife was baby-sitting their seven-year-old daughter. From the call from the bank manager, Rick had found out that the check in question was written for $3,000.

"It scared me," he said. "When they told me it was for $3,000, I knew right then and there I had a problem."

Several other issues made the situation more complicated: the central importance of the accounting to the business, tax liability issues, issues with creditors, insurance and the bank and even the suggestions of his attorney. Rick decided not to prosecute his accounting manager.

Although he let his accounting manager go, Rick did recover insurance of $30,000 and the mariner's cottage and house on a lake. After working with others though, Rick's business soon was in trouble.

"The door was open for me to go back to him ... we took right off again," the consequences were that Rick was forced to switch banks and he says that he is a lot "sharper" about internal controls today.

"It is a process, not an event," Rick said. "I really think the guy (his accounting manager) came full circle (in ethics and religion).

An accounting and computer information systems major, junior Tim Stafford, said, "I was impressed on how he was able to separate business and personal issues afterwards. He kept an open mind and it was great that he was willing to share his experience."

In answer to questions about the parking situation this year Knopke said, "It is getting better. It is far better than it was a year ago." He also said, "Another thing that has made a difference is with Tony Colloton in their home in the Heartside Neighborhood.

"He wants to live in the inner city, among religious and the poor and be able to walk to school," said Davis.

Berrigan is best known for his action at Catonsville, Maryland, where he and eight others burned draft files at the Selective Service office in protest of the Vietnam War. After hiding out several months underground, he spent 18 months in prison. Berrigan has also spread his message through words and prose. During that stay, he wrote over 50 books, films, plays, poems, an autobiogra-phy and over 50 books.

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Knopke responded, "There are no plans right now for apartments. All I can see, and many others can see, is that in a couple of years it will be helpful to have a additional apartments on campus. The only new building that is projected in the vicinity of Jordan hall is the circle theater."
Harvest Hop held in Knape Hall

by Monique Nadon
Times Contributing Writer

What do Knape Hall, Community Senate, fall, music, pumpkins and Project PLAY have in common? The Harvest Hop.

On Dec. 1, the Community Senate with the help of Project PLAY put on the Harvest Hop, an annual fall dance. The tradition of the Harvest Hop began in 1996 as part of a plan to draw students to the Cook Carriage House by the Student Affairs Committee of the Community Senate. The first year had an attendance of over 200 people but in later years, attendance lagged. This year attendance reflected that first year, with around 200 students. Coordinators credit much of their attendance success to the Senate Promotions Committee.

The Harvest Hop was formerly a Carriage House dance. However, with the addition of the Moose Café, the dance was just not feasible in its traditional location. Project PLAY offered Knape Hall as the new home for the Harvest Hop.

Sophomore Matt McCarthy, who is both director of Project PLAY and chairperson of the Senate Student Affairs Committee coordinated much of this co-sponsored event.

"Due to the new renovations in the CCH, my committee had to look elsewhere to host the Harvest Hop. There are a lot of fun people who live in Knape Hall that were willing to help run the dance, so my committee and I made the change in location. The change turned out for the better," said McCarthy.

This year's Local DJ, Ace Marasigan, supplied music to the crowded dance floor, and there were also games to play such as bobbing for apples.

Sophomore John Semeyn said, "The Senate and PLAN have a good idea of how to make a dance fun. We had refreshments, good music and a friendly atmosphere."

WAQU BUDGET
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
WAQU will be able to make some purchases approved by the Senate on a case-by-case basis. Greenwald added that he thinks that the radio station is "doing a good job making improvements."

As confirmed by Greenwald, WAQU is trying to revamp in order to satisfy listeners enough to regain their budget. Items on their wish list include new equipment and CDs. Radio staff hopes to broadcast other events by opening the radio station as a media source. Other goals include keeping a regular format, something that they haven't done consistently in past years. WAQU also aims to get more involved with the Communications Department. One eight-week class, called Intro to Radio, is slated to begin in the fall but has not yet been reviewed by Academic Assembly.

"The DJs this year have a lot of interesting ideas and listenership has been at its peak this year," said Bolker. He stated that, unlike other clubs, WAQU lacks a budget, and by their commitment they are proving themselves.

Eric Mullen, WAQU advisor, said, "The group is working hard at making WAQU better." Mullen pointed out that the group is evaluating listenership which, he said, is important for a radio station.

WAQU also hopes to improve the station by varying their music genres. Although entertainment at Aquinas has had an alternative tilt in the last few years, WAQU is attempting a sort of rectification of that tilt by diversifying its air time.

Ron Walton, a freshman with the radio name of DJ Smooth, does his best to cater to a wide range of musical tastes. "I bring diverse and easy listening music to Aquinas," said Walton.

Freshman Dave Williams said, "I personally believe that WAQU is good because it allows students to express themselves in ways they may not be able to in everyday life.

"Social Work - Resident Advocate"

Seeking Resident Advocate to work in a residential program for adults with mental illness and/or developmental disabilities in the Lowell area. Responsibilities include intakes; discharges, development and implementation of treatment plans, medication distribution, and crisis intervention. Wages begin at $8.65 per hour with a $.50 increase upon completion of orientation and training, $.50 shift differential on weekends. Excellent written and verbal communication skills are a must.

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GR school superintendent addresses leadership class

by Heather Young
Times Assistant Editor

Dr. Patricia Newby, superintendent of Grand Rapids Public Schools, spoke to Aquinas students about her position.

Dr. Patricia Newby, superintendent of Grand Rapids Public Schools spent some of her day away from her schools and in an Aquinas classroom Thursday, Nov. 18. Newby's lecture was part of Aquinas' Introduction to Community Leadership course (CL 100), designed to instruct students in leadership on a local and socially-conscious scale.

"There are two jobs that are more difficult than that of a public school superintendent," said Rev. George Hartwell, who co-teaches CL 100 with Dr. Mike Williams, in his introduction of Newby, "that of an urban public school superintendent and that of an urban public school superintendent in Michigan in 1999."

Newby is exceptional in her field, not only for her ideas, but also for her endurance in a tough field. In the beginning of her third year in the position, she has already surpassed the 18 month average life span for superintendents of urban public schools.

