Landmark undergraduate degree program in Sustainable Business to begin at Aquinas in Fall 2003

by Claire Wallman

A
fter being endorsed by the Faculty Assembly, the Aquinas College Board of Trustees approved a Sustainable Business degree program, which will be offered for the first time in the Fall 2003 semester.

Designed by the business and science faculty, the Bachelor of Science degree in Sustainable Business will combine courses already offered in the curriculum, as well as six recently developed courses, including a required internship at a business that has incorporated sustainability into its policy.

The interdisciplinary degree, the first in Michigan and possibly the first of its kind in the nation offered on the undergraduate level, will focus on the effect of business and economic growth on the environment, the ecological damage caused by business processes, and the prevention of environmental problems.

It will seek to promote responsible environmental practices and environmental consciousness in the business world, and the newly created major courses explore the links between businesses and the natural world.

Dr. C. Edward Balog, Aquinas College Provost and Dean of Faculty, first created the concept of the degree last summer with the counsel and support of Trustee Dr. Luis Tomatis and Trustee Emeritus Peter Wege.

After meeting with community leaders, prospective donors, company representatives, and business and science faculty, Balog found the program would be a welcome addition to the school’s curriculum.

An interdisciplinary committee, led by Dr. Matthew Tueth, designed the degree program. The committee, which also included Dr. Woody Hoover, chair of the Business Administration Department, and Cynthia VanGelder, Dean of the School of Management, consulted with the faculty of the similar graduate program at the University of Michigan for help in designing the program.

Tueth acted as the primary driver behind the creation of the degree, serving as a liaison between business and science faculty and creating the six new Sustainable Business courses.

According to Tueth, sustainability is a growing and important concern in the business world, and he hopes to see many declared Sustainable Business majors in the next few years.

"Sustainable Business is an essential part of the long-term prosperity of society," said Tueth.

"A number of businesses today are interested in promoting and applying the values that will be taught in the program. As time goes on, we will seek active feedback from these businesses to see how our program fits their companies' Sustainable Business values."

Many such businesses, including the businesses Company, Steelcase, and Dow Chemical, have already expressed an interest in hiring interns and graduates of the program.

Graduates also have the option of applying to one of the similar graduate programs at the University of Michigan and Cornell University, among others.

"This program is already popular among prospective students, majors, and donors. Our startup costs are coming entirely from donors," said Tueth. "So far, the plan for the Sustainable Business program has met with very positive resistance from the school or community."

Hoover is optimistic about the new degree program, and believes it will prove a strong addition to the Business Administration Department.

"Its significance for Business Administration is as evidence that we remain committed to cutting edge ideas in business, especially as they represent our responsibility to the greater community," said Hoover. "This department has always been willing to cooperate with colleagues in other departments to offer unique programs at Aquinas."

---

U.S. war against Iraq begins shortly after Bush's deadline

by Lisa Gast

O
n Tuesday, March 18, President Bush gave Saddam Hussein and his sons 48 hours to leave Iraq or the United States would declare war.

U.S. and British bombs and Tomahawk cruise missiles targeted a bunker in Baghdad. The attack was put together quickly after officials received intelligence reports that many members of the Iraqi leadership, including Hussein, were gathered in the bunker.

Although Hussein appeared on a videotape three hours after the attack, intelligence officials believe the Iraqi leader was inside the compound when the missiles blew it apart.

Hussein said he was "too late for Saddam Hussein to remain in power," but then "too late for the Iraqi military to act with honor and protect your country, by permitting the peaceful entry of coalition forces to eliminate weapons of mass destruction."

Bush urged Iraqi soldiers to lay down their arms, adding that, although it was "too late for Saddam Hussein to remain in power," it was "not too late for the Iraqi military to act with honor and protect your country, by permitting the peaceful entry of coalition forces to eliminate weapons of mass destruction."

As Bush spoke, the Department of Homeland Security raised the terror alert level to orange, or "high risk." Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said that terrorists might strike within the United States or at U.S. interests abroad in retaliation to the war.

About 90 minutes after the deadline for Hussein and his sons to leave Iraq, U.S. and British bombs and Tomahawk cruise missiles targeted a bunker in Baghdad. The attack was put together quickly after officials received intelligence reports that many members of the Iraqi leadership, including Hussein, were gathered in the bunker.

Several hours later, cruise missiles destroyed several government buildings, including a presidential palace used by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz and the headquarters of Iraq's elite military unit, the Special Republican Guard.

As missiles bombarded the Iraqi capital in "Operation Shock and Awe," U.S. and British leaders demanded that Hussein leave Iraq or the United States would declare war. Hussein appeared on Iraqi television and rejected Bush's ultimatum demanding that he flee the country.

Several hours later, cruise missiles destroyed several government buildings, including a presidential palace used by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz and the headquarters of Iraq's elite military unit, the Special Republican Guard.

