Financial turmoil rocks AQ Senate

Rob Antecki
Times Writer

Recent financial turmoil in the Senate has caused distress among many members of campus clubs and organizations. This year, the Senate has a total budget of $172,130 to allocate, down from approximately $180,000 last year. The Senate budget comes from an activity fee which is a percent of full-time student tuition. The money as she worked with Chair of the new school year. The Senate bylaws and suggestions from the public before making final decisions on changes, which will start in October, the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Although there were concerns among Senate and club members that Senate bylaws had been bypassed because the budget committee had not approved this year's budget, Overmire said that there is no provision in the bylaws requiring this. Murphy addressed concerns about departmental groups such as Alpha Theta being funded while allocations to Service Learning were cut.

Grand Rapids passes five-year millage to enhance Rapid transportation system

Lisa Gast
News Editor

A vote passed last week on a five-year millage increase to pay for the expansion of services provided by The Rapid, Grand Rapids' public transit system. Voters in the six cities served by The Rapid approved the increase by almost a 2-1 margin. The widest margin of victory, nearly 3-1, came in East Grand Rapids.

"What that says about the people's concern for public transportation is very gratifying to me," said Grand Rapids mayor-elect George Heartwell. "For people to vote 'yes' for a tax increase in those numbers—it feels so good."

James Bick, the mayor of Grandville, was also pleased the measure passed, and attributed it to improvements. The Rapid made since the last election. "I think in our city people can really see all the people riding the bus," he said. "I was very pleased with the way we turned this around."

Sam Cummings, a resident of East Grand Rapids, supported the millage increase: "Every thing we do centers on moving cars under the false supposition that everyone has access to cars or a car and that is simply not the case," he said.

Not all residents support The Rapid, however. "If it's such a good idea, and people are using it so much, why not raise the fees to support it?" said Grand Rapids resident Craig Stevens. "Is it government's job to provide buses for everybody?"

The increase will amount to almost $9 million, and will be used to improve the frequency of pick-ups, expanding evening service, and adding new routes. The board governing The Rapid will seek comments and suggestions from the public before making final decisions on changes, which will start in October, the beginning of the next fiscal year.
Dean draws criticism over Confederate comment

Recently, Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean caused political outcry by saying he wants to be "the candidate for guys with Confederate flags in their pickup trucks" during a newspaper interview.

One other Democratic candidate saw a potential opportunity to weaken Dean's popularity and quickly jumped on top of his statement. Joe Lieberman claimed Dean was "irresponsible and reckless," John Kerry said he was attempting to "pander to lovers of the Confederate flag," and Al Sharpton criticized Dean and said, "You can't bring a college football flag to the table of brotherhood." Of course, none of these candidates really believes that Dean is a Confederate-flag waving racist, they are just trying to create this impression to undermine him and further their own. Even when Dean later clarified his statement, he was still met with strong opposition from the candidates.

In a debate last week, Dean explained his earlier remarks and said, "[It the Confederate flag] is a racist symbol but I also think the Democratic Party has to be a big tent," and said he thinks the party needs to connect more with Southern voters in order to sway them to the Democratic side.

However, candidate John Edwards, also a Senator from North Carolina, still had harsh words for Dean. "Let me tell you, the last thing we need in the South is somebody like you coming down and telling us what we need to do," said Edwards.

In this collaborated effort by the other Democratic candidates to undermine Dean, a front-runner in the polls, the other eight candidates are missing the big picture - what he said (though poorly worded) is essentially true. Dean realized a long time ago that to win, a candidate must appeal to a broad range of voters. With his recent statement, Dean was not necessarily saying he wants Southern white supremacists as a constituent base, he was implying that a change needs to take place because the Democrats have a history of alienating many poor Southern voters who might find they benefit more from the economic policies of the Democrats, but vote Republican because of other issues. With this idea, Dean believes that despite his liberal positions on most issues, his support for the death penalty and gun ownership rights will make him appealing to Southern voters who might otherwise vote Republican.

However, some Democrats are worried about the ability of the party to unite around Dean if he becomes the Democratic nominee. They say he is too far to the left on some issues and too far to the right on others for the party to be able to rally around him.

With all their uproar and criticism of Dean's statement, the other Democratic presidential candidates risk making all Southerners believe their votes aren't wanted. However, the eight can be certain of one thing if Dean doesn't win the Democratic primary; the "guys with Confederate flags in their pickup trucks" won't be voting Democrat any time soon.

The AQ Democrats, in their second year, had allocations increased to $500, while AQ Republicans had allocations lowered to $500 from approximately $700, according to Overmire. This was done in order for the two groups to receive an equal amount of allocations.

The Programming Board's allocation increased from $41,834.11 to under $75,000, even though the Senate has less money to work with this year than last. According to Overmire, the increase was made in order to adhere to bylaws requiring that they receive 23 percent of the budget available for clubs and organizations.

The AQ Democrats have a history of alienating many poor Southern voters who might find they benefit more from the difficulties that because of our lower enrollment than anticipated, they have less money to work with.

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AQ students revel in Halloween fun

Megan O’Strander
Times Writer

From imagination to words: Leslie Ullman shares her poetry at Wege Ballroom on Oct. 30. From imagination to words: Leslie Ullman shares her poetry at Wege Ballroom on Oct. 30.

Ullman is the author of three poetry collections and has won numerous awards including the Iowa Poetry Prize and two National Endowment grants. She also teaches at the University of Texas. The presentation was very well attended and Ullman seemed to captivate the attention of the audience with her work.

Ullman uses nature in her poetry quite frequently. Freshman Mandy Turner said, “She relates the elements of nature to the elements of life. They are one in the same within her writing.” Ullman shared many poems at the presentation and her appreciation for nature and the beauty of the world were clearly evident. Not only did Ullman read her poems, she also shared the stories behind them. This helped give listeners a better and more complete understanding of her approach to the topic.

St. Rosemary O’Donnell, Assistant Professor of Communication, shared her opinion: “I liked the way she revealed how she got the ideas for her poems. Her source of inspiration was from the interaction in her classroom on a daily basis. She was able to weave that into beautiful poetry.”

Ullman discusses everyday things in her poetry, yet she uses her imagination to describe them in a way that makes them seem like an entirely different idea. Brad Winkler, Dean of students, said, “I was struck with her ability to put together the language in a way that sparks the imagination.” He added, “While many of us are more factual and concrete, she turns ‘ordinary’ things into ‘extraordinary’ things.”

