Granholm to visit, speak on female leadership tomorrow
by Tonya Schafer
News Editor

Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm will speak at Aquinas tomorrow during a visit sponsored by the college’s Jane Hibbard Ireton Women’s Studies Center.

At 1:30 p.m. in the Wege Ballroom, Granholm will talk for approximately 45 minutes about her experiences as Michigan’s first female attorney general; a 45-minute question-and-answer session will follow.

According to Women’s Studies Center Director and Associate Professor of Sociology Susan Haworth-Hooper, Granholm’s visit is the result of months of planning between Aquinas and members of the attorney general’s staff.

“[It] originally was arranged a date in March, which we were interested in because March is designated Women’s History Month. However, as discussion of the arrangements progressed, I was told that March wouldn’t work, though February was available,” Haworth-Hooper said.

As attorney general, Granholm has taken part in several groundbreaking actions aimed at protecting Michigan consumers, including the institution of a High-Tech Crime Unit to investigate Internet crimes and the filing of lawsuits against national sweepstakes contests over their alleged deceptive practices.

She has previously been recognized as Woman of the Year by the YWCA and was named Michiganian of the Year by the Michigan Jaycees.

“Several people involved in the Women’s Studies program have heard Ms. Granholm speak ... and observed that she was a terrific speaker who would be very effective speaking on women in leadership roles,” Susan Haworth-Hooper, Women’s Study Center Director

Aquinas hosts Steil, other Michigan legislators for “coffee talk”
by Joe Boomgaard
Contributing Writer

As part of the Emeritus College sponsored “Monday Morning Legislative Coffee Series,” several local lawmakers will be stopping by Aquinas for a "town hall"-style question-and-answer session. The series, this year’s being the 21st-annual, will continue through March. All sessions begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Jarecki Center and are free of charge.

“Members of organizations and the general public are encouraged and invited to ask questions, offer comments and opinions, or obtain necessary information about public policy,” said Deanna Hoopinger, Assistant Director of the Emeritus College. The format, Hoopinger said, will allow the legislators to address whatever “hot topics” the politician chooses, followed by interaction with the audience.

Of the lawmakers scheduled to participate, Glenn Steil, R-Grand Rapids, a graduate of Aquinas College and two-term Michigan state senator, will be speaking on March 5.

The Grand Rapids native graduated with a biology degree from both DeVry Institute and Aquinas Colleges. For over 30 years, Steil worked in the local office furniture industry, eventually becoming an executive in several such companies.

After an unsuccessful bid for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1993, Steil was elected in 1994 in a special election to fill the 30th District seat in the Michigan Senate. This position was formerly occupied by Republi­can Vernon Ehlers, who left to fill the last Sen.

See Coffee Talk, Page 2

Domestic Problems, Joyride to perform benefit concert Monday
by Jacob Urban and Kevin Kloet
Contributing Writers

Alumni band Domestic Problems will return to Aquinas to perform a charity concert on Monday in honor of Stella Ferris, Director of Multicultural Services, and freshman Stephanie Harden. Both Ferris and Harden were recently diagnosed with leukemia.

Proceeds of the concert will benefit the Van Andel Research Institute. The institute strives to build programs related to cancer research.

Sophomore Abby Paterka feels that the concert will rally the Aquinas community for this cause.

“I think it’s important for kids nowadays to really be pushed and realize these are our family members and community members that we are being affected by (cancer),” Paterka said. “I think this is a creative and fun way of dealing with a serious issue that concerns not only our Aquinas community, but the world at large. Aquinas is doing what it can (with the Domestic Problems benefit).”

Opening for Domestic Problems will be Joyride, another band with Aquinas roots. The members of Domestic Problems and Joyride have decided to play the show for free so that more money can be raised for cancer research.

Sophomore Sarah Kommer, a member of Habitat for Humanity, is a key organizer for the benefit concert.

“Putting on a show like this is a lot more work than any of us anticipated,” Kommer said. “But it’s great to see all of the groups coming together for such a great cause.”

The concert will take place in the Wege Ballroom. Doors will open at 8 p.m. with Joyride taking the stage at 8:30 p.m. and Domestic Problems to follow. Tickets went on sale yesterday and will be available through Monday from 10:30-11:15 a.m. in the lobby of the Academic Building and from 1:15-4:45 p.m. and 4:45-6:30 p.m. in the Wege Cafeteria. Costs for tickets are a suggested donation of $5 with a student ID or $7 for non-students.

Sophomore Gloria Jones, left, assists sophomore Abby Paterka in advertising the upcoming Domestic Problems and Joyride benefit concert, the proceeds of which will be donated to the Van Andel Research Institute.

Our campus may often lend a false sense of protection. "The Times View" discusses the importance of safety at Aquinas, stressing that it begins with individuals. How safe are you?

Our campus may often lend a false sense of protection. "The Times View" discusses the importance of safety at Aquinas, stressing that it begins with individuals. How safe are you?

Three young women sit at a table. A young man in a white shirt and tie stands near the table. Text reads: "opinion 5"
Moose Cafe suffers lack of fall semester revenue

by Stephanie Weber

Despite increased marketing, the Moose Cafe is facing approximately $6,500 in debt for the fall semester. The Moose Cafe's debt has not been growing, but it has been there all the time.

"We're trying to increase our sales in order to cover the cost of labor. Just by having the Cafe open, we are incurring labor cost, which is our major expense," said Coffee Manager and senior Tim Stafford.

Forty-seven percent of the Cafe's costs are labor expenses. Last year, the Cafe had a small amount of accumulated debt due to start-up costs. As the Cafe is a Sen­ate-funded venture, the Community Senate covered this debt with funds from the organization's surplus.

A key factor in Student Activities, believes the location of the Moose Cafe is a factor in the lack of profits. "If we had a helicopter to pick up the building and move it between the Weber and Hall, we would be fine," Mullen said.

