

Admissions video used as sales pitch Recruits needed to replace 'large' number of graduates

By Melissa Kelly
Staff Writer

This year's large graduating class, coupled with a smaller pool of potential freshmen, has left the admissions office working harder than ever to recruit new students.

A senior class of 369 is set to graduate in May while 28 seniors already graduated in December.

In September, approximately 30 students plan to receive their diplomas.

Last May, approximately 260 students graduated, 100 less than this year, according to the registrar's office.

"One of the larger freshmen classes we've ever had is graduating," said Evan Lipp, assistant director of admissions.

This year's graduating class entered the college at 524 students strong, according to the 1988-89 academic catalog.

Lipp also said that smaller graduating high school classes

will not improve the recruitment situation.

"There were about 10,000 less graduates last year in Michigan [than normal], and there are even fewer this year," Lipp continued.

Lipp explained that normally Albion's freshmen classes are targeted at 466 people, and entering classes are consistently above that number. This year's freshmen class, however, comprises 420 people.

"The biggest reason for the decrease is demographics," Lipp said.

Lipp said that many Midwestern schools are facing the same demographics.

"We knew that it was coming, and this was the year that it hit," he said.

Lipp reported that this year's number of applicants is slightly down from last year at this time.

"We've accepted over 1000 students so far," he said, adding that approximately 100 students have sent in the \$150 deposit.

This year a new admissions' video was made, at a cost of \$10,000. See Admissions, page 2

Panel discusses black experience



Panelists discussed education and racism and how they relate to the African-American experience Feb. 11 in Norris 101. Pictured are (L-R) Preston Hicks, director of multicultural affairs and moderator; Robert Wall, African-American history teacher at Albion High School; Janice Cook-Johnson, activist; Barbara Gladney, poet; and Joseph Thomas, chief of Albion Department of Public Safety. Other panelists not pictured were Timothy Kurtz, minister; and Roy Spence, Black Nationalist. The panel addressed many American's lack of understanding for what it means to be black. Photo by Jonathan Beeton

Combat exclusion

Women lack choices in Gulf

By Jill Rifenberg
Staff Writer

Although the majority of women serve the U.S. armed forces in non-combat roles, many students and faculty believe that women should be able to participate in combat.

The exclusion of women from combat is a matter of U.S. law.

Section 6015 of Title 10, U.S. Code states "women [in the Navy or Marine Corps] may not be assigned duty on vessels or in aircraft that are engaged in combat missions nor may they be assigned to other than temporary duty on vessels except hospital ships, transports, and vessels of similar classification not expected to be assigned to combat missions," according to a recent Editorial Research Report.

Section 8549, also of Title 10, states "female members of the Air Force...may not be assigned to duty in aircraft engaged in combat missions," according to the report.

No statute applies explicitly to the Army, but the secretary of the Army, as a matter of policy, has restricted women from skills and positions that are considered to have the highest probability of "direct combat," the report said.

As of mid-1990, women constituted 10.8 percent of the armed forces [Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard], according to the 1991 World Almanac and Book of Facts.

Only .8 percent of these women serve in the infantry, gun crews, or seamanship, according to the almanac.

Almost 25 percent of all medical and dental specialists are women.

"I think women should have a choice," said Julie Kneeland, Battle Creek senior and Albion Peace Alliance member.

"If they want to, then they should be able to. However, some have no choice," she said.

"They join the armed forces for money towards college and probably never thought that they might have to go to war."

"If women are allowed in the armed forces then they should have full access to fighting," said John Hall, assistant professor of history.

In 1989, Canada lifted all of its restrictions on women serving in combat positions in the nation's 85,000 member Air Force.

Females constitute 10 percent of the Canadian armed forces.

Many people agree with these opinions but have a slightly different viewpoint on combat itself.

"I'm not really crazy about combat," said Ginny Blum Tunnicliff, director of the Anna Howard Shaw Women's Center. "But if there are women who want to [fight], then they should be involved."