Ullman shared her poem “The Water Music,” which described the expressions of men dancing with their new brides. The poem complimented the happy man who can look despite the fact he is kissing the Presbyterian church good-bye! In the poem “Hot Flash Continuum,” she describes “the longing for a walk-in freezer,” which proved quite humorous to many listeners.

After the poetry reading, Ullman received questions and comments. This allowed her to share more of her work and hear from fans. Through her presentation, Ullman gave Aquinas listeners a creative glimpse of her life.

Help us cover the student body.

(Write for the Aquinas Times.)

Contact aqtimes_editor@aquinas.edu

BRIEFS

Episcopalians install first openly gay bishop

Following much debate, two weeks ago Episcopalians consecrated openly gay cleric V. Gene Robinson as a bishop—a first for any major Christian denomination.

The consecration was viewed as a major turning point by gay activists as well as U.S. Episcopalians and Anglicans worldwide. There have been gay bishops in the past, but all were closeted when they were elected to their posts. Robinson has been open about the relationship with his male partner of 14 years and was elected to the new post.

Outside the event, 11 members of the anti-gay Rev. Fred Phelps’ Westboro Baptist Church joined the demonstration against Robinson’s consecration. They were met by another group of Kansas demonstrators holding signs saying “Gay fine by me.”

Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams said Saturday that he believes divisions within the worldwide Anglican Communion over Robinson’s selection will eventually heal.

Last month, the 37 top bishops of the world’s 77 million Anglicans voted to affirm the faith’s tradition of only marrying heterosexual couples.

Indians terrorized by monkey threat

Residents of New Delhi are concerned for their safety as legions of monkeys have overrun the streets and government buildings of the capital of India. The relentless Rhesus macaques continue to destroy important files, tear down power lines, shriek at visitors and bang on office windows.

“India believes monkeys are manifestations of the monkey god Hanuman, and worshipers come to Raisina Hill on Tuesdays to hang out bananas. It’s a big problem, especially in the evening,” Defense Ministry spokesman Amritpal Singh said.

The monkeys are rampaging through Delhi daily, terrorizing residents as legions of monkeys have overrun the streets and government buildings of the capital of India. The relentless Rhesus macaques continue to destroy important files, tear down power lines, shriek at visitors and bang on office windows.

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Bloody week for coalition, Red Cross pulls out

In a difficult week for coalition troops, thirty-seven U.S. soldiers and one Polish soldier died last week in Iraq. Only one of the thirty-seven Americans was killed in a non-hostile incident.

Two soldiers were killed Saturday when their vehicle ran over a homemade bomb on a main highway about 30 miles west of Baghdad. Another soldier was killed when an explosive device hit a mounted convoy in Baghdad Saturday night.

Officials think a surface-to-air missile brought down a Black Hawk helicopter near Tikrit last Friday, killing all six troops aboard.

Sunday, Nov. 2, a Chinook helicopter was shot down, killing 15 soldiers in the crash. One more died of injuries later in the week.

The increased violence in Iraq has led Red Cross officials to decide to temporarily close offices in Baghdad and Bana. “We remain determined to maintain active in Iraq,” said Red Cross spokesman Florian Westphal, adding the agency would monitor the security situation “day-by-day.”

Last month the Red Cross reduced international staff in Iraq after two staff members and 10 other people were killed in a car bomb attack on its offices in Baghdad.

Compiled by Aaron Ogg and Lisa Gast
The Strokes reinvigorate rock 'n' roll

By Wes Creager

Times Writer

November 12, 2003

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**'Ziggy Stardust' transcends generations**

**Joy Schafer**
Times Writer

Bowie—the man—stands out better than images to mind. Why has David Bowie persisted over four decades to be a part of the cultural fabric? He is the king of chameleons—he has matched himself in his ability to constantly change his personal musical styles and images. With over 25 albums under his belt, including his recent album “The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars.” A unique compilation of conceptually linked songs, it is an example of music at its best. With the first two drumbeats of “Five Years,” the listener is taken to an androgynous world permeated by fantasy, glamour, angst, lust, and Space Age prophecies.

“Moonage Daydream” begins with a lone guitar riff immediately followed by Bowie’s unusually soothing voice, “I am an agitator.” Later in the song, he continues, “I’ll be a rock ‘n’ rollin’ biff for you.” Bowie proclaims his full submission to music with his engaging background—what more does a confused, rebellious teenager need? Soothing acoustic guitar chords combine with the album’s best-known track. During this soft passage, the title character proclaims, “Let the children lose it. Let the children lose it. / Let the children lose it / Let all the children boogie.”

These carefully crafted lyrics accompanied by an ambiguously medley of sounds make for a vibrant and unforgettable song. “Lady Stardust” is a beautifully tragic track that describes the struggles, humiliations and triumphs of Ziggy Stardust, an altogether male singer in a rock band. The song magically transports the listener to Ziggy’s world with poetic imagery and mellow sounds.

“Ziggy Stardust” is the Opus song. Continuing the delightfully bizarre story of the singer’s struggles, it makes excellent use of musical juxtaposition—the slow, angst-ridden melody changes to a fast, electrifying chorus. At the song’s climax, Bowie emphatically wails, “Making love to his ego / Ziggy sucked up into his mind / Like a leper mental.” This strange diion structure succeeds in producing vivid, lingering images.

The song prophetically concludes, “When the kids had killed the man / I had to break up the band.” As Ziggy Stardust died, Bowie’s incarnation of him died as well. He performed as Ziggy for the last time on July 7, 1973 at the Hammersmith Odeon Theatre in London. “Ziggy Stardust” permanently altered music and pop culture. It paved the way for open bisexuality in art. It influenced rock giants like Lou Reed and heavily influenced shock rockers such as Marilyn Manson. There is no doubt that Bowie’s spiky hair and made-up face motivated the punk genre.

More recently, “Ziggy” has inspired avant-garde filmmakers like “Hedwig and the Angry Inch” and “Velvet Goldmines,” which seems loosely based on the Ziggy saga. "Ziggy Stardust" is classic. It echoes the avant-garde feelings of teenage angst and anticipation in a truly distinctive way. The fusion of acoustic and electric guitar, the soft piano, the shrill cries of a youthful voice; these aspects make for an unforgettable recording of a glam rock pioneer’s most daring and illustrous phase. With "Ziggy," Bowie transformed the world from boring to beautiful.