Responding to student questions regarding this endurance and ones concerned with Newby's identity as a black woman in an overwhelmingly white and male career arena, she said, "I can find my place no matter where I am."

The policy and philosophy of Newby's work for Grand Rapids Public Schools stresses efficiency and preparedness of students. She has plans to consolidate buildings without increasing class sizes and straighten out the current system, which has children feeding from one school to another in a complicated and inconsistent web. Other plans include making students prepared for the working world-one, she pointed out, that does not absorb much more than 20 percent of workers into college-level jobs.

"I'm trying to provide leadership to change how we do business," she said, referring to a high school education that would be more career-oriented.

Newby spoke of "raising the standards for learning" which she hopes to accomplish through student proficiency in the MEAP. Other methods that she says will function to assess proficiency are tracking students to see how many are doing well and how many have received additional training after high school and checking the drop-out and return rates. Newby's goal is to turn out students who are "productive members of society."
EgyptAir Flight 990 crash leaves unanswered questions

by Megan Anton

The Oct. 31 crash of EgyptAir Flight 990 has raised several unanswered questions. Investigators continue their search into the events that caused Flight 990 to crash in hopes of finding an explanation.

This week off the Massachusetts coast, divers continue to search for key pieces of the plane. As with all plane crashes, the searchers wanted to recover the black boxes as soon as possible. These pieces of equipment allow the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) officials to know exactly what went on in the cockpit prior to the decent.

The NTSB believes that, after climbing to the altitude of 33,000 feet, the plane’s autopilot was turned on and the pilot left the cockpit. The voice and data recorders revealed that both pilots operated the controls during the descent. At 16,000 feet the plane returned to climbing up into the sky until it reached 22,000 feet. There, it began to fall again and never recovered. It crashed into the Atlantic Ocean.

Death certificates have been issued for all 217 people on board the plane. Since all the bodies have not been found or identified, the certificates read that the victim is presumed dead.

Divers found the voice recorder last week, and NTSB officials believe they have pieced together some of the events before the fatal crash.

Earlier investigators suspected Co-pilots Gameel el-Battouti or Adel Anwar as being responsible for the fatal crash. Several news sources reported that the voice recordings included one pilot saying, “I made my decision now. I put my faith in God’s hands.”

Later, investigators stated that the first sentence is not on the tape. The source of this rumor remains unknown.

Federal investigators and terrorism experts still believe that the next step in the investigation will be biographies of the four co-pilots for suicidal or terrorism intentions. Egypt has reacted with incredulity and shock to the suggestion of suicidal crew members.

NTSB officials have taken this information to the FBI asking for a criminal investigation. The FBI expressed their intention to wait on taking over until they have an opportunity to review the tapes.

Egyptian officials are extremely concerned over the circumstances surrounding the crash because there were several important figures on the plane. They, however, do not believe that there is sufficient evidence to warrant an FBI investigation. Egyptian officials claim that there are many circumstances in which the Arab prayer could have been heard.

U.S. investigators have placed pressure on Egypt’s Transport Department to turn the inquiry into a criminal investigation. Transport Minister Ibrahim Demiri said Monday that Egypt will resist such pressure until hard evidence indicating criminal actions or intentions can be discovered.

“Fixing reasons for the crash could take a long time, but it is necessary not to rush in order to bring out the truth,” said Demiri in a quote to Reuters.

As a result of Egypt’s resistance, the NTSB has delayed their decision to hand the case over to the FBI.

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Courts rule Microsoft monopoly illegal: effects unclear

by Nick Occhipinti

According to the ruling of the in the current suit against the Microsoft Corporation, which has too much power in the personal computer (PC) market and has used that power to the detriment of the consumer. This first ruling in a series of rulings by Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson, which may determine the future of software giant Microsoft, came as a huge blow to the company.

The Justice Department claimed that Microsoft is a monopoly and has used that power to its business. The problem lies largely in Microsoft’s software packages that contain their Internet browser Microsoft Explorer. In 1994, Netscape launched its internet browser, which was in direct competition with Microsoft’s Explorer. Netscape was extremely popular and did not operate independently of the Microsoft Windows operating system. Microsoft saw it as a threat and needed a way to combat it. So, in turn, Microsoft gave away the Internet Explorer as a part of Windows software which is often included with the purchase of a PC from companies like Dell Computers, which Microsoft contracts with. The ruling claims that Microsoft Explorer was not included in Windows for any technical reasons and that it was simply their attempt to destroy the competition.

In the United States of America v. Microsoft Corporation, C.A. 98-1232 finding this statement was made: “Microsoft enjoys so much market power in the market for Intel-compatible PC operating systems if it wished to exercise this power solely in terms of price, it could charge a price for Windows substantially above that which could be charged in a competitive market.” Moreover, it could do so for a significant period of time without losing an unacceptable amount of business to competitors. In other words, Microsoft enjoys monopoly power in the relevant market.

The judge found three main reasons for this ruling. First, Microsoft’s share of the PC market for Intel-compatible PC operating systems is extremely large and stable. Second, “Microsoft’s dominant market share is protected by a high barrier to entry,” and third, consumers lack a commercially viable alternative to Windows. This ruling claims that the Microsoft Corporation harms competition and has an advantage over companies like Netscape and AOL and, in turn, negatively affects consumers.

Microsoft’s fate is not entirely sealed. The Washington, D.C. Circuit Court overturned a ruling by the same judge in 1998 which ordered Microsoft to sell Windows without Explorer. In addition, this case has Supreme Court potential, which has been prohibited in its rulings. Microsoft also has a large influence in congress and is currently seeking to influence the budget that is being used to fight against it.

Microsoft has not been assigned a penalty yet. There are a lot of options that the judge has to penalize Microsoft. The corporation could be split up into several homogeneous factions. The court could impose a fine from $1 to $100 billion.