"I don't really think that anybody should be in combat."

See Military, page 6

Prof denied tenure by college; department, students shocked

By Geoff Lumetta
Staff Writer

Last month, Patrick McDermott, assistant professor of physics, was denied tenure.

His termination came as a shock to both students and faculty.

Many think he is a competent, hardworking instructor and an integral part of the physics department.

"Everyone in the department recommended him strongly for tenure," said David Kammer, acting chair and professor of physics. "Pat would be a stellar, outstanding teacher."

"The best analogy I can think of," McDermott said, "is to imagine coming up to graduation in your senior year and being told you not only didn't



Patrick McDermott

Photo by Steve Yuroff

graduate but you have to start over again somewhere else."

According to McDermott, President Melvin Vulgamore

rejected his proposed tenure after the Faculty Affairs Committee [made up of six tenured faculty] and the Provost gave their approval.

When a professor is granted tenure, that professor is guaranteed a permanent faculty position, according to the faculty handbook.

Vulgamore gave a negative recommendation to the Board of Trustees, who makes the final decision on tenure approvals or rejections, McDermott said.

"My role is to present a recommendation to the board, other than that...everything is confidential," Vulgamore said, declining other comment.

The President is not obligated to offer an explanation for a denied tenure and subsequent firing.

See Tenure, page 2

Tenure, from page 1

However, McDermott was told by Provost Daniel Poteet that there was some concern about the teaching evaluations filled out at each semester's end.

McDermott said that this did not make sense since until last semester his rating was in line with other science instructors.

David Holden, South Lyon junior, said that he could understand some negative evaluations.

"He gives out the lowest grades and has the highest standards of any teacher here," Holden said. "He probably has less favorable student evaluations."

McDermott agreed that physics is a hard subject. Some students do not perform well but it is important to keep high standards, he said.

"It wouldn't be right to water the courses down," he said.

Last semester, his ratings increased, averaging a 4.9 out of 5 in one of his classes, he said.

During Student Senate's midterm review given in 1988, 97 percent of McDermott's students said he should remain on the tenure track, he said.

"Every indication was positive," McDermott said. "I didn't think I was a shoe-in, but things looked very good."

McDermott was appointed in 1987 after teaching as a post-doctoral fellow at Northwestern University for two years. He received his Ph.D. in 1985 from the University of Rochester in Rochester, N.Y.

McDermott won the Phi Beta Kappa [honorary scholastic society] faculty scholar award in 1989.

He has had more articles published, in his four years at Albion, than any other physics instructor. Much of his work appeared in a physics magazine from England.

McDermott's students did not seem pleased with his release.

"It seems that if Dr. McDermott was not given tenure, there maybe something really amuck with the tenure evaluation system," said Jonathan (Jay) Pasko, Monroe junior.

"In all the classes I've taken, his was certainly one of the best," said Steven Malinak, Dearborn Heights junior. "He was always there for office hours and very helpful."

Matthew Chittle, Davidson junior and physics

major, also was impressed by McDermott's teaching.

He said that he came to Albion because of its strong physics faculty. McDermott was an intrinsic part of that department, he said.

"I would hesitate now to recommend people looking to major in physics to come to Albion," Chittle stated.

McDermott's firing has provoked letters of complaint to the president by Kammer and Andrea Ondracek, Gaylord junior.

Both said they have not received any reply explaining McDermott's release.

Some students did notice flaws in his teaching though.

McDermott did not always cover all the course material by the end of the semester, according to Steighton Haley, Lansing junior and physics major.

He would "go into extra depth sometimes and use an extra class session," Haley said.

"He would linger on topics," Holden said. "He wasn't able to cover the syllabus in any of the classes I had him for."

An instructor on the tenure track must be approved by the Faculty Affairs Committee, the Provost, the President and the Board of Trustees before he or she is given tenure.

The instructor is evaluated on four criteria.

The most important of these is the value to students in the areas of teaching and advising. This is judged in