New “no-smoking” policy may be in the works for AB

Community Senate is investigating the possible installation of gazebos and benches to keep smokers away from building doors

by Erica Schafer

In an attempt to positively influence prospective students and to reduce levels of second hand smoke, Community Senate is working on a way to deal with the issue of smoking in front of the Academic Building.

According to President Harry Knopke, the school’s main concern is the fact that people continue to smoke on the steps in front of the building despite its designation as a no-smoking area.

Admissions staff, faculty, and students have expressed concern about the image this gives the school, and believe that the number of people who smoke in front of the Academic Building gives prospective students a bad impression during campus tours.

“Smokers have their rights too, but it presents the wrong picture when people can’t get through the door without being exposed to second hand smoke,” said Knopke.

The matter was brought up at a recent Academic Assembly meeting, where an open discussion took place among faculty members.

Afterward, Knopke asked Community Senate for its help in devising a plan to deal with the issue.

According to Student Affairs Committee Chair senior Avery Jones, Senate will try to develop a plan that will be fair to the entire campus.

Jones said that Senate recognizes the importance of respecting everyone’s opinions.

“Our goal is to solve the problem in a way that isn’t insulting or degrading for those who smoke,” Jones said. “We understand that it is their right.”

Senate has been discussing several possible options. Senior Lars Petzke, who is on a subcommittee exploring the issue, said that members have already come up with some alternatives for smokers.

The first is to raise two gazebo-like structures near the Academic Building to discourage smoking near the front of the building. The gazebos would offer smokers protection from wind and bad weather, said Petzke.

A second option would involve placing benches in front of the Academic Building, giving smokers a place to congregate while keeping smoke away from the doors.

“We recognize that people who smoke have the right, so we are trying to find the most appropriate place for them to do so,” said Petzke.

See Smoking Page 3

School of the Americas target of SAC protest

by Nathan Peck

News Editor

Twelve students from Aquinas traveled to the School of the Americas (SOA) Nov. 16 to participate in an annual weekend-long protest that was attended by thousands of human rights activists from all over the country.

The School of the Americas, a U.S. military-run institution located in Fort Benning, Ga., provides Latin American soldiers and officers with training in such areas as counterterrorism, communications, and intelligence.

It has come under fire for human rights abuses performed by its alumni and for its use of outdated training manuals that opponents say advocate torture during interrogation of suspects.

The students headed to Fort Benning in a show of solidarity toward oppressed people in Latin America who risk death if they stand up in opposition to their governments.

“I honestly, I know that my going to the protest will not close the School. I went to the protest to say to the U.S. government that I don’t approve and to tell those oppressed in Latin America that I support them and will stand up for them,” said SocialActionCommittee(SAC)Coordinator junior Tom Eggleston, whose group had signed up people to participate as members of the Aquinas delegation.

The emotional event took on a more serious tone this year because of heightened security that came in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the war in Afghanistan, according to protest attenders and Director of Campus Ministry Mary Clark-Kaiser.

“Times were more peaceful, the police were very cordial, but this year I anticipated more stressful relations between us and them,” said Clark-Kaiser.

Each year, the weekend’s culmination is a planned act of civil disobedience in which protesters peacefully enter the base and are arrested for trespassing on federal property.

That event took place on Nov. 18. In the past, the U.S. military police had handled the arrests of protesters.

This year, facing an incident, police from the nearby town of Columbus, Ga., handled arrests.

That marked a significant policy shift resulting in greater numbers of people being charged with trespassing rather than just being barred from the base. The Columbus police made 31 arrests Nov. 18, their first in the protest’s eleven-year history.

“Columbus police said they would arrest us, which would end up on our permanent records,” said Eggleston.

“We try to stress the importance of respecting everyone’s opinions. "That’s why we were there," said Eggleston.

The tightened security at the base also resulted in protesters’ being denied access to surrounding land. A fence had been erected around the perimeter of the base where the protest usually took place, so organizers were forced to move the event to Golden Park, a few miles away from the School site.

Aquinas student involvement shrank slightly this year, due in part to the increased legal dangers, and to the fact that many events were competing for students’ attention.

The protest began in 1990 as a response to the slaying of six Jesuit priests, their co-worker, and their co-worker’s daughter by two SOA graduates in El Salvador in 1989.

Ten protesters who gathered outside the gates of Fort Benning that year grew to ten thousand in the 2000 protest. Aquinas has been participating for five years.

“I think it is important that we went while our government was involved in a war operation. We came out and said that violence and teaching violence is not the way to achieve world peace," said Clark-Kaiser.

“The President has called for an end to terrorism, but that has not stopped the training that leads to so much terrorism in Latin America," said Eggleston.

“I worry me that people may see our protest as being anti-American, but I don’t see it like that. I feel that I can support my country and at the same time want to change some of its policies."
Tibetan struggle comes to Aquinas

by Nathan Peck

Tenzin Bhagen brought his personal account of the Tibetan people's struggle for freedom from Chinese rule to Aquinas Nov. 14 during a talk held in the Moose Cafe. Bhagen, a native of Tibet, spoke before a group of students, faculty and staff about the situation that has existed since China's 1949 invasion of that country.

"It is painful for me to see what is going on in Tibet and to see what lies the Chinese are trying to tell the world," said Bhagen. "My friends and family in Tibet are voiceless. I feel it is my responsibility to be their voice."

The Chinese government invaded Tibet in an attempt to emancipate the country from what they termed the "despotic" rule of the lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.

The Dalai Lama, the spiritual and political head of Tibet, fled with many Buddhist monks to India in 1959 because he feared the Chinese were planning to capture him. He has remained in exile ever since.

Bhagen grew up under Chinese rule in Tibet and has been intimately affected by the regime. Bhagen's father was arrested while trying to register the domain name for his lamas, Tibet's political and spiritual leaders. The Communist occupiers demolished six thousand Buddhist monasteries, an action Bhagen credited with destroying much of the spiritual and cultural history of his people. Bhagen also said that 1.2 million Tibetans have died as a result of the Chinese occupation.
Tunnel examined evils of oppression

Junior Duffy Arntz stands at the entrance to the Tunnel of Oppression, a multimedia look at social ills that was set up in the tunnel between the Academic Building and Wege Student Center. Nov. 13. Resident Directors organized the presentation with the aid of Resident Assistants, the Campus Ministry, the Social Action Committee, and the Counseling Office. Roughly 200 students, faculty, and staff members came to walk through the Tunnel, which offered glimpses into such issues as the murderous, stereotyping, body image woes, homosexuality, sexual abuse, and alcoholism.

"I think it went very well. People who saw it were affected by it. They didn't realize that these things happen in the world because people generally don't talk about them," said St. Joseph Hall Resident Director Natalie Wagner.

Recycling program kicks into gear

Interested in recycling used copies of The Aquinas Times? You're in luck. Students Against Violation of the Environment (SAVE) is again sponsoring a recycling program on campus this year, despite concerns that the program had been dropped.

"We are continuing it," said SAVE member junior Michelle Swift. "Things are getting off to a slow start, though, because we don't have enough collection boxes."

