Ecologist Steingraber visits AQ campus

"We do have to save the world but it's not on the shoulders of any one person, we have to play the 'Save The World Symphony.' We're all musicians in the same orchestra and you have to figure out what your instrument is."

- Ecologist and author Sandra Steingraber

Emily Johnson
Times Writer

On Monday Oct. 6, ecologist and author Sandra Steingraber, Ph.D., spent a day at Aquinas sharing her expertise on the issue of worldwide environmental links to cancer. Sponsored by the Jane Hibbard Idema Women's Studies Center, Dr. Steingraber's visit was informative and inspirational. Using colorful, descriptive words to explain scientific subject matter, Steingraber made her audience aware of a modern day human rights issue: The environment is harmful to humans.

Though based in Ithaca, New York, Steingraber is internationally known for her expertise in the area of environmental toxins that affect reproductive health. She has used newly published data from U.S. cancer registries as well as toxic release data to reveal the alarming statistics on cancer rates, birth defects and other human ailments connected to environmental pollutants.


Steingraber's effort is poignant because she is a cancer survivor herself. In fact, her identity as a cancer survivor drove her scientific interest on how cancer development is related to the environment. It's a complicated process — gene structure, specific environments, dose levels and certain periods of the lifecycle all need to be taken into consideration when compared to the levels of pollutants in the air and water in our specific environments.

Steingraber presented her concerns about environmental contamination in two sessions. During the afternoon benefit luncheon for the JHWSC, she gave a lecture entitled "Women, Wisdom, Nature: How the Environment Affects Women's Health."

Steingraber proposed that the current levels of regulated toxins in the environment need to be re-evaluated. Infants, during pregnancy and by way of breast milk, are exposed to concentration levels of environmental toxins 10-to-100 times the amount of a 150-pound adult. Breast milk is the best food for infants, but also the most chemically contaminated. Also vulnerable are the elderly and people with health problems.

She also addressed an issue very relevant to Michigan residents: Contaminants such as Polychlorinated Biphenyls and mercury are present in the Great Lakes at levels so poisonous that women of reproductive age are advised not to eat any fish. There is a chance of potential preterm labor or premature birth if they become pregnant. Steingraber considers this issue not only alarming, but also a human rights violation.

PCBs have been banned in the United States, but they continue to linger, taking more than 15 years to dissipate. She stressed her belief that women should be able to take advantage of all natural protein sources; to wait until menopause to enjoy a Great Lakes whitefish or fresh salmon is a tragedy.

Driving her point home, Steingraber cited several examples of how toxins in the environment affect the health of those who live in it. Women who live in rural areas or on farms, for example, are exposed to high levels of agricultural liabilities such as pesticides, causing higher than average rates of birth defects and stillbirths.

Continuing the discussion in an evening presentation, "The Myth of Living Safely in a Toxic World," Steingraber addressed a diverse audience — students and faculty from the science department, women's issues supporters, and representatives from local environmental groups such as the West Michigan Environmental Action Council. She said she firmly believes that phasing out chemicals that are harmful, if not deadly, to the body, should be a national priority. There is no place for them in our society and every effort should be made to find natural substitutes.

When asked by a member of the audience how concerned citizens could get involved in the crusade against environmental pollutants, Steingraber said, "Always speak out of your own identity. It allows you to marry whatever your passion is in this world and whoever you are with one of these issues."

Steingraber encouraged everyone to start with what they know and to be interested in, and learn more and take the concerns into the political arena to lobby for change.

"We do have to save the world but it's not on the shoulders of any one person," Steingraber said. "We have to play the 'Save The World Symphony.' We're all musicians in the same orchestra and you have to figure out what your instrument is."