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**News Briefs**

**Osama bin Laden's niece to become a pop star**

The niece to the world's most wanted man is about to take the world of pop music by storm. Waffa bin Laden, the daughter of the fugitive terrorist leader, recently said they had isolated the virus and designed the first diagnostic test, meaning patients with SARS can be identified, and therefore treated, much faster.

**Habitat for Humanity encourages Aquinas students to participate in Women's Build**

The Aquinas College chapter of the international Habitat for Humanity organization hopes to entice a few handy women to join them in building a house in Grand Rapids on March 29 and April 26 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The goal, say event organizers, is to get women to be more involved in Habitat projects, many of which have been male-dominated to this point.

"We thought AQ would be a great place to do such a project because of the number of women on campus," said Katherine Kwiatkowski, the president of the Aquinas Habitat for Humanity residential volunteer program. "The Women's Build project started in Kent County two or three years ago, and the idea behind it was to get more women involved in Habitat for Humanity."

Students and other volunteers from the Kent County chapter will work four-hour shifts to build the home located at 365 Shumrock Street in downtown Grand Rapids. According to Kwiatkowski, there are currently 20 students from Aquinas College that have committed their time to this project.

The students will be helping to frame the house on the March date and will work on landscaping during the April session.

A mix of several local businesses and groups is providing funding for the house. The Aquinas Habitat chapter is also one of the contributors.

By Joe Boomgaard

**Celebrated poet Foster reads selections from recent effort**

"Be fearless in your poetry...don't care about what gets published and what doesn't...just do it for the love of the work."

---Linda Nemec Foster

Foster strongly encourages potential poets to be fearless in their poetry. "Be fearless in your poetry...don't care about what gets published and what doesn't...just do it for the love of the work."

Foster offered the following advice. "Read aloud to get the rhythm of your work, so you can also hear how I discover where the line breaks."

"I believe you should notify them of your work," said Foster regarding the creation of poetry. "Tell them what you want to do."

"See what the poem wants to do."

"I was once told that if you write about something you care about, then you want to be heard, then you want your poems to be read, then you want to influence others, then you want to make people think, then you want to make people laugh, then you want to change their emotions; then you want to change their lives."

For further information on Foster, visit her website at www.lindanemecfoster.com.

**AQRAAAD sponsors another Club Night**

Club Night returns this semester and an Aquinas Residence Assistants Against Abusive Decisions (AQRAAAD) spokesperson promises it will be more exciting than the premiere.

After the success of the Club Night held October 2002, AQRAAAD decided to repeat the event on Friday, Mar. 28. Prevention Network International presents the event as an alcohol-free After-Dorms Club Night with assistance from a collaboration of groups including AquA Basketball, AQ Volleyball, Cass Hog, Intramural Sports, JAMMIN, PLAY, Programming Board, RHA, Residence Life, Senate, and Student Activities.

Club Night events for the spring semester include an X-box tournament, inflatable games such as jousting, the "Enormous Human Gerbil Tube Room," the pool with an over-sized beach ball, a dance party and more. Aquinas College Athletic Department is sponsoring the use of tennis, basketball and volleyball courts. Several college professors have offered to tutor students in study sessions.

"I would be happy to be part of the activities at East Hills," commented Professor John Hogan, "so long as I have time to see some of these young whistleblowers how to play basketball."

AQRAAAD invites students to step up to the challenge, and come to Club Night at East Hills Athletic Club. The Grand Rapids Trolley will shuttle students from the Moose Cafe. Be sure to have your Aquinas ID to get in.

This time there will also be more food and prizes, so come and enjoy a night of fun with your friends.
Gray wolf to be removed from endangered species list, classified as threatened

by Joe Boomgaard

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be declassifying the gray wolf as an endangered species, after significant population growths across portions of the northern contiguous United States. The change will go into effect when the rule is published in the federal register next week.

According to reports in The Detroit Free Press, Ron Roffenherd, a USFWS biologist, said that the declassification would allow Michigan game officials to eliminate nuisance wolves that have caused problems with farmers.

Reclassifying the gray wolf as threatened would turn over their management to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), but the USFWS will be monitoring populations for five years. Potentially, the gray wolf could even be removed from the threatened list in a couple of years.

Currently, Michigan’s Upper Peninsula has a wolf population of approximately 300 animals, double what the population was just five years ago. According to reports, several sightings of wolves occurred in the Lower Peninsula, although the breeding population, say wildlife officials, remains in the UP.

There have been several reports of nuisance wolves attacking cattle and sheep in the UP.

As reported in a recent article by The Detroit Free Press, one farmer lost eight cows, while another ranched lost 100 sheep to wolf predation in the last three years. According to the ranchers, neither the USFWS or the MDNR will reimburse him for his losses.

The MDNR can currently use non-lethal force to discourage the problem animals from attacking livestock, but, under the new classification, state officials would be able to kill the problem animals.