Lack of money had prevented SAVE from purchasing bins to replace those lost last year because of water damage. The group enlisted the help of Director of Physical Services Doug Greenmeier, who provided money for the purchase of forty new bins. Those bins will join eleven outside each housing complex. The new bins will be placed on the remaining floors of Regina and St. Joseph, in the remaining apartments in Holy Hall.

Despite the program's limited start, students will have more of an opportunity to participate in it than they did in years past. "We have just revamped the entire program, and the changes will be effective after Thanksgiving break," said SAVE member sophomore Briana Auman.

"There will be three teams of students—an educational team that will research environmental issues, a recycling team that will maintain the collection boxes, and a promotional team that will advertise the program," said Auman.

These changes come too soon for some students. "I have loads of recyclables piling up," said senior Matt McCarthy. "I think SAVE is a good organization, though. They just need more resources."

More resources and more participants, say SAVE members. Turnout for the group's Monday night meetings has been minimal, with approximately six to eight people showing up at any given time. Other events the group has sponsored also have fallen victim to low turnout. Only four people attended the Nov. 11 Campus Cleanup, something Swift attributes to last-minute scheduling and the fact that many students have been away on holidays.

"We'll try to hold future events on weeknights. Also, from now on we're having our meetings on every second Sunday so they're not at the same time as Residence Hall Council meetings," said Swift.

The group also hopes to attract more people to its cause by serving pizza at meetings and by sponsoring a contest among dormitory floors to see which can recycle the most.

Additional plans include the redistribution of "Buckets forButts," make-shift ashtrays that sit outside each housing complex.

"The response [to the changes] has been quite positive from everyone," said Swift. "Our program has been starting out slow, but we're finally getting there."

SAVE is a student-led organization that aims to promote environmental concerns on campus, as well as plant the seed for life-long recycling habits.

"We really want to let students know that recycling is a good habit to have," said Auman.

### Recycling Rules

- **SAVE member sophomores Courtney Johnson offers the following tips about what can and can't be recycled at AQ.**

- **Compostable cardboard (the kind with ridges)** is recyclable. (Pizza boxes with food still in them are not.)

- **Aluminum tin cans** are recyclable, but labels should be removed first.

- **Green and brown glass bottles are not recyclable.**

- **Newspapers, magazines, and office paper are recyclable, but shiny paper is not.**

- **Galloon and half-gallon milk jugs are recyclable.**

- **Number 1, 2, and 6 plastics can be recycled.** Check on the bottom of the container to find out what type of plastic it is.

- **Rinse food and liquid out of containers before recycling them.**

Recycling program to receive funding

Despite the program's limitations, SAVE members say it will continue.

"We'll try to hold future events on weeknights. Also, from now on we're having our meetings on every second Sunday so they're not at the same time as Residence Hall Council meetings," said Swift.

The group also hopes to attract more people to its cause by serving pizza at meetings and by sponsoring a contest among dormitory floors to see which can recycle the most.

### Classified Ads

- **3 Spring Break Vacations! Best Prices Guaranteed! Cancun, Jamaica, Bahamas & Florida. Sell Trips, Earn Cash & Go Free!**
  New hiring Campus Reps. 1-800-234-7007.

- **ACT NOW! GUARANTEED THE BEST SPRING BREAK PRICES SOUTH Padre, Cancun, Jamaica, Bahamas! ACAPULCO, FLORIDA & MARDIS GRAS. REPS NEEDED... TRAVEL FREE, EARN $$$! GROUP DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE 04-6, 800-538-3233 / WWW.LEISURESURF.COM**

- **St. Helen Parish, Saginaw, MI will have an opening for a full-time elementary school principal's position beginning Aug. 21, 2002. St. Helen School is a vibrant, progressive, Catholic School with 230 students, Preschool through Grade 8. The candidate should be a practicing Catholic, deeply committed, with experience in preschool and elementary education. Send resume, credentials and letter of intent to Fr. Emmett Maceau and the Search Committee, 2445 N Charles, Saginaw, MI 48602. For more information, call (989) 792-7781 or email zinelsire@svol.org. Deadline for applications is December 15, 2001.**

### Unsolicted solicitations plague Aquinas students

by Kathy Bieber

**Contributing Writer**

Several Aquinas students are complaining about calls they have received from a person named Amy at the "Dynamic Institute." Amy wants to sell them a job search program that sounds a little too much like a pyramid scheme. "It made me furious!" said senior técnico Wiesnner about the call she received.

How do companies like this get students' names and contact information? Easy. From organizations like the Student Marketing Group and American Student List Company, who actively seek out information about youth, students, and young adults.

Such companies are known as "list compilers," and they sell lists of names to "list brokers." These brokers in turn sell lists to anyone who wants to pay money to have their product or service targeted to a specific audience.

According to twenty-year veteran of the list brokerage business Beth Ann Thompson at Doug Race Communications, list brokers collect names from a wide variety of sources, including student directories, phone books, and even religious denominational directories.

Any source that is public or obtainable information is fair game. "The college releases no student names," said Director of Admissions Tom Mikowski. However, Mikowski said that student directories are obtained in a way that there are "a multitude of other ways" people can obtain information about students.

"He's right," said Thompson. "People who are looking to gather names and other information are very clever." According to Thompson, companies have "monitor students' behavior in order to place the students in specific categories."

For example, students who regularly buy textbooks on their Visa cards at the Aquinas Bookstore are labeled as "college students" by the credit card company.

High school students who send in response cards for free magazine subscriptions often find in gift bags after attending seminars about colleges will be tagged as "college-bound high school students at Thompson's.

People wishing to find out who is selling or giving them the names to list compilers can use "decoy names" when filling out warranty cards, subscription cards, questionnaire, and similar forms. By misspelling or changing their names slightly, they can track future unsolicited offers and learn who may receive that list the incorrect names, and will then find out where these companies get their information.

In addition, everyone who requests personal information is required to give customers the option of not having their names rented. Such lists are typically in very fine print at the bottom of a form.

If a person doesn't want to watch for the fine print, the Direct Marketing Association (DMA) offers a way to get names taken off of these types of lists.

By logging onto www.The- DMA.org, people can add their names to the DMA Mail Preference Service (MPS) and Telephone Preference Service (TPS) suppression files.

"It's not a guarantee that they won't ever receive an unsolicited offer again," said Thompson. But Thomson said it will cut down on such offers, since most companies "emerge and purge" their lists against the DMA limits in an effort to remove anyone who has specifically asked not to be contacted.
By Katelyn Miller
Contributing Writer

Should the government allow smoking in public areas like bars and restaurants?

