Marchers rally to protest Iraq war, promote peace

by Joe Boomgaard
Assistant Editor

GRAND RAPIDS—Nearly 30 people gathered outside the Wege Mall on Friday, Feb. 28, in preparation for a several-mile march to the Gerald R. Ford Federal Building in downtown Grand Rapids under reasonably warm conditions.

The march was organized to show the marchers' collective disagreement with potential preemptive military action against Iraq and Saddam Hussein.

“I want to do my part in speaking out against this immoral action,” said one marcher about the just war theory,” said Mary Clark-Kaiser, director of Campus Ministry. “It would be a major shift in America’s foreign policy to attack Iraq under the current circumstances.”

The event organizers, a collaboration of several clubs on campus including the Jane Hibbard-Idema Women’s Studies Center and Campus Ministry, said that they contacted other nearby colleges and universities to notify them about the march. Several people from out of the Grand Rapids proper were in attendance, including one marcher from the state of Alaska.

The marchers carried mostly homemade signs with messages about the war, the protest, and messages of support for one another.

However, not everyone that gathered in front of the Wege Student Center was protesting the war. One American-flag-wielding man, who claimed that he was supportive of the war, protested the marchers along their entire route, heckling them with shouts of “terrorists” and “you’re no better than Osama.”

Clark-Kaiser said that she saw nothing unsupportive about supporting peace. "I believe that we live in a wonderful country where we have the freedom to speak the truth and disagree with one another,” Clark-Kaiser said.

Before commencing on the walk, the protestors formed a circle, introduced themselves to one another and chanted an anti-war song.

Several Dominican sisters joined the marchers as well. Sr. Jean Reimer said that her motivation for marching to downtown Grand Rapids was to make a personal stand on the issue.

“This just isn’t a time when you can sit back - everyone must take a stand on this issue. According to national and international law, this action against Iraq is illegal,” Reimer said.

Many of the protestors said that the potential of a defensive strike against Iraq bothered them.

“I'm of the World War II generation, and back when Pearl Harbor was bombed, there was no question that something had to be done. Now, with this preemptive strike on Iraq, I have to question the administration's motives,” Reimer said.

The route took protestors down Fulton Street to Random and then to Lyes and finally Ottawa, where they stopped outside of the federal building.

Eventually, the group headed over to the Michigan Street side of the building where they ended their rally.

Along the way, the marchers received many supportive honks from passing motorists.

While at the federal building, the marchers took turns speaking and voicing their concerns about the war.

Clark-Kaiser ended the rally with a prayer before the marchers returned to campus.

Jane Hibbard Idema Women's Studies Center honors Women's History Month

by Claire Walmann
News Editor

In honor of National Women's History Month, the Jane Hibbard-Idema Women's Studies Center has a number of special events planned for March.

The month-long celebration began on the evening of March 4 in AB 101 with "The History and Impact of Title IX," a presentation by Diane Madsen that chronicled the development of the historic legislation.

The Center observed on the following evening, along with the History Club, a National Women's History Month Film Night with a screening of Elizabeth in the upper lever of the Moose Café.

The film, a 1998 release starring Cate Blanchett and Geoffrey Rush, tells the story of Elizabeth's ascent to the throne. Its show¬ing celebrates Elizabeth as one of England's early woman monarchs.

Some of the Center's upcoming events include "Poetry of the Immigrant: A Woman's Search for Self in the History of Her Family," a poetry reading by Linda Nemec Foster at 7 p.m. on March 18 in the Wege Center Louisa Room.

Foster's poems reflect on her family's immigration to the United States from Poland. She will follow her reading with a signing of her latest book, Amber Necklace from Galabos.

Also at Foster's performance, the winner of the Center's Creative Writing Con¬test will read her or his piece.

The winning piece will be drawn from entries of poetry, creative nonfiction, or vignettes about women or women's issues.

Additionally, Marie Wilson, director of the White House Project, will present "Why Women Matter: The Path to Leadership," at 3 p.m. in the Donnelly Center on March 26.

The White House Project is an organization that seeks to promote women in lead¬ership positions. One of its chief interests is the prospect of promoting a woman presi¬dential candidate in future elections.

On March 28, the Center will also recog¬nize the recipient of the Outstanding Aquinas Woman Award Event in the Holmstrom Board Room at 12:30.

Nomination for the award come from members of the Aquinas community, and nominees include women faculty, staff, ad¬ministrators, board of trustee members, or students who have made a significant con¬tribution to the school.

Katie Josten, an intern at the Women's Study Center, is optimistic about the month's activities, especially the Outstand¬ing Aquinas Woman Award.

"It's important to acknowledge the women who do so much for our campus,” says Josten, "and Women's History Month seems the most appropriate time to recog¬nize them.”

Throughout the month of March, the Center will also have a display case in the lower level of the Wege Student Center showcasing important people and events in women's history.

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Look for the next follow-up of the TIMES on March 26, 2003
Deliberate South Korean subway fire kills more than 120 people

According to CNN News, South Korean police have detained nine subway officials and a man accused of starting a fire in a subway by igniting a carton filled with gas. Deputy police commissioner Kim Seong-ju said that 121 people were killed in the fire, which started on February 18.

The fire engulfed a six-car train and spread to another train that had just arrived at the station. Police are investigating the actions of the train operators, and are also looking into the possibility that the subway corporation tried to cover up evidence of a poor response on its part.