Pat Lederle, the MDNR’s endangered species coordinator, was quoted in The Detroit Free Press as saying, “No one in the DNR wants to kill wolves, but if we remove a few problem individuals, it would benefit the greater wolf population in the long run.”

Students gather to pray for peace at onset of war

Aquinas College Chaplain Father Charles Santoro, above, leads the attendees in a prayer. The service was held in the Wege Student Center Ballroom, and approximately 30 people gathered in prayer. Senior Tom Eggelston, below, reads a scriptural passage. The event also featured music promoting peace.

Gray wolf to be removed from endangered species list, classified as threatened

by Joe Boomgaard

ATTENTION WRITERS

Are you interested by the news? Turn your interest into a paid position on The AQ Times.

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DiFranco pushes musical boundaries with ‘Evolve’

By Patrick Hurley

Entertainment Editor

Spring has finally arrived! The snow is almost totalmente melted, its getting warmer. Spring Break is over, and we have less than eight weeks left. So, how many are bored? If any of you Aquinas students are interested in jazz music, you are in luck this weekend. Heck, if you’ve never really listened to it, you’ll still be in luck, because this coming weekend you may have your chance to experience what jazz musicians are up to. Put on by some of the best jazz musicians in the area.

This weekend, starting on Friday, March 28, at 7 p.m., and following on the following Sunday, marks the 30th annual Aquinas College Jazz Festival. Jazz bands from Aquinas, Cornerstone, Grand Valley, and several local high schools will all be performing.

Here’s what the schedule looks like so far. Starting Thursday March 27, the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra will be performing in the Women Composers Ensemble. The symphony is one of the events that provides tickets to students for a discount: only $10. It’s a great event for a cheap date and getting some culture. March 29 is the Walk-in Registration Day for the Grand Rapids Civic Summer Theatre Arts Program between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Early arrivers will get a $10 student discount to sign up for these great summer programs.

Interested in learning more about Arabic culture? The university’s program with Iraq, a good way to promote peace and understanding. Breaux will take the time to learn more about the culture and myths of the Middle East. In the evening that Saturday, the USC will present the talented and diverse music, dance, and films. They will be putting on the story “Arabian Nights,” including Scheherazade with tales of Ali Baha, the Black Stallion, and others. Finally, on Sunday, the 30th, the Van Andel Performing Arts Center will host the 3rd Annual Women Composers Ensemble. The symphony is one of the events that provides tickets to students for a discount: only $10. It’s a great event for a cheap date and getting some culture. March 29 is the Walk-in Registration Day for the Grand Rapids Civic Summer Theatre Arts Program between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Early arrivers will get a $10 student discount to sign up for these great summer programs.

The film was bit slow in the beginning, but managed to pick up the pace and even its pick up the pace and even.

Directed by Phillip Noyce, “The Quiet American” tells the twisted tale of a love triangle with the backdrop of the French Indochina War. Opening in Vietnam in 1952, we first meet English journalist Thomas Fowler, excellently played by Michael Caine. At an outdoor café, Fowler has his first encounter with the handsomely mysterious American “medical man” Paul Breuer. The two have an instant connection, with Pyle obsessively raving the merits of Fowler’s writing in the English papers. Both out of their own countries, the men form an odd camaraderie, with Pyle following the elder around like a schoolboy. They become warped and intense as we learn of the characters’ hidden agendas. The soundtrack was just as intense. It’s a great event for a cheap date and getting some culture. March 29 is the Walk-in Registration Day for the Grand Rapids Civic Summer Theatre Arts Program between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Early arrivers will get a $10 student discount to sign up for these great summer programs.

By Sarah Kommer

Contributing Writer

Actor Brendan Fraser has come a long way since “Encino Man.” In fact, considering his fine work in “George of the Jungle” and “Daddy Day Right,” I have to question just how he landed such a sizable role in such a respectable movie. From Graham Greene’s book “The Quiet American,” comes a film of murder and mystery with themes of both love and war. Released in November, the film is currently finishing up its rounds at local theaters.

Directed by Phillip Noyce, “The Quiet American” tells the twisted tale of a love triangle with the backdrop of the French Indochina War. Opening in Vietnam in 1952, we first meet English journalist Thomas Fowler, excellently played by Michael Caine. At an outdoor café, Fowler has his first encounter with the handsomely mysterious American “medical man” Paul Breuer. The two have an instant connection, with Pyle obsessively raving the merits of Fowler’s writing in the English papers. Both out of their own countries, the men form an odd camaraderie, with Pyle following the elder around like a schoolboy. They become warped and intense as we learn of the characters’ hidden agendas.

I have to admit, by default, I am an overenthusiastic movie viewer. Although the plot of the movie was admirable, I found parts of the film a bit on the sketchy side. One scene that particularly irked me was when bombs were exploding around the two leading men. Instead of being concerned for their safety, they argued over the mistress. I’m not too sure that talk of love would stop me from ducking the enemy.