Yes. In California in 1998, smoking was banned in bars and restaurants. A study conducted six months later by The American Beverage Institute found that 59.3 percent of the state’s bars, taverns, and nightclubs had experienced a decline in business, with thirty-five percent of that number suffering a decline of over thirty percent. And why not? Their patrons had been forced into the streets to smoke. If other areas were to institute a similar ban, they would almost surely see a decline in their restaurant and bar businesses as well. The bottom line is that people should have the right to choose when and where they want to smoke. Consider the words of Libertarian Party National Director Steve Desbrow, who says that “anti-smoking extremists don’t really care about the dangers of second hand smoke to bystanders – they simply want to use the power of government to force people to give up their bad habits.” He’s right. America is a country where people have the right to express themselves in virtually any way they want. The government shouldn’t be allowed, then, to prevent people from enjoying their freedom of choice. Individual bar and restaurant owners who wish to enact prohibitions against tobacco should be allowed to do so – that’s their prerogative. In such cases, smokers and nonsmokers would be able to frequent those institutions that maintained policies they agreed with. No government intervention would be necessary and everyone would be happy. And while second hand smoke may be a common preventable cause of death in the United States, the key word is that it is preventable. Non-smoking sections are available, and if smoke bothers a person, he or she can choose to sit in them.

Are the college’s smoking policies appropriate?

Yes. Aquinas’ policy more than adequately addresses the so-called problem of smoking on campus. People who smoke are required to remain 100 feet away from any building at all times. This is not only to prevent possible fire hazards, but also to protect those who find the practice offensive. Smokers are also provided with receptacles in which to put their cigarette butts, so the problem of litter is addressed as well. Any stricter regulations, such as a ban of smoking on campus, would violate the rights of students and faculty who choose to smoke. Since they are adults and are able to understand the physical consequences of smoking, students and faculty shouldn’t be told by the powers that be that they can’t smoke. The rules that are currently in effect do a good job of being fair to both the smokers and non-smokers and should continue to do so as long as they are enforced. If the smokers here on campus abide by the rules that were laid out by the college, and the non-smokers are tolerant of the smokers, there won’t be a problem.

Do smokers generally accommodate the rights of nonsmokers?

Most of the time. People who smoke are aware that their habit does on occasion offend those around them and that it is their responsibility to try not to do so. For instance, most smokers I know won’t light up in a car or around a group of non-smokers without asking first. There just needs to be a climate of tolerance. Non-smokers must remember that they will sometimes encounter smoke, and that they should either ignore it or choose to patronize another restaurant or bar. They must also remember that there are many reasons people smoke and that not every smoker is out to give them lung cancer. Similarly, smokers should try not to stand too close to doorways when they light up. With a little compromise on both fronts, smokers and non-smokers will not have to worry about infringing on the rights of others.

OPINION

November 21, 2001

Up in Smoke...

Smokers don’t get much respect these days. As an emphasis on health sweeps the nation, smoking is falling victim to the ever-expanding rhetoric of wellbeing. Witness the effects: California banned smoking in bars and restaurants. And right here at AQ, Community Senate is searching for a way to diminish the number of smokers who congregate in front of the Academic Building. But is this outcry missing a fundamental truth? Isn’t smoking a right, something guaranteed under that little “pursuit of happiness” clause in The Declaration of Independence? The answers are as clear as a cloud of smoke...

Counterpoint

by Bridie Kent
Entertainment Editor

No. For smokers, the cigarette is a stress reliever, a quick buzz, a simple pleasure, a break, a relaxation technique, and an addiction. In the same way that people turn to alcohol, food, exercise, a good book, or some other method (healthy or not) of taking a load off, the smoker turns to Parliament, Camels, Winstons, or Marlboros. This is something that non-smokers must accept. The main difference is the physical assault on the senses inflicted upon those who choose not to smoke by those who puff on smoldering sticks in poorly ventilated areas. Unlike the disastrous consequences of other addictions, smoking harms not only the smoker, but also those standing around him or her. Second-hand smoke is the nation’s third-leading preventable cause of death. Eliminating smoke from indoor areas would cut that statistic significantly. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, seventy percent of smokers say they’d like to kick the habit. Why not remove the temptation, then, and ban smoking in indoor public places? Only 25 percent of the adult population smokes, so this practice should not continue to impede on the happiness and well being of the 75 percent of adults who don’t. Smokers have the right to smoke in their cars, outdoors, and in their own homes. They don’t need to do it in my domain. I have heard a few comparisons that equate the California ban on cigarettes to the Prohibition-era ban on alcohol, but this is ludicrous. The last time I checked, fumes from a cocktail don’t wait over and cause the physical deterioration of people sitting next to it. Our government has an obligation to protect public welfare through such channels as minimum wage laws and health codes. I see no reason why it should not protect our lungs as well.

No. Whether they mean to do so or not – and I am guessing that it’s mostly the latter – smokers infringe upon the rights of those around them. Just after the state of California outlawed smoking in bars, the University of California-San Francisco studied 53 of that city’s barkeries. Before the law, three-quarters of them suffered from lung ailments. After the law, 60 percent of those suffers found that their symptoms dropped away completely. I would definitely say that certain inalienable rights had been infringed upon prior to the ban. Many of those bartenders reported that they coughed and wheezed less and did not experience as much shortness of breath after the ban took effect. When the scientific results indicate that the disastrous effects of second hand smoke are so clear, why would society have things any other way?
Hands on the wheel, please...

Cell phones are a miracle of modern convenience, but they've also made our roads a lot more dangerous.

In West Hollywood, where cell phones are as prevalent as tanned skin, bleached blonde hair and silicone-injected body parts, citizens held a recent forum to discuss whether or not use of the telecommunication devices should be prohibited while callers are driving. Of course, this conversation lasted for all of two seconds, with Tinseltown denizens quickly realizing that a trip down Sunset Boulevard just wouldn't be the same without a cell phone firmly in hand. But the mere fact that this issue was at all raised indicates that the public is aware of the dangers posed by use of cell phones in traffic and that it believes something needs to be done to combat the situation.

In New York, legislators have acknowledged this fact as well. In June, responding to a bevy of automobile crashes related to cell phone use, they passed a law prohibiting drivers from talking on the devices while in moving vehicles. The law is the first of its kind in the nation and will be strictly enforced beginning Dec. 1, with violators facing fines of up to $500.

In Michigan, a similar law was enacted in September. Michigan legislators must come to the realization that current regulations regarding use of phones while driving are woefully inadequate and that cell phones should be banned on the road in order to protect the lives of motorists across the state.

Right now, Michiganders will encounter few provisions against talking on cell phones while driving. If authorities can determine that one of the devices contributed to a motorist's recklessness behind the wheel, they can double that person's fine after pulling him or her over for such offenses, or even fines of speeding or swerving from lane to lane.

However, this doesn't do enough to protect citizens. Talking on the phone while driving is a distraction, period. A recently formed state program called "SenseAble Driving" urges motorists to take precautionary measures in using their cell phones on the road and it is certainly a step in the right direction. However, with no legal requirements mandating that they follow these suggestions, motorists may decide that the unlikely possibility of receiving a fine is not threatening enough to heed the conscience.

House Bill 5101, now nearing its way through the state legislature, would require police officers to indicate on crash report forms whether or not cell phones played any role in causing traffic accidents. But the state also needs legislation that will deem cell phone usage reserved for those whose feet (or car wheels) are stationary and firmly planted on the ground. Until such laws are passed, the public must behave as if they are already in the books. Drivers need to put down their phones when they're behind the wheel. Their lives depend on it.

"I think there are a lot of idiots on the road who use their cell phones, but I don't think it should be outlawed. The government shouldn't have the right to take away freedoms like that."