Limited student budgets have also labeled a source for the Cafe's financial problems, as it is be­lieved that students may prefer the Corner Cafe because they can use their Flex accounts for purchases. "We've been trying for a year to work on a way to use the flex bucks," said Mullen. He believes that if students could use the flex systems at the Cafe, it would improve business. However, installation of a debit system in the Cafe would cost between five and seven thousand dol­lars.

Sales for fall semester totaled approximately $20,000 according to Stampford.

"We probably need somewhere around another six or seven thousand dollars to be in a better situa­tion," he said.

In order to increase revenue, new products have been introduced in­cluding Moose Coffee T-shirts, envi­ronmental mugs, potato chips, and more varieties of juice. Also, the Cafe has increased promotions, which in­clude on-campus flyers and "Happy Hour," when drinks are discounted 25 cents from 3-5 p.m. The flyers are an attempt to draw commuters into the Cafe.

"We don't get a lot of commuter­ers at all," Mullen said. "Many say it's too far to walk."

Business is more lucrative dur­ing the morning and in the evening before and after classes begin. As mid­day and weekend business is slower, weekend hours have been cut to re­duce costs. The Cafe now operates on noon on Saturdays and Sundays.

Despite its financial situation, Stampford feels the Cafe provides a gathering place for the Aquinas community.

"We are not there to make a for­tune off the students; we are there to provide a service to the students," Stampford said. "Even if it costs a little bit to run the Cafe, there is a benefit of having it for the students. faculty and staff."
Equality Bake Sale portraits gender issue

Sophomore Danielle Walters purchases cake from sophomore Andrea Covert, left, and senior Laurie Nicol as the Women's Studies Center's annual Equality Bake Sale held on Feb. 13. To demonstrate the gender income gap, the bake sale offered goods priced according to the buyer's gender. For example, women only had to pay 77 cents for a baked good that would cost a male $1.

Although she stated the event saw more participation, Director of the Jane Hibbard Idema Women's Studies Center Susan Haworth-Hoogenkamp was quick to note that they hope this event won't be needed in the future.

"Maybe it is not that many more years before we can reach parity with this gap," she said.

The bake sale raised $200 to be split among the Women's Resource Center's Educational Scholarship Fund and St. Jude's Research Hospital.

U. Illinois researchers develop plastic that 'heals' when damaged

by Jim Kelly

Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, Ill. - University of Illinois researchers have developed a synthetic compos­itive material that can automatically heal itself when cracked or broken, much like when the human body heals a scratch or a bruise.

The ability of the new material to heal itself when a crack forms can be used in a wide variety of applica­tions from microchips to bridge com­ponents to infrastructure.

"It can be used anywhere synth­etic polymers is used now," Aero­nautical and Astronautical Engineer­ing Professor Scott White said, who headed the research.

According to White, the mate­rial consists of micro-encapsulated healing agents, which are basically balloon-like capsules, and a catalyst that are embedded into a structural composite matrix.

When the material cracks, the microcapsules rupture releasing the healing agent. The healing agent then contacts the catalyst, (and) polymerization is initiated, which then bonds the crack closed," White said.

This autonomic healing process closely resembles how the human body often heals a cut without the person thinking about it.

The composite material has a lot of potential to make an industrial impact, said Michael Kessler, a graduate student who worked on the project.

Because of its ability to self-re­pair, it might increase service life of the current polymer composite items.

"Something that you have to re­place every 10 years now, might not have to be replaced for 20 or 30 years if this material is used," White said.

Kessler said the biggest hurdle would have to be certain it is worth the cost.

"It's not as cheap to make as regular material," he said. "They would have to be certain it is worth the cost.

Kessler believes the aerospace industry is the most promising for the composite material.

"They already spend a lot, so they might put in the extra money for the added safety," he said.

Yet another possible use for self-­repairing material is on polymer com­posite circuit boards, where tiny cracks can lead to mechanical and electrical failure, White said. The group of professors and graduate students have worked heavily on the project for the past six years, and the project had been in motion before that, according to White.

During that time they faced many challenges. One of those chal­lenges was obtaining the proper outer shell size of the microcapsules.

"The capsule wall is too thick, the cap will not break," White said. "If the shell is too thin, it will break during processing. Finding that perfect size wasn't easy."

The challenges have paid off for White and his crew. Their findings were recently published in Nature: "I think this is basically the first step for some very exciting ad­vances," White said.

Medical marijuana in Mich., unlikely

by Courteney Crimmins

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. - A report released Wednesday by the Washington-based Mar­i­juana Policy Project found that medi­cal marijuana laws, currently insti­tuted in 30 states, have been unaf­fected by federal threats. These laws protect the thousands of patients who grow, possess and use mari­juana with the permission of a doc­tor.

The medicinal use laws have raised great debate concerning their legitimacy and whether legalization will encourage recreational use of the drug.

Michigan is one of 20 states that have not legalized marijuana for medi­cal purposes. State Sen. Bill Bullard Jr., R-­Highland, said he is opposed to le­galizing any use of marijuana in Michigan.

"It is like the camel under the tent, it is being used to promote gen­eral recreational use," Bullard said.

"I will feel more confident in it if they do more research that proves that it substantially augments our medical arsenal in healing patients," said Rep. Paul DeWiese, R­­-­Battle Creek.

"If the capsule wall is too thick, the cap will not break," White said. "If the shell is too thin, it will break during processing. Finding that perfect size wasn't easy."

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USDA asks for another serving of school food control

No. The USDA should not need to regulate what is served outside of the cafeteria. After all, this governmental body has already required that schools serve healthy breakfasts and lunches to students; why should they mandate whether or not a student wants to purchase a candy bar from the vending machine? In a letter to Congress, USDA Undersecretary Shirley R. Watkins wrote that these “competitive foods may be a contributor to the trend of unhealthy eating practices among children and subsequent health risks.” Defined by the USDA, competitive foods have minimal nutritional value and are most likely sold for individual sale from vending machines and snack bars. Despite the presence of these items, children learn about nutritious eating habits from parents and in their classes. With these lessons in mind, students will make their own choices about what they want to eat. Thus, governmental authority over what students eat is not necessary. Certainly the idea has good intentions, as the USDA is concerned about the overall health and well-being of schoolchildren. But not every child is going to want to eat his vegetables all the time. If the government seeks to exert its power within schools, its efforts would be better spent improving the quality of a child’s education instead of the food being eaten outside the school cafeteria.