Then again, I’m selfish like that.

I’m pleased to report that weak script spots were made up for with the film’s superior acting. Michael Caine blew me away with his universal cues and even darling Brendan Fraser managed to impress me with his borderline-action scene. This was the first film I’ve seen starring actress Do Thi Hai Yen and she did a wonderful and convincing job playing the role of a submissive Vietnamese mistress.

The soundtrack was just as intense as the acting and certainly added to the intriguing story line. The film was bit slow in the beginning, but managed to pick up the pace and even had a few violent scenes in the end. At times, the two competing plots of war and love seemed to not meld together well, but overall it was an impressive movie. I wouldn’t recommend it to anyone looking for a little “Encino Man,” but would set it before anyone with more responsible movie taste. Expect it in theaters for a bit longer; otherwise it’ll be a great rental for those nights when you just want to be enlightened.
Racist college admissions policies ignore real problems plaguing education in America

by Lisa Gask

Contributing Writer

A s Americans, we are taught that people are more than just the color of their skin. In the 1950s and 60s, there was even a little uprising called the Civil Rights Movement, where a lady refused to give up her seat on a bus and a man spoke about a day when we would be judged not by the color of our skin, but the content of our character. However, today a vast majority of colleges and universities in this country are defying that basic idea that these civil rights leaders fought for and practicing racism in the form of affirmative action in admissions.

No one can deny America has a checkerboard past, that great social inequality between races still widely exists today, and that something must be done. However, with affirmative action in college admissions, the ends do not justify the means. Using racism now to remedy past injustices is not an acceptable solution, and does nothing to address the root of the problem.

In 1978, a white student sought admission to the UC Davis medical school. After being rejected twice, Allan Bakke noticed minorities with lesser qualifications were admitted to the school under a policy that reserved 16 seats for them. He sued, and his case ended up in front of the Supreme Court. In his decision, Justice Powell said that racial preference may only be used as one of many criteria, such as athletic skill and provost discretion can be used by a university to use race as a factor for admissions.

A current case is now at the Supreme Court, involving the University of Michigan undergraduate school and the law school. At issue is the extent to which a university can use race as a factor for admissions. Michigan's undergraduate college employs a point system of 156 possible points, 20 are earned if Black, Native American, or Latinx, Grades and SAT/ACT scores are worth a maximum of 50 and 12 points respectively, alumni legacy is worth 4 points, and other non-academic criteria, such as athletic skill and provost discretion can earn 20. For example, a 3.0 GPA, combined with a black, Hispanic, or Native American pedigree would earn the same score on Michigan's select index as an otherwise indistinguishable white or Asian applicant with a 4.0 GPA. The Supreme Court case will have an effect on many Aquinas students who are planning to further their education in graduate school because a large majority of graduate schools currently have some type of affirmative action plan. I hope that the Supreme Court will realize that Michigan's admissions policies are the wrong way of remedying past social injustices, and will rule against the school.

Maybe, Americans will realize the place to start is at the other end of the educational process. W. E. B. Du Bois said, "Today we fear our skin, tomorrow we shall fear our ignorance." Without a solid foundation, our students will not be prepared to compete in today's market. Furthermore, racism now is not the solution. Instead of making our students feel inferior, it is time to understand that from birth, students are not a product of their race, but are people first and foremost.

University officials testified that a "critical mass" of people with race as a factor, is not a negative, but a positive. The university said that the presence of minorities in a law school positively benefits the entire institution and they must admit a "critical mass" of minorities in the undergraduate school to prevent others from feeling isolated or lonely and to create diversity. But what is diversity? According to the University of Michigan and many other affirmative action schools across the nation, it is little more than a student's race, class, or gender... but aren't we much more than that?

In his dissent of the Bakke ruling, Justice Boggs pointed out that universities completely disregard other factors critical to diversity such as religion or political persuasion, and judge only by race instead. As a conservative at Aquinas, I often feel isolated while defending my political views in some of my classes. Maybe Aquinas should use affirmative action to acquire a "critical mass" of conservatives on campus.

The Supreme Court's decision in the University of Michigan case will have an effect on many Aquinas students who are planning to further their education in graduate school because a large majority of graduate schools currently have some type of affirmative action plan. I hope that the Supreme Court will realize that Michigan's admissions policies are the wrong way of remedying past social injustices, and will rule against the school.

In 1964, the Warren Commission unanimously decided:

1. Lee Harvey Oswald was the assassin, and
2. The Commission found no evidence of a conspiracy, foreign or domestic.

As a member of the Commission, I endorse the conclusions those conclusions in 1964 and fully agree now as the sole surviving Commission member.

GERALD R. FORD

In 1964, the Warren Commission unanimously decided:

1. Lee Harvey Oswald was the assassin, and
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As a member of the Commission, I endorse the conclusions those conclusions in 1964 and fully agree now as the sole surviving Commission member.