No one knows yet what effect this will have on Microsoft consumers and stockholders. Microsoft has risen from under $10 a share in 1994 to over $90 a share in 1999. Thousands of Americans hold stock in the company.
Rev. Jesse Jackson arrested, fighting school board's expulsion

by Katie Curnutte
Daily Illini (U. Illinois)
11/17/99

(U-WIRE) DECATUR, Ill. — The Rev. Jesse Jackson was arrested Tuesday for crossing police lines in front of Decatur's Eisenhower High School, keeping his promise to march on to the high school. No compromise was reached and no students were readmitted to the school.

He was released Tuesday evening after promising to appear in court in December.

"There's something awry that must be challenged," Jackson said after being released. "The issue is not my being in jail."

Jackson, several other ministers and parents of the expelled students tried to enter the school's lawn in front of screaming crowds and a large media presence after failure to enter in line with school board members. Jackson pushed back the original deadline for entering school grounds from 7 a.m. to noon Tuesday morning when the superintendent and school board president proposed an emergency meeting.

Several people followed Jackson across police lines, but only three more, Mark Allen, the Rev. Cleo Willis and John Cunningham, were arrested. Willis lay down in front of the van that carried Jackson to the police station. Jackson was ar rested for felony mob action, contributing to the delinquency of a minor and solicitation to commit a crime.

The three others were also charged with mob action and various crimes. Felony mob action is defined as two or more people in the process of performing an act wherein someone is injured.

Jackson made his first appearance in front of Eisenhower at 7:40 a.m., where police formed a human barricade in front of the school. Jackson announced to spectators and press that he would meet one last time with members of the school board before moving on to the school.

By the day's end, the school board decided not to vote on a proposal that would have the students back in school early next year.

"They want to prolong this for another day," said the Rev. Thomas Walker, who attended the beginning of the negotiation. Walker announced to the Church of the Living God after noon that no compromise was reached and that he would march on to the school.

"They resist at this point a case-by-case review," Jackson said. "We're going to the school." Jackson, who was surrounded by reporters and photographers as soon as he arrived at the school, made his way slowly toward the police line, surrounded by spectators chanting "Save the children!" He was flanked by two men and later handcuffed immediately after crossing the line. He was handcuffed, Jackson silently looked toward the crowd. The police line caved after he was handcuffed. Spectators and media followed Jackson and his police escorts to the transport van, where Jackson recited "Save the children" quietly until the doors closed.

Some who crossed the police line, including Pastor Paul Jakès from Chicago, sat on the ground holding hands and praying but were not arrested.

"We were told to sit on the ground and we'd be arrested momentarily," Jakès said. He continued to try to gain access to the school after Jackson was taken away and the police barricade broke away. He said more waves of supporters trying to gain access to the schools could be expected Wednesday. "Though Jackson was arrested, he was not charged, said Macon County State's Attorney Larry Fichter. Fichter said Jackson and the three others were released on $10,000 bond today. Jackson and the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition said they did not post any money.

"Their arrest was a political stunt. We have not arrested Jackson for anything. We can't even have a civil arrest," said Wayne Fichter, the police chief. Jackson and the three others were released on Dec. 16.

Jackson was banned from Decatur school district property unless he has the permission of the superintendent. Jackson planned to attend a school board meeting Tuesday night and said he would hold a prayer session at MacArthur High School Wednesday morning.

Tuesday's rally came nine days after Jackson came to Decatur following the school officials' decision to expel six students for two years after a football game fight in September. Jackson's involvement brought national attention to the controversy. He, along with Gov. George Ryan, helped persuade the school board to reverse the punishments to one year and let the students enroll in alternative education programs immediately. Several rallies have been held, including a small counter-rally by the Ku Klux Klan. Jackson also helped file a suit against the board.

Jackson is still pushing for the students to be reinstated by January, through what a Jackson supporter called a "blue-ribbon" review board that would evaluate the school and allow the kids back to school in January. Standards would include a "C" average, attendance and conduct.

Earlier in the day, Superintendent Kenneth Arndt said "prayers were answered by not having a confrontation today." Before the failed morning meeting, Arndt said it would be close to impossible for the students to catch up with their classes if they were readmitted to their regular schools in January and suggested they attend the alternative schools that has been offered to them.

"They will have almost one-on-one attention if they attend the alternative schools. The teachers used to teach at Decatur schools and are very respected," Arndt said.

Eisenhower Principal Walt Scott said his primary concern was to keep the events from disrupting the school day and said Jackson would not gain access to the school.

"We will not take the kids into the school," Scott said. "Our plan is to keep the doors closed." Students could only enter the school after showing a school ID.

A short time after Jackson was arrested, supporters crowded the front of the school protesting, yelling into the street and chanting. "Let the children in, let the Reverend out!" Meeks said then that he did not think Jackson would be bailed out Tuesday.

"I don't see him coming right out. He is a man of principle; he does not do this for a media show," Meeks said. Meeks told the crowd that a lawyer was with Jackson and "everything is fine."

This cause is bigger than me or the Reverend is going to sleep in a comfortable bed," he said.

A rally was held Tuesday night at the Church of the Living God in another show of support for Jackson and the seven suspended students.

Bonfire tragedy hits Texas A&M

by Nick Ochcipinti
Times Local/National Editor

Bonfire tragedy hits Texas A&M

Eleven people have been found dead in College Station, Texas and 28 were injured, five in critical condition. At Texas A&M, cranes were bringing in logs to add to the 45 foot tall structure when the support systems suddenly gave way and the combustible materials collapsed. The bonfire, held annually before the football game with University Texas, has been a tradition since 1909. The bonfire was scheduled to be held Thanksgiving night, but has been cancelled due to the deadly accident. The bonfire was cancelled in 1963, in response to President Kennedy's assassination.

Study reveals new findings about sense of smell

According to a recent study published in Nature magazine, each nostril is responsible for different smells. One nostril is always smelling in air other than the other because of swelling that always present in one of the nostrils. The swelling switches from one nostril to the other every few hours. The reason for this complication is not entirely known. However, researchers believe it may be designed to give humans a better chance to respond to a variety of diverse smells. The dual nostril system has a three dimensional effect similar to that of binocular vision in the eyes.