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**Flowers for Algernon raises disability issues**

Emily Johnson
Times Writer

The Aquinas College Theatre Department is scheduled to perform a play based on Daniel Keyes’s book, “Flowers for Algernon,” directed by fifth-year senior and Charlie Monique Hayes of Aquinas College.

Hayes, who has directed three other ACT productions, says she chose “Flowers” for its message, “It’s about relating to those with disabilities as less than human,” Hayes said. “In a way, performing the play is a call for more advocacy.”

Hayes explained that “Disasters” demonstrates certain stereotypes and negative behavior associated with attributes regarding his character, Charlie. However, don’t let the seriousness of the topic get you down. “Flowers” is a touching story laden with laughter and love as well. The story is about Charlie, 32, who has lived in sort of a mental twilight his whole life. He feels knowledge is important and has learned to read and write to a certain extent, but he also knows that he isn’t nearly as bright as most of the people around him.

An experimental brain operation that promises to triple his intelligence below his head (IQ) is currently undergoing public debate. What is the future of those who have undergone this operation? Over the top by scratching the truth, making questionable generalizations, and mixing up in a chapter titled “Mike’s Quick and Easy Guide to Preventing Terrorist Attacks,” he suggests, “When attempting to assassinate the president of Cuba, make sure you get the right kind of exploding cigar.”

“Dude, Where’s My Country?” is amazing at times and can be persuasive. In his attempt to be comical and advance his liberal agenda, Moore sometimes goes over the top by scratching the truth, making questionable generalizations, and mixing up. In a chapter titled “Mike’s Quick and Easy Guide to Preventing Terrorist Attacks,” he suggests, “When attempting to assassinate the president of Cuba, make sure you get the right kind of exploding cigar.”

According to Williams, the whole cast is supportive and friendly, and all contributing to boost his confidence. A free performance will be held Nov. 19 for up to 400 area middle school children at Aquinas’s new Performing Arts Center. The Psychology Club has collaborated with coordinators of the event to increase awareness of issues concerning handicapped people. A "talk-back" session is scheduled at the conclusion of the performance during which issues concerning the disabled will be discussed. The Psychology Club is preparing informative literature to include with the programs.

Performances are Nov. 20-22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Aquinas College Performing Arts Center. Prices are $8 for students, $6 for staff, faculty, Dominican sisters, and seniors, $8 for the general public. Seating is general admission. For general information, contact the Box Office at 456-6656.

For more information about the free performance for children, contact Amy Westphal at 632-1122.
Binge drinking has plagued college campuses for about as many years as they have existed; and though there has been a slight decrease over the recent years in the number of students who actually drink, the number of drinks consumed has increased. According to a survey done by the Harvard School of Public Health, 2 of out 5 college students admitted to binge drinking at least 3 times in the past 2 weeks. The study defined binge drinking as the consumption of five or more drinks in a row for men, and four or more for women.

Different types of incidents resulting from excessive drinking include unplanned sexual activity, rape, sexual coercion, vandalism, fights, prejudiced encounters and death. Nearly all of these problems, including the great majority of all sexual ones, have been reported as influenced by alcohol consumption. The consistent consequences of binge drinking on college campuses are, to say the least, problematic.

Of all the college students who drink, which most surveys have reported as being around 40 to 50 percent, almost all of them are occasional to frequent binge drinkers. Obviously, there is something that needs to be dealt with here.

Alcohol, by itself, is not dangerous. Nor is having one or two drinks supposing one is not driving, on a prescription, on painkillers, or under the influence of any other drugs. It is evident that when nearly a bit under half of all college students in the United States are drinking to get drunk, this is going to cause a lot of danger. Which brings up the desperate question: What is the cause of all this binge drinking?

Irresponsibility as a social movement in America could be the explanation; and it is prevalent not only in pop culture but also in the supposed role models of today’s children, their parents, who are now getting divorced more than ever. This is probably a large contributing factor, but it only represents an abstract idea or disposition and not a specific example like those in pop culture.

With “Animal House,” the front runner classic college-aimed comedy about not having to face the consequences of one’s actions, there has been a steady flow of movies both glorifying and exaggerating drinking and reckless antics for entertainment; the likes of “Old School” and “Can’t Hardly Wait.” Though I cannot say these movies aren’t enjoyable, they do provide a quite concrete example as to how to have fun in college. I am not insinuating that if these movies were never made that binge drinking would disappear. I am saying, however, that it cannot be denied that entertainment, television especially, is starting to become emulated by society, instead of the other way around. Which makes sense because we are now starting on the second generation in America where nearly all children are being raised on television; a source of information that is no longer required by censure to become emulated by society, instead of the other way around. Which makes sense being raised on television; a source of information that is no longer required by censure to become emulated by society, instead of the other way around.

The drinking laws themselves could possibly be causing great harm as well. For instance, 18-year-old citizens in the U.S. are regarded as “adults,” but they are not allowed legally buy or consume alcohol. This provides a three year period of “limbo,” between alleged adulthood, and complete adulthood; a period of time where most children move out on their own.

Now we have indirectly taught irresponsibility, directly taught irresponsibility via the media, and a law questioning the responsibility of citizens that now consider themselves adults. This seems to me, like the perfect recipe for intentional, rebellious law breaking.

What is more dangerous about the 18 to 21 rights gap is the fact that the many college students that do drink are also going to extreme measures not to get caught drunk. When one cannot sleep or stay somewhere for fear of certain consequences, it might then seem logical to take a risk at something with worse consequences but a better chance of getting away with, driving drunk.

So now we have a mess of laws, ideas and cultural notions that don’t seem to be contributing very much positive reinforcement towards the forthcoming leaders of our country. As well as the deeply embedded notion that the amount of consumption equates to the amount of happiness in the core ethics of our culture. I think somebody needs to act a little more responsibly before any steps can be taken to start preventive measures against such destructive behavior.
The real deal behind binge drinking

A 1999-2000 survey of Aquinas College students showed that one third of students engage in hazardous drinking activities — binge drinking, drinking while taking any type of medication, and while pregnant.

Although binge drinking is often associated with larger schools that have a reputation for wild parties and prolific amounts of alcohol, these statistics show that this potentially dangerous activity can occur at every school.