The grainy film found among the debris showed a man allegedly with maßnachtern, or axes, and could be executed if found guilty. However, this did not give a motive for the arson, but said the suspect has a history of mental illness. The fire killed over 120 people, injured more than 130, and as many as 164 are still missing.

Stampede at Chicago Nightclub Kills 21

A stampede at “2-E,” a nightclub on Chicago’s South Side, killed 21 people on Monday, February 17. Panic broke out at the second floor night club when a security guard used pepper spray to break up a fight between two women. People trying to escape the flames from the spray were trampled and knocked down.

People also fell down the steep stairway leading to the exit, causing a human avalanche.

Fire Commissioner James Joyce said there were a number of fire code violations, and that the stampede was still under investigation. Most of the people that died were killed in the pileup at the bottom of the main stairwell. There were about 1,500 people on the second floor nightclub above the uppermo Eritrino restaurant that night.

Rhode Island Nightclub Fire Kills 98

The heavy metal band Great White’s explosive light show at a nightclub in Rhode Island led to tragedy after a pyrotechnic display ignited soundproofing foam behind the stage one song into the concert. Within three minutes, people were crushed behind blocked and locked doors. People trying to escape the fumes from the spray were trampled.

The fire killed over 120 people, injured more than 130, and as many as 164 are still missing.

The exhibit consists of an audio-led tour through a large, specially lit room, designed to preserve the Scrolls as well as possible. The Scroll fragments are displayed throughout the room, along with a number of mosaics of the Dead Sea Scrolls, the texts in which the Scrolls were found, and other artifacts recovered from the Qumran ruins. A film about the Scrolls runs continually in a theater adjoining the main exhibition room.

According to authorities, Al-Arian is the leader of Palestinian Islamic think tank. The heavy metal band Great White’s explosive light show at a nightclub in Rhode Island led to tragedy after a pyrotechnic display ignited soundproofing foam behind the stage one song into the concert. Within three minutes, people were crushed behind blocked and locked doors. People trying to escape the fumes from the spray were trampled.

The fire killed over 120 people, injured more than 130, and as many as 164 are still missing.

The exhibit will include a number of Tuesday night recitation lectures from experts and reports of the Scrolls, including on April 1 a presentation of “Publishing the Scrolls: An Editor’s viewpoint” by Prof. Emanuel Tov, editor in chief of the Dead Sea Scrolls official publication series, “Discoveries in the Judean Desert.”

A tour is self-guided, but visitors must purchase tickets for a 90-minute tour to see the Scrolls. The ticket is $14 for adults, when added to the general museum admission price. There is no student discount.
**News**

**Lawmakers seek input on expanding new bottle deposit**

by Joe Boomgaard  
Assistant Editor

Michigan lawmakers are currently seeking input about making amendments to the state’s bottle deposit law, a measure that was originally adopted in 1976 that placed a 10-cent deposit on beer and pop containers. The aim of the law was to curb roadburn litter.

The state Senate task force overseeing the review recently held a public meeting at the Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids on Feb. 17. Other such meetings are planned for the coming months in areas across the state.

The Senate group aims to assess updating the law and to find ways to improve the recycling frequency of Michigan residents.

According to the task force, Michigan ranks among the bottom half of other states in the rate of recycling.

Many environmental groups including the Michigan United Conservation Boards (MUCB), the Sierra Club and West Michigan Environmental Action Council are pushing by Joe Boomgaard that the bottle deposit be expanded to not just beer and soda to include all beverage containers, including juice, water, and tea, to the same.

Sam Washington, executive director of MUCB, an organization that was pivotal in getting the 1976 measure passed, said in a recent interview with the Detroit Free Press, “It’s pretty clear people favor expansion. Any negative (reaction) is from the industry — stores — and growers.

Groups like MUCB say that, with the growing trend toward non-carbonated drinks like water and juice, more people are indiscriminately discarding the non-refundable containers. Said Washington, “Michigan is getting trashed up again with juice, tea and water bottles.” On the other hand, growers are not as eager to support an expansion of the bottle deposit.

Since pop and beer cans are picked up from stores by the same distributors that are delivering the newly ordered products, many people question who will pick up the empty water and juice bottles because many distributors of non-carbonated drink also handle food and produce deliveries. Thus, many have sanitary concerns. Other fears grow the responsible increase in returns if water and other beverages would also include a refundable deposit.

According to the Grand Rapids Press, Dan Abid, the store manager of Dollar’s Family Foods in Grand Rapids, said that his stores currently take in nearly 35,000 cans and bottles weekly.

Expanding the deposit, Abid said, “would be overwhelming.”

Lawmakers insist that they have no preconceived goals in forming the group, and that the review will lead them to any action.

With water and juice consumption becoming more and more popular across campus, changing the bottle deposit would potentially impact students as well.

Said senior Brooke Kunkel, who was carrying a bottle of juice, “I am totally in favor of paying a deposit on juice or water bottles. I think that it is a logical extension of the previous law that would really be beneficial.”

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**Gilda’s Club celebrates FUNDANGO to raise money for Gilda’s Club chapter**

by Thora Wease  
Contributing Writer

On Saturday Feb. 22, Gilda’s Club held their annual fundraiser, FUNDANGO, in the Grand Rapids Community College Food Field House.

Roughly 20 teams came to walk the track, play the games, eat the food and generally support the effort that these service men and women whose lives have been touched by cancer.