Yes. What will it take before someone steps in to help the daunting problem that America faces today regarding poor nutrition and obesity? By regulating what is served in all areas of the school, not just inside the cafeteria, the USDA is ensuring that students will eat healthier throughout their day. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention found that most major health problems in the United States today are caused by six categories of behavior, one of those being poor nutrition. And what better place is there for young people to learn more about nutrition and begin altering their daily eating habits than in school? By regulating the food that is served outside of the cafeteria, the USDA is showing its concern for problems that face America and is taking a proactive stance against them. The USDA already has requirements set for nutritional standards of school lunches and breakfasts. It is about time that Congress extends its reach and allows the USDA to help our students create a healthier future for themselves beyond the boundaries of the cafeteria. I am not as naïve as to say that by removing vending machines from schools the problem of obesity in America would disappear; however, I think it is important for us to take notice of such an important issue and to begin bringing about the change we wish to see in our country.

Would government intervention financially affect the schools?

Yes. According to the USDA report recently prepared at the request of Congress, “When children are taught in the classroom about good nutrition and the value of healthy food choices but are surrounded by vending machines, snack bars, school stores and a la carte sales... they receive the message that good nutrition is merely an academic exercise.” However, good nutrition extends far past a high school health book by affecting the choices we make each day. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, schools mainly focus on improving students’ knowledge about what is meant by good nutrition, with less emphasis on influencing students’ motivation, attitudes and eating behaviors. The regulation by the USDA in this case would effectively serve as the starting point in what is to become a very long and difficult battle over obesity in America.

Are schools that sell sodas and snacks on campus discouraging students from eating healthy meals?

No. Students have the ability to choose what they want to eat, whether it be chips or an apple. A student has the choice whether or not they want to supplement their lunch with something purchased out of a vending machine. School lunch programs are now trying to serve healthy foods in cafeterias. Many now give students the option of deli sandwiches, pasta, salad bars and other wholesome food choices. By serving these foods and continually teaching students about the basics of nutrition inside the classroom, schools are beginning to take a step in the right direction. In doing this, they aid students in establishing a daily routine of eating foods that are good for them. Academic institutions are not discouraging students from eating healthy meals, rather they are attempting to motivate them to live a healthy lifestyle.
Safety should start with individuals

On Sept. 30, 2000 a man was shot inside The New Yorker, a men's clothing store in Eastown. On Feb. 9, 2001 a woman was raped in Eastown as she was walking back from the Intersection Lounge during the early hours of the morning. These areas are less than two blocks from Aquinas College. And despite the safe feeling we may get walking among the trees that line this campus, we are not sheltered from crime. Aquinas is like any other college campus, and Grand Rapids is like any other city in the United States.

Aquinas has not experienced a debilitating outbreak of crime, but the campus has seen its share of criminal offenses. The Annual Report for the Campus Security Act reveals that Aquinas and its students have been targets of crime. This report states that 10 burglaries, one forcible and one nonforcible sexual offense (as offenses defined as rape or incest) occurred on campus in 1999.

Law enforcement officials reported that 82 nonforcible sexual offenses, nine robberies, 23 aggravated assaults, 35 burglaries and 11 vehicle thefts occurred locally in 1999. These statistics come from the campus police or so-called "Charlie Six." Ranging from Michigan Avenue to Franklin Street and East Beltline Avenue to Eastern Avenue, this zone includes Aquinas. What does this mean for our student body? Simply that students must be 100 percent aware of their surroundings because being compliant may lead to problems.

By releasing our natural defenses, we are making ourselves targets for anyone to harm us or violate us in some way. This is in true in the residence halls, despite the introduction of the system requiring identification cards for entry. For example, we put our safety in detriment every time we prop doors. Even the slightest degree of carelessness can be an opportunity for a potential crime.

In order to lessen the occurrence of 'personal violations, Campus Safety continually tries to make the school grounds safer for students. Officers consistently check the emergency phones on campus. Moreover, the tree foliage is cut away from light posts every fall by maintenance crews in order to allow existing lights to be more effective. Discussions about Campus Safety replacing the outdoor red emergency phones with code blue systems have also taken place. Code blue systems would be activated simply by pushing a button and calling for help. A blue light on top of the system would then indicate where the caller is located. Despite these additions, modifications, and the presence of Campus Safety, Aquinas is still a potential target for crime.

The responsibility of safety and protection is everyone on this campus shouldn't just be directed to Campus Safety. Rather the protection of each and every student at this school should begin with them; in their actions and their inactions. If we cannot protect us from harm or the unsafe areas located a mere two blocks from campus.

Reader concerned with "Virginity on campus" survey

To the Editor and Staff of The Aquinas Times:

Recently I commented to one of your staff that I find the Times to be a good student paper because you publish thought-provoking articles. Then I read the Feb. 7 issue and my thoughts were provoked to concern. I refer to the centerfold spread on virginity on campus.

I support the overall emphasis in the article itself, but the statistics and graphs are open to serious question. Under the heading "Virginity on campus" appears a graph showing 52 percent of students as virgin and 44 percent as not.

(One might ask how the remaining four percent responded.)

These figures, you say, are based on a poll of 112 students. The most recent statistics on enrollment list 1,223 full-time traditional age students. In order to get significance to the results of your poll, I need to know the following:

Was the poll written or oral? (The latter seems implied in the article.)

How were the 112 students chosen? (Was the poll announcement for voluntary participation? Did you go out to a target audience? Were students polled at random?)

Was the poll randomize? (The higher proportion of women (from the last question) may be accidental? Did the majority of respondents?)

Was the age of participants representative of the entire student body (tradi-
elt age)?

Were demographic features considered or ignored?

Can you as a staff maintain that the answers of 112 students speak for the student body of 10 times that number?