Story gave Women's Study Center welcome recognition

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your thoughtful response to the Corpus Christi controversy ("Corpus Christi strikes an uneasy chord in GR") by Sarah Kommer, February 19, 2003).

I have a correction and an addition. The threat to pull funding from the publication did not come from the "board members and patrons." It came from legislators threatening the college. The Actors board was 100 percent behind the production and our patrons were extremely supportive.

Also, not only is Eric Messing and alum of Aquinas College, but so am I – class of 1965 and proud of it.

Keep up the good reporting.

Sincerely,

Fred Subliske

Managing Director of Actors' Theater

Director of Corpus Christi
Ball team brings home 7 wins

by Leah Herland

Contributing Writer

While most college students enjoyed some rest and relaxation for spring break, the Aquinas baseball team was hard at work. They held their Spring Training in Ormond Beach, Fla.

The team returned home with a 7-5 record for the 12 games they played in the sunshine state, not quite where they had hoped to be.

The team started out well with 3 consecutive wins against the St. Xavier Cougars. Winning 6-5, 16-0, and 3-1 the Saints streak was interrupted by a one-run loss to the Cougars 3-2, followed by another one-run loss to Indiana's Anderson Ravens.

"We had chances, we didn't excuse," commented Aquinas captain Kyle Kracht.

Aquinas lost again in the first game of a doubleheader against the Tiffany Dognons 6-1, but won the final game 9-4. The Central Methodist Eagles dominated the Saints 8-1 in their first match-up against Aquinas, but the Saints pulled out an one-run victory against the Eagles in their second game.

At the end of the trip, Aquinas almost pulled off another 3 game win streak, but lost to Rensselaer Poly Institute 3-2. The loss followed two straight victories against Calumet College of St. Joseph by scores of 10-3 and 21-1 in seven innings in the second game.

Pitching was a bright spot for the Saints during Spring Training. The Saint's top pitcher Paul Gilbert pitched in all of the tougher games against St. Xavier and Calumet College of St. Joseph, a division II team.

Dustin Geiman pitched 2 games, for 2 wins and gave up only 4 earned runs in 13 innings.

Other pitchers who performed well were John Renbarger, Justin Miller, and Brad Schaub. One of Aquinas's top pitchers, Shaun Hambridge, was out for the entire week with an injured arm.

This is the most losses Aquinas has come back from with history in the last four years but head coach Doug Greenstreet is not overly concerned.

"We played a quality schedule down there," Greenstreet said. "We need to improve on some things, correct them and we'll do it very well."

Defensively Aquinas performed well, although they had some miscues in defending bunts. D.J. Nuemann and Luke Becker did a solid defensive effort along with Kyle Kracht and Jeremy Frost.

"Berkey was on fire," commented Kracht.

Offensively Aquinas still is improving and had help on IPPE. Against John Moen it had 10 stolen bases which was a key part of the Saints attack.

With help on defense and by improving, the Aquinas baseball team hopes to start playing league games soon. All with the WHAC teams are now back from spring training with Spring Arbor and Madonna heading up the league. Aquinas currently sits third, but none of the teams have yet to play a league game. The WHAC is going to be a competitive league this year. With only 3 teams advancing to post season play, there will be some very intense games between the top four or five teams.

The Saints are scheduled to play at Kirtland Community College on March 26 against WHAC rival Tri-State.

Saints softball gets off to solid start

by Annie Scott

Contributing Writer

During spring break, the Aquinas softball team traveled to balmy Fort Myers, Fla. and participated in the Gene Cusic Classic. The Saints played both LSU and 12 teams from around the country. They came back with a 7-5 record.

Their first win of the season came against Drew University (New Jersey) by a score of 9-8. The team had 14 hits during the seven-inning affair.

The Saints were led by freshman Kristen Hulst and Tarin Foster, who each went 3-for-4 during the game. The Saints' bats were hot as they only struck out twice in the contest.

Senior Cassi Gragg was the starting pitcher and went six and a third innings for the victory, allowing three runs, one earned. Foster came in to relieve and went four innings with the Knights scoring three runs on four hits.

After five games, the Saints had a record of 3-2. Three next win came in five innings against the Hiram College, Ohio, 11-1. The Saints had 13 hits in the contest with only one strike out.

Freshman Lorna Bratton pitched four innings allowing three hits and no runs while striking out seven. Freshman Marisa Poelman pitched the final six and a third innings allowing one run, which was unearned. She struck out seven, hit batters, and struck out three.

Also in Florida, the Saints lost to Teikyo Post College 7-4 and Palm Beach Atlantic University 9-8. Aquinas notched wins against St. Ambrose University 7-3, Simmons College 7-5 and Wilmington College. The team lost to Alma College. The team lost to Alma 3-2 in the opener but rebounded to a rain out against Bethel College.