Government Proposes New Workplace Standards

Monday the federal government proposed new standards that would enforce stricter standards on workplace conditions. The proposal is a result of the annual 1.8 million workers who report musculoskeletal disorders due to work environment conditions. The proposal would require work place modifications such as lower assembly lines to prevent back problems and special computer keyboards to prevent carpal tunnel. Opponents of the proposal cite the expense—approximately $42 billion dollars nationwide—which individual employers would be responsible for. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is currently evaluating employer and workers reactions to the proposal to determine how it might be put into play.

Meteor shower grand for some, bust for others

The Leonid meteor shower proved to be a spectacular show for some, nothing for others. The global average peaked about 9 p.m. EST Wednesday in a storm of 1.688 meteors per hour, according to NASA's monitoring station at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. It footprint of space debris was as low as four visible meteors per hour in one second, but an hour later, the density of meteors witnessed for a half hour. Dismayed by city lights, lack of a horizon and bitter cold, the less than determined contingent retreated to their warm beds.

Federal government budget finally settled

A budget agreement was finally struck Tuesday, Nov. 18 when the Republican congress and the Democratic White House finally overcame their differences. The U.S. government has been running only because of temporary spending measures signed by President Clinton. The process of compromising between the GOP and Clinton has been extremely strained as of late because the GOP has struck down the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and further aggravated hostile feelings between the parties.
Supporters of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999, S.622, seek more federal enforcement against hate crimes. Opponents say the law censors thoughts.

Hate has many definitions. Is it getting angry with a six-year-old brother when he destroys your thirty-page final exam paper? How about laughing at a racist joke? Standing up for something you strongly believe in, when there is someone opposed to your point of view? Drawing a swastika on the Women's Studies Board?

Hate can be verbally expressed casually or with serious intentions. Hatred is a feeling, derived from a thought, and is unique to every individual and the way that each person copes with different circumstances. Hatred will never disappear in the world because it is an emotion inherent to human beings.

There is also a legal definition for what a crime is. It is the use of force that violates another person's right to life and liberty. Civil society is guided by the rule of law, or equality before the law. Everyone individual-regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion or disability-enjoys this equality. The rule of law also allows the individuals bound by the law to understand laws and the consequences for breaking them.

It is common in the media to put these two words together to get "hate crimes." If the word is heard often enough it starts to become accepted. This word grossly distorts the definition of a crime and it is difficult to understand the meaning of hate in this context. Congress is considering the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999 which would designate any crimes based on religion, race, national origin, gender, disability and sexual orientation as federal hate crimes. These hate crimes take

into the accounts of the offender and prescribe different punishments based on the characteristics of the victim-instead of the act of crime.

Is an African-American, Catholic, woman or homosexual's life worth more than a white, heterosexual or male's life?

If a white man, instead of a black man, were dragged behind a truck to death, would the crime have been less severe? Given the definition of a hate crime, would the case of a heterosexual boy being raped and molested by homosexual men be a less severe crime than the rape and molestation of a homosexual?

In a just society, obviously not. Both instances are brutal, awful and motivated by some form of hatred or uncontrollable behavior that must be punished in a court of law.

There should not be stricter punishments based on the characteristics of the victim. This concept goes against the integrity of our legal system. There are no specific definitions of the groups or classifications of people who are included in the categories of religion, race, national origin, gender, disability and sexual orientation. How can there be? Prewar every group or classification of people that can be thought of will somehow want to be included under the law of hate crimes. If someone doesn't like hairdressers and commits crimes against them, isn't this a "hate" crime? Where do the hairdressers fit into the equation?

This law has major ramifications. People's First Amendment rights are threatened. Will we now be told what is "legal" to think on these controversial issues?

Hatred, undeniably, has the potential to provoke violence. But hate does not directly cause violence. It is when citizens directly infringe on another person's civil liberties that a crime is committed and must be justly punished.

Creating a separate definition of "hate crimes" does not stop hate.

The solution to this problem is not for Congress to pass another law. Issues involving brutal crimes must be decided on a case-by-case basis in the courts, under principles of equality under the law.

... hate crimes are distinct because of the message of fear and inequality that they send."

When we worry about protecting the criminals' right to hate, we negate our social responsibility to ensure that every American has the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It is difficult for those not targeted by hate groups to understand that a hate crime is a different animal from other crimes. It is difficult to have enough collective compassion to admit that hate crimes are not permissible in a nation which boasts equality.

"Because the majority of states don't have laws protecting all Americans, the federal government needs to have full jurisdiction to allow local, state, and federal authorities the opportunity to work together to ensure that justice is achieved in every case.

When we worry about protecting the criminals' right to hate, we negate our social responsibility to ensure that every American has the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. It is difficult for those not targeted by hate groups to understand that a hate crime is a different animal from other crimes. It is difficult to have enough collective compassion to admit that hate crimes are not permissible in a nation which boasts equality.

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CLOSING THE INCOME GAP

There is not one easy solution to poverty and the income gap between economic levels. Until last Sunday, however, it seemed unlikely that anyone would support the internet as a means to reduce poverty worldwide. But leave it to our dear President Clinton to suggest at a forum on "progressive governance for the 21st century" that readily available internet access is the key to closing economic gaps in nations around the world.

I admit that the internet has its advantages for people around the world. It provides a wealth of information in a matter of seconds, allows for convenient on-line shopping and serves as an inexpensive way to communicate over long distances. But I cannot agree that it will diminish poverty.

Letter to the Editor

I am writing this letter as an Aquinas student concerned about recent events that have occurred at the Aquinas Women's Center. The dry erase board outside of the Women's Center near the Corner Cafe was meant to be a forum for thought and ideas related to gender issues. Instead it was used to portray hatred, bigotry, and fear. I am referring to the swastika and the words "White Power" that appeared on the board. This caused the board to be removed by a faculty member because it offended many people.

The placing of such a symbol of hate is disrespectul and hurtful to all on campus and only the individual or individuals that drew that swastika know why, but I would like them to know it was a very offensive act. This type of bigotry has no place at Aquinas, nor any other place, because no one should have to feel offended in a place that they learn, teach, or work.