The center of the track was filled with tables and chairs where people could eat, chat, and rest from their walk. There was a faux tattoo booth, an artist drawing caricatures, and delighted adults and children alike sported hats sculpted from balloons.

Along one wall was a picket fence with white flowers in vases. There was also an art exhibit that even the youngest could enjoy. The center of the field was filled with a state-of-the-art stage.

The first Gilda’s Club chapter opened in 1989. Gilda’s Club helps people to “live”-stores and grocers.”

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**Inspectors quiet as U.S. prepares for attack against Iraq**

U.N. seeks Iraqi cooperation in weapons inspections

by Lisa Gaet  
Contributing Writer

Officials at the Defense and State departments, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and other agencies recently announced that, while no formal decision to use military action in Iraq has been made by President Bush, they have been planning for humanitarian relief and reconstruction for the last five months should a military conflict happen.

They said they had outlined plans for more than $100 million in immediate humanitarian aid to a post-Iraq, including stocking up water and other relief supplies.

Also, moving one step closer to a military action, the White House also recently dismissed a compromise proposal by Canada in an attempt to get the UN Security Council to decide by mid-March “that Iraq has failed to take the final opportunity afforded to it in Resolution 1441,” which was adopted unanimously by the council on November 8 of last year.

However, on Monday, February 24, a new resolution also called for the UN Security Council to decide by mid-March “that Iraq has failed to take the final opportunity afforded to it in Resolution 1441,” which was adopted unanimously by the council on November 8 of last year.

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**Foundation awards $80,000 grant to AQ Music Department**

by Curtis R. Burdette  
Editor in Chief

An $80,000 grant from the Elizabeth Ruthruff Wilson Foundation will allow the Music Department to upgrade equipment in the recording studio located in Kretschmer Recital Hall in the Art and Music Center. The grant will also go to purchase new materials for the Woodhouse Library. The gift awarded $5000 to increase the recording equipment and $3000 to increase the selection of musical recording and books in the collection at Aquinas.

The improvements to the recording studio will provide students with the capabilities to record live music digitally and process recordings to compact disc format with multiple audio tracks. This new technology will make it possible to record live vocal and instrumental performances in Kretschmer Recital Hall to digital format.

“Aquinas College is a nice school with an appealing program and we felt that this would be a fun way to make a difference,” said Dr. John Waltman, Secretary of the Elizabeth Ruthruff Wilson Foundation. “It is a very good way of helping to enrich the music program at Aquinas.”

Upon her death in 1986, Mrs. Elizabeth Ruthruff Wilson, a retired secretary who devoted her later years to promoting music, left $4 million to the foundation to further music education.

The goal of the Elizabeth Ruthruff Wilson Foundation is to “make a difference” by awarding scholarships for students studying music in college or at a music camp, and awarding grants to fund improvements in music programs. The foundation selected Aquinas College for several reasons including the popular atmosphere.

“At a smaller school such as Aquinas, the money can make more of a difference,” said Waltman. “We hope to establish a long-term relationship with Aquinas College.”

Freshman Dave Doppelt, a student currently in the band and working on the recording equipment, spends several hours a week in the studio working on class projects and recording promos and commercials for WAQU.

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It would be pointless for me to tell you about a great concert that has already happened, because it has already happened. But in this case, it is sure to happen again. Thank God for a spot where many people call the best place around for Irish music, Pete Brown's Office.

Wouldn't you? people generally ask when I tell them about this place, and "why is there a concert in his office?" The office is a pub on Plainfield Avenue that prides itself on being "the only real Irish pub in Grand Rapids," according to owner Bill Quinn. Quinn is the former restaurant owner, which he claims to have bought from Pete Brown himself, and strive to cater to the needs of Celtic music devotees everywhere. These needs are notably precisely of Green, the largest selection of Irish music in town, and by far the best Irish musical acts to hit the Greater Grand Rapids area.

It all began four years ago when Quinn realized that there were really no great venues for Irish music in West Michigan. "We would look for good Irish music on a Friday night and there wouldn't be any -- we did this to accommodate ourselves," he says. "We decided we were going to buy entertainment that we weren't getting anywhere else. So they remodeling the lower level of the Office, which is outlined by the stairs, two pool tables, and shuffleboards, and displayed the artifacts that Quinn has collected from his annual trips to Ireland. With a drum, guitar, a banjo, a tin whistle. The sound was intense whether it was music or the laughs of those who dined and laughed. As the band played the final song, people on chairs and sang and clapped, and cheered for more. When the show was over, you were glad that you could sing your own favorite songs. The show would have the same. They spent a round of pints while cabs were called and more songs were belted out. If this scene appeals to you, don't worry, there are three bars there: people are dancing. At least the music is going to be spectacular! But, if you want green beer, you'll have to reach for your own food.

The Fenians consist of five band members whose instruments include the drums, guitar, a banjo, a flute and a tin whistle. The sound was intense whether it was music or the laughs of those who dined and laughed. As the band played the final song, people on chairs and sang and clapped, and cheered for more. When the show was over, you were glad that you could sing your own favorite songs. The show would have the same. They spent a round of pints while cabs were called and more songs were belted out. If this scene appeals to you, don't worry, there are three bars there: people are dancing. At least the music is going to be spectacular! But, if you want green beer, you'll have to reach for your own food.