I commend the students whom you quoted in the article. I only wish that you show in large type: 52 percent of students as virgin and 44 percent as not.

Sincerely yours,
Jean Milhaupt, OP
Archivist

Dear Sr. Milhaupt:

As always, we at The Aquinas Times encourage our readers to voice their concerns and comments so that we may respond in a direct manner.

The "Virginity on campus" poll, a written survey distributed randomly, was completed by 118 Aquinas traditional-age students. As noted, 52 percent of students stated that they were virgin and 44 percent were not. The remaining four percent declined to state their sexual status, as reported beneath the graph displaying the aforementioned percentages. The higher proportion of women polled resulted from Aquinas' demographics, as the ratio of female to male students is also unequal.

The survey was distributed in both the Wege Cafeteria as well as the lobby of the Academic Building in order to obtain results from all class levels. Our survey passes tests for normality distributions. With a 95-percent level of confidence, our poll implies that the actual percentage of virginity among Aquinas traditional-age students is between 43 percent and 61 percent.

Hopefully, we have adequately addressed your concerns.

Sincerely,
The Aquinas Times Staff

And you can quote me on that

Do you feel Aquinas is a relatively safe campus?

"Yes. Our campus is safe because there are always Campus Safety officers walking around and checking things out and it is also easy to call for an escort."

-Brandon Riley, freshman

"Yes. We are taking steps to be safe. The new ID access system helps, but most of our safety comes from common sense; use the escorts, use the buddy system, stay on the lit paths, etc. The campus is also close knit so people watch out for each other."

-Ami Westphal, sophomore

"I think that AQ is a relatively safe campus. I think we do a pretty good job of keeping an eye out for each other, and Campus Safety helps as well. I do think that people think it's so safe they take things for granted. We get quite comfortable and forget the possibility of danger is ever present."

-Janelle Survors, junior

"I had previously thought that AQ was a relatively safe place to be, but a few nights ago I realized just how deserted our campus seems to be at certain times. Unfortunately, our campus provides an ideal setting for a would-be attack or robbery, as most of our buildings' entrances remain unmonitored and many of the footpaths are poorly lit."

-Cheryl Michalski, sophomore

"S几乎所有, Aquinas has been and continues to be a 'safe campus.' Much of this has to do with personal safety. As a part of this plan to assure a safe campus."

-Brandon Nohan, Director of Campus Safety

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A Q F.A.N.S.

According to dress Nicey, the AQ F.A.N.S. (pronounced "Aquinas Family Nutrition And Support") is a club devoted to sexual health and wellness. The group, which was founded several years ago, has worked to make sexual information available on campus.

One of their annual activities is the Grand Rapids AIDS Walk, where they volunteer to register participants and direct walkers through the course. AQ F.A.N.S. has also created an annual AID Raiser, which was introduced this year.

Members of AQ F.A.N.S. have been working on a project called "The Dark," which is a program for Project A.N.D.Y. The program will be called "Love Line." Participants will be allowed to call in and ask questions related to health issues, including sexual problems and other STDs.

Members of AQ F.A.N.S. have also raised thousands of dollars back to the community through a local health hotline called "Love Line," which the Moose Cafe in downtown Grand Rapids will participate in.

The combined efforts of all of the R.S.V.P. groups have made an impact on the lives of local people and have also given Aquinas a global perspective.

R.S.V.P.

by Allison Lindemeyer and Danielle Walters

Features Editor and Contributing Writer

Every year, groups of Aquinas students come together to form what is known as the Residential Service Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.). Each of the groups lives in an East Area house or in one of the quads of Dominican Hall. This year, six groups—AQ F.A.N.S., Project A.N.D.Y., Casa Hogar, Project P.L.A.Y., Habitat for Humanity, and S.A.V.E.—have collectively given hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars back to the community.

Each group has a different focus. While Project A.N.D.Y. and Project A.N.D.Y. concentrate their efforts on enriching the lives of local children, the members of Casa Hogar reach out to children living in Peru. Habitat for Humanity works alongside other local and collegiate Habitat for Humanity groups to provide houses for people with financial problems or special needs. AQ F.A.N.S., a new group this year, has strived to raise awareness about health issues, while S.A.V.E., a group that has been active on campus for several years, has continued to make recycling available at Aquinas.

The combined efforts of all of the R.S.V.P. groups have made an impact on the lives of local people and have also given Aquinas a global perspective.

S.A.V.E.

S.A.V.E. has been a prominent R.S.V.P. group on campus for several years. The women who live in Knape Hall this year all have a common mission: to make people realize that taking care of the environment is everyone's responsibility.

Every year, the members of S.A.V.E. organize an on-campus recycling program. They set up recycling stations in each of the residence halls and other various locations on campus. They also make an effort to educate students and the rest of the community about environmental issues.

Currently, S.A.V.E. is working on planning an Earth Day Festival that will include various local bands. The event will be held on campus on Earth Day, April 22.

As a new member, sophomore Jessee Rhodes said she joined S.A.V.E. because she felt that the group needed a few extra hands. "It's a fun, meeting new people and learning about our environment at the same time," she said. "All of the recycling and projects we do help to better the community."

S.A.V.E. members also took part in making a special dinner for a needy Grand Rapids family this past Christmas.

PROJECT A.N.D.Y.

The members of Project A.N.D.Y., who hold their post in a quad off campus, offer tutoring services at St. Andrew's School in downtown Grand Rapids. The school is a private, multicultural school. Most members of Project A.N.D.Y. find the work rewarding.

Junior Ragan Savara said, "It's amazing. These kids are so excited to have the tutors on campus. The students will always be enthusiastic about the work." Currently, the group is working on a project called "The Dark," which is a program for Project A.N.D.Y. The program will be called "Love Line." Participants will be allowed to call in and ask questions related to health issues, including sexual problems and other STDs.

Sophomore and Project A.N.D.Y. tutor Madeline Whiterdourf tutors a child at St. Andrew's School in downtown Grand Rapids.