The same survey showed that while many students engage in these behaviors, two thirds of students do not drink or drink moderately. This fact belies the common misconception that "everybody does it."

According to statistics from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and SAMHSA's national clearinghouse for drug information, binge drinking begins as young as age 13 for some. Fifteen percent of youths between the ages of 12 and 20 have engaged in binge drinking, and among college students, nearly half of those of those surveyed had reported recent binge drinking episodes. This number was drastically higher among those who lived in fraternity or sorority houses.

Sociology professor Dr. Suzanne Van Weelde does not see a major difference between the drinking that occurs today as compared to that which occurred when she was in school. "Alcohol was not a big thing. We drank on the weekends at parties and at the dances and such...it was more accepted than it is now," she said. Van Weelde suggested that the difference is in the public awareness of alcohol consumption and its effects. Current laws such as zero-tolerance and fines for under-age sellers are stricter than former restrictions, in addition to programs that help people deal with alcoholism.

Sophomore Dillin David Young has experienced binge drinking firsthand: "I know several people, including myself, who have participated in binge drinking during the school year[s]. I drank a fifth and a half of straight vodka one night in about 2-3 hours. Needless to say, I was out of it for the next few days."

Junior Harry Rogers suggested that binge drinking is simply not a big deal. "I have binge drank [sic] before. It was amusing to say the least. I could feel part of my brain going numb and I was having fun with it."

Young explained that peer pressure was not a part of his decision to drink heavily, but suggested that a variety of factors can push students to engage in binge drinking, such as depression, dares, and uninhibited atmosphere at parties. "I have not quit drinking, however, I only drink maybe a few shots."

Rogers agreed that peer pressure was not a factor in his decision and suggested that the social aspect of drinking can also be attractive, "I noticed that people are much more friendly when they are drunk (as bad as that is), but I noticed up-tight people are relatively laid back after a beer or two."

Young said that he experienced undesirable consequences from binge drinking. "I got sick and had to work the next day. I lost my job as a cook because they said I was a risk...I did it to show [that] I could hold my liquor. I proved I did, but I will never drink that much again, now that I know what the repercussions are."

With all the media attention given to combating the problem of drugs and alcohol, when asked which of these two activities Van Weelde felt was a bigger problem among college students, she said, "Alcohol is a legal drug, but it's still something that alters your state of mind, so basically, it is a drug. As far as I'm concerned, I think that we've gone overboard. I think it's ridiculous that marijuana is not legalized, I don't think that marijuana is that much more damaging than alcohol."

She said that during the time when she was in school, drug use was the major activity. "Having pot and LSD was a much bigger deal [than alcohol] during that time, to be totally honest. I think it was more out in the open than it is now, but that's because you're talking about a time when the country was going through a revolution of sorts, questioning authorities."

There is a wide range of views on binge drinking among students, the general public, and even those in the medical community. These differing views range from the definition of the phenomena to social and health consequences of binge drinking. "There was no real consequence, which doesn't mean that I will or will not do it again," said Rogers.

"[Young people] are going to experiment, they're going to rebel and they're going to look for a new identity. They're going to find some method to do it, no matter what, because that's part of human nature," said Van Weelde.
Should Sex Ed be taught in public schools?

The Male View

For me, it brings back memories of sitting with a bunch of my guy friends in the back of my room, cracking up every time a teacher said penis or vagina. Strangely, that is one of the only things I remember about the class—which is why the sex ed curriculum of today needs to be changed.

Recently, a 12-year-old female was caught performing oral sex on a 14-year-old in the back of a classroom during class (although grades were not said, it would seem logical that they were between the grades six and eight). This made me think back to my days in eighth grade, and it made me realize that both of the aforementioned kids were most likely in seventh grade—before any "formal" sex education.

Clearly, this should show a distinct problem with our current sex education program—it wasn't too late to be of any help for those who decided to pursue sexual gratification at a very young age. Kids in this age are starting to have sex at a younger age, and the school systems need to incorporate sex education into the curriculum based on this trend. The best way to prevent sex or any form of it from happening, is to educate and stress the dangers that lie within any form of sex.

In addition, the curriculum should be adjusted to fit the current trends and feelings. People are going to have sex, regardless of education or feelings. I agree fully that abstinence should be the main form of prevention stressed, however, that shouldn't be the only method stressed in the classroom. There are kids, as said before, that are going to have sex and they deserve the right to know what prevention methods to use and which would be appropriate.

Playing down sex education is not the answer to preventing sex amongst children. Sex education needs to become more aggressive in terms of focusing on sex and preventive methods, as well as occurring earlier in a child's school system to become a truly effective program.

The Female View

In recent years, there has been discussion about replacing sex education in schools with abstinence education. I think that this move would be a mistake.

I'm not against abstinence education. It's important to teach teenagers about the benefits of abstinence and to encourage them to wait until marriage to have sex, but the fact is that many teenagers are engaging in sexual activity without any knowledge of the consequences. Teenagers desperately need to incorporate sex education into the curriculum based on this trend. The best way to prevent sex or any form of it from happening, is to educate and stress the dangers that lie within any form of sex.

While I believe that sex education is important, I also believe that parents should ultimately have the right to decide what they want their children to know about sex. Many parents oppose sex education for various reasons. Since most teenagers are at least curios about sex, I think it is a mistake to withhold information about sex from them, but parents should have the right to do so if they think that it is best for their children. Therefore, I would suggest an optional sex education class in high schools, in which schools send notes home to the parents to inform them about when the class is taking place and what will be discussed during that time. Parents can sign the slip and send it back to tell the school if they would like their children to participate or not.

Regardless of whether sex education becomes required or optional in schools, I do not think that it should be prohibited. If teens do not acquire knowledge about safe sex in school, they will most likely seek it out from less reliable sources, or worse, engage in sexual activity without any knowledge of the consequences. Teenagers deserve to have access to this information that they both want and need to know in order to avoid STDs and pregnancy.

Gender Corner

Voting: A privilege and a challenge

Law continues to make voting difficult for students

Curtis R. Burdette
Editor in Chief

The current voting law in Michigan presents difficulty for students at Aquinas and they live away from home. Registered voters who are unable to return to their hometown must complete an absentee ballot in order to vote or else change their address on their driver's license and register in the district where the campus is located at least 30 days before the election.