Dr. Sandra Steingraber's presentation was one of several thought-provoking events sponsored by the Jane Hibbard Idema Women's Studies Center this year. For more information on Steingraber's presentation or upcoming events, contact the Center at 616-632-2974.
The Naked Truth
by Lisa Gast

The Terminator conquers California, prevails over liberal double standard

Last week, California voters chose to recall Governor Gray Davis and replace him with Hollywood star Arnold Schwarzenegger in one of the most highly publicized governor recalls in history. By winning, the Terminator proved to many liberals he's a Teflon publicized governor recalls in history. By winning, Governor Gray Davis and replace him with Hollywood possible that Hillary might just hold her husband to those of someone she's never met? I suppose it is quite ironic and hypocritical. They condemned criticism of Schwarzenegger by these liberals to be by her husband in defense of him, and feminist groups the past two weeks I was left wondering: where was demanded Schwarzenegger's behavior toward women by prevention of California, prevail over the feminist groups (NOW, Planned Parent­ations against him.

Texas Ann Richards even joined Gray Davis and 200 hood), and the Los Angeles Times for sexual assault (Texas, Schwarzenegger apologized and admitted that he had “behaved badly” in the past, but denied the charges.

With all the bad press about Schwarzenegger in the last few weeks I was left wondering: where was the outcry from these liberals during “Monicagate,” against then-President Bill Clinton when he was found to be engaging in sexual acts with an intern and lying under oath about it?

During that scandal, if you recall, Hill­and “behaved badly” in the past, but denied the charges.

While all the bad press about Schwarzenegger in the last few weeks I was left wondering: where was the outcry from these liberals during “Monicagate,” against then-President Bill Clinton when he was found to be engaging in sexual acts with an intern and lying under oath about it?

However, for the feminist groups and other liber­als, I find their selective criticism to be unacceptable and almost offensive. I’m not suggesting they should be denied the right to criticize people—especially those accused of something as serious as sex crimes—but I’m not suggesting they should be denied the right to criticize people—especially those accused of something as serious as sex crimes—but I’m not suggesting they should be denied the right to criticize people—especially those accused of something as serious as sex crimes—but I’m not suggesting they should be denied the right to criticize people—especially those accused of something as serious as sex crimes—but I’m not suggesting they should be denied the right to criticize people—especially those accused of something as serious as sex crimes—but I’m not suggesting they should be denied the right to criticize people—especially those accused of something as serious as sex crimes—but I’m not suggesting they should be denied the right to criticize people—especially those accused of something as serious as sex crimes—but I’m not suggesting they should be 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should be denied the right to criticize people—especially those accused of something as serious as sex crimes—but I’m not suggesting they should be denied the right to criticism and I would argue that he probably doesn’t belong in office. However, though I realize there is never “fair play” in politics, I am very disap­pointed in the childish actions of the Arnold-bash­ing group of liberals during the California recall. One can only hope they learned a lesson from Schwarzenegger’s win and in the future will stop and at least consider practicing what they so ardently preach.
October 15, 2003

Student Senate full assembly meets in Lacks Center

Mary Harwood
Times Writer

The Aquinas College Student Senate met in full assembly in the Lacks Center on Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2003. After a call to order and prayer, the Senate Cabinet gave the reports from their respective committees.

Budget Director Brooke Murphy announced that the budgets for individual clubs and organizations were not figured yet. "It is not the fault of anyone. It is just a result of the fact that the college has been receiving cuts, which has affected the amount of money the Senate has been allocated. In addition to that, enrollment is down and our allocation is based upon enrollment," she said.

There is only one step more which must be completed before the budget can be brought before the full assembly and voted on. Clubs and Organizations Chairwoman Lindsey Volpe reminded the assembly that there is a mailbox in the Moose Cafe for each club and organization on campus.

Student Affairs Chairman Jon Walker announced the Harvest Hop Dance to be held on Oct. 28, 2003 from 9 p.m. - 12 midnight. Student Representation Chairman Jeremy Marshall said his committee is working on getting students on the standing committees on campus, especially the Board of Trustees, and piecing together several other committees including the Publications Board, East Town Community Association, Communications Committee and the Library Committee.

In March, the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan filed a lawsuit against the Dearborn school district on Barber's behalf, claiming that his constitutional rights had been violated. The nonprofit organization won the lawsuit this month. "There is no evidence that the t-shirt created any disturbance or disruption," U.S. District Judge Patrick J. Duggan said in the ruling released by the ACLU on Oct. 1.