I encourage all people here at Aquinas to keep the internet as a place of communication open. If the Women's Center is doing something you don't agree with, let them know by email, phone, or letter. I hope this certainly will prevent such a situation from happening in the future. We all must prevent each other's words from being misunderstood by each other. Even the worst behaviors should be done with respect for the others. I respect each other and I want each other to respect me.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Fleeman

HEARD

Tell us what you think of the Times. Send questions, comments, letters, or photo submissions to: 

The Aquinas Times
1607 Robinson Rd. 
Grand Rapids, MI 49506 
E-mail: times_editor@aquinas.edu

November 24, 1999

And you can quote me on that...

Should the 'Harry Potter' books be banned from school libraries?

"I think that all the info should be there and kids should make their own decision and if they're not old enough to make decisions on their own, then their parents should be involved in their lives to help them make that decision."

Amanda Spitzley, senior

"We give cinema, literature and TV too much credit for the wrongs in our world. And by giving them so much power we're letting those sources control us. I think being there and talking them through it instead of judging the book is what parents need to do."

Shannon Basset, assistant director of Student Activities

"I think it's ridiculous to ban a book because it talks about things different from the norms in our society. Parents need to talk to their kids if they disagree and discuss the content so that there aren't any misunderstandings."

Deanna Robins, senior

"I think each district needs to do what is best for them, but there are many such books out there that deal with the fantasy/wizard theme, so they might need to take that into consideration. I think part of the reason they are so popular is that adults have put such a fuss over them."

Katy Lux, professor of education

OPINION

Closing the income gap requires more than the Net

We all know the trick. Remember sitting at your desk in the fifth grade with your social studies book propped on your desk, looking up as though you're deeply immersed in reading a chapter about the Soviet Union when what you're really reading is "James and the Giant Peach" to communicate over long distances. But I cannot agree pensive way to communicate over

It seems ironic that with all the different media outlets made available to kids today, we are becoming disillusioned with the most fundamental and crucial way of learning: reading. We can live without a Playstation, the Internet and even TV. But reading will be a necessary skill for the rest of our lives. As for the Harry Potter books being pulled from the shelves of school libraries, keep in mind other books that have been pulled from libraries years ago and are now staples on school reading lists across the country. What about J.R.R. Tolkien's The Hobbit or C.S. Lewis' The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe? These books around the fantasy/wizard theme are such books are widely acclaimed by librarians and Christian readers.

It is understandable that with a rash of school violence occurring throughout the country, parents are taking every precaution to shield the gears inside their children's minds from formulating any additional tragedies. However, it is highly doubtful that any kid is really going to cast a spell or put a deadly curse over the entire school after reading a book that is geared for kids as young as third grade. Parents must realize two things before snatching these books from their kid's hands. One, it is not only impractical but detrimental to shelter children from something that is a fantasy and could actually turn a child on to reading. Two, the Harry Potter books are not real. They are fiction, an escape from the real world.

If we're talking about banning literature concerning fantasy and the supernatural, we must then think of all the piles of books that would have to be discarded from our libraries. These books are not dangerous; they are products of the imagination. Something that most children understand, but a few "grown ups" may need to exercise a little more

The Road less traveled

We have to remember that the internet is a tool. Not a savior.

People who are living in poverty have many needs, medical care, jobs that pay enough to support themselves and their families, and shelter, education and vocational training and many other necessities. The internet cannot be an adequate substitute for any of these issues - on line people can get medical advice, lists of available jobs and ways to finance a home or consolidate bills - but it does offer assistance in acquiring these necessities.

Information is rarely available exclusively on line. Libraries, newspapers, radio, television and directly contacting businesses in question provides the same knowledge that the Internet has. Additionally, if an individual in the United States believed that he or she would greatly benefit from access to the internet, that person could head to his or her local library or public university for access to the expansive web.

Clinton claims that with access to the Internet "a lot of smart people will figure out how to make a lot of money." It's an interesting proposal. And perhaps a few industrious citizens will become Internet entrepreneurs. Unfortunately, more likely they will still lack the business and financial skills to improve their situation. They need more than a computer to bring them up to speed. Although equipping businesses with information is certainly commendable, it is not a panacea. The problems of poverty and economic inequality are issues that will not go away with the click of the button.
Faculty art exhibited at AMC

by Jacqueline Flory

Times Contributing Writer

Every student has asked a teacher at one point when learning new material, "When will I need to know this in real life?" At Sunday, Nov. 14's faculty exhibition at Aquinas' Art and Music Center, art professors proved to their students that hope exists for those seemingly pointless lessons. Aquinas faculty members Dana Freeman, Kurt Kaiser, Madeline Kaczmarszczk, Ron Pederson, Sharon Sandberg and Steve Schousen presented a display of their works in various media.

One of the show's most standout pieces was Associate Professor of Art Dana Freeman's mixed media piece entitled "The air in which we move..." Comprised of five glass panels with letters and a small baby on them, the piece reflects on language and how human beings believe in it. The letters spiral from panel to panel, spelling out words of the end of a poem by English professor Miriam Pederson called "What of the air?"

Freeman says she wants her piece to send forth the message that "language is not as predictable as we think it is." "The air..." came forth out of a series of experiments with glass boxes. The child displayed in the picture illustrates a human's first grasping of language in its lifetime. Freeman describes her work as that of a "post modern, concept-driven" artist.

Kurt Kaiser, another Associate Professor of Art, displayed two designs using non-traditional media. He comprised his piece "Angelus Table" using simple yard wastes with a plate on top of it. His other work, "Jack Study I" used plywood to depict something similar to a 3-D Star of David.

Madeline Kaczmarszczk, Adjunct Professor of Ceramics, showed off several dishwasher pieces, including two sets of teapots. Lecturer of Art Sharon Sandberg painted two oil still lifes for the show; "Orange Tissue" and "Dry Bouquet on Yellow Tissue."

Professor of Art Ron Pederson's work consisted of three sculpture pieces, a toad and two other abstract works called "Muscle Memory" and "Where Ideas Come From." This is Pederson's eighteenth's year participating in the show.

Steve Schousen, Associate Professor of Art, displayed seven untitled graphite landscape pieces. Freeman said that the show has gone on since way before she arrived at Aquinas seven years ago, and she emphasizes its importance for art students today.

"We wanted to show our students that we too are working artists," said Freeman.