Jon Marko, freshman

To the Editor:

"Oh my God, I am going to die today!" This expression is not exaggerated if we look at it in light of the hysteria caused by the tragic events of Sept. 11. Politicians have tried to calm the public by promising prompt military action against "evil doers," and by proposing new legislation that will affect the freedom of each American.

Yet, the public is still concerned about its safety.

Each year, more people die as the result of car accidents in America than as the result of terror and freedom fighting around the world. Speeding is one of the many traffic rules because they allow us to move from A to B in the most efficient—not necessarily the most secure and risk free—way. But facing these facts, it seems that we should not be any more afraid of terror acts than of driving a car.

Yet the article "Political Situation Means New Study Aboard Concerns" in the Nov. 7 Aquinas Times tells us differently. This article claims that Italy is not a safe place to visit because the State Department has released a note stating that U.S. installations might be targets of attacks there. Yet, the State Department has never discussed issues like domestic terrorism activity in Spain. The ETA, a Basque terror group with the goal of establishing an autonomous state in the north of Spain, has increased its bombings and assassinations drastically over the last few years. Just two weeks ago, two auto bombs went off in Madrid. This is a much more real threat than any vague attack of Mr. "He's-so-evil-bis-laden." The same is true for Ireland. A few people who attended the semester abroad program in Tully Cross visited Belfast, a city noted for its IRA, and Protestant terror acts. Has there ever been a warning from the State Department to not travel there? Or has there ever been a concern expressed by the college to abort the study abroad program there?

In the article, Kris Lou, Assistant Dean of the International Program, also brought up the issue of not going into McDonald's, since an American company, its restaurants would be open to attack. Europeans continue to enjoy their Happy Meals, but suddenly US citizens who go there will be ripped to pieces by explosives after dipping french fries into BBQ sauce.

I conclude by agreeing with Lou that visitors should keep a low profile. Nobody likes ignorant tourists who do not assimilate to the local culture. Unfortunately, U.S. tourists are known for this, but that has nothing to do with the tragedy of Sept. 11. I hope this letter helps people to avoid the risks associated with terror appropriately and that it brings them relief from fear. Others might just turn pale in the face of real threats we have faced all these decades but haven't even known it.

Nikolaus Marchola, senior

2001-2002 Editorial Staff:

Editor-in-Chief
Teresa Schaller

Layout Editor
Kevin Neumann

News Editor
Annie Peck

Entertainment Editor
Brett Kent

Sports Editor
Gabe Gagnon

Photo Editor
Josh Friederichs

Staff Writer
Joelle Bouvier

Business Manager
Ryan Schmidt

Illustrator
Kristen Kasinski

Advisor
Prof. Dan Brooks

The Aquinas Times worked diligently for the past 21 years to produce an informative, entertaining and journalism-like student publication. The Aquinas Times is distributed by students at Aquinas College, 1607 Robinson Rd. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. Our goal is to continue to provide a forum for the ideas, views and concerns of the Aquinas community.

Signed editorials reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of The Aquinas Times. "The Times View" represents the view of the editorial board and does not necessarily reflect the views of Aquinas College.

"Letters to the Editor" are accepted Thursdays by noon in The Aquinas office, located in lower Wege Center. All letters must be signed. The Aquinas Times reserves the right to edit content on basis, length and style.


And you can quote me on that

Should the state pass a law outlawing cell phone use on the road?

"I think there are a lot of idiots on the road who use their cell phones, but I don't think it should be outlawed. The government shouldn't have the right to take away freedoms like that."

Jon Marko, freshman

"I definitely think there should be a law against using a cell phone while driving. Enough car accidents happen every year without having cell phones provoke even more of them. Police should be able to write tickets for talking on the phone while driving, just like they can write tickets for not wearing a seatbelt."

Brooke Murphy, sophomore

"I'd have to agree with laws prohibiting the use of hand-held cell phones while driving. People need to concentrate on the roads and on other drivers. Dialing and looking for a ringing cell phone take a driver's attention off the road."

Meghan McMullan, junior

"I think it's really distracting to talk on cell phones while driving. I would agree with such laws— it's a good idea. I try to avoid talking on my phone in the car. I talk on my cell phone and drive only once in awhile.

Nick Patin, senior

"I think it's a good idea. Using a cell phone can take your attention away from driving. You need that attention. Even with power steering, most of the time you need both hands on the wheel."

Sr. Rose Marie Martin, Head of Technical Services

Get an opinion? Share it with us!

We want to hear what you have to say about anything and everything. Send your stuff to The Aquinas Times, 1607 Robinson Rd. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. Please sign your article. You must also include a phone number or extension where you can be reached. Printed submissions will be paid. Questions? Give us a call at 616-459-8281, ext. 4106.
Credit cards can be double-edged swords: both lifesavers and debt-bringers for scores of students across the nation. Listen in as some Saints dish about their charging habits.

by Erin Catalano  Contributing Writer

Imagine being able to obtain anything you want and not having to pay a thing to get it. It might sound too good to be true, but it’s not. It’s a credit card, a small piece of plastic with endless possibilities.

Credit cards allow their bearers to purchase items in advance and to pay for them later. A quick swipe of the card through a machine, and customers are out the door with the objects of their desire. College students, who often don’t have money readily available, particularly appreciate the benefits of being able to “buy now, pay later.”

“That’s definitely the best thing about credit cards,” said freshman Tara Curtis. “If I see something I want, but don’t have the money on hand to buy it, I can still get it because I know in the near future, I will have enough money.”

This ability to charge comes at a price, though: high interest rates and debt. According to the Consumer Federation of America, students maintained an average credit card debt of $2,226 in 1997. And, since credit card issuers have to make money somehow, they charge interest rates whenever customers don’t pay off their balances in full each month. Those extra payments can add up quickly.

“I use my credit card at least twice a week, and that has me in the hole $150,” said freshman Amanda Schmidke. “I use my credit card for mostly clothes, and the debt has taught me that maybe I don’t need to buy so much.”

For many students, credit cards actually encourage spending. Cold hard cash can be difficult to part with, but when all a student needs to do is hand over a little plastic card and sign his or her name, making unnecessary purchases becomes a lot easier.

“Because of my credit card, I spend money I know I don’t have,” said freshman Chase Osbourne. “I always fear that I’ll buy something I have no use for.”

Which is a problem junior Jim Baird knows all too well. “Last week I went to the mall and used my credit card to buy new clothes. After I did that, I thought, ‘Why didn’t I just wait until I got my paycheck? That way I don’t have to pay interest,’” said Baird.

Some students avoid obtaining credit cards for that very reason. “I’m so afraid of debt. I feel that if I get a credit card I’m going to feel empowered and go out and buy everything I see,” said freshman Jamie Toth.

But credit cards aren’t all bad. They can be handy in the event of unexpected expenses that could force a student to go through the hassle of having money wired or of writing a check for more than he or she has in a bank account. “I got my credit card for emergency purposes, like having a broken bone, or going to the doctor’s office,” said Baird.

Others rely on credit cards to provide funding for major purchases they wouldn’t be able to make otherwise. “When I was shopping for my new computer, I didn’t have the money in the bank to pay for it. Since I had the credit card, I didn’t worry about my lack of cash,” said Osbourne.