"As (the courts) have emphasized, students benefit when school officials provide an environment where they can openly express their diverging viewpoints and when they learn to tolerate the opinions of others," Duggan wrote in his decision. "The court's decision reaffirms the principle that students don't give up their right to express opinions on matters of public importance once they enter school," Mary Harwood, executive director of the state ACLU, said in a news release.

The school district's attorneys did not comment on the case. Barber wore the anti-Bush shirt to express his anti-war stance on the day he was scheduled to present an essay comparing former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein to President Bush. Barber's paper was expected to be brought before the full assembly and voted on. If approved by a two-thirds vote at the next Senate meeting, the Senate will be held on Wednesday Oct. 15, 2003 at 3 p.m. in the Wege Ballroom.

The next full assembly meeting of the Student Senate will be held on Wednesday Oct. 15, 2003 at 3 p.m. in the Wege Ballroom.

Joy Schaefer
Times Writer

A federal judge ruled that a high school student has the right to wear a t-shirt with President Bush's face and the words "International Terrorist" on the front. 16-year-old student Bretton Barber wore the shirt to Dearborn High, a suburban Detroit high school, on February 17. The school's officials were concerned the shirt might provoke disruption at the school, where a majority of students are Arab-American. An assistant principle commanded Barber to hide the message or leave school.

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Ghouls, demons and clowns infest The Haunt

This year’s attraction promises more fun than ever before

Curtis R. Burdette
Editor in Chief

With Halloween comes one of the truest tests of overcoming fear: haunted houses. One trip through The Haunt will have you screaming for dear life, but chances are that you’ll make it through alive.

“It’s clean entertainment,” owner and producer Jim Burns said. “Blood, guts, and Satanic references are (avoided), which expands our demographics and the (adults) really appreciate the attention to detail.”

Themes this year include a genetics lab, catacombs and a 3-D haunted funhouse. The journey through Cyn-Tech Labs brings the horrors of science to reality.

Hallways are lined with computer parts that are attached to the walls, hands in glass cases, and other props that set the stage for a scientific nightmare.

The journey through the catacombs leads viewers into dimly lit rooms where ghouls and other monsters of the night jump out at unsuspecting visitors. Hidden sensors add to the fright by setting off delayed screams, rattles, and other surprises.

The 3-D funhouse takes viewers to a room where ghouls who delight in scaring uninformed guests.

Before guests enter the funhouse, a clown hands out special glasses to enhance the experience.

3-D artwork lines the walls in an array of vivid colors, but visitors should beware of what lurks nearby when stopping to enjoy the hypnotic graffiti on the walls.

A team of more than ninety volunteers perform the various roles needed for the haunted house. The actors enjoy making the visitors scream, but sometimes the scares are too much for guests.

“I sent a group of five through an exit door. They went out the door and kept going until they saw light,” actor Matt Whiting said. Whiting, a sophomore at Grand Rapids Community College, has acted with The Haunt for two years.

An undertaker stands at the entrance to the maze and warns guests that some may not make it out alive and measures guests for chances for eye contact and connection.

Some of the props come straight from Hollywood productions and the makeup artists have all been trained by the (adults) really should be engaging modem day scholars.

Weeks before the tour began, Kennedy started his program with Bach’s “Ah, Plant Then the Spirit of Beautiful melodies and smooth sounding Spanish lyrics enhanced the meaning of the words. The English translations provide a look into the darker side of life in the Caribbean.

A set of three traditional spirituals, “Guide My Feet,” “Oh Religion Is a Fortune,” and “Were You There” finished off the program.

The selections for the recital showed off Kennedy’s skill and vocal range. Unfortunately several components formed to detract from the overall quality of the performance.

There was very little interaction with the members of the audience. Kennedy’s lack of memorization cut down on the chances for eye contact and connection with the audience. However, in the second part of the program, Kennedy was able to move away from the stand and add more life to the traditional spirituals. At different points in the program, it seemed that Kennedy was over-singing for the size of the space and his voice came across as harsh and too loud. Despite the sometimes excessive volume, there were times when his words could not be easily understood.

Kennedy holds a bachelor’s and master’s in music and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. He has performed with many different opera companies and symphonies and has performed at various colleges and halls across the country.