The members of Project A.N.D.Y., who hold their post in a quad off campus, offer tutoring services at St. Andrew's School in downtown Grand Rapids. The school is a private, multicultural school. Most members of Project A.N.D.Y. find the work rewarding.

Junior Ragan Savara, a tutor at St. Andrew's, said, "It's amazing. These kids are so excited to have the tutors on campus. The students will always be enthusiastic about the work." Currently, the group is working on a project called "The Dark," which is a program for Project A.N.D.Y. The program will be called "Love Line." Participants will be allowed to call in and ask questions related to health issues, including sexual problems and other STDs.

Sophomore and Project A.N.D.Y. tutor Madeline Whiterdourf tutors a child at St. Andrew's School in downtown Grand Rapids.
F.A.N.S. has established a project called "Sex in Our Health," which is a home being built for a family with a boy who has severe asthma. The house is being built in a manner that will nearly eliminate dust and other irritants that cause asthma attacks. It is one of only a few houses of its kind.

Behind these projects, co-president and sophomore Jessica Buck, Buck says she is proud of her group.

"I think this has been the hardest working group we've had in a long time," she said.

"We've had a lot of fun." Building these houses has required more than just the use of hammers and nails. According to the group, it has taken a lot of hard work, spirit and dedication to build houses for families in need.

CASA HOGAR

Casa Hogar is a new group on campus this year that focuses its efforts on raising awareness about the conditions in developing countries and also raising money for Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II (CHJPII), an orphanage in Ica, Peru. To raise money, the group has done several fundraisers, including pop can drives, a car wash, a flower sale and a hot-tub-a-thon. So far, $2000 has been raised for CHJPII. The group has also done awareness projects such as, "Hope for the Hillside" (an event in which members lived outside of Wege in a shanty for two days to educate the community on poverty). The members of Casa Hogar also work with Spanish students at Jenison High School on a pen pal program in cooperation with CHJPII. The members hope this correspondence will help bridge the gap between two distinct cultures.

Several members of the group will travel to Peru this summer to help at the orphanage. While they are there, they will be teaching, doing construction work, and mentoring the children who live there.

Habitat for Humanity

Using Woodcock Hall as their construction headquarters, Aquinas' Habitat for Humanity has spent the year building houses for underprivileged families with special needs. They have worked alongside the Kent County chapter of Habitat for Humanity to provide housing for needy families.

The group is currently working on a "healthy house," which is a home being built for a family with a boy who has a severe case of asthma. The house is being built in a manner that will nearly eliminate dust and other irritants that cause asthma attacks. It is one of only a few houses of its kind.

Behind these projects, co-president and sophomore Jessica Buck, Buck says she is proud of her group.

"I think this has been the hardest working group we've had in a long time," she said.

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Project P.L.A.Y.

Project P.L.A.Y., which stands for "Providing Leadership Advancement for Youth," is committed to helping children in the Grand Rapids area reach their fullest potential. By spending time on the weekends with local children at the West YMCA of Grand Rapids, sophomore Pat Hurley says the members of this project ensure that "kids in Grand Rapids have opportunities that they wouldn’t normally be able to have."

While some of the R.S.V.P. groups on campus focus on fundraising, Hurley says Project P.L.A.Y. feels that "time is money." By volunteering their time at local YMCA Camp Manitou-Lin, P.L.A.Y. members serve as mentors and role models to kids, many of whom do not have anyone else to look up to.

On Feb. 10, Project P.L.A.Y. took part in the Circle of Peace program, which involved the efforts of several different on-campus groups and individuals. During this program, local children spent time enjoying projects and company with students from Aquinas.

One of Project P.L.A.Y.'s upcoming events is the "P.L.A.Y. Boy Auction." The auction will be held March 22. The members of the group who live in P.L.A.Y.'s Dominican Hall quad, will be auctioning themselves off for a night of volunteering for those who buy them.

All the money raised will go to Camp Manitou-Lin, an organization which P.L.A.Y. supports each year.
March 4-10
Monday: From 10:30-11:30 a.m., Aquinas College presents "Monday Morning Coffee with Michigan Legislation," featuring Michigan Representative Jerry Kooiman, in Jareck/Locks Center, Room 141. For information, call ext. 5146.

Friday: Check out the new movie "15 Minutes," starring Ed Burns and Robert DeNiro. The two team up to apprehend a murderer seeking his "15 minutes of fame."

March 11-17
Tuesday: From 12:30-1:20 p.m., it's a dinner speech "Woodward, Bernstein, Redford, and Hoffman: ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN, 1976-2001" by Andrew Fleitkamp, Ph. D., Professor of English, Aquinas College in the Wege Ballroom. Free.

March 18-24
Thursday: At 7:30 p.m., the Contemporary Writer Series will present Joe Harp, poet, in the Ballroom. Free.

Saturday: Enjoy the 28th Annual Aquinas College Jazz Festival from 10 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Special Guests: Robin Connell, Ph. D., composer/arranger and Tim Franck and the Night Band will offer a clinic at 6 p.m. and a performance at 9 p.m. in the Art and Music Center. Get your tickets at the door. Prices to be announced. For info, contact Diana Dixon at ext. 3401.

March 25-31
Monday: Hear African-native and sophomore Clement Chiwaya at 7:30 p.m. as part of the Sixth Annual Disability Awareness Week in the Wege Student Center Ballroom. Reception will follow.

Tuesday: Aquinas College Lecture Series Music by Women Composers will take place in the Ballroom from 12:30-1:20 p.m. It will feature Aquinas Music Department faculty members Barbara Witham McCarver, Chairperson, and Sr. Catherine Williams, Associate Professor of Music. Free.

Friday: Check out the new movie "Someone Like You," starring Matthew Macfadyen and "15 minutes of fame." It's based on the band's life experiences and was written, produced and directed by the three musicians of Fade 2 Shade.

March 31-April 6
Monday: "Mobile" by Delbert McClinton will play Aquinas College at 7:30 p.m. The concert will benefit local disabled youth.

Friday: From 7-10 p.m., the "Temporary Writer Series" will feature local writer and journalist Barbara Witham McCargar, Chairperson, and Sr. Catherine Williams, Associate Professor of Music. Free.