13th Element performs at the Moose

by Sarah Kommer

Times Contributing Writer

When Rob Rice, lead singer of Aquinas' The 13th Element, stepped on stage, he smiled. The band played Nov. 13 at Lungo's Cafe in Grandville, and they all have much to smile about. The energetic 90-minute set brought many Aquinas students away from campus and to the coffee shop for a chance to assess the band's talent.

J.J. Flory, an Aquinas freshman who went for the show said, "I was really impressed with the band. I think a lot of Aquinas students missed out!"

The band, whose name is derived from the movies, The 13th Hour and The 5th Element, consists of three members: Rob Rice on lead vocals and guitar, Jacob Caleca on drums and Tony Caruso on bass guitar.

Rice and Caleca knew each other from high school and met Caruso through other Aquinas friends who scribbled messages on every St. Joseph Hall message board about a band that needed a bassist. Caruso saw the message on his board, mistakenly assumed it was solely meant for him and called. Fortunately he did and the band has been playing together since. The band debuted at the Aquinas talent show where they performed the song "And It Still Goes On."

Rice is the only member with formal music lessons as Caleca and Caruso were self-taught. The 13th Element writes all their own music and loves to perform.

Rice said, "The best part about this band is how we work together so well and can almost feel where the others are in the music."

The 13th Element's performed Nov. 20 at the JAMMIN Talent and Fashion Show. Next, they will be heading the Kenova Hills High School Battle of the Bands on Dec. 4. Plans are in the works for a future date at the Intersection. In the meantime, the campus should keep their ears open for the sounds of this intriguing Aquinas-based band.
Mission Orange and Ten Five play Wege Ballroom
by Elizabeth Dudek
Dime Arts and Entertainment Editor

Grand Rapids' own Mission Orange and Kalamazoo's Ten Five played a free show on Nov. 13 in the Wege Ballroom. With both powerhouse bands taking stage, it was easy to see why Aquinas is fond of the local music scene. The pounding rhythms of Ten Five and the soaring guitar licks of Mission Orange were heard outside of Wege. Band members Ten Five enjoyed playing for such an energetic crowd. For Saba Karadashi (bass guitar), Tom Graam (guitar), Aaron Autoon (drums), Jason Reed (guitar) and Leigh Kakary (vocals) this was the first time playing for the Aquinas community. With a sound loud enough to keep the whole campus grooving, Ten Five played "Out My Shell," from their first album "Severen" and new songs like "Someday," "Can't Find Myself" and "No More." The group has been compared to other bands like Sugar Ray but has its own sound, genre and agenda.

"It was a great turnout. There were a lot of kids here, and it was awesome to get such a great diversity. We want the audience to enjoy our music," Kakary said.

Junior Justin Orlik was impressed with Ten Five's performance. "They were really good, an excellent band with a lot of energy. They put on a great performance," said Orlik.

Mission Orange took stage after Ten Five finished their set. Band members and setup crew transformed the stage to a relaxed atmosphere with potted plants, a lava lamp and some votive candles. Wearing Hawaiian shirts, the band played classic tunes such as "Worn and Torn" and "Black Vinyl Pants."

Resident Director Calvin Webb enjoyed the show. "If music were color, a perfectly placed rainbow is here, and it was awesome to get such a great diversity," said Webb.

At the same time, they also introduced the audience to a new rock 'n' roll sound that fans can also hear for themselves; Mission Orange's new CD should hit record stores within the near future. In between tuning instruments and informal chats with the audience, Mission Orange's music had a funky, psychedelic groove. Doing a cover of "Knickin' on Heaven's Door," the harmonies of Ryan Wilson and Muller blended together beautifully. Roy Wallace (drums), Nate Roosien (bass, vocals) and Dave Moroney (vocals, guitar, cello) also helped to further the furiously rhythms of this band.

After the show, bass player Nate Roosien was pleased with the performance. "We were doing our hippie thing," said Roosien.

Author-poet, Troupe ensnares diverse AQ audience
by Cristina Venditelli
Times Contributing Writer

In Wege Ballroom on Nov. 11, a young black girl, about eight years old, whose hair was adorned with little ponytails, stood up and told her "story." Troupe, whose full name is Thomas Quincy Troupe, Jr., came to Aquinas that night to share his writing and his life. A variety of people attended the reading, from college students to full families who brought their children to delight in Troupe's work.

Many Inquiry and Expression classes attended, but listeners were not limited to those fulfilling their 1&Q requirement. Sophomore Jean Orlowski said, "I went to see Quincy Troupe because I enjoyed his poetry, and I'm not an I&E student. I liked his rhythm, tone and subject matter and the use of his original dialect. I don't think enough people realize that informal poetry is poetry, and I think people need to recognize it as such."

Troupe is a well-known author. He has written six volumes of poetry, including Embryo Poems, Soundings and another called Skulls Along the River. He has also won numerous awards such as the National Endowment for the Arts Award in poetry in 1978, and the New York Foundation for the Arts fellowship in poetry in 1987. His second volume of poetry, Snake-Back Socks, won the American Book Award from the Association of American Publisher in 1980.

Troupe spent most of his time reading his own works of poetry and explaining the stories behind them. In a work he wrote about death, he said, "Death is a natural part of the way it is." He also read a poem called "Bellis" that he wrote describing the bells that can be heard ringing in African plazas. Troupe takes pride in writing freely. He likes to write about anything he chooses. As he told his audience in Wege Ballroom, "Poets, we take license, we can say whatever we want." Many of his poems are laced with humor. About the poem he wrote for his mother, he told listeners, "You have to write honestly about your mother."

This poem left out nothing, even giving detailed descriptions of Troupe's mother's bad habits and daily activities. Despite these pre-cocuous details, Troupe recognized his mother as "the one who turned me on to poetry."

He also gave a lot of credit to his wife, commending her for her support. "[She is] beautiful, she's a good partner, and nice, and gentle... She taught me to be a human being."