Frederick Kennedy performs at Kretschmer

Mary Harwood
Times Writer

On Sunday Oct. 5, the Art and Music Center was filled with music ranging from Bach to Montsalvatge as tenor Frederick Kennedy traveled to Grand Rapids to give a recital accompanied by pianist Natalie Grossman.

Kennedy started his program with Bach’s “Ah, Plant Then the Spirit of Joy” and followed with two selections by Rachmaninoff, “In Silent Night” and “I Love Thee.”

The third set of the program consisted of two pieces by Lee Holby, “What if...” and “Always It’s Spring.” The unusual melodic lines of the pieces combined with the lyrics left the audience feeling slightly off center and wondering what was coming next. The last two selections in the first half of the program were “A Persian Love Song” and “Dream River” by Leo Sowerby.

After a brief intermission, Kennedy took the stage again accompanied by Grossman. The first selection was a set of five pieces by Xavier Montsalvatge, “Five Black Songs.” The intense, beautiful melodies and smooth sounding Spanish lyrics enhanced the meaning of the words. The English translations provide a look into the darker side of life in the Caribbean.

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Aquinas College Theatre Program brings ‘Our Town’ to our campus

Mary Harwood
Times Writer

Aquinas College Theatre Program kicked off its season, its first in the new Performing Arts Center, with a production of Thornton Wilder’s Pulitzer Prize-winning play “Our Town.”

The three-set play centers around life in the small town of Grover’s Corners, New Hampshire. As the last of the set was raised, many in the audience to tears. The set was an incredible job in maturely capturing the audience’s full attention. The chums were having a lamenting tune as the lights slowly dimmed and darkened. As for sight, emphasis was brilliantly placed on the sounds: first, women’s seductive play of gurglings; then, sounds of a violent struggle; finally, a loud clatter of objects banging and visual floors. In a small theater that seats about 80, those noises were chillingly near.

Nyla Ria John Mark played the leading role of Hecuba, Queen of Troy. Her performance was entrancing. Whether she was convincing Ajax in Troilus and Cressida’s abdication, or bewailing at the top of her lungs for the dead, her voice was dignified and her actions were real. Her loud cries were chilling in their honesty and magnitude. Another notable performance was that of Cassandra, Hecuba’s daughter, played by Cassidie. Her scenes were complex. She goes crazy in the middle of the drama. Shiley performed for the complex emotions and more with each scream and her voice was bathed in tears when she went off. Intrigued by Euripides’ interest in the details of the human condition, she found purpose in the role of Cassandra. She used the voice of a man who is soon to be revealed as Bill. The scene ends with a gunshot to Uma’s head.

Forward fast four years to a pleasant suburban neighborhood.

This is where we find Uma engaged in one of the film’s most impressive and visually impressive fight sequences. The combat takes place between Mamba and Copperhead, an assassin played by Vivica A. Fox. Copperhead is also a member of the Deadly Viper Assassination Squad. Although this scene is impressive, it does tend to drag in certain places and Tarantino is known for his ability to hold the viewer’s attention in action sequences throughout his movie. So if you’re up for bloody action and beautiful women, this is definitely your movie.

‘Women of Troy’ adaptation adds modern touch

Joy Schafer
Times Writer

On Friday, Oct. 3, a lucky group of Aquinas College students carpooled to Western Michigan University to see “Women of Troy...Women of War.”

Presented by Western Michigan’s University Theater, the play was based on “Women of Troy,” the Greek tragedy by Euripides, but was adapted for and presented by the university theater.

The collaborators researched material written by Greek army. The Trojan men are either dead or gone, leaving only the women captives of the Greeks.

The first scene succeeded in capturing the audience’s full attention. The chums were having a lamenting tune as the lights slowly dimmed and darkened. With no ability for sight, emphasis was brilliantly placed on the sounds: first, women’s seductive play of gurglings; then, sounds of a violent struggle; finally, a loud clatter of objects banging and visual floors. In a small theater that seats about 80, those noises were chillingly near.