Bands that have been around for years and have never gotten the opportunities we have," Heitkamp said. From January until April, the band will begin its first national tour of colleges and universities, playing over 90 campuses including Aquinas' Moos Cafe on March 15.

Aside from their academic education, the musicians of Fade 2 Shade also credit their diverse array of musical influences for their success. The band cites such musical influences as Sting, Paul Simon, Peter Gabriel and Eric Clapton. Throughout the show, one can expect to hear cover songs by such artists as these, as well as Bob Dylan and Dave Matthews Band.

"To be compared to (Matthews and Dylan) -- there's a lot of musical talents and God-given gifts. That's one benefit we have -- solid musicianship," Heitkamp says.

However, as Fade 2 Shade's musical career progresses, the band hopes to branch out into a less pop-centered sound.

"We're young, so we really are just experimenting," said Heitkamp. "There's a lot of songs that we don't have recorded that are more like Rusted Root -- a real ethno rhythm, more acoustic-based." The lyrics on Time Will Tell are based on the band's life experiences and reflections.

"It's so different: You have to put yourself into the music for a moment," Heitkamp said. The fast "Tonight" depicts a lasting celebration of music and laughter, while "She Cries" tells the story of an emotionally-complex woman. "As I was writing the chords (to these two songs) I was singing this ... all in one shot," Heitkamp explains.

Is there room among the DMBs and the "NSyncs for Fade 2 Shade? Heitkamp believes his band can blend in among the many varieties of modern music.

"The coolest thing about music (today) is that it's such a wide range," Heitkamp said. "The number one record is one genre, the next week it's something different." Heitkamp is quick to exclude one genre from his opinion on popular music.

"The only thing I don't like is the teen pop craze," he said. "It always kind of recycles itself."
Who will win?
The votes are in. Watch tonight to see how many Aquinas Times picks stroll down the aisle to collect the coveted golden gramophone.

Vocal Performance

Our Pick: “I Try” Macy Gray’s “Minnie Mouse on crack” voice is a fresh change from the usual Madonna/Britney Spears sound.

Other Nominations:
- “What A Girl Wants”- Christina Aguilera
- “Music”- Madonna
- “Save Me”- Aimee Mann
- “Both Sides Now”- Joni Mitchell
- “Oops!... I Did It Again”- Britney Spears

Record of the Year

Our Pick: “Beautiful Day” U2 is still rockin’, and we love it. So far, U2 can do no wrong, and their new material proves they can adapt to the changing music scene.

Other Nominations:
- “Stay My Name”- Destiny’s Child
- “I Try”- Macy Gray
- “Music”- Madonna
- “Bye Bye Bye”- *NSync

Best Pop Performance by a Group

Our Pick: “Pinch Me” It’s definitely been the time for boy bands, but we think it’s about time these comedic Canadians, Barenaked Ladies, got some credit.

Other Nominations:
- “Show Me The Meaning ...”- Backstreet Boys
- “Breathless”- The Corrs
- “Bye Bye Bye”- *NSync
- “Cousin Dupree”- Steely Dan

Best Rap Album

Our Pick: Dr. Dre - 2001 We’ve been waiting a long time for Dr. Dre’s comeback, and his new album tells us he’ll still be going strong for years to come. Maybe he’ll keep discovering new rap talent (like his protege, Eminem), too.

Other Nominations:
- “American Bad Ass”- Kid Rock
- “Grievance”- Pearl Jam
- “Guerrilla Radio”- Rage Against The Machine
- “Down”- Stone Temple Pilots

Best Country Song

Our Pick: “Breathe” Faith Hill has been releasing hit after hit from her new album Breathe. The title song, written by Stephanie Bentley and Holly Lamar, has a classic feel and appeals to both country and pop/rock fans.

Other Nominations:
- “Feels Like Love”- Vince Gill, songwriter
- “I Hope You Dance”- Mark D. Sanders & Tia Sillers, songwriters (Lee Ann Womack)
- “One Voice”- Don Cook & David Malloy, songwriters (Billy Gilman)
- “The Way You Love Me”- Michael Dulaney & Keith Follesé, songwriters (Faith Hill)

Album of the Year

Our Pick: The Marshall Mathers LP He may be controversial, and there’s no doubt many hate him. However, Eminem is proof that any kind of publicity is good publicity.

Other Nominations:
- Midnite Vultures- Beck
- Bloodflowers- The Cure
- Liverpool Sound Collage- Paul McCartney

Catch the Grammys at 8 p.m. on CBS

Best Alternative

Our Pick: Kid A Radiohead’s huge cult following is evidence enough that these guys will be around for a while.

Other Nominations:
- “When The Pawn”- Fiona Apple
- “Midnite Vultures”- Beck
- “Kid A”- Radiohead
- “You’re The One”- Paul Simon
- “Two Against Nature”- Steely Dan
Movie Review

"Hannibal"

Ridley Scott
by Kate Miller
Contributing Writer

The much-awaited sequel to "Silence of the Lambs" was released Feb. 9 in theaters nationwide, providing moviegoers with wide, providing moviegoers with enough gore to make even those with strong stomachs queasy.

The audience has to wait for the appearance of Lecter on the screen for about a half hour. This waiting is mostly filled with an amazing gunfight scene as the FBI tries to arrest a criminal. When the film finally arrives in Italy, a Palestinian- sweethearted Pazzi decides to capture Lecter for the $3 million reward, only to later find himself in an unpleasant situation. Lecter and Starling do end up getting in touch, with the fun really beginning when Starling is on a leave from the FBI.

I noticed that even though Lecter is a cold-blooded serial killer, he seems to have kind feelings for Starling, a fact which makes the audience wonder about his motives. Carrying his role into the sequel is Mason Verger, who was Lecter’s fourth victim in "Silence".

The gore factor at the end of the movie is really high enough to make four women at an Italian premiere of "Hannibal" faint. I won’t ruin the end of the movie for you, except to say that perhaps we can expect another sequel to the intense story of Hannibal Lecter.