The Saints then welcome Mcwch/26, 2003

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**RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED**

March 26, 2003

**SPORTS**
Several Saints participate at indoor track Nationals

Three athletes earn All-American honors.

by Jackie Hurley

Contributing Writer

Over 20 Aquinas track ath­letes competed in the NAIA Na­tional Championships in Johnson City, Tenn. on March 6-8.

While placing among the top six in any event earns athletes the status of All-American, emphasis was placed on achieving running, jumping and throwing per­sonal bests.

The men’s track team fin­ished 20th. Three members of the Three athletes out­ished 20th. Three members of the team were honored with All-American honors.

Shimel placed sixth in the weight throw with a distance of 55 feet and one quarter inch. “This year we had a better overall team performance. It was great to have T.J. and All-American. Many different people were scoring points in different events so we could win,” Holmes said.

Roberts was task on top three in the 400, but he was not in the final straightaway of his race, costing him a chance at the top of the podium. “We wanted to place in the top four as a relay, so we felt short,” Hoogewind said.

On the woman’s side, Val Kunde and Jenny Ziegler placed eighth in the event in their respective events. Kunde ran the 5000 in 18:22, the second fastest time in Aquinas history. Ziegler ran the 3000 in 10:34, setting a new Aquinas school record.

“We both placed eighth and ran personal bests. Running your school record.

by Shaun Markwart

Sports Editor

In a surreal twist of fate, sports fans around the country were faced with an unexpected decision: the NCAA men's basketball tournament. The NCAA men's basketball tournament, annually one of the most anticipated sporting events of the year, was beginning just hours after the United States had opened its military campaign in Iraq.

You could use bombs rain­ing down on all the major net­works. The only catch was that one station's bombs were being fired from behind the three-point line and at a basketball hoop.

NCAA president Miles Brand announced, two days prior to the tournament, that the event would go on as scheduled. Despite the almost certain absence of a national champion, the NCAA promised to move forward with the tournament, but many athletes agreed with the postponement, many athletes have gone on as scheduled, but many athletes have taken notice of the situa­tion in the Middle East.

“We're training to do well in nationals, it's a good meet,’ We both placed eighth. -- Holmes said. "As coach Wood says, 'if you make your big break through in the meet, they were positive about the results. "Even though we didn’t make it to finals, we performed at the level we wanted to," Beatle said. "As coach Wood's, if you can go out and out and personal best at nationals, it's a good meet." We did that, so it was a good meet.”

Long term, the Saints are aiming to qualify at least 30 people for the outdoor NCAA championships in Otteke, Kan. on May 22-24.

Short term, the Saints have four meets until the outdoor WHAC Championships. "We’re training to do well at conference. We’re ready for outdoor,” Holmes said.

The women’s team was the first outdoor meet at the Grand Rapids Open on Saturday, March 29.

Aquinas will travel to St. Louis the following weekend to compete at Washington University.

“Just because of the floor hockey rules, the goalsies don’t have to face any slap shots. No player is allowed to lift their stick above their knees.

The teams compete against each other during twenty-minute halves. Six players from each team play at all times, including the goalkeeper.

There are no blue lines like those in ice hockey. Therefore, no two-line passes, offside, or icing calls are made. Without these rules, the game becomes much less complicated.

Jen Widmaier, who played ice hockey for ten years in a Detroit hockey league, prefers having blue lines. “I don’t like having no offside because you can’t set up plays,” Widmaier said.

Still, Widmaier enjoyed him­self. She even hopes for McDaniel’s team with a bouncing shot from center floor. “It’s fun and interesting. Something to do other than sit around,” Widmaier said.

McDaniel, Widmaier and the rest of the floor hockey players will play their last game on Thursday, March 6.

Sports world carries on in midst of war

by Aaron Michon

Contributing Writer

Dr. Michael McDaniel is the chair of the Aquinas College math department. When one of his students approached him earlier this month in the Field House, McDaniel reacted with his in­stincts, diving to his left to stop the wrist shot and kicking away the reboun­der. “When you’re playing in the NCAA tournament, it’s a good meet,” Holmes said.

Kunde was placed on achieving run­ning personal bests. Running your school record.

McDaniel, Students Star in Intramural Floor Hockey League

Sports Editor

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You could use bombs rain­ing down on all the major net­works. The only catch was that one station's bombs were being fired from behind the three-point line and at a basketball hoop.

NCAA president Miles Brand announced, two days prior to the tournament, that the event would go on as scheduled. Despite the almost certain absence of a national champion, the NCAA promised to move forward with the tournament, but many athletes agreed with the postponement, many athletes have gone on as scheduled, but many athletes have taken notice of the situa­tion in the Middle East.

“We're training to do well in nationals, it's a good meet,’ We both placed eighth. -- Holmes said. "As coach Wood says, 'if you make your big break through in the meet, they were positive about the results. "Even though we didn’t make it to finals, we performed at the level we wanted to," Beatle said. "As coach Wood's, if you can go out and out and personal best at nationals, it's a good meet." We did that, so it was a good meet.”