“I barely ever use my credit card. The only time I really used it was for my vacation to Germany,” said sophomore Phil Vandenbrink.

Parents often are the ones to suggest that their children obtain credit cards. “My parents wanted to teach me responsibility,” said Curtis. “And money is a huge responsibility. But having a credit card has taught me how to manage my finances better.”
Freshman Holly Young remains skeptical, however. She believes that the responsibility of credit cards may be too much for college students to handle. "Some students can be trusted. They have jobs and bank accounts. But most can't because they haven't experienced life. They haven't learned that there are consequences if they screw up in the real world," said Young.

There are ways to avoid getting in over one's head. Experts advise that students make sure their credit cards have low limits, which ensures that they will not be able to spend over a certain amount. Students also shouldn't use their cards except in emergencies. If they are going shopping at the mall, they should bring only their checkbooks, debit cards, or cash to ensure that they will know how much money they are spending and that they will be able to stop themselves before they go through everything in their bank accounts.

Students also shouldn't fill out every credit card application they get. The more credit cards they have, the easier it will be for them to lose track of the money they've spent. They should remember that when using a credit card, they pay interest month after month. And they should try to pay more than the minimum amount required each month on their credit card bills, because the accumulating interest will ensure that they end up paying much more than they charged in the first place. For more information on ways to stay out of debt, students can visit the web site www.creditcarddebtstrategies.com, which lists several ways to avoid financial problems.

Credit cards are both a blessing and a burden, but if students act responsibly, they can definitely use the cards to their advantage.

**The Credit Report**

Christmas is approaching, and with it, credit card season. Here are some more tips to help students keep the yuletide of holiday spending from overwhelming them, courtesy of Yahoo!, StudentCredit.com, and StudentMarket.com:

- Contact your bank and lower the limit on your credit card. It will help curb your spending.
- Review your statements carefully and immediately inform your credit card company, in writing, if you notice an error on a billing statement.
- If you have more than one card, consider consolidating them. Having too many cards can be dangerous, as it is all too easy to fill up one and then move on to the other.
- Pay your bill before the "due date." Write the check right away and mail it to avoid late fees and finance charges.
- Try to pay your balance in full each month. Otherwise, make sure you send more than the minimum payment required.
- Keep your bill in a folder separate from your biology notes.
- Limit the number of credit cards you acquire to simplify your record keeping.
- Keep a list of your credit card numbers in a safe place in case a card is lost or stolen.
- Do not let others use your cards and don't use your cards to pay for other people's purchases.

Robin Mankel, senior

"I don't use credit cards because I don't believe in spending money I don't have. I don't like being in debt and I don't know if I'll ever get a credit card. I haven't really thought about establishing credit—it's something I don't want to deal with yet. For now, I pay for everything with cash or debit card."

Tim Stevens, junior

"I have four credit cards and they provide me with security. If my car broke down and I couldn't find a bank, I would just use one of my credit cards. I never spend more than I have, and I pay everything back as soon as the bill comes each month."

Sara Koster, junior

"I have a few credit cards. I think they're a good way to establish credit and to pay off my balances every time my statements come. They help me budget and I use them for everything, from buying gas to clothes."

Phil ValDerBrink, sophomore

"I have two credit cards, a MasterCard and a Visa. One came with my checking account and the other I got when I studied abroad. I don't use them to buy anything now, but I am responsible. Whenever I get my paycheck, I put more than half of it in my savings account so I'll have enough to cover expenses."

Freshman Holly Young remains skeptical, however. She believes that the responsibility of credit cards may be too much for college students to handle. "Some students can be trusted. They have jobs and bank accounts. But most can't because they haven't experienced life. They haven't learned that there are consequences if they screw up in the real world," said Young.

There are ways to avoid getting in over one's head. Experts advise that students make sure their credit cards have low limits, which ensures that they will not be able to spend over a certain amount. Students also shouldn't use their cards except in emergencies. If they are going shopping at the mall, they should bring only their checkbooks, debit cards, or cash to ensure that they will know how much money they are spending and that they will be able to stop themselves before they go through everything in their bank accounts.

Students also shouldn't fill out every credit card application they get. The more credit cards they have, the easier it will be for them to lose track of the money they've spent. They should remember that when using a credit card, they pay interest month after month. And they should try to pay more than the minimum amount required each month on their credit card bills, because the accumulating interest will ensure that they end up paying much more than they charged in the first place. For more information on ways to stay out of debt, students can visit the web site www.creditcarddebtstrategies.com, which lists several ways to avoid financial problems.

Credit cards are both a blessing and a burden, but if students act responsibly, they can definitely use the cards to their advantage.

**The Credit Report**

Christmas is approaching, and with it, credit card season. Here are some more tips to help students keep the yuletide of holiday spending from overwhelming them, courtesy of Yahoo!, StudentCredit.com, and StudentMarket.com:

- Contact your bank and lower the limit on your credit card. It will help curb your spending.
- Review your statements carefully and immediately inform your credit card company, in writing, if you notice an error on a billing statement.
- If you have more than one card, consider consolidating them. Having too many cards can be dangerous, as it is all too easy to fill up one and then move on to the other.
- Pay your bill before the "due date." Write the check right away and mail it to avoid late fees and finance charges.
- Try to pay your balance in full each month. Otherwise, make sure you send more than the minimum payment required.
- Keep your bill in a folder separate from your biology notes.
- Limit the number of credit cards you acquire to simplify your record keeping.
- Keep a list of your credit card numbers in a safe place in case a card is lost or stolen.
- Do not let others use your cards and don't use your cards to pay for other people's purchases.

Robin Mankel, senior

"I don't use credit cards because I don't believe in spending money I don't have. I don't like being in debt and I don't know if I'll ever get a credit card. I haven't really thought about establishing credit—it's something I don't want to deal with yet. For now, I pay for everything with cash or debit card."

Tim Stevens, junior

"I have four credit cards and they provide me with security. If my car broke down and I couldn't find a bank, I would just use one of my credit cards. I never spend more than I have, and I pay everything back as soon as the bill comes each month."

Sara Koster, junior

"I have a few credit cards. I think they're a good way to establish credit and to pay off my balances every time my statements come. They help me budget and I use them for everything, from buying gas to clothes."

Phil ValDerBrink, sophomore

"I have two credit cards, a MasterCard and a Visa. One came with my checking account and the other I got when I studied abroad. I don't use them to buy anything now, but I am responsible. Whenever I get my paycheck, I put more than half of it in my savings account so I'll have enough to cover expenses."
Christian music combines God with guitars, yet is starting to lurk around the edges of the secular world

by Andrea Frishy and Sarah Van Hall

Controlling Writers

“Set this place on fire! Send your spirit, Savor/Rescue from the mine/Show Your servant favor,” sings Mac Powell, lead singer of the band Third Day.

Now mix these lyrics with loud, streaming guitars, a complex bass line and heart-pounding drums. Not your typical concept of God-reaching music. Yet, in the 21st century, Christian music has jumped off the Gospel bandwagon and into the laps of punk rockers and alt-rockers alike. The new Christian rock’s hard-core sounds, combined with words that inspire, have prompted many, including students at Aquinas, to re-think their conception of the genre.