After thinking about the film myself, I wondered what another member of the Aquinas community had to say about it. Andrew Jefchak, Professor of English, had interesting comments to add about this sequel.

"The new film simply isn’t as sinister or suspenseful as the first. It is more graphic. Wordy, simply isn’t as a good a story of script, Jefchak said. “Silence” was masterfully directed by Jonathan Demme, but Hopkins seems to be a better director, but he doesn’t weave a spell as much as in a couple of the scenes that unfolded in Florence."

"Hannibal” is a film that I find will be predictable, but it is worth the watch. The film will be financially successful due to the sheer number of people who are curious to see it."

As Jefchak notes, "Hannibal" is not as good as the original story. It definitely can be ranked as a "hit and and miss" film. So if you’re not used to the way she mixes a variety of acoustic guitars, electronic music and great lyrics. It seems Dido has made her first recording and is reaching a range of audiences from the United Kingdom to the Fickle United States. She breaks MIT’s pop ceiling with awesome talent. No Angel has been regarded as a Top-40 hit in many countries and is commonly featured in club mixes.

The entire CD transforms the listening audience from their ordinary surroundings to rainy days in England with puffy clouds to do but stare out at the world.

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CD Review

No Angel

Dido
by Andrew Wilson
Contributing Writer

Being a fan of chick rock, I find that female musicians who listen with very different perspectives compared to their male counterparts. One particular artist that does this is Dido. She brings different sounds and lyrics into every track like no other musician. The sound of her first CD, No Angel is a compilation of melancholy rock, vibrant tones and beautiful melodies.

The release of No Angel has two wonderful singles “Here With Me” and “Thank You.” Both songs are a bizarre blend of soft electronic music and great lyrics. Dido recently did a duet with rapper Eminem using the refrain from the song “Thank You.” She also appeared in his video for the song “Stan.” The exposure from the duet helped make the release of “Thank You” become a stand-alone single.

Another favorite track on the CD is “I’m Not Angel,” which appears to be influenced by a barrage of musicians including Massive Attack, Beth Orton and Joni Mitchell.

Listeners might also recognize Dido singing the background lyrics for the electronica band Faithless. Dido must be influenced by her brother because of the way she mixes a variety of acoustic guitars, electronic music and great lyrics. It seems Dido has made her first recording and is reaching a range of audiences from the United Kingdom to the Fickle United States. She breaks MIT’s pop ceiling with awesome talent. No Angel has been regarded as a Top-40 hit in many countries and is commonly featured in club mixes.

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Concert Review

Backstreet Boys

Pontiac Silverdome

by Cristina Vendittelli
Entertainment Editor

For anyone in Pontiac, Mich. on Thursday, it was no ordinary night. Thousands of teenagers got their hair all over their faces, and traffic was stopped on all roads within an estimated five miles of the Silverdome. Someone was giving away free make-up? It was huge-ale going on! No way. There was only one thing that could bring that many girls together; you guessed it - a Backstreet Boys concert.

Cars parked around the arena had license plates from all over the United States and even Canada. Almost everyone wanted their chance to see the Backstreet Boys live in concert, and it’s no wonder. Their live show is even bigger than their band accounts, and the current tour to promote their new album Black & Blue is the biggest yet. Ticketmaster charges, tickets were $58.50. But there’s no doubt most of the money went into the performance: the stage for the show is one of the largest to date for any concert tour.

The concert began with two opening acts: Kryst and Destiny’s Child. The later is not very well-known, she had a strong voice and managed to get the crowd enthused. But Destiny’s Child took the stage with a presence that made it seem like she was their tour. They performed all their hits and even a Destiny’s Child hit, “Get on Your Knees.” I think there was no way the Backstreet Boys could compare to Destiny’s Child, but I found out the Boys are never to be outdone.

After 30 minutes of anticipation, the Backstreet Boys started the show with a series of on-stage explosions guaranteed to attract everyone’s attention in the arena (as if we weren’t watching already). The Boys busted out with “Everyone” from their new CD and showed off a slew of new dance moves. The stage had a huge circular screen in the middle of the crowd so everyone could see the action clearly. The Backstreet Boys unexpectantly popped up at one point from a small stage in the middle of the floor and sang to everyone in the back of the arena.

“…They sang all of their new hits, of course, such as “The Call” and “The Shape of My Heart.” But the Boys didn’t forget their long-time fans and sang some of their older hits like “Everybody” and “I Have to Give.””

The Backstreet Boys put on a fast-track show with non-stop action. Even during changes they had a video for the audience to watch, including a previously taped show of what they do when they’re changing back-stage. The lights, dancing and videos were enough to keep anyone interested, even if you’re not a big fan of the Backstreet Boys. After a show like that, I’m even considering buying their next CD.
Where are the JV fans?

by Seth Traub

Independent Florida Alligator (U. Florida)  

(U-WIRE) GAINESVILLE, Fla. - Amateur: one who engages in a sport as a pastime rather than as a profession. Professional: one who engages in the sport and receives financial returns.

Professional sports have become the waveform of what an athlete is. The difference between the two definitions: money. The NCAA's current regulations agree money is the key way to determine whether an athlete is professional.

These rules are in place to prevent prospective student-athletes from gaining an unfair competitive advantage. But for the past two years, proposals have been discussed throughout the NCAA that would change those regulations.

"The whole business of amateurism has gotten murky," said Charles Harris, commissioner of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference. "And the effect throughout this entire process, regardless of the outcome, is to put some sense to the rules in Harris is chair of the NCAA Division I Management Council, which will vote on whether to recommend streamlining the rules for a prospective student-athlete's collegiate eligibility. If recommended by the council, the NCAA Board of Directors will vote on the proposals, which could take effect by August.

At the core of the issue is prospective student-athletes accepting prize money based on place finishes in competitions, entering professional drafts or negotiating their contracts and a pay for play ceasing for professional athletic participation.

"It's only JV," said Julie Murray, a University of Florida Herc Alps Athletic Associate Director for NCAA compliance, said this issue arose because of the constantly changing nature of sports.