The problem began in 1999 when the Michigan legislature passed Public Act 118 that requires the town on a driver's license to match that of the voting district, causing difficulties for students who attend school away from home. Former Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Rogers, now a U.S. Representative, sponsored the bill.

The Republican legislator suggested that the idea behind the law was to help reduce voter fraud in Michigan and prevent temporary residents from interfering with local elections. However, Democrats express concern that PA-118 would make it more difficult for students to vote and suggested that students who live at school affect the local economy and should be allowed to participate in local elections.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau, college age Americans are the least likely to vote. Only 45.4 percent of people between the ages of 18-24 were registered to vote in the November 2000 election. Out of the registered voters in that group, only 54.6 percent actually voted on Election Day. Students should be encouraged to vote; instead the Michigan legislature enacted a barrier that prevents students living away from home from the convenience of voting in the district where they reside nine months out of the year.

Groups at Aquinas have worked to encourage voting by setting up tables and providing election information for students. In a recent Student Senate meeting, Committee Chair of Political Affairs Justin Meyers encouraged Aquinas students to be aware of PA-118 and to consider following in the example of other groups by denouncing the law. After the law passed, attempts to challenge PA-118 were unsuccessful; however, students continue to speak out against the act.

The central student government of the University of Michigan recently passed a resolution voting to remove the barriers that prevent students from voting in the district where they attend school. Last year, the Association of Michigan Universities unanimously passed a resolution opposing Public Act 118. AMU is a student-run organization representing all 15 of the state's public universities. In 2000, the Calvin Student Senate passed a similar resolution to deliver the message to the state government that students should have a voice in elections.

Rogers insisted that the legislation was not bipartisan politics, despite Democrats often winning elections with higher voter turnout. Democratic groups and the ACLU continue to lobby for an amendment to PA-118 that would strike the requirement that voter registration can only be allowed in the hometown shown on a voter's driver's license. However, it may be Republicans who have the most to gain from removing the residency restriction from the act.

In a recent Harvard University poll, it was discovered that Republican college students outnumber Democrats. In a survey of 1202 college students, the study found that 61 percent give President George W. Bush a positive approval rating while 38 percent disapprove. A recent poll of Americans that found the general public was evenly split on the President's job performance.

Also in the college poll findings, nearly 31 percent identified themselves as Republicans, 27 percent as Democrats, 38 percent as independent and 4 percent chose not to reveal their political affiliation. While the largest group considered themselves neither Republican nor Democrat, they gave Bush a higher approval rating than the general public, which could offer Republicans an edge in keeping majorities in the Michigan and U.S. legislatures.

Currently students away from home are discouraged from voting by the extra steps involved in picking up an absentee ballot, completing it and returning it.

Students can file for a change of address at the Secretary of State's office and register to vote in the district where their campus is located. However, some students have faced problems with remaining on the health and auto insurance policies of their parents once they legally change their address.

Until Michigan resolves the problems with PA-118 students must take extra steps to vote on Election Day. Perhaps the Granholm administration will listen to the concerns with the law and persuade the Republican-controlled legislature to pass an amendment. Maybe Republicans will realize that they are abandoning a future generation of voters or perhaps students will have to unite and fight for the right to vote.

Looking to make $$$

Students interested in contributing to The Aquinas Times should contact our office at: aqtimes_editor@aquinas.edu

 Writers, photographers, artists and staff positions are available.

CORRECTION

In the Oct. 15, 2003 issue of The Aquinas Times the article titled "U.S. Supreme Court reaffirms student's right to free expression" should have read "U.S. District Court reaffirms student's right to free expression."
When Bush signed this bill, he also signed the death sentence of countless women.

-Joy Schaefer

The first step towards an anti-choice nation

Joy Schaefer
Times Writer

On Nov. 5, President Bush signed a bill enacting a ban on "partial-birth" abortion. The first significant restriction on abortion rights since the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 Roe vs. Wade in 1973. The Supreme Court ruled three years ago that a Nebraska state law banning "partial-birth" abortion was unconstitutional.

While the ban on this procedure does not legally penalize women who have the operation, doctors who violate the ban will face up to two years in prison.

Doctors perform about 2,200 "partial-birth" abortions every year, and defenders of the procedure say it is used in extreme circumstances. "Partial-birth" abortion, a term coined by anti-abortion activists, is a type of medical abortion after the second or third trimester of pregnancy. It consists of the doctor using forceps to pull the fetus part way out of the vagina before puncturing the skull and sucking out the brain.

Opponents of the procedure believe that it is inhumane and barbaric. While this method may be an undesirable way to abort a fetus, it is nevertheless a medical abortion procedure. The ban removes a woman's right to end her second or third trimester pregnancy as her doctor recommends. The American Civil Liberties Union labels the activities as "anti-choice." The organization is right in doing so. Anti-abortion proponents hold an anti-choice philosophy, which implies that individuals should not have control over their own bodies or minds. Their philosophy, perhaps, infers that someone other than the state should do a person's thinking for him.

The week before the president signed the bill into law, he said that the ban is one practical step toward reducing the number of abortions in America and building "a culture of life." This law is the first step to banning abortion altogether. Any regulation of an individual's rights gives the government more freedom and the people less. In this case, the law undermines a woman's right to privacy, personal choice and health.

According to an Oct. 2 Fox News report, Nancy Northup, president of the Center for Reproductive Rights, said the law is so inclusive that any mid- or late-term abortion procedure could be criminalized. When a law's wording is this inclusive, it verges on being all-inclusive.

This law, only the second to be enacted, has already been convicted, it will be a frightening future, it also influences the present. As legislation affects every person in the U.S., it is important to consider the harm this ban will cause to individual women. There are women who will choose not to have the procedure because of the law. These women may have wanted to save a child from being born into poverty. Others might have chosen to have a late-term abortion in order to protect their health. The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act makes no exemption for a woman whose health is at risk by carrying a pregnancy to term. Pregnant teenagers may be too confused or ashamed to talk about their pregnancy with an adult and, because of this delay, may wait to have an abortion until their second trimester. With this law in effect, they will be forced to either keep or give up an unwanted child, both of which are emotionally and physically painful choices.

Some women may find doctors who are willing to perform the operation. These doctors, unhappily, will be subjected to time in prison. When Bush signed this bill, he also signed the death sentence of countless women. Some women may choose to have the procedure with the help of an unrelated person and, as a result, may die, contract a disease or become unable to reproduce in the future.

Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act robs a woman of her right to choose what is done to her body. A woman owns her property. Therefore, this ban takes away a woman's constitutional right to choose what is done to her property. The ban steals a woman's inherent right to privacy. The president has the doctor's right to provide care as he or she thinks will best benefit the mother's life and health.

Neither Congressmen nor the president should presume that they know more than the medical professionals who perform this procedure.

A district court judge in Nebraska imposed a temporary injunction on the law within one hour of the president's signing it. On Nov. 6, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York blocked the enforcement.

Furthermore, the ACLU filed a suit on behalf of the National Abortion Federation, the professional association of abortion providers in North America. If the ACLU succeeds, it will be a tremendous victory for the women and men of this nation who do not want the government to make their personal choices.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sexual harassment claims shouldn't be taken lightly


Your news editor, Lisa Gast, seems to be in such a rush to accuse liberals of hypocrisy that she fails to recognize the important distinction between consensual sex and grabbing a woman you don't even know without her knowledge, let alone her consent. These acts of Schwarzenegger's constitute sexual battery.

To dismiss Arnold's behavior as "behaving badly" as she phrased it, is to downplay its seriousness and, more importantly to avoid taking responsibility for what he did. Further, Lisa should get her facts straight if she wishes to editorialize.

The Aquinas Times has worked diligently for the past 23 years to produce an informative, entertaining and journalistically-correct student publication. Our goal is to continue to provide a forum for the ideas, views and concerns of the Aquinas community. The Aquinas Times is distributed by students at Aquinas College, 1607 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

Signed editors 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 Student Center or preferably via e-mail at aquinas_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 for accuracy, content and length. Letters should not exceed 300 words. No anonymous letters will be published.


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The Aquinas Times

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Questions? Give us a call at 616-632-2975.
Winning on the field doesn't make up for being a loser off the field

While sitting and watching a group of Aquinas athletes get high and drunk one Tuesday night, the question of athletes as role models came into mind. But then again when I sit at a church on Saturday and see teenagers shaving their heads, or with great excitement, browsing the balcony, or go to sporting events on campus and see athletes from an array of sports coming out to support each other, my view shifts again.

Some athletes claim "they only come to play," while others truly believe their actions off the field are just as powerful as those on the field. "Being a role model is an obligation that comes along with being an athlete," said student Justin Smith, former Aquinas Baseball player. Whether athletes are wearing their jersey or not, they represent the team they play for in some way. Whether it is 10 players in the 1996-97 season of the NFL had been formally charged of the male population played sports. Collegiate athletes are 50 way dismiss the problems some athletes are creating in collegiate males on campus to graduate, women basketball players nation­els they should be, it will take not only a change in the mentality of the athletes, but also a change in the way all sports are being portrayed in the media.

"It's not just a tune-up game for them today," Perry said. "This is sure to launch him into the Heisman Trophy. If Perry continues to run with aggressiveness and passion like he has been doing, Wolverine fans may see the first Heisman Trophy brought back to Ann Arbor since Charles Woodson did it in 1997."

The Saints had lost their first regular season game with a 3-2 loss at Aquinas Tech 22-10 but could not get past the incredible goalkeeping of Junior Erica de Longpre. In the sixth minute of the game freshman Katie Schmuck scored her ninth goal of the season to win the game for the Lady Saints 1-0. On November 1st, the Lady Saints played a hard-fought battle against the Spring Arbor Lady Cougars. The game was tied 1-1 after regulation and then went into two scoreless overtime periods. In penalty shootouts, de Longpre came up with huge save against the sixth shooter to give Aquinas the victory 1-1 (4- 5).

The problems regarding athletes, especially collegiate sports, go much deeper than individual athletes. It's rooted in the organi­zations and schools that have been found to repeatedly cover up or ignore misconduct by their players.

On November 12, 2003

November 12, 2003

Sports

Sad soccer season for Saints

Joe Woodruff

On November 1, the Aquinas men's soccer team wrapped up their hard and grueling season with a 3-2 loss at Indiana Tech, in the first round of the WHAC tournament. The Saints were stacked with talent but due to inconsistent play they failed to meet their goal of working together as one unit. The team ended with a record of 5-7 in the WHAC and 8-11 overall, making the worst record in over five years. "This year was a re­building year, eh," said sophomore midfielder Chris Greatham. The Saints had lost their fi­nal regular season game against rival Cornerstone 0-2 at home, but were hoping to per­form better in the conference tournament. Going into the game the Saints were ranked fifth in the WHAC and Indiana Tech was fourth. The teams had met twice already in the regular season with Aquinas winning the first game 2-1 and the Warriors winning the second at home 1-0. Indiana Tech broke the ice scoring first 26:40 into the game, with the goal coming from Tyler Laneham. The Warriors cranked again less than 4 minutes later to pull ahead of Aquinas 2-0. The Saints were held scoreless the next half hour and took eight shots and the Warriors had taken 10 shots. Senior forward Sanel Fadil stepped up for the Saints scor­ing an unassisted goal 7:31 in to the half. With 15 minutes left in the game Chris Combali scored off a pass from Jason Williams to put Indiana Tech up 3-1. Aquinas continued to pressure the Warriors, but was unsuccessful until 3 min­utes left in the game, where Fadil had a penalty kick shot to reduce the lead by one. It was not enough and Indiana Tech was victorious winning 3-2 and ending the Saints season and hopes of a Conference title.

The Saints will be losing three seniors who gave it their all for four years. Jeff White, Steven Dobb, and Sanel Fadil will be huge losses for Aquinas Soccer. "It's been fun playing with all the people throughout the years," said Perry.

It is with great sadness that the coaches, teammates, and_students will have to say goodbye to the three seniors who gave it their all. Hopefully by next season men's soccer will be able to make up for their disappoint­ment this season.

Women's soccer ends a disappointing season

Leah Herland

The Lady Saints had their final regular season game against rival Cornerstone on October 29 against rival Cor­nerstone. The Lady Eagles dominated the game and out shot Aquinas 23-10 but could not get past the incredible goalkeeping of Junior Erica de Longpre. In the sixth minute of the game freshman Katie Schmuck scored her ninth goal of the season to win the game for the Lady Saints 1-0. On November 1st, the Lady Saints played a hard-fought battle against the Spring Arbor Lady Cougars. The game was tied 1-1 after regulation and then went into two scoreless overtime periods. In penalty shootouts, de Longpre came up with huge save against the sixth shooter to give Aquinas the victory 1-1 (4- 5).