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The plays were off on a good note and Aquinas College sophomores Nina Croll and Caitlin Hart have been named among the “Young Audiences” and “Young Critics” for their work. These interesting additions often occurred during a scene from the Euripides text, which presented a higher degree of difficulty for the actors. They succeeded with aplomb in concentrating on their respective roles.

Some audience members, however, did not like the various quotations integrated into Euripides’ story. “The play was hard to fol­low because of the different situations incorporated into it,” Aquinas student LaTorre Taylor said. “It was more on a personal level as it seemed as if the object was to shock instead of to raise awareness.”

Aquinas College sophomore Anna Veinbergs disagreed. She said, “I think it was really powerful. The incorpo­ration of quotations from people who have experienced war made it easier for modern day people to understand the Euripides play.”

The performance was fascinating and heartbreaking overall. The collaborators did a magnificent job in maturely and effectively representing the complex subject matter. In doing so, they forced the audience to remember that war does exist, and that it has hor­rifying consequences.
In June 2003, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Texas’ sodomy law, ruling that it was an unconstitutional violation of privacy. The Court’s 6-3 decision reverses a ruling made 17 years ago that states could punish homosexuals for “deviant sex,” which has been used to combat gay rights.

The Court’s decision also came in 17 states, including Michigan, where there were sodomy laws for homosexuals as well as heterosexuals.

Joy Schaefer
Times Writer

October 15, 2003

Is America broken beyond repair?

Joy Schaefer
Times Writer

While channel surfing in my car, I paused briefly in the middle of the night for a quick look at a billion dollars just to keep our word, to the things we pretend. Is America broken? Uniquely, yes. But I am not referring to problems. Problems, even record numbers of problems, do not mean necessary breakage or even the dream of possibilities has become the terror of possibilities.

It seemed to me that the American Dream is dead, evidenced by the terrorist attack on American soil. Even out of context, this provocative question asks: Is America broken?

While we are used to being called junkies. We’re addicted. It is our disease. We view in the sanctuary of marriage, which guarantees all Americans the same rights and privileges as married people.

In November to consider a constitutional amendment restricting marriage to couples of the opposite sex. Because marriage laws in the U.S. are reserved for the states, many have been able to pass state-level banning same-sex marriages.

President Bush is currently formulating a plan to preserve rights to marriage by trying to restrict gay marriage on a federal level, he is supporting the ban on federal aid against states that would help pro-homosexual as well as heterosexual services.

The President’s 6-3 decision, defining marriage as “a legal union between one man and a woman...”

Congress, with the help of former President Bill Clinton, passed the Defense of Marriage Act (a.k.a. DOMA) in 1996, commencing the Federal battle against gay marriage. DOMA forbids the federal government from recognizing gay unions by defining marriage as “the legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife” and a spouse as “a person of the opposite sex.” It also declares that no state is required to recognize same-sex marriages performed in a different state. This is contrary to Section 1 of Article IV of the U.S. Constitution, which reads, “Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and Judicial Proceedings of every other State.”

At a White House news conference in July, Bush said, “I believe in the sanctity of marriage. I believe a marriage is between a man and a woman...”

The message from the Gospel of Matthew, “I am mindful that we all sinners, and I caution those who may try to speak the truth of the neighbor’s eye when they got a log in their own.” Considering that Bush believes on marriage and homosexuality stem from his Christian background. He has at least in the day his class learned about the most important of America’s founding principles.

If it is unclear to Bush why the separation of church and state is necessary in a free nation, allow me to explain: Individuals choose their own religions, but cannot choose their government. The government should treat people equally. The U.S. government is supposed to represent all Americans. When elected officials try to amend the Constitution based on religious grounds, there is no longer separation of church and state and the people’s right to choose their own religion and lifestyle is undermined.

We are used to being called second-class citizens, he is indicating that all people are created equal, maybe I learned this in grade school when we were taught the Declaration of Independence.

The President is a role model. When his words ostracize a certain group, he is indirectly encouraging discrimination, which inevitably leads to violence.

October 15, 2003

Letters to the Editor

Concerned about the liberal press
Re: Killing in the name of 9-11 victims - Oct. 1, 2003

I'm somewhat puzzled about your article which appeared in the Times of Oct. 1st. I could swear I read the same thing in the New York Times or saw Senator Thomas D'Amato deliver it in a speech at a Democratic Fundraiser.