Many events on tap for coming weeks in Grand Rapids by Patrick Hurley Entertainment Editor

Well folks, I'm beginning to get a lot of discount offers to travel to Florida, and it seems that MTV is starting to reach a demographic only interested in partying on the beaches in bikinis in Cancun. What does this mean? Aquinas's Spring is coming up! That's right, this is the last long break, almost before spring break is here. For those of you who will be around GR (I'm sorry) for Spring Break there is a lot going on in different areas. Need a little more drama in your life? The Civic Theatre is still running Kiss Me Kate, with AQ freshmen Justin Nardich. Please see the article later in this section. The Peanut Butter Players of the Civic (actors from the ages of 9-15) will be showing Mommeri under the Bird on March 20. Finally, the play Tongue of a Bird will debut at Michigan State University's Millikan laboratory. This is a female search-and-rescue pilot who must go through the Adirondack Mountains and find a little girl who has been kidnapped. The UICA has its small variety of the arts still going on throughout the month. On March 9, the Ensemble will be performing, a band of music and dance lovers from different Michigan music scenes, each very talented with a unique style and voice. On March 23, the UICA will be present music in dance collaborative called Mind Motion. The performance will include an interesting variety of dance, graphic and video art. If you are into interactive dance, check it out.

This year the Aunicus calendar has something of a unique situation. The Monty Python tickets are almost sold out of the show. What does this mean? Aquinas's Spring is coming up! That's right, this is the last long break, almost before spring break is here. For those of you who will be around GR (I'm sorry) for Spring Break there is a lot going on in different areas. Need a little more drama in your life? The Civic Theatre is still running Kiss Me Kate, with AQ freshmen Justin Nardich. Please see the article later in this section. The Peanut Butter Players of the Civic (actors from the ages of 9-15) will be showing Mommeri under the Bird on March 20. Finally, the play Tongue of a Bird will debut at Michigan State University's Millikan laboratory. This is a female search-and-rescue pilot who must go through the Adirondack Mountains and find a little girl who has been kidnapped. The UICA has its small variety of the arts still going on throughout the month. On March 9, the Ensemble will be performing, a band of music and dance lovers from different Michigan music scenes, each very talented with a unique style and voice. On March 23, the UICA will be present music in dance collaborative called Mind Motion. The performance will include an interesting variety of dance, graphic and video art. If you are into interactive dance, check it out.

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Daredevil swings into action, satisfies both comic book and action fans alike

by Patrick Hurley

Entertainment Editor

The moon rises over the city skyline of New York and an impossibly agile figure in red swings from building to building, performing amazing feats of acrobatics and stopping crime. No, not Spiderman in his fashionable red and blue suit. He is Daredevil, the man with a sense of justice so strong that he will never rest until he has given his all for justice. That is, if he doesn't get killed along the way.

Daredevil is one of the many characters found in Marvel comics. The movie is quite similar to last summer's "Spiderman," although it is a bit darker, with a lot more violence. Actually, from time to time, staying the same can be a welcome addition. In this case, the Schnitzelbank's interior was the welcome addition.

A Schnitzelbank serves traditional German food served in quaint milieu

Very tasty traditional German cuisine served at the Schnitzelbank in the heart of downtown Grand Rapids

by Joe Boomgaard

Assistant Editor

I did not know that or could get such a good meal in Germany without leaving home. I ventured into the Schnitzelbank restaurant at 342 Jefferson on February 5th. Much to the delight of my pal, the Schnitzelbank is one of the best kept secrets in Grand Rapids.

This restaurant was very well executed. Our server greeted the table quite pleasantly, and went on to inform us that there was no menu to speak of. Instead, we were seated promptly and were given a choice of soups in addition to a salad. My charming guest chose the lentil soup, while my delectable delight ordered a traditional German specialty, Sauerkraut. Both were well received and approved.

Our pleasant waitress assured us that there was no rush in finishing the appetizer, as the main course is only served after the soup and salad are finished. At other restaurants, I cannot count how many times in the past that I have just started to pick away at my salad only to have my main course get shoved in my face. This policy at the Schnitzelbank was really a welcome addition.

For the main course, I, being a staunch carnivore, ordered filet mignon, while my delightful delight ordered a traditional German specialty, Sauerkraut. Both were very pleasing to the palate. The sauerkraut consisted of mostly white cabbage served over spatzel, a type of German noodle, and topped with a house sauce. My beautiful companion liked the entire meal, although it is a bit too heavy for someone who is dieting. She complimented the flavor of the dish as well. My filet mignon was cooked to perfection and topped with dried onions and mushrooms. The hearty portion was delectable.

My dish even came with real mashed potatoes. I was impressed, to say the least. After gorging on the main dish, both my date and I had no room for dessert, even though the offerings sounded tempting.

The Schnitzelbank's interior is a thing of beauty. Scenics of the Alps supplies the quaint entry, and many a gnome statue were visible through out the restaurant. In addition, the bar area featured a large mural of the German countryside. Another unique aspect of the interior was the sizable collection of beer steins. As we chatted with our waitress, we learned that, for many people, working at the restaurant is a family affair. Her mother had worked at the restaurant for many years. According to her, the place hasn't changed much. Often, the drinks are served with a side of pretzels, which is a good thing. There is nothing like a good, old-fashioned European meal.

Both my date and I were very pleased with our visit to the Schnitzelbank and would recommend anyone that enjoys German cuisine to check out the Schnitzelbank.
Happy St. Patrick's Day!
Monday, March 17, 2003

Who he was...
Saint Patrick was born near the end of the fourth century. At the age of 16, he was kidnapped when a band of Irish raiders attacked his family's home and spent the next several years as a slave shepherd somewhere in Ireland.