The problems regarding athletes, especially collegiate sports, go much deeper than individual athletes. It's rooted in the organi­zations and schools that have been found to repeatedly cover up or ignore misconduct by their players.

On November 5, the women's season ended in Livonia, MI against the Ma­donna University Crusaders in the semi-finals. Top seeded Madonna won 5-0, destroy­ing any hopes of a WHAC title for the women's team this season. The Saints ended the season with a disappointing 5-7 record in the conference and 7-3-2 overall. The Lady Saints ended their season seeded sixth in the conference, one place above Concordia University, who also didn't win a game all sea­son.

The Wolverines win interstate battle against rival Spartans

Corey Russell

Michigan had a week off before they head to North­western which should be just a tune-up game for them before they face the sixth ranked Buckeyes of Ohio State. The Wolverines con­trol their own destiny now in the Big Ten championship race. If the Wolverines win their final two games they will receive a birth to the historic Rose Bowl in Pasadena.

Michigan State's 4-2 win over the Spartans last week will hurt the Spartans' bid for a Big Ten championship. Michigan State's loss does not really help the Spartans, but it's a win that will help Michigan State have reason to believe they can upset the Buckeyes. Michigan State's win over the Spartans means that the Wolverines can control their own destiny now in the Big Ten championship race. If the Wolverines win their final two games they will receive a birth to the historic Rose Bowl in Pasadena.

The Wolverines win interstate battle against rival Spartans

Corey Russell

Times Writer

Chris Perry helped paint the state of Michigan blue for the second straight year. His offensive line helped him to completely dominate the helpless Spartan defense. Perry carried the ball for a school record 51 times, with the majority of his rushes being up the middle. The Spartan defense stacked the line at times but still was not able to corral a determined Perry. He amassed 219 yards with one touchdown. This brings his season total to 1,313 yards, 213 yards more than all of last year. This gives the senior running back a 110 yard lead amongst the nation's running backs. This is sure to launch him into one of the top spots for the Heisman Trophy. If Perry continues to run with aggressiveness and passion like he has been doing, Wolverine fans may see the first Heisman Trophy brought back to Ann Arbor since Charles Woodson did it in 1997.

The Spartans showed a lot of courage throughout the contest. When Michi­gan would start to pull away the Spartans were able to hang close enough to always be within striking distance. They had Wolverine hearts when a Hail Mary was thrown to the end zone with one second left. Many Michigan fans had déjà vu from the last meeting in East Lansing when TJ Duckett caught a second last pass in the back of the end zone for a Spartan victory. However the pass was long and inter­cepted by Michigan's Scott McClointon after the clock had reached zero. Jeff Smoker passed for 254 yards, besting John Navarre's 223, with 1 touchdown and that final in­terception being his only one of the day. Michigan State's rushing attack was con­tinually being shut down by the tenacious Wolverine de­fense. They were only able to manage 36 yards on the ground. Like many other Michigan vs. Michigan State battles, the running game is what decided the outcome with Michigan winning the rushing game by 180 yards. This is the way that Michi­gan has based the team's suc­cess for so many years and when they showed on Saturday that they can compete with any team when they carry it out.
Runner were senior Leo Foley in third, junior Josh May in sixth, senior Dan Wilkerson in seventh, sophomore Josh Miller in ninth, sophomore James Jones in eleventh, sophomore Jeff Luehm in fourteenth, freshman Brian Keilen in seventeenth, freshman Patrick Earl in twenty-second, and freshman Scott Assemann in twenty-fourth. The top seven will head to Louisville, Kentucky, on Saturday, November 22, to represent Aquinas College in the NAIA National Championships. The Saints have sold chance at taking a national title this year and are currently ranked tenth national. The women’s team finished their season at Regionals with a sixth place finish, crushing hopes of a national title for the Lady Saints. Indiana Wesleyan took the Regional title, followed by Spring Arbor in second. Top Aquinas finisher was Kelsey Toedebusch, who took twenty-second with a time of 19:45 in the 5k. The women’s team battled injuries this year and hopes to return next year with a stronger, healthier squad.

Cross country takes first and second at Conference

Leo Foley
Times Writer

Stellar performances on both the men’s and women’s side highlighted the 2003 WHAC Championship cross country meet held Saturday Oct. 25 at Riverside Park. The Aquinas men used a combination of depth and experience to outdistance their conference foes. The Lady Saints finished second on the strength of clutch performances by several key runners. The Aquinas women scored 58 points to clinch their spot at Regionals. On the men’s side Aquinas scored 53 points easily defeating the Cornerstone team which finished with 63 points.

Preston Gery of Cornerstone was the individual champion with a course time of 24:58. Junior Leo Foley was the first finisher for Aquinas running 25:40, good enough for fourth place. Sophomore Josh Miller was right behind Foley with a 25:52 effort. Junior Josh May of Aquinas finished seventh in 26:14. The three Saints all earned All-conference honors. After May, the red army took over with Aquinas runners taking eighth through thirteenth. Sophomore James Jones led the charge in 26:14. Danny Wilkerson was right behind him in 26:26. Right on Wilkerson’s back was sophomore Jeff Luehm, freshman Scott Assemann and freshman Brian Keilen all finishing in 26:27. Freshman Chris Roberts was third seconds behind them in 26:30. "We had a lot of fun crushing the other teams in our conference but we know the real test is on November twenty-second at the National meet," said sophomore James Jones.

On the women’s side the Lady Saints ran with courage against opposing teams that were heavily favored. "Despite the many obstacles we ran well and were happy with the result overall," said senior Jen Wilkins. The Aquinas women edged out rival Sienna Heights in fifth place with 99 points in the second place. Spring Arbor won the women’s meet with a score of 23 points Kim Cocco scooped 1st place, crushing the field, winning with a time of 19:12. Freshman Kelsey Toedebusch finished fifth to lead Aquinas and receive All-conference honors. Sophomore Megan Lewis finished in seventh snatching the last All conference position. Freshman Stacey Hoffman finished in eleventh snatching another 2003 All Conference position. Freshman Stacey Hoffman finished in eleventh place and a tie of 18-18 overall.

Dan Wilkerson and Josh Miller push for their top ten spots.