Moira Boylem, Aquinas senior, said, "He was really powerful and emotional, it is good to see a poet be that type of performer with the way he got into his poems."
Men's basketball off to best start in two years

by Jason Vogel
Times Sports Editor

The Aquinas College men's basketball team made its home debut for the 1999 season on Friday, Nov. 19, against the visiting Lancers from Windsor College. The Saints, who came into the contest 4-0, can already boast of the Naismith Classic title as one of the 1999 season's achievements.

Windsor, a team Aquinas had already beaten once in the finals of the Naismith Classic, came in on Friday night and put up a fight against the Saints. At the end of the first half, Aquinas had a slight advantage, on top by a score of 39-36. In the second half, however, Aquinas would prove to be too much for the visiting Lancers as the Saints out scored Windsor 44-33, putting the final score at 83-69.

Leading the way for the Saints was junior Tim Wasilk who pumped in 20 points, grabbed 6 rebounds and dished out 7 assists. Following Wasilk was another guard, Ross Wittick who scored 12 points, all three-point shots. Jason Carver added 10 points and 9 rebounds while Pete Beachy and Andy Stekete came off the bench with 8 points apiece.

Saturday, the Lancers came back to Aquinas for the third meeting between the two teams in less than a week. Each time the Saints played Windsor, the only thing that changed was the margin of victory. In Saturday's game, Aquinas saw every player dressed score points in route to their 92-50 win. Aquinas jumped out an early lead in the game and never looked back.

Again leading the way for Aquinas was Tim Wasilk who scored 14 points all in the first half and dished out 8 assists during the night. After the contest, Coach Albro spoke of Wasilk and what he brings to the Saints.

"Tim brings so much to the team," Albro said. "Physical as well as mental toughness are the things he brings that are so infectious."

Coach Albro was also happy with the performance of sophomore Kyle Verlin as he scored 14 points. "Kyle hit three's in a row in the second half," said Albro. "We needed that from the outside today."

The Saints head into Thanksgiving break 6-0 and a chance to spotlight their talent to the Grand Rapids area as they play at Van Andel Arena in the Old Kent Classic.

Aquinas fans show school spirit is still alive, but needs some work

by Jason Vogel
Times Sports Editor

It was not long ago when I too lived in the Aquinas College dorms with nothing better to do than play NCAA College Basketball '99 (an entire season) or perhaps watch the Simpsons seven times day. People in my hall would say the same thing every day: "There is nothing to do around here," and then off we would go playing another game or flipping through the five stations on their cable television. Yes, believe it or not, we had to rough it with antennas!

It was not until a men's basketball game my freshman year that I realized there often was something going on to get me out of the square enclosure with pea-green walls that we called home. Aquinas played neighborhood rivals Cornerstone University (back then it was college), and some friends and I went to the game. Aquinas annihilated the visiting Golden Eagles that Saturday afternoon. The Saints could not miss. All the students at the game had pop bottles with pennies in them (compliments of AQ Image), and with them we cheered the entire gam. And when the game was over we could not stop talking about how proud we were to have chosen Aquinas College with all of its trees and great basketball players, and anything else we could think of positive about our school.

To finish my little story, I stopped by the bookstore and picked up a little pocket schedule with all of the sports and began going to games more regularly. The games were a lot of fun, much more fun than sitting in my dorm playing Nintendo or watching sitcoms I had already seen four times.

Since I have been writing for the sports page here at Aquinas, I think I have just taken for granted the time I get to spend watching and writing about the teams that wear Saints' jerseys. I took it for granted until Nov. 10, 1999, that is.

I had spent a relatively uneventful Wednesday when I heard some noise coming from just outside my apartment. I am used to hearing the soccer teams on the field and I figured it was just them practic. Just to make sure I was not missing anything, I grabbed my jacket and headed outside. At that moment I realized I had forgotten that the men's soccer team had a game, the first game in the NAIA tournament. Standing at the north end of the field behind goalie Sean Fishbach, I saw something I had not seen since my freshman year - fans, and lots of them. Don't get me wrong, there have been other games I have attended where there were spectators, even games with a lot of spectators, but historically Aquinas does not draw huge crowds.

Again leading the way for Aquinas fans. After some time I realized these fans were really into the game. Some students had noise makers, some had megaphones, while still others sat on a couch on the hill singing only their voices to cheer Aquinas on to a 2-1 victory.

Together, the crowd helped make the already exciting game a whole lot better. When Andy Williams hit the winning shot in overtime and the AQ bench cleared, a roar from the unknowns brought a smile to my face, a feeling of school pride I had not experienced for two years now.

The soccer season is over for both the men's and women's teams, but that does not mean Aquinas students should rush out and buy the 2000 version of their favorite video game, or spend their afternoons or evenings flipping through all of the stations on their cable televisions. Why not? Two reasons: the men's and women's basketball teams will invade the fieldhouse giving the Aquinas student a chance to experience both competitive and exciting athletic contests. Secondly, the games are absolutely free of charge with an Aquinas ID at the door.

When you get there, look for AQ Image's noise makers and a chance at the door. For those who are going to every Aquinas sporting event from the minute they arrived on campus, I apologize for writing about something you knew about and thank you for your support. For those who have not been to an athletic event, I call you out, and ask you to try it for yourself.

Video games, television and other ways we choose to entertain ourselves will be around for the rest of our lives. A chance to watch another Aquinas College team chase a WHAC championship as an Aquinas student will not.

Men's basketball off to best start in two years

by Jason Vogel
Times Sports Editor

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Women's basketball displays strong defense

Aquinas atheltes honored, All-WHAC teams named

by Jason Vogel
Times Sports Editor

Winter is on its way and so is a new season of athletics. Before leaving the fall season though, one last page needs to be written about the individuals who led their teams and the Wolverine Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) throughout the 1999 fall season.

The men's soccer team led all other teams during the fall season, bringing home a WHAC title and being the most members of any Aquinas squad honored with All-WHAC recognition. Even Coach Abraham Shearer was honored by the WHAC and was named WHAC Coach-of-the-Year. In his second year, Shearer led the Saints to a 19-3-2 record, a school record for wins in a season.

On the field, senior Andy Williams led the way for the Saints, earning All-WHAC honors as well as a nomination from the WHAC for All-American honors. Williams also earned himself a spot on the All-WHAC Academic Team along with juniors Denny Briggs and Damien Nicey. Williams and his teammates scored 75 goals on the season, a school record. Freshman Andrew Fearman, senior Paul Legg and Nicey also earned All-WHAC honors.