Fearful and friendless, he turned to his faith for comfort. One day, God spoke to Patrick, telling him that it was time to leave Ireland. He escaped to England where he and his family were reunited.

Patrick then saw the people of Ireland in a dream, asking him for his return and he did so after his ordination to the priesthood. Patrick preached in Ireland until his death in 460 and many were converted to Christianity because of his ministry. He is remembered as the patron of Ireland, engineers, and of those who fear snakes.

Irish Blessings
May you be in Heaven a half hour before the Devil knows you're dead!
May those who love us, love us And those who don't love us, May God turn their hearts And if he can't turn their hearts, May he turn their ankles So we will know them by their limping!
As you slide down the banister of life, May the splinters never point in the wrong direction!
These things I warmly wish to you- Someone to love Some work to do A bit o' sun A bit o' cheer And a guardian angel always near
May you live as long as you want, And never want as long as you live.
For each petal on the shamrock This brings a wish your way -- Good health, good luck, and happiness For today and every day.

Irish Online
www.catholic-forum.com/saints - Read about the life of Saint Patrick.
www.theholidayspot.com - Find information on the history and traditions of Saint Patrick's Day
www.tourireland.com - Learn about tour destinations, local festivals, the culture, and the history of Ireland
www.st-patricks-day.com - Everybody's Irish on St. Patrick's Day 2003
Oh, Give it Up!

Traditionally, Catholics are asked to give up meat and eating between meals on certain days during the Lenten season. We are also asked (usually by our parents) to give up something for the entire forty days. Why do we do this?

The answer lies in the meaning of the season itself. Lent is about conversion, turning ourselves away from sin and towards Christ. These forty days act as a jumping off point for rooting sin out of our lives. So, giving things up is kind of like New Year's resolutions at a spiritual level.

For example, say I have a problem with swearing (which I do). Giving it up for Lent won’t do me any good if I start cursing a blue streak come Easter Sunday. Lent is the time of the year to reflect on our relationship with Christ and what sins keep us away from him (i.e. the swearing). We ask Him to help us give up our sins for Lent, the rest of the year, and hopefully, the rest of our lives.

As for fasting and abstaining from meat, well, it’s kind of like this: even though your father forgives you for breaking the kitchen window with a baseball, he still expects you to pay for damages. These practices remind us that, although we may have received forgiveness for our sins, we still must atone for them by doing penance, often times by giving up something we take for granted.

Lent Online

[www.virtualrosary.org](http://www.virtualrosary.org) - Pray this popular Marian devotion on your PC, Mac, or PDA with this freeware program.

[www.clearlightcatholic.com](http://www.clearlightcatholic.com) - Catholic freeware including meditations for Lent.

[www.americancatholic.org/features/lent](http://www.americancatholic.org/features/lent) - Season FAQ, origin, and devotions

[www.newadvent.org/cathan](http://www.newadvent.org/cathan) - Read all about Lent and other Catholic topics @ Catholic Encyclopedia.
Military action needed against Iraq

by Joe Boomgaard

Saddam is not a nice guy. Whatever he is hiding must be important to him; he has iraqi officials, bashi party members, and scientists hiding thousands of pages of documents in their homes, and military and scientific files that would be useful to weapons inspectors have been placed in cars and are being driven around the country to avoid detection. the US also has satellite photos showing materials being secretly moved from Iraq facilities, and Saddan has refused to permit U-2 reconnaissance flights that would help inspectors see what is being moved. It's not just what Saddam is hiding that is scaring us; the weapons he knows he has are already frightening enough. He has previously admitted to possessing both chemical and biological weapons; everyone knows how much damage even a small amount of anthrax can cause after the attacks in 2002. Iraq has declared an astonishing 8500 liters of anthrax, but the UN believes 25,000 liters more could have been produced. Saddan has also investigated dozens of other biological agents such as gua­gan­grene, plague, typhus, cholera, camel pox, and hemorrhagic fever. However, he has never accounted for what biological weapons he has or the material used to make them, even though this was required under resolution 1441.

Saddan's chemical weapons are equally daunting. First, Saddam has used chemical weapons on both Iran and his own people. In the history of chemical warfare, Iraq has the most experience with these weapons since World War I. Also, like his biological weapons, Saddam has never accounted for his chemical weapons. We know that Saddam had chemical weapons in the past; however, Iraq has never provided us with evidence that they destroyed these weapons, or if they have not, where the weapons currently are. In addition, Iraq has a bad track record on truthfully declaring its chemical weapons; it took years for the country to finally admit that it had produced four tons of the deadly agent VX (one drop of VX on the skin will kill in minutes).

Saddan's regime cannot be trusted; it has continually lied to the world and broken international law for the last 12 years, and Saddam continues his abuse of Iraqi human rights every day. Sometimes the use of force is the necessary price for liberation, and sometimes crueler distances like Saddam do not deserve another chance at diplomacy — he has proven countless times in the past that he cannot be trusted, and needs to be removed before he possesses nuclear weapons and becomes an even greater threat to the world. We have spent 12 years waiting for a peaceful solution — we have waited long enough — now it is time to take action. Support military action in Iraq.

Time for state legislature to expand bottle deposit law and promote recycling in Michigan

by Joe Boomgaard

There is nothing like settling down to an evening of fishing on a pristine northern Michigan stream and having a litany of beverage containers float by. Ah...wilderien at its best.