Did you use these sources when composing your article?

I bet Saddam Hussein would be smiling if he could read your article.

GERALD R. LEWIS

In support of the military in Iraq
Re: Killing in the name of 9-11 victims - Oct. 1, 2003

While attending a recent volleyball match, I picked up a copy of the Times. I skimmed through until I read “Killing in the name of 9-11 victims.” After reading a few paragraphs, I could feel my blood pressure rising. I don’t know if it’s liberal academia, liberal media or a delusional household, but something has tainted your view of our world and the proper way to sustain American freedom.

In your description of “Bush’s wrongdoings,” you make it extremely clear that you prefer to defend against对我们 attacks on Americans within the United States or those who challenge our patronizing terror. He is a terrorist as is evident by torture/rape chambers and mass graves. Iraq did possess Weapons of Mass Destruction! Do you not consider the use of biological weapons on Kurdish Iraqis enough proof? I believe further weapons of mass destruction will be uncovered.

It happened that 9-11 occurred just as George W. Bush WINNING the presidency. It happened that 9-11 occurred when composing your article?

We need to lose our beloved military
delegation. It’s a difficult job, but will you allow to write your opinion in the Times? I believe it’s liberal academia, the liberal media or a delusional household.

I bet Saddam Hussein would be smiling if he could read your article.

TIM VANOELEEN
Veteran. Air Force

Reviewers should respect fellow students

I was taken aback reading Arts Editor Aeon Ogg’s malicious review of two of his fellow students’ recent performance at the Moose Cafe. His callous sarcasm may be appropriate for a high school underground newspaper, but not for the “journalistically-correct student publication” the Times professes to be. On one campus, one would expect students treat each other with a modicum of respect, not snide remarks for each others’ feelings.

You might be student partaking in any campus activity, knowing he might see a peer’s criticism — too embarrassing to be expressed face-to-face — appear in print?

Perhaps Mr. Ogg has never read Aquinas’ Vision Statement (“Aquinas strives to graduate students of competence, commitment...”) Perhaps he is unaware of Aquinas’ Mission (“...an inclusive educational community rooted in the Catholic Dominican tradition...”)

Perhaps he simply never listened to his mother (“You can’t say something nice, don’t say anything.”)

One could expect, however, that less philistine editors — or, as a last resort, the Times’ faculty advisor — would be familiar with such core values, would instill these values in the newspaper’s staff, and would intercept Mr. Ogg’s immature malice before allowing it to be disseminated in print. The First Amendment makes the Times’ publication of Mr. Ogg’s opinions illegal. Does the Aquinas community embrace principles that make such publication right?

Aquinas students have the rights, the resources, and the wherewithal to address any inequity they encounter. After the Aquinas curriculum, run for city

Mishaps but, you conventionally forgot to mention the obvious fact that the Aquinas Community population is predominantly female. As the Arts Editor you never gave Newarth/Voice credit for anything positive. You did not acknowledge the fact that their original lyrics contained a positive outlook.

Granted there were a few mishaps but their upbeat performance. You did not acknowledge that their original lyrics contained a positive outlook.

Instead of offering the group some helpful suggestions, you deliberately took low shots at James and Patrick as well as their performance. You also might have tried incorporating some positive feedback throughout your piece.

We all as individuals have different thoughts and opinions and I do respect yours, although I do not agree with the slander printed in the Aquinas Times.

As an Arts Editor I thought that you could appreciate the musical aspects of the performance since music is a tremendous section in the Aquinas Times.

I must have been mistaken when I applied to Aquinas College. I thought I was coming to a Catholic College in the Dominican tradition, which respects and encourages talent and initiative! Apparently, I am instead at a place where so-called “Arts Editors” feel free to use their sarcasm to tear down fellow members of the Aquinas Community.