According to the Xbox website, unless I was “living under a rock,” I should have known that Nov. 15 was the day it hit store shelves. So I left a little bit out of the loop. It just isn’t my kind of entertainment, I guess. Maybe I’m biased and a little bit more concerned about how the industry has come since the days I played Q*bert and Pac-Man on my neighbor’s Atari.

But there is no lack of evidence to support the idea that excessive use of video game systems like the Xbox is dangerous, not to mention damn expensive. The Xbox system costs $300, not counting games. And Xbox isn’t even the only new contender in the video game arena. Nintendo’s GameCube debuted this past Sunday and, at $200, is relatively cheaper than the MSN system. The fact that people are willing to pay this sum of money for themselves and their children reveals how far the industry has come since the days I played Q*bert and Pac-Man on my neighbor’s Atari.

Having lived in the forums, I realize that video games are a big part of student life. But I was surprised to read a study that said, globally, annual video game revenues exceed $18 billion. American children who have home video game systems play with them about ninety minutes a day. Although studies don’t prove that video games lead to delinquency across the board, there is some very compelling evidence to suggest that video game violence leads to dysfunctional social behavior and thought.

Even the seemingly harmless courtier in the Nintendo game Paperboy gets extra points for hitting the sashimi, bikin-clad woman with a newspaper. The entertainment industry has always faced criticism for the underhanded ways it makes money, from portraying graphic sexuality in movies and music videos to cranking out vulgar lyrics in pop music. But in light of the evidence I’ve mentioned, this seems to be a rising problem.

Sophomore Tony Zimbal, a resident of Regina Hall, plays his system for one to two hours a day. When I asked him why he does this, he simply replied, “Because it’s fun. It’s a break from the action.” Maybe video games do provide temporary respite from the daily grind. But all signs suggest that it is easy to become consumed by the video game culture, and that it isn’t necessarily an enriching habit.

The thing that gets me about the Xbox is that it won’t be the last system ever made. In fact, like the computer software that MSN gets rich off of, this system will be obsolete within a few years and as even more powerful system will hit the shelves of Toys “R” Us. So thousands of hours of playing time and a few hundred bucks later, what will the consumer have to show? Good hand-eye-coordination, at the very most. The game industry, if not monitored carefully, may continue to lead people down unenlightened paths, depriving their bank accounts, and wasting their time.

Merry Xbox

by Bridie Kent

Entertainment Editor

The Microsoft Network has just introduced the Xbox, a high-tech system that will likely adore tree skirts across America this holiday season. Until last week I had barely heard anything about it. But then a friend of mine mentioned it to me, and I felt compelled to check this phenomenon out.

According to the Xbox website, unless I was “living under a rock,” I should have known that Nov. 15 was the day it hit store shelves. So I left a little bit out of the loop. It just isn’t my kind of entertainment, I guess. Maybe I’m biased and a little bit more concerned about how the industry has come since the days I played Q*bert and Pac-Man on my neighbor’s Atari.

But there is no lack of evidence to support the idea that excessive use of video game systems like the Xbox is dangerous, not to mention damn expensive. The Xbox system costs $300, not counting games. And Xbox isn’t even the only new contender in the video game arena. Nintendo’s GameCube debuted this past Sunday and, at $200, is relatively cheaper than the MSN system. The fact that people are willing to pay this sum of money for themselves and their children reveals how far the industry has come since the days I played Q*bert and Pac-Man on my neighbor’s Atari.

Having lived in the forums, I realize that video games are a big part of student life. But I was surprised to read a study that said, globally, annual video game revenues exceed $18 billion. American children who have home video game systems play with them about ninety minutes a day. Although studies don’t prove that video games lead to delinquency across the board, there is some very compelling evidence to suggest that video game violence leads to dysfunctional social behavior and thought.

Even the seemingly harmless courtier in the Nintendo game Paperboy gets extra points for hitting the sashimi, bikin-clad woman with a newspaper. The entertainment industry has always faced criticism for the underhanded ways it makes money, from portraying graphic sexuality in movies and music videos to cranking out vulgar lyrics in pop music. But in light of the evidence I’ve mentioned, this seems to be a rising problem.

Sophomore Tony Zimbal, a resident of Regina Hall, plays his system for one to two hours a day. When I asked him why he does this, he simply replied, “Because it’s fun. It’s a break from the action.” Maybe video games do provide temporary respite from the daily grind. But all signs suggest that it is easy to become consumed by the video game culture, and that it isn’t necessarily an enriching habit.

The thing that gets me about the Xbox is that it won’t be the last system ever made. In fact, like the computer software that MSN gets rich off of, this system will be obsolete within a few years and as even more powerful system will hit the shelves of Toys “R” Us. So thousands of hours of playing time and a few hundred bucks later, what will the consumer have to show? Good hand-eye-coordination, at the very most. The game industry, if not monitored carefully, may continue to lead people down unenlightened paths, depriving their bank accounts, and wasting their time.
Participants in the JAMMIN fashion show take part in the opening act, an homage to the MTV Video Music Awards.

It was “One Nation” at JAMMIN fashion show

by Bridie Kent

Entertainment Editor

Aquinas students, faculty, and staff jumped out of their usual garb and into the latest fashions Saturday night for JAMMIN’s 11th Annual Fashion and Talent Show. The event was co-sponsored by such on-campus organizations as Casa Hogar and the Spice Club, which allowed for a bigger production and a wider array of student involvement than in years past.

“We wanted to change the face of JAMMIN and set a precedent for years to come,” said JAMMIN secretary junior Maynard Sasis. “The reason we sought out help (from other clubs) was to show that by working together, we can do great things.”

Previously, the event had turned out a crowd of about thirty people, according to Assistant Director of Multicultural Services Stacey Jackson. “This year I think there will be more people attending because of the collaboration. I’d love to say we’re going to pack the house,” said Jackson prior to the performance.

And the show came very close to achieving that goal, with the roughly 200-seat Kretschmer Auditorium filling to near-capacity: “The turnout was way better than last year,” said Sanis, who has been involved in the production for the past two years. “We had at least one hundred thank-you notes to Klein fashion shows in preparation, said that the show raised money for Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II, an orphanage in Lurin, Peru.

Emceed by Bridie Kent

ENTERTAINMENT

Front Row

by J.J. Flory
Contributing Writer

Best that sluggish feeling following Thanksgiving dinner by attending some of the following events...

Nov. 21 – 24

Wednesday – Check out the band that put local music on the map. The Verve Pipe will play a special show at the Orbi Room at 8:00 p.m. Get tickets for $10 by calling 456-3333 or by visiting www.ticketmaster.com

Saturday and Sunday – Ten years ago, a little ska band called Mustard Plug started playing local clubs in Grand Rapids. Three albums and a few worldwide tours later, members still pay respect to their roots. Help them celebrate by attending their tenth anniversary shows at the Intersection. Saturday’s 18 and up show starts at 8:00 p.m. If you are enjoying high-schoolers trying to mosh, Sunday’s all-ages show is at 5:00 p.m. Tickets are $7 at your nearest Ticketmaster outlet, or head to www.ticketmaster.com

Nov. 25 – Dec. 1

Nov. 25, Dec. 8 – Get in touch with your feminine side and check out Louisa May Alcott’s “Little Women” performed at the new Master Arts Theatre at 75 Vee St. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. with 2:00 p.m. matinees on Sat. Tickets are $12 for adults, $10 students. Call 455-1001 for information.