"Cedric Dempsey, the Executive Director for the NAIA, felt like the association needed to take a closer look at the rules," McElroy said. "He had questions about the terms of those rules made sense today."

The Subcommittee on Amateurism and Agents determined that many of the NCAA's rules and regulations were unable to be enforced or were being enforced inconsistently and unfair to student-athletes.

The Subcommittee said current rules are penalizing prospective student-athletes for actions that do not give them a competitive advantage.

With more opportunities for youth to participate in sports prior to entering college, the subcommittee believes it would be beneficial to make rules could not change us athletes and their parents can make more informed decisions about their actions.

NCAA guidelines say that prior to entering college, a student-athlete cannot receive money for winning competitions through petition. But, McElroy said, that is part of the problem - too many penalties.

Proposal 99-110 would allow for the receipt of prizes or money without interfering with eligibility, as receiving money is not believed to create an unfair competitive advantage. In defensive and Anthony Brown did not declare himself eligible for this year's NFL Draft. As it is now, if Brown had declared for the draft, he would have been ineligible to play his senior season.

Proposals 99-107, 99-108 and 99-109 would allow Brown to enter the draft, be drafted, sign a contract and play, and still retain eligibility as long as he did not sign with an agent.

The subcommittee's reasoning is that just putting a name on a list does not give any advantage, and at times, prospects receive poor advice and should not be penalized for it.

The same theory applies to signing a contract, because high school athletes may have unrealistic expectations for their future but have no idea what that means. In order to aid those athletes who make wrong decisions as to their performance at that level, the proposal would allow for the playing on a professional team without jeopardizing eligibility.

Other proposals include allowing for participation in organized sports - with some exceptions - after high school graduation and prior to enrolling in college.

A student-athlete would be able to receive funds from outside sources to cover education expenses as long as those funds were provided directly to the school.

Each proposal will be voted on by itself. UF Athletics Director Jeremy Foley said he thinks most of the proposals will not pass in April, with some being referred back to the subcommittee. Foley believes many people are in favor of letting student-athletes receive money for winning competitions because they see it as something minor.

"It would be better served if we could look at how these rules apply to a particular sport," Foley said.

"(The new rules) work for certain sports fine, but they don't work for some; so don't implement them for those sports."

One such Foley said might pose a problem in men's basketball. Competition in recruiting is so great he fears sponsors might take advantage and pay athletes for the wrong reasons.

Every January, members of the NCAA meet to discuss national issues, and the last two featured discussions about amateurism:

"The bottom line is that there is more work that needs to be done on these proposals," McElroy said.

Tressel commits to turning around graduation rates

by Melissa Hoppert

The Lantern (Ohio State U.)

(UNITED-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio - "You get what you expect." Ohio State football coach Tressel knows these words all too well. He first learned them from his mentor, former OSU coach Earle Bruce, and now he plans on using them as his weapon against the football program's failing grades.

"From a discipline standpoint we need to make sure that the players understand our expectations and that they know that they are going to be inspected," Tressel said. "We are not going to turn our heads and look the other way.

Tressel's list of player expectations is rather simple - work hard, play hard and study hard.

"There is no reason why they all can't get degrees," he said. "These athletes had to meet certain academic requirements to be allowed to play, so obviously they can do it."

"Tressel believes the main concerns are alleviated by athletic scholarships. And as such, he sees no obstacles preventing their success in academics.

"Improving the academic success of the athletes may not be an easy task for Tressel. Ohio State is a team that has gone 14-10 the past two seasons and had one of the lowest graduation rates in the Big Ten under former coach John Cooper.

"But I think the key here is the recipe for success." Tressel said.

"The first thing 'we've got to do is create relationships across the board," Tressel said. "Now we need to do our part as a group of coaches and a group of athletic academic support people to make sure that these guys live up to their abilities." Tressel said some players come to OSU to use the football program as a stepping stone to the NFL. For those guys who go to the NFL and have to live for the next 40 years after their careers, "it's not the same."
On Friday, both the men's and women's indoor track teams had strong performances all around to come away with the WHAC Championships once again. The men's team had many big performances that led to its 87-point victory over second-place Cornerstone and its third straight conference title.

According to Head Coach Dave Wood, "We were really pleased with the way we responded in the meet. The men knew going in that they had a good chance but didn't just go through the motions to win."

Senior Jason Carver led the way in the sprints, winning both the 55-meter and 200-meter dashes. In addition, Carver also anchored the winning 800-meter relay team.

Sophomore Henry Holmes took home first-place honors in two events, jumping 43-7 in the triple jump and 23-0 in the long jump. According to Head Coach Dave Wood, "We were really pleased with the way we responded in the meet. The men knew going in that they had a good chance but didn't just go through the motions to win."

The women Saints took the top four places in the 20-pound as well as four of the top six places in the shot put. "Wood was content with the throwers' performances. "The whole group of throwers have really done well for us. Holly has always performed really well at Conference and a lot of people have followed her lead," Wood said.

In addition to Sizemore, the women also captured four other first-place finishes in their victory. These accomplishments came from sophomore Melissa Gomez in the high jump, junior Nichole Gummere in the 1,500-meter run, senior Vicky Sackett in the 600-meter race. Her winning run contributed to the Saints' first-place finish.

Head Coach Dave Wood was pleased with how the women stepped up to the challenge at Conference this year to pull away with their fourth straight Conference Championship. Among notable performances by the women were junior Holly Sizemore, who dominated in the throws, winning both the 20-pound weight as well as the shot put.

"This year's team pull together to win the championship," Holmes said.

The men also performed well in the 3,000-meter run earning the top three places. Sophomore Dan Wilkerson took first with 8:50.30, followed by senior Kevin Smith and senior Paul Barrows, respectively. For the women, the victory at Conference was not as smooth. Behind during most of the meet, the women came through in the final three events for a 27-point victory over second-place Cornerstone.

"The圣人’s Indoor track teams were headed to Johnson City, Tenn. for Nationals. The final listing of National qualifiers will be announced today.