Long term, the Saints are aiming to qualify at least 30 people for the outdoor NCAA championships in Otteke, Kan. on May 22-24.

Short term, the Saints have four meets until the outdoor WHAC Championships. "We’re training to do well at conference. We’re ready for outdoor,” Holmes said.

The women’s team was the first outdoor meet at the Grand Rapids Open on Saturday, March 29.

Aquinas will travel to St. Louis the following weekend to compete at Washington University.

“Just because of the floor hockey rules, the goalsies don’t have to face any slap shots. No player is allowed to lift their stick above their knees.

The teams compete against each other during twenty-minute halves. Six players from each team play at all times, including the goalkeeper.

There are no blue lines like those in ice hockey. Therefore, no two-line passes, offside, or icing calls are made. Without these rules, the game becomes much less complicated.

Jen Widmaier, who played ice hockey for ten years in a Detroit hockey league, prefers having blue lines. “I don’t like having no offside because you can’t set up plays,” Widmaier said.

Still, Widmaier enjoyed him­self. She even hopes for McDaniel’s team with a bouncing shot from center floor. “It’s fun and interesting. Something to do other than sit around,” Widmaier said.

McDaniel, Widmaier and the rest of the floor hockey players will play their last game on Thursday, March 6.
King's 'From A Buick 8' driven by strong characters

by Pat Hurley
Entertainment Editor

For a long time, I've wanted to set the record straight: Stephen King does not write horror stories. He writes stories of human drama, about people that are very good, and also horrifyingly bad; stories of love and adventure, and stories of tragedy and murder. Yes, these stories always involve the supernatural; yes, some of them have ghosts and evil people. But to say Stephen King only writes horror stories is like saying that Stephen Spielberg only likes to direct movies about killer sharks and blue-evading extra-terrestrials.

I have never liked novels defined in the "horror" or "thriller" genre. To me, rather than being scary, they were sad and depressing, and nothing I was inclined to recommend. I first started reading King during my freshmen year in college after a friend recommended his Dark Tower series. It's not a scary novel, but rather an adventure, although there are some suspenseful moments. In fact, the Dark Tower series, something started by King in college before his first bestseller "Carrie" was ever published, has often been referred to as King's most relevant work. He has been known to call it "the Jupiter in my galaxy of stories".

"From a Buick 8" is the newest planet out in one of their abandoned sheds. Thirty years ago, the Buick was left at a gas station by a mysterious stranger and abandoned (and guarded) by Troop D ever since. In the fall of 2001, Ned Wilson, a teenager whose father was a Troop D officer killed in the line of duty, finds the car in an abandoned shed and learns its strange history from the rest of the Troop who have come to be his surrogate family.

The mysterious Buick emits strange energies, causes disappearances, and seems to be alive itself. Ned must come to terms with what it is, why his father kept it a secret, and why it must be guarded.

King is nothing if not original. Yet, some of the themes and devices in this book can be found in his others ("Christine" comes to mind), but after writing 40 or more books, one might tend to repeat the same themes in them after a while (just let's hope that he does it sensibly and not intentionally).

"From a Buick 8" is a good storytelling, pure and simple. The book talks about the need for humans to try to understand the mysterious, and a search for a higher purpose in life. It flows very well, with realistic, well-written dialogue. The most impressive thing about King is that most of his stories are about the characters, and are character-driven. The people in his novels may be the most realistic that I have ever read in so-far-fantasy/ science fiction

If you want to try something new, pick up the novel "From a Buick 8." It's a quick and interesting read.

Overall rating: 8 out of 10

Shaking Tree delivers solid performance at the Moose

By Leah Herland

On Sunday, March 23, the Aquinas College Chorus, Aquinas Chamber Choir, and Valenti Handbell Choir all performed at the Cathedral of St. Andrew.

The College Chorus, directed by Mark Webb and accompanied on piano by Bill Marfink, opened with Ron Nelson's "Fanfare for a Festival," which featured a trumpet trio who matched the energy of the choir. The first lyrics, "All praise/All praise to music," set the tone for an impressive choral music.

The forty-five-voice choir then performed two other selections before ending the set with "Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind" by John Rutter.

The Aquinas Chamber Choir, under the direction of Larry Bier, performed two spirituals, "Give Me Jesus" arranged by Ron Nelson and "Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind" by John Rutter. The nine-member choir featured the cathedral's recently installed trumpet trio who matched the energy of the choir. The first lyrics, "All praise/All praise to music," set the tone for an impressive choral music.

The four-member band Shaking Tree played at the Moose Cafe. Together since 1996, this band is a mix of Dave Matthews Band and Barenaked Ladies but with a twist of Celtic sound as well. The result is a blend of music from a variety of musical cultures.

"We like to add a worldly sound to our music," said lead vocalist Dain Estes. Estes also plays guitar and mandolin for the band.