CHRISTINA MCCULLOUGH
KRYSTY PRIVETT

Is America ready for a female President?
Re: Killing in the name of 9-11 victims - Oct. 1, 2003

America will prevail with or without your support. It illis me to think that we have so many unappreciative citizens living in this country, but I guess that is why this nation is unique. You are allowed to write your opinion in the school paper and assemble for those silly war protests. I will continue to support the military, the police, and the Honorable George W. Bush.

John A. Wallen, M.D.

Novak Drive deserves credit

On Sept. 18, 2003 there were no open seats at the Gashouse. In addition, Novak Drive performed at the talent show. Here they were voted number one. Where were you when this event was taking place, Mr. so called Arts Editor? Most likely you were out stalking other artists, considering the fact you know the facial expressions, of the members for Dave Matthews Band.

You say the attendance was mostly females, but you conveniently forgot to mention the obvious fact that the Aquinas Community population is predominantly female.

Is America ready for one? No. Should America have one? Of course. An answer of no would be that the women’s suffrage movement didn’t really matter much, and that though women comprise slightly more than half of America, they are not entitled to representation at the executive level. Even though this might seem an insane and illogical belief, it’s not as if it doesn’t exist.

One of the traditional arguments against the idea of a woman becoming president pertains to emotional stability. Patriarchy stands atop the mountain with its resonating, discerning base and says, “Menstrual cycles and national security don’t mix”—as if testosterone and national security. It is that same voice that, interestingly enough, can be heard fine-tuning the party platforms, making it more conductive—or less offensive, as the case may be—as WJC mothers and lesbians. It is that same voice that, in its quivering guise in the form of a plea, really says on its campaign tour: “We can’t wait to see what a woman, our parents and us believe in. We promise you won’t be disappointed!”

One of the consistent arguments against women is the idea that men are better suited to certain types of work. This is false. It is not even close to being a reason to stop women from becoming candidates. There are plenty of jobs that are not gender-specific. If anything, there are more jobs for men to fill in the future.

Is America ready for the first female president? Yes. If it were in the best interests of lobbyists to rally behind a woman presidential candidate, surely they would do it. However, though women in the last thirty or so years have managed to become more upwardly mobile, the idea that third-female-fifths in full swing has become a reality, is a little too new and too happy with their current state of affairs. It has been drastically overrated in its affects as it is undeniable that men still sit in the lion’s share of CEO, COO, and presidential chairs. Sadly, we are not yet’suburbanation still open­ing by boy’s club rules, rule No. 1 clearly stating “No girls allowed.”

Hillary has already said no to 2004, perhaps knowing what some of us only feel. America must rally behind her, perhaps our modern-day Nefertiti, in 2008.

The Female View

A female president. Just the combination of these words will make some men cringe and wince. Our American patriarchal society has brainwashed us into believing that any job of crucial leadership should be kept a man’s job—“Let the women do the typing.” Most men with this view are probably from an older generation and most likely were brought up going to male doctors, using a phone number where any girl was allowed to write your opinion in the Times. They might have tried incorporating some positive feedback throughout your piece.

We all as individuals have different thoughts and opinions and I do respect yours, although I do not agree with the slander printed in the Aquinas Times.

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KRISTY PRIVETT

Questions? Give us a call at 616-632-2975.

Letters to the Editor

The Corner

Got an opinion? Share it with us!

We want to hear what you have to say about anything and everything. Send your material to:

The Aquinas Times
1607 Robinson Rd. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Please sign your article. You must also include a phone number or e-mail address where you can reach you. Printed submissions will be paid.

Saints finish strong in Louisville Meet
Lady Saints take 3rd at Lansing CC

Leo Foley
Times Writer

On Sept. 27 the men’s and women’s cross country teams competed at the Greater Louisville Cross Country Classic. On the men’s side the meet featured some of the toughest competition of the entire season. It included perennial NAIA power Malone College, NCAA Division 1 schools Ohio and Louisville and the 6th ranked NCAA division 2 Wayne State. Nick Allen of Wayne State took individual honors while leading his team to the overall victory.

The Aquinas men’s team finished 8th in the 32 team, 324 runner field. Junior Josh May led the Saints with a 44th place finish in 26:35. The dynamic duo of Sophomores James Jones and Josh Miller finished less than a second apart in 52nd and 53rd places running 26:44. Senior Danny Wilkerson cruised across the line in 27:02 which earned him 70th place.