With the 9ths bottled water craze and the shift away from the no-called harmful carbonated beverages comes a distinct problem — garbage. Because Dusen or Icicle Mountain or Gatorade containers are not covered under the bottle deposit regulations, many of them have simply been indiscriminately tossed aside by their users. There is no underlying motivation to recycle the empty noncarbonated beverage bottles and cans like there is for things like pop and beer. With carbonated drinks, every container in Michigan is sold with a 10 cent, refundable deposit. Michigan was the first state in the nation to enact such a law.

The bottle bill was enacted back in 1976 to alleviate a serious roadside pollution problem. Cans and bottles from every manufacturer under the sun piled up on the state's roads and anywhere else uncaring humans deposited them. The refuse was a definite eyesore. Several environmental groups of the day pushed legislators to enact a bottle deposit to keep Michigan looking clean.

However, as beverage trends have changed over time, the deposit regulations have not. The state Senate has just recently launched a task force to look into updating the bottle bill to include the "new" bottled product folks. Updating the bill to cover things like bottled water is a very good and needed change. People who drink Aquafina should be held to the same standard as their carbonated-beverage-consuming counterparts.

Ten cents per container is not too much to ask for if it can work toward guaranteeing that the container doesn't end up in the wrong place. Just because the beverage in the container isn't carbonated does not mean that the container cannot have just as much of an environmental impact.

The more recycling that takes place the better. Michigan, the state that pioneered the bottle deposit now finds itself lagging behind other states in the amount of recycling that takes place.

It's time that legislators slapped a deposit on all beverage containers. Just as there was no place for a Stroh's or a Coke can to become litter in the 1970s, there is no place today for Dasani or Nestea to adorn our state's great wilderness.

Ten cents — it's such a little bit to ask for in return for a cleaner Michigan.

Letter to the Editor

One of the WAQU 'mistake makers' speaks refutes title

I find it ironic that so many americans will protest the military action against Iraq, and complain about the people that might be killed if the U.S. decides to go to war, but I have yet to see any signs from these people protesting saddan Hussein's human rights abuses, or calling for freedom for the iraqis and Kurds. Yet, saddan Hussein's orders, rivalries have been decimated, wives and mothers of political opponents have been systematically raped as a method of intimidation, and political prisoners have been forced to watch their own children being tortured.

The violations of mass destruction prohibited by the UN, breaks international law, and refuses to cooperate. Every day that our country fails to act, violence is occurring under Saddam's regime. How do these people justify their protesting, calling for peace, if, in 12 years, Iraq has broken 16 UN Resolutions and a peace agreement unilaterally. Saddam Hussein's orders, rivalries have been decimated, wives and mothers of political opponents have been systematically raped as a method of intimidation, and political prisoners have been forced to watch their own children being tortured.

Saddan Hussein's orders, rivalries have been decimated, wives and mothers of political opponents have been systematically raped as a method of intimidation, and political prisoners have been forced to watch their own children being tortured. Saddam has not come to a genuine acceptance of the resolutions. Because Iraq has refused to cooperate, thus Iraq appears not to have come to a genuine acceptance, cooperation is yet to be found. The US has evidence that Iraq has lied to the world and broken international law for the last 12 years, and Saddam continues his abuse of Iraqi human rights every day. Sometimes the use of force is the necessary price for liberation, and sometimes crueler distances like Saddam do not deserve another chance at diplomacy — he has proven countless times in the past that he cannot be trusted, and needs to be removed before he possesses nuclear weapons and becomes an even greater threat to the world. We have spent 12 years waiting for a peaceful solution — we have waited long enough — now it is time to take action. Support military action in Iraq!

What about the FCC? Well, it is true that in 2001 the FCC shut down WAQUbecause of the vulgar language and the use of sex on the air. Much like in the past, it was all just talk, which is ironically the one thing we can't seem to do anymore. As I have been writing this, I have come to realize that most of you might mumble, "Who cares..." under your breath. Well, I do, and so should you. Many executive members broke ties with the WAQU 1590 AM. That's where something went wrong. Shannon Beckette had decided that WAQU was not ready, and despite all of the hard work, long hours and tedious work of the staff to catalog and organize a 13 hour day-to-day programming schedule and music selection, the "On-Air" light stayed dim. After the major disappointment to the staff and members of the WAQU family, many executive members broke ties with the station, including me: I'm not really sure who took the reigns; however, late last year I overheard some talk of streaming WAQU over the web. Much like in the past, it was all just talk, which is ironically the one thing we can't seem to do anymore. Before the 2002 semester, WAQU's Advisor was Eric Mullen. Under his authority, WAQU elected executive positions, updated by-laws, and had the WAQU equipment checked by a technician from a local company, the same company that services local FM channels. With a membership of 45 members, no staff that had the ball rolling, the station was one obstacle in its path... or so it seemed. With making WAQU from going on air in early 2002 was the FCC approval. But the FCC shut down WAQU as a station. How do these people justify their. protesting, calling for peace, if, in 12 years, Iraq has broken 16 UN Resolutions and a peace agreement? The US has evidence that Iraq has lied to the world and broken international law for the last 12 years, and Saddam continues his abuse of Iraqi human rights every day. Sometimes the use of force is the necessary price for liberation, and sometimes crueler distances like Saddam do not deserve another chance at diplomacy — he has proven countless times in the past that he cannot be trusted, and needs to be removed before he possesses nuclear weapons and becomes an even greater threat to the world. We have spent 12 years waiting for a peaceful solution — we have waited long enough — now it is time to take action. Support military action in Iraq!