The Saints went out in the first game with full fury, resulting in a 30-24 final score. The Golden Eagles came back to win the final three games with scores of 30-25 in the second, 30-26 in the third, and ending with 30-22 in the final game.

Highlights of the game included thirty-seven assists by senior setter Jaclyn Scheltema while junior Becky Barber led the team in digs. Despite Cornerstone’s strong offense the Saints were able to stop many kills with powerful defensive blocking. Sophomore Megan Hoist contributed to the team effort with two block solos. Also leading in the team blocks were Sophomore Ashley Boukearet and junior Terra Miller. Miller was a WHAC Notable Player of the Week with 81 kills, 32 digs, and 12 total blocks. Miller was also named to the All-Tournament Team for the Calvary College Midwest Volleyball Invitational, in which Aquinas took fourth out of twelve teams on October 25.

This match marked the end of the regular season for seniors Carrie Domagalski and Jaclyn Scheltema. Senior Jaclyn Scheltema said, “I was kind of sad but at the same time excited watching the girls progress. The program is really turning around. Jan is doing a great job, and I look forward to seeing some new recruits for next year.” Scheltema finished her last regular season the week as one of 18-18 overall. Coach Jan Neville said, “Our girls played well but I believe both teams have the ability to do better. However, I feel the girls are more confident than ever that they are capable of beating Cornerstone. From here on out the end of the season will depend upon the team itself.” Conference semi-finales are Saturday November 15 at 6pm vs. #2 Cornerstone and the WHAC volleyball finals will be Sunday November 16.

SPORTS
Men’s CC wins Regionals

Leah Herland
Sports Editor

Men’s Cross Country blew away the competition at the NAIA Region 8 Cross Country Championships finishing first out of twelve teams. The 8k race was Saturday, Nov. 8, at Riverside Park in Grand Rapids and was hosted by Aquinas College. The Saint’s finished with 36 points, leaving second place Indiana Wesleyan at 99 points in the dust. Aquinas had nearly half of their team finish among the top quarter of runners. Top 25 runners were senior Leo Foley in third, junior Josh May in sixth, senior Dan Wilkerson in seventh, sophomore Josh Miller in ninth, sophomore James Jones in eleventh, sophomore Jeff Luehm in fourteenth, freshman Brian Keilen in seventeenth, freshman Patrick Earl in twenty-second, and freshman Scott Assemann in twenty-fourth. The top seven will head to Louisville, Kentucky, on Saturday, November 22, to represent Aquinas College in the NAIA National Championships. The Saint’s have sold chance at taking a national title this year and are currently ranked tenth national. The women’s team finished their season at Regionals with a sixth place finish, crushing hopes of a national title for the Lady Saints. Indiana Wesleyan took the Regional title, followed by Spring Arbor in second. Top Aquinas finisher was Kelsey Toedebusch, who took twenty-second with a time of 19:45 in the 5k. The women’s team battled injuries this year and hopes to return next year with a stronger, healthier squad.

Jeff Luehm caught smiling as he finishes strong, taking a tenth place finish at the WHAC Conference Meet on Oct. 25.

Cornerstone overtakes Aquinas volleyball in last regular game

Jennie Debski
Times Writer

With anticipation the Aquinas Saints volleyball team went head to head with nationally ranked Cornerstone University last Tuesday night, November 4. The Saints vigorously battled the Golden Eagles through four games of intensity. Ranked seventh in the nation, Cornerstone was prepared to dominate the Saints; however Aquinas was up for a challenge. Each game was hard fought ending in close contests and was between the two teams.

Apuinas Times Lisa Gott

Dan Wilkerson and Josh Miller push for their top ten spots.

The Saints had a somewhat disappointing finish of the regular season, ending 3-5 in the WHAC and a tie of 18-18 overall. Coach Jan Neville said, “Our girls played well but I believe both teams have the ability to do better. However, I feel the girls are more confident than ever that they are capable of beating Cornerstone. From here on out the end of the season will depend upon the team itself.” Conference semi-finals are Saturday November 15 at 6pm vs. #2 Cornerstone and the WHAC volleyball finals will be Sunday November 16.
What's new with men's basketball? Everything but the Field house it seems. At least nearly everything when coming into the season with a new coach, a new strategy, and seven new faces on the varsity squad.

Aquinas Men's Basketball has picked up a new coaching staff after the departure of former coach Rick Allen. Dave Hammer is the new head coach with 25 years of experience. Also new to the coaching staff are Scott Tompkins, Tom Kempf and Zach Harris. Tompkins comes to Aquinas after coaching at East Grand Rapids High School. Kempf is an assistant with Aquinas' junior varsity and has 25 years of experience of coaching men's basketball.

The team. As point guard, this season will be Junior guard Damien Mayo, who has stood out in the pre-season and will be strong in leadership and overall chemistry. Even with three nationally ranked teams in the conference, each team has a different style, and defense is ahead of our schedule and will be crucial to Aquinas.

Fernandez and Alsgaard round out the varsity squad with Alsgaard and junior post Kevil Angle. This season, said Mayo, "don't go to sleep on us."

This year's Saints return with a strong core of veteran players. Captain Kim Pomeroy, Aquinas' only returning senior and WHAC All American, returns for her final season as a key member for Sienna Heights.

With three returning seniors in the coaching staff, the Lady Saints are back this year and are looking tougher than ever. The women's team is working to take the Trippe Tournament this season, the most talented team I've played with here at Aquinas," said Coach Nash. Experience, strength and drive will be the women's basketball team's biggest weapons this season for achieving those goals. "We have a very talented team this season, the most talented team I've played with here at Aquinas," said Coach Kim Pomeroy, "once we get moving this season we should be very strong."

Below: Varsity men's and women's squads.

The Lady Saints are back this year and are looking tougher than ever. "We've focused on being tougher competitors," said Coach Nash.

A strong conditioning program has in the pre-season shaped the Saints up to be one of the strongest, fastest teams Aquinas College has seen in years for women's basketball.

Coach Nash in the pre-season against Western Michigan State, will be assisted again this season by Ray Fron. New to the coaching staff this season is Bernard Varnesmed, who has worked with former Coach Mike Blicher. "He's a new coach, a new strategy, and seven new faces on the varsity squad," said Mayo, "don't go to sleep on us."

Above: Team captains: Johnny Angle, Jessica Steubus, Mike Blicher and Kim Pomeroy.

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