Freshman sensation Scott Assenmacher was the last scoring running for Aquinas finishing hard on Wilkerson’s heels with a 27:04. Freshman Chris Robertz was 6th for Aquinas in 27:25 which gave him a 94th place finish. Sophomore Jeff Leuhm rounded out the varsity with a 103rd place finish in 27:32.

A heavy downpour the night before the race led to some of the worst racing conditions the Saints have ever endured.

Aquinas easily outdistanced NAIA rivals Cedarville and Indiana Wesleyan and crushed WHAC archrival Cornerstone. The Saints who are currently ranked 10th nationally put a scare into 9th ranked Mid American Nazarene who finished just 50 points and one place in front of Aquinas. “We were fairly happy with the way we ran but we still have a lot of work to do before Nationals,” said junior Josh May.

The women’s team was handicapped by the loss of several key runners but still managed a 19th place finish in the team field. They were led by Junior Jenny Millis’s 87th place finish in 20:18. Sophomore Megan Lewis was right behind in 20:20 with a 95th place finish. Freshman Lisa Wojciakowski was third for the Lady Saints with a 106th place finish in 21:32. Junior Kelly Secord ran 21:38 to finish 4th for Aquinas. Junior Lucy Foley finished with a time of 22:40 in 221st.

The Aquinas women also competed at the Lansing Community College Invitation on Saturday Oct. 4. The team finished 3rd in the field of 5 teams. They edged out conference rival Siena Heights by 7 points. Freshman Kelsey Toedenbusch led the lady Saints with a time of 19:14. Sophomore Megan Lewis added another great race to her season with a 19:22 effort. Junior Kelly Secord ran 20:32 to finish 3rd for the Saints. Freshman Stacey Hoffman was right on her heels with a 20:37 finish. Freshman Lisa Wojciakowski contributed to team points with a 20:58 finish. “We ran some of our best races despite the conditions and are looking forward to competing with Spring Arbor and Siena Height at Conference and Regionals in a few weeks”, said sophomore Megan Lewis.

The Saints are back in action at the WHAC championship meet at Riverside Park on Oct. 25.

UPCOMING AQ SPORTS

Oct. 25
Cross Country WHAC Championship in Grand Rapids @ 12 noon

Oct. 28
Men’s Soccer vs. Cornerstone (HOME) @ 3 p.m.

Oct. 29
Women’s Soccer vs. Cornerstone (HOME) @ 3 p.m.

Nov. 4
Volleyball vs. Cornerstone (HOME) @ 7 p.m.

Nov. 8
Cross Country NAIA Regional Championships in Grand Rapids @ 12 noon

Nov. 10
Men’s Basketball Home Opener vs. Davenport @ 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 11
Volleyball WHAC Tournament First Round-BBA

SCORES
Men’s Soccer
Oct. 5 vs. Saginaw Valley State L 1-4
Oct. 7 vs. Indiana Tech L 0-3

Women’s Soccer
Oct. 8 vs. Indiana Tech L 1-3

Volleyball
Oct. 7 vs. Madonna L 3-0
Oct. 9 vs. U of M-Dearborn W 3-0
Oct. 11 vs. Kalamazoo L 1-3

ADVERTISEMENT

August 29, 2003

Dr. Harry Knopke, President
Aquinas College
1607 Robinson Rd., SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Dear Harry:

I just wanted to share with you briefly how thrilled I was this past week standing in front of Alger Elementary School to watch nine full bus loads of Aquinas freshmen roll in to spend the afternoon helping the school prepare for the upcoming school year.

What an enthusiastic, good looking, bunch of dedicated students! What excellent leadership they had! I believe the leader’s name was Eric and he did an outstanding job with the college students. They were organized, enthusiastic, and productive and they had a good time to boot.

We are thankful for not only this annual act of service for our schools and our kids, but our ongoing relationship and perhaps most importantly for the wonderful product and wonderful teachers you send us year after year through your excellent programs.

With much respect,

Bert R. Bleke
Superintendent of Schools