Other members of this eclectic alternative rock band are Tom Waddington, who plays electric violin, mandolin and guitar; Justin Klein, on drums; and Denek Swensen, who provides vocals and rhythm on bass and African drums. Based out of Kansas, the band gets its unique name from an African saying that means one is going to 건리 지양 against the social norm.

Known Records recently released "Matter of Choice," the third release by Shaking Tree. During the acoustic performance, Shaking Tree played many tracks off of "Matter of Choice" including "Today," "Memory of Me," and "Waiting Lives." The group also played a song called "Complications," which lead singer Dain wrote about a former band member who always brought drama to every situation.

The band had a great performance and stayed afterwards to talk to the Aquinas crowd. They were very fun and overall the performance was a wonderful event at the Moose. The students in the crowd enjoyed the music.

"They had a well-rounded beat, they were very passionate about their music and really into it," commented Diane Nahringer. I would recommend the band to anyone who enjoys listening to music that explores various cultures of music.

Mozart and King's novel "A Connecticut Yankee in King's galaxy, and it's an interesting one. The book tells the story of a mysterious Buick that's not quite a car that the Pennsylvania State Police keep

AQ choirs perform

By Wes Creager
Contributing Writer

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The College Chorus, directed by Mark Webb and accompanied on piano by Bill Marfink, opened with Ron Nelson's "Fanfare for a Festival," which featured a trumpet trio who matched the energy of the choir. The first lyrics, "All praise/All praise to music," set the tone for an afternoon of impressive choral music. The forty-five-voice choir then performed two other selections before ending the set with "Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind" by John Rutter.

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concert calendar

Sat. 3-29-03 9:00 p.m. Molly at the Intersection. Tickets: TBA

Sun. 3-30-03 6:00 p.m. B2K at the Deltaplex. Tickets: $30-$40.

Tues. 4-1-03 7:30 p.m. Def Leppard at Van Andel Arena Tickets: $37-$47.

Sun. 4-6-03 8:00 p.m. Alison Krauss at Devos Hall Tickets: $35-$45.50

Bistro Bella Vita delivers cuisine "with an Italian flair" as promised

by Claire Waltman
News Editor

I consider atmosphere an important factor in deciding where to eat, so I was naturally curious when I first walked past the Bistro Bella Vita, a restaurant located at 44 Grandville Ave. SW in downtown Grand Rapids.

Through the windows I could see a warm, chic, European-style bar, and a jazz combo playing in the corner. The place also had a spacious main dining area as far as I could tell, filled with patrons peacefully enjoying their meals. I had to see if the food and atmosphere were as wonderful as the inviting scene promised.

After I walked into the restaurant on my first visit at around 4:30 in the afternoon, the hostess informed my dining companion and me that the dining room wouldn’t open for dinner until 5:00 and ushered us into the bar. We took seats on the barstools and ordered ourselves a pint each of Sierra Nevada Pale Ale.

Taking a look around the place I sipped my beer, I realized that my earlier voyeuristic observation that the bar seemed European held true.

It reminded me of one of the nicer bars or cafes I visited during my semester in Germany, right down to the strong smell of cigarettes.

The barroom was filled with small tables, and the bar itself extended far across the room. We learned from the hostess that this was considered the largest martini bar in West Michigan. I can’t attest to that quite yet, but the place did have a considerable collection of gins and vodkas arranged beautifully behind the bar.

After we had finished our beer, which was a little bit thinner for my taste but suited my date fine, the hostess moved us into the dining room just across the open entryway.

Since it was early, we had the place to ourselves, and our talkative waitress chatted with us happily. I asked her about the jazz combo that played there in the evenings, and whether there was ever dancing in the barroom.

"No unless it’s prompmt," she said. "We have different jazz and R&B living in here on Friday and Saturday evenings, and during brunch on Sunday mornings, and they’re here just to give the place a nice, peaceful atmosphere."

I thought her friendly demeanor also improved the atmosphere in the trendy dining room, which had that nearly European atmosphere of people sitting close together, the ceiling you often find in such restaurants.

The urban feel of the bar continued here, but it was an intimate setting. We had a view of some familiar downtown Grand Rapids buildings, such as the Van Andel Arena.

As for the food, it lived up to its billing on the restaurant’s website as having "an Italian flair" and "a bit of an Italian flair," though we only sampled the Italian menu. My date ordered a calzone, and I ordered a small Greek pizza.

Our waitress informed us that the food might take a few minutes to get to us, because many of the ingredients were freshly sliced or made right there in the kitchen to order.

This was obvious from the first bite. The food was unique, fresh, flavorful, and filling. We could hardly finish our half-baked round of drinks, a delicious German Pilsner for me, and a Bell’s Porter for my date.

I left the restaurant happy, pleased by both the meal and the atmosphere that food up to my view from the sidewalk. Anyone looking for an inexpensive gourmet meal in a restaurant with a chic, European atmosphere should try the Bistro Bella Vita.