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They are women, hear them roar

The Jane Hibbard Idema Women's Studies Center sets a great example of leadership and activism here at Aquinas College.

by Curtis R. Burdette

Take a good look at the Campus Correspondence, and the posters announcing events at Aquinas College. There's a very good chance you'll see at least one event planned by the Jane Hibbard Idema Women's Studies Center. They sponsored Jane Goodall's discussion on campus in February 2002 that overfilled Wege Ballroom, and brought Awele Makeba to perform "Rage Is Not A 1-Day Thing" in January 2003, which was a standing room only event at Kretschmer Recital Hall. Not only does the Women's Studies Center bring important speakers and events to campus, but also the Center is responsible for dozens of Aquinas community events. According to the latest press release, the Women's Studies Center will sponsor at least six events for March, which is Women's History Month.

Events range from a poetry reading by Grand Rapids poet Linda Nemec Foster to the first annual Outstanding Aquinas Woman Award Event, which will honor a woman who has made a significant contribution to the Aquinas community. These events enrich the campus by giving women a voice. Get an opinion about women? The whiteboard outside the Women's Studies Center is the most popular forum on campus. Almost every week there's a new question about women on the board, and it doesn't take long to get filled with the anonymous comments of students and faculty. Recently, the Women's Studies Center website added their weekly question to a web-based forum, but the lack of anonymity and publicity has kept online discussions to a minimum. The site is located at: www.aquinas.edu/womenscenter

Perhaps what makes the Women's Studies Center so successful in reaching the Aquinas community, are the creative methods of approaching issues. The Equality Bake Sale brought attention to the wage gap between the sexes by offering reduced prices to women, who earn less money than male counterparts in almost every industry in the United States. Events such as the Equality Bake Sale bring social and economic issues into the lives of Aquinas students.

The Women's Studies Center has been working to promote equality, create awareness of gender issues, and encourage women to achieve success in academia and in life. The Center demonstrates an ambition to promote leadership in women by empowering female students to participate in events and by bringing prominent women from various fields to speak at Aquinas. The Jane Hibbard Idema Women's Studies Center vocalizes issues affecting women. The Center is one of the most vocal advocates for change on campus and in the local community. Since women make up a majority of the population in the United States, it is important that voice should represent this majority, which has been steadily gaining equality in the past eighty years. Although Declaration of Independence decrees that "all men are created equal," women have slowly gained legal equality only in the past one hundred years. The big moment in women's equality in America was in 1920, when the U.S. amended the Constitution to guarantee all American citizens, including women, the right to vote.

Throughout U.S. history, men have dominated in political, social and economical power. Few men have suffered injustice based on sex, because the U.S. population still holds onto many notions that support a male-dominated society. American men rarely suffer directly from gender inequality, therefore men don't need to organize to fight for equal opportunities for males.

However, the Women's Studies Center educates both men and women about inequalities that exist and promotes an understanding of the important of equality. The Center encourages all members of the Aquinas community to help create an equal balance of both sexes in the United States.

New casino planned for Dorr?

The Aquinas Times has worked diligently for the past 22 years to produce an informative, entertaining and journalistically-correct 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 may be delivered to The Aquinas Times office, located in the Wege Center or via e-mail to: aquetimes_editor@aquinas.edu All letters must be signed. The phone number of the writer must be provided for verification. The Aquinas Times reserves the right to edit letters based on content, length and libel. Letters should not exceed 300 words.


And you can

Quote me on that

What are your plans for Spring Break?

“I will be at home trying to find a job for summer.”

Carrie Battige

“I plan on going home and looking for a summer job.”

Ann Berg

“I am going to Ireland.”

Allison Repic

“I plan on relaxing at home.”

Leann Secord

Got 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.
### Sports

#### Saints reach WHAC semis

**by Lenten Mone, Contributing Writer**

The Saints track team was all smiles Saturday night, as they assembled for a team picture at the University of Michigan, after having captured their fifth and sixth consecutive WHAC conference titles. After nine events, the men were leading rival Comets by nine, but rallied later in the meet to regain the lead after 13 events.

For the men, Sarah Ellis won the 55-meter dash with a meet record time of 7.43 seconds. Backing Ellis was Laura Beattie, who placed second in the event, coming in at 7.54. De-Ale-Jo Roberts (6.49) and Henry Holmes placed 2nd and 3rd respectively on the men’s side.

Jerry Lucas earned the conference title in the 400-meter run as the second home in a time of 48.30. Jenna Ziegler (5:20.00) earned the top honor in the distance runner James Jones.

Wood was named WHAC men’s coach of the year. Sarah Ellis was awarded most valuable WHAC conference female athlete for earning 23 points, the highest number of points gained by a female individual in the meet.

To have a really good team, you have to have people who will step up. We saw a lot of that today. Comet’s women really competed their hearts out. We really had to give it our all to win. Without a doubt, it was a tremendous team effort,” said Wood.

Nine women and twelve men will be competing in the NAIA National Meet March 6-8 in Johnson City, Tenn. Two relay teams, the men’s 4x400 meter relay, currently ranked third in the NAIA and the women’s 4x400 meter relay, currently ranked seventh, will also represent Aquinas.