Nov. 29 – Dec. 25 – Nickleback will show you exactly HOW they reminded you by playing a show with Saliva at the State Theatre in Detroit at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $22.00 through Ticketmaster. Call (248) 645-6666 or visit www.ticketmaster.com for tickets.

Monday, Nov. 26 – She’s BAAAAACK! Britney Spears will perform at 7:30 p.m. at the Palace of Auburn Hills in Detroit. Tickets range from $39.50 to a whopping $75.00 and can be purchased by calling (248) 645-6666 or by heading to www.ticketmaster.com

Thursday, Nov. 29 – If Christmas shopping (or the Britney concert) has left you broke, you can still be entertained in Detroit. Check out Fall Jazz Night at 7:30 p.m. at Kretschmer Recital Hall in the AMC. For more information, contact Diana Dixon at ext. 3402.

Upcoming!

Thursday, Dec. 6 – Check out Weezer at Wings Stadium in Kalamazoo at 7:30 p.m. with special guest Tenacious D. Tickets are $28.50 through Ticketmaster. Call (616) 373-7000.

Friday, Dec. 15 – Catch the final day of the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre’s production of “Pioneer Part” at 3:00 p.m. at the Civic Theatre. Tickets range from $25.50 to $25.00 and can be purchased by visiting www.grc.org or by calling 222-6650.

EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES

Looking for that treasured piece of jewelry for your loved one that will last a lifetime? Have you checked out diamond engagement rings that all look the same or cost too much? If you answer yes to any of these questions you’ll want to explore the possibilities at DeVries Jewelry Store. Our selection of unique engagement rings is unsurpassed in the area. Our convenient Leonard location has parking right behind the store. And our prices, well they’re hard to beat. After all we don’t have the high overhead of the mall jewelry stores. So make a trip over to DeVries Jewelry Store before you make that jewelry purchase that will last your lifetime and explore for yourself the possibilities.

Celebrating 100 Years of Jewelry Excellence

DeVries Jewelry Store

411 Leonard, N.W.
616-454-6892

Free parking behind store

www.devriesjewelry.com
Local bands make a run on the Moose

The Unsavories, wearing Aquinas Athletic shirts, brought some local talent to the Moose Cafe Nov. 16 with their funky original songs and an upbeat cover of Madonna's "Express Yourself." The band, which includes (from left) Physical Services Assistant and guitarist Thad Salter, drummer Chris Nienhuis, and bassist Matt Nienhuis, took a break from the local bar scene to play in front of a small Aquinas crowd.

Programming Board Chair Wes Braun said the band's performance impressed him, but he thought turnout was a bit low. Switching to Friday night programming is a new venture for the Board, and Braun suggested this change may have accounted for the smaller crowd.

“They’re excited to play at Aquinas,” said Braun of local talents who, like the Unsavories, have graced the Moose’s stage in the past few weeks.

Financial woes resulting from Programming Board’s overexpenditure of its budget last year played some role in the sudden arrival of this spate of local acts who are an alternative to the relatively more expensive national acts the group books during the National Association for Campus Activities Conference.

“It was a motivator,” said Braun. “We started out the year with a reduced budget. But after we saw that these programs were being well-received, we decided to look into them a little more.”

“People aren’t risk takers when it comes to new music,” said Programming Board Adviser and Student Activities Director Eric Mullen. “Our first few programs have done really well.”

“I think it is a good idea. Many students know or at least have kind of heard of these bands, and the following might bring people closer together,” said junior Kristin Rabideau. “So far the music has been really good, too.”

Future Programming Board events include a College Bowl on Dec. 1 and a performance by the band Pop Evil in the Moose Cafe on Dec. 6. “They were formerly known as 10-5,” said Braun. “They play more alternative, rock music.”

---

Band Review:
19 Wheels

by Sarah Kommer
Contributing Writer

The last time I saw Chris Johnston, lead singer of 19 Wheels, he was less than fully dressed. Unfortunately, this review isn’t a scandalous tale of our tumultuous relationship. Rather, it’s the story of a band whose singer likes to strip down during outdoor performances and whose groupies sell CDs out of backpacks. I’d better explain. 19 Wheels consists of four musicians, one sparkly guitar and a lot of behind the scenes, underground workers. Its music is an energetic, funky mix of rock-pop and, of all of our local bands, it is quite possibly one of the few who may actually make it out of Michigan. Why? You ask?

Well, to start, the band will do anything to please its fans. During this summer’s Celebration on the Grand in downtown Grand Rapids, Johnston took off his boyish t-shirt to appease the screaming crowd, and proceeded to hike up his boxers to make people laugh. What other lead singers are you aware of who will go so far to keep the crowds entertained? I doubt many other local bands, knowing that their days of music stardoms are numbered, have the confidence to get so excited about their performances. After all, being forced to play the same show at the intersection for six years must let them know their music is getting old, especially when “One-Hit Wonder” Drew Nelson is in their opening act.

Members of 19 Wheels also do something a lot of other bands don’t do—they play all the time, everywhere, and for all ages. It’s hard to find a night on any given week that the guys aren’t cranking out some music and showing off some boxes. A band that makes itself available to fans will only reap the benefits of having groupies who adore it. Interestingly, on the website fans can actually sign up to be groupies, or, rather, to help out at concerts as part of what the band calls its “Street Team.” Super Fans can elect to have the inside track on spreading the 19 Wheels word or even by just joining the fan club. I experienced such devotion first hand while I waited in a 34-mile long line for a CD during Celebration. A Street Team member broke away from the table and traveled down the line with a Jampot full of disks for sale. This act of kindness shows that 19 Wheels appreciates its loving fans. The group even makes special mention of them at its concerts!

However, the success of a band doesn’t completely lie behind its onstage antics, its adoring fans, or its concert schedule. Let’s face it—if the music isn’t great, no one will listen. In five years, 19 Wheels has produced one EP, two full-length CDs, and has won a few highly coveted spots on WGRD’s Radio Active CD series. The music is exciting and entertaining, with a few great sing-along songs like “Broken,” from its latest album Sugareven, and the new single “So Cool,” that is cracking air time as I speak. The band also plays a funky version of the classic “You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet” that makes listeners want to close the shades, pick up their air guitars, and vent all their college time stresses.

More information on this crowd-pleasing band can be found at its website, www.19wheels.com, and concerts are always posted on WGRD’s website, www.wgrd.com, under the Concert Calendar section. I suggest giving these rowdy guys a chance. They might not lose any of their air guitars, and vent all their college time stresses.