Junior goalkeeper Sean Fischbach was named to the All-WHAC team. He recorded the fewest goals (15) scored by an opponent in school history. Tom Siewek, a junior, contributed to the school record of the fewest goals by his All-WHAC play from the defender position.

Several members of the women's soccer team also received All-WHAC honors. Leading the way was junior forward Amy Pasane. Pasane led Aquinas on the year scoring 25 goals and recording 12 assists—both team highs. Not only did these performances earn Pasane All-WHAC honors, but she was also named the WHAC Player-of-the-Year for the 1999 season.

Kim Eager, a junior defender, and sophomore goalkeeper Kelly McGill also reserved themselves spots on the All-WHAC team. Amira Lama, a senior defender, was named to the All-WHAC Academic Team. The Saints finished the season second overall in the WHAC conference with a conference record of 12-2-1 and an overall record of 17-3-1.

Both the men's and women's cross country teams placed second in the WHAC. Leading the women's team was senior Cari Blind. Blind, who ran with Aquinas' cross country team for the first time, finished 6th overall in the WHAC, covering the 5,000 meters in 19:27. Blind earned All-WHAC honors as well as a chance for National recognition at the NAIA Championships.

On the men's cross country team, juniors Bob Thorntemer and Kevin Smith earned All-WHAC honors. Smith finished first for Aquinas in the conference with his 5th place finish. Thorntemer finished the race in 7th place. The two will join Blind at the NAIA championship.

Keith Grunh and Matt Grady's team were named to the All-WHAC Honorable Mention Team.
Just what the Internet ordered
On-line pharmaceuticals may result in risks for consumers

by Jessi Cleveland
Times Features Editor

Imagine the thrill of a young anorexic who receives a full shipment of Phentermine, one of the most prescribed drugs in the deadly “Fen-Phen” combination. By adding fictitious pounds to an on-line health profile, she has taken a giant step in reaching her dangerous and unattainable “goal weight.”

Picture the look on the face of a sexually aggressive young male when the box containing GBL arrives via priority mail. All he must do is mix the chemical with lye and an unsuspecting woman becomes victim of a “foodie” or “date rape drug,” all compliments of an unapproved Internet drugstore.

In an age of multi-tasking and express lanes, many people are taking advantage of the opportunity to do their shopping on-line at such places as J.Crew and Victoria’s Secret. From underwear to outercoats, it seems that anything can be bought with your computer for a price. But should a credit card and a computer enable one to order such choice items as prescription drugs including Meridia, Viagra or Propecia?

There are several documented cases of the above drugs, each of which has been associated with serious medical conditions as well as severe side effects, being purchased without authorized prescriptions. In many cases, the only requirement was a self-completed on-line medical form and credit approval. Within a few days, eager customers received a package, some pills and potential pitfalls.

As reported in the October issue of Kiplinger magazine, trustees of the American Medical Association (AMA) have deemed such practices illegal, and “far below the acceptable standard of medical ethics altogether.

A local television station recently investigated the matter and found that upon completion of the mandatory health questionnaire, they were able to purchase Viagra for a cat by the name of Tom, who among other things, reported that being neutered was among his past surgeries. Other successful candidates included an employee’s deceased relative and a man whose current prescriptions included a heart medication, which when combined with Viagra, can be life-threatening.

In addition to the shady nature of many on-line pharmacies, a steep price is also associated with ordering prescription drugs with no questions asked. When ordered with a valid physician’s prescription, $90 covered the cost of 12 100-milligram tablets of Viagra. When purchased with no prescription, a $75 consultation form was required, as well as a $15 shipping and handling fee, in addition to the $100 charged for only ten tablets.

Like any business, however, not everyone is out to make an easy dollar. Several other on-line pharmacies have teamed up with the AMA and FDA to provide house-bound or harried patients with home delivered prescriptions, with much emphasis on the fact that these orders are really prescriptions. In order to dispense prescription drugs, these companies must first be licensed in the state in which they intend to do business. Only two (Soma.com and PlanetRx.com) have been accredited in all 50 states, while several others are currently awaiting approval.

Other on-line health services of note include Drugstore.com, Healthcare.com, and WebMD.com, each of which offers a variety of medications (available only with doctor’s prescription), vitamins and supplements, as well as information regarding diet and exercise routines, and access to professionals in almost every aspect of health and fitness fields. Though such sites are popular among the more trusting and curious of Internet users, it seems that no time soon will on-line pharmacies be able to replace the “guys in the white coats” that we have all come to know and love.

*Information was obtained from the October 1999 issue of Kiplinger’s Personal Finance Magazine, and the July 1999 issue of Progressive Grocer.

“it’s faster to receive information and medication needed, so I like the idea [of on-line prescription services] very much.”
-Duffy Arter, freshman

“I don’t like the idea because anyone could buy prescription drugs and misuse them.”
-Chris Abbott, freshman

“I think it’s a good idea as long as no one says, ‘I have glaucoma, why don’t you send me some weed?’ It’s a better idea to consult a real doctor.”
-Ron Walton, freshman

“I suppose it is up to the individual person as to whether or not to take advantage of these offerings. I think I would be very skeptical of what I’m getting into.”
-Shawn Markwart, sophomore

“I believe that it is a bitter-sweet situation. On one hand, I am able to find out information about medical issues quickly and easily. However, on the other hand, I don’t think ordering medication over the Internet is very kosher.”
-Monique Nadon, sophomore

“People are probably abusing the system and ordering things they don’t need. It could do more harm than good.”
-Alison Helminski, junior

“In a way, I think it’s okay, but it just depends on whether it [the advice and prescription] is coming from a trained professional. In the long run, it will not be beneficial because you never know where it’s coming from.”
-Heidi Stanley, freshman

“It’s a great idea. Easier people, such as my grandparents, can’t get out of the house. This would be a great way for them to get their medicine. Yet, a very tight security system would be needed to check up on advice and prescriptions.”
-Rob Rice, freshman

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