“After watching everyone come together at Conference, we’re excited for the National meet. We are really confident. Nothing is going to hold us back again. A lot of distance runners have run their best time at the National meet. We are really confident and hope to gain their lead through the rest of the half, coming within a point of the Saints. Both teams that around 60 percent, but Aquinas could hurt them more offensively and, in the end, fell to Madonna.”

**Senior center Andy Steketee gets ready to accept a pass against Madonna.**

The Saints fell to top-seeded Siena Thursday and both teams were coming off losses from last year. The Saints are looking to be one of the strongest teams in the conference. This year’s team is loaded with skill and experience. There are 24 returning letter winners from last season. The 12 seniors are the biggest graduating class in Aquinas baseball history. Aquinas baseball has had a strong tradition of a close-knit team and this year is no exception.

“Chemistry is one of our biggest strengths, everyone has been through the war together,” said captain John Moezzi.

With so many upperclassmen back this year, there will be a lot of players vying for positions. The Saints are going to raise the bar for earning a spot on the varsity squad. The handful of transfers have potential to make a significant difference in the program as well, while the four freshman players work their way into the system.

Coaching a fall season, Coach Doug Greenblatt has a lot of confidence in this year’s squad and is hoping to see some of the younger players step up and make moves in the lineup along with the returning seniors. According to Greenblatt, Aquinas looks to have one of the strongest defenses in the conference.

Matt Basian, Chris McCann and Captain Kyle Kracht are shaping up as a serious infield crew. With a very athletic outfield also in the works, the Saints are going to cause trouble for teams trying to manufacture runs. Aquinas is one of the last four years and continues to raise the bar within the WHAC.

The Saints kick off their season with spring training in Florida. Playing 13 games over eight days, the team finally gets a chance to play outside again after eight weeks of indoor play. When they return to Grand Rapids, they will start up with an exhibition game against GRCC at the 19th of March. The first home game of the year will be March 21 at 3pm, an exhibition game against KVCC.

The team looks forward to an exciting year.

“We are going to write another winning chapter in the storied history of Aquinas College baseball,” Moezzi said.

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**Aquinas baseball team looking to unseat, regain control of the WHAC**

**by Lenten Mone, Contributing Writer**

It’s starting to warm up around Aquinas, and that means two things to students: campus safety is going to start kicking itself all off us who are too lazy to walk to class, and Aquinas baseball is going serious underway.

The Saints are looking to be one of the strongest teams in the conference. This year’s team is loaded with skill and experience. There are 24 returning letter winners from last season. The 12 seniors are the biggest graduating class in Aquinas baseball history. Aquinas baseball has had a strong tradition of a close-knit team and this year is no exception.

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“We are going to write another winning chapter in the storied history of Aquinas College baseball,” Moezzi said.
Three-point arc. It hit all net.

The shot spurred the home team and forced O'Malley into launching a shot from six feet beyond the three-point arc. It hit all net.

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**March 5, 2003**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

‘A Doll’s House’ reveals woman’s search for self

**Cast delivers stellar performance of the timeless Ibsen play**

by Thora Kate Wease

**Contributing Writer**

The text of greatness in any work of art is timelessness and timelessness. Henrik Ibsen’s ‘A Doll’s House’ certainly fits the bill. Dr. Andrew Jefchak commented before the play began, “It could have been written 20 years ago.” I agree. The play could easily have been set in the 1980’s and have expressed the same search for self-knowledge.

The program included a historical synopsis by Philip Smith and a revealing glimpse into the director’s vision that prepared the audience for a mighty theatrical undertaking. That vision was realized in a cast of ten struggled with the complexities of Victorian mores, complicated by love and relationships, which culminated in multiple transformations. The actors, under the direction of Dr. Gary Konis, did a more-than-credible job of conveying the weightlessness of the theme.

The entire play is set in the Helmer’s living room. The set was ingeniously crafted and functioned well. The sound effects were right on the mark. The costumes were authentically beautiful, and, when combined with the well-choreographed manners, transported the audience back to 1879.

Jamie Woody as Nora, Torvald’s wife, gave a double-impact performance with expressive words and facial expressions that made you want to alternately hug her and then shake some sense into her. Curtis Burdette’s portrayal of Torvald, the stereotypical, domineering, doting Victorian husband, was irrationally, albeit incredibly, convincing. Dr. Dan Brooks was a charming and comic mix as Dr. Rank. Nina Croll did a great job as Mrs. Linde, Nora’s childhood friend. Their ‘girl talk’ was very much in keeping with the times, but her profession of love to Nils being a little stiff.

David Doppel was quite convincingly as the near-villainous Nils Krohgstad, and warmed even more when pleading with Nora for help, but then, she fell a little flat in his romantic reciprocal of Mrs. Linde’s proposal.

Anne, portrayed by Mary Harwood, gave an endearing performance as the nanny who gave up her own child to raise Nora and eventually Nora’s three children. Katie Vote did a wonderful job as the housemaid, quietly doing her duties.

And last, but certainly not least, were the three children. Michael Willard delivered his lines loud and clear, as did the beautiful Kara Willard, but it was the beautiful and audacious Trevor Frence who charmed the audience. I am sure the stage has not seen the last of Trevor.

All the actors gave such convincing portrayals that it was easy to forget they are fellow classmates and teachers. Ultimately, only actors can sustain the suspension of disbelief that allows a story to be told. They did their job well, and I spent a couple hours in 1879 mightily entertained.