---

Baseball Card City

CASHIERS
USHERS
CONCESSION ATTENDANTS

Part time positions available at the Showcase Cinemas in Grand Rapids. You can work in the exciting world of the movies. Take advantage of our flexible schedules, competitive starting wages and movie passes for you and your immediate family. Apply in person, 7 days/wk 12 - 9:00 p.m.

Showcase Grand Rapids
5100 28th Street
**SPRIN**
**TIME**
ATH AO DEPT.
**PLAYERS**

**K’Brio Kimble**
K’Brio Kimble was named to the All-Tournament Team at the Lord Amherst Tournament at Davenport College. Kimble averaged 17.5 points per game and 8.5 assists during the tournament, Nov. 9 and 10 in Buffalo, N.Y. Kimble is a sophomore from Wyoming Park.

**Terra Miller**
Terra Miller is a sophomore outside hitter who was named to the All-Conference in the WHAC. She led the volleyball team a杀死 from last year as they finished third in the WHAC overall. Miller is a native of Wyoming Park.

**I-M volleyball hits the Fieldhouse**

By Tonya Schafer

The Squirrels have an 8-3 record in the Aquinas Intramural Coed Volleyball League. But sophomore team member Katherine Kwiatkowski is getting her own way.

"We’re really bad, but we’re having a lot of fun," said Kwiatkowski with a laugh. "Playing in the league has been a great way to get away from the everyday burden." Other students would likely agree. Fourteen teams are competing in the league, which began play Nov. 7. Two leagues of seven teams each play against each other for the coveted IM crown. Games are held Tuesday and Sunday nights and, according to supervisor supervisor Robyn Friedrich, a mixed array of competition and good natured fun is the result.

"Some teams are great to watch because they get so competitive. They’re so into it," said Friedrich. "But mostly it’s pretty laid-back. We put an emphasis on the ‘fun side of it.’" Sign-ups for the league started the week after fall break. "As long as a person goes to Aquinas, he or she can play," said Friedrich.

**Fans deserve better than the BCS**

by Gabe Gagnon

Sports Editor

As the leaves change color and start to fall to the ground, the air turns crisp and my breaths become visible. Walking to class, I am overcome by the beauty of Mother Nature. I can smell the scent of firewood and hear the crunch of leaves under my shoes. It's a magical time of year.

But as I walk to class, I can’t help but think about the upcoming holiday season. Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and I can’t wait to spend time with my family and friends. But I also know that there is much to be thankful for, and I want to use this column to express my gratitude.

First, I want to thank my family for their love and support. They have been there for me through thick and thin, and I am grateful for their unwavering support.

Second, I want to thank my friends for their friendship. They have been a constant source of joy and comfort, and I am grateful for their presence in my life.

Finally, I want to thank all of you, my readers, for your support and encouragement. It means the world to me to have you in my life.

Thank you, and have a happy Thanksgiving.
SPORTS

“Core group” leading men’s b-ball on court

by Gabe Gagnon

Sports Editor

The Aquinas men’s basketball team has started its 2001-02 campaign with an optimistic perspective. “We have a good core group of players coming back. We’re excited and feel that we can compete day in and day out,” said senior guard Kyle Verlin.

The team was 2-3 heading into the Fifth Third Classic at Van Andel Arena. That tournament will take place Nov. 23 and 24. The men started out their season at the two-day Lord Amherst Tournament in Buffalo, N.Y. on Nov. 9 and 10. The Saints finished with a 1-1 record, losing to Point Park, Pa., then beating Maine-FT. Kent the next day.

On Nov. 9, the Saints saw their eight-point halftime lead slip away in the second half, as the Point Park Pioneers squeaked by with a close 87-82 victory. The Saints went to the free-throw line only 11 times in the game, while the Pioneers hit 19 of 26 from the charity stripe.

Leading the way for the Saints was sophomore guard K’Bro Kimble with 21 points and four rebounds. Senior forward Kyle Pohja added 12 points and senior guard Kyle Verlin sunk 11, nine from three-point land, and brought down seven rebounds.

The Pioneers shot 60 percent, while AQ shot 58 percent. The Saints out-rebounded 40-28 en route to a 96-83 victory. The other standout for the Saints was Kyle Pohja with 15, Kimble, and sophomore forward Jonny Angle, who added 12 each.

“We had no bad shots, we just had trouble rebounding. They shot almost 75%, and most of their points came in the paint,” said freshman center Jason Aerts.

Rochester saw two players score 20 or more points on Tuesday night. Mike Robinson sunk 28 and Larry DeGiusti added 20 for the Warriors.

“We just need to be more consistent with our game. We’re an unselfish team. We play hard,” said Verlin.

The Saints will be at Van Andel and Ferris State before their next home game Nov. 30, when they will host Alma in the Aquinas/Brann’s Shootout.

Hoffman nets 19 in the women’s opening win

by Gabe Gagnon

Sports Editor

Freshman guard Leslie Hoffman knew her first college game would be difficult. But she didn’t expect to score 19 points and lead Aquinas to victory during the women’s basketball team’s first game of the 2001-02 season.

The women opened their season at home against Grace Bible on Nov. 12. The Saints cruised to a 92-29 victory, outplaying the Lady Tigers in every aspect of the game. The Saints out-rebounded, out-hustled, and out-played Grace.

Hoffman led the team in scoring coming off the bench with 19 points, two steals and one assist. “This was my first game playing point guard, so I was a little nervous,” said Hoffman. “But I had a lot of support from the bench.”

Other outstanding performances came from senior forward Mary Bond and junior forward Chris Koselansky. Bond poured in 14 points with two blocks and two steals. Koselansky led the team in minutes off the bench and finished with ten points and three steals.

“That was a great game. It was nice to get the first one out of the way,” said Bond.

Aquinas scored the first points of the game and never looked back. There were no lead changes and the game was never tied. The Saints’ defense was strong throughout. The team allowed only four points in the paint and forced 41 turnovers. The Saints gave up 24 shots, while taking 69.

On Nov. 14, the Saints hosted the Goshen Maple Leafs for the team’s second game of the season. This one was not as easy for the Saints. The team came out in the first half looking good, holding the biggest lead of the game 22-11.

There were 13 lead changes throughout the game, but the Leafs proved to be the better team, scoring 21 points from behind the three-point line and taking the game 73-64.

Bond lead the Saints with 16 points, but defense was what she worried about. “We gave up 24 points off of turnovers. That really hurt us,” said Bond. The Saints converted for nine points on Goshen’s 12 turnovers. “We needed to play defense for 40 minutes,” said Bond.

The Saints had trouble stopping guard Lindsay Fisher, who poured in 27 points in just as many minutes. Fisher also earned five steals. “We had a couple lapses on defense, but we’re young. Soon we’ll be able to trust each other a little more,” said Bond.

That loss was quickly forgotten this past weekend when the Saints defeated Robert Morris Nov. 17 and Purdue-Calumet in Hamilton, Ill. Nov. 18.

Aquinas will host the Grand Rapids Press Tournament this weekend.

The Saints play the Cardinals from Saginaw Valley State at 4:30pm on Nov. 22. Calvin and Cornerstone play at 2:30. “We want to get the chance to play Cornerstone. They’re our rivals and it would be nice to play them before conferences start,” said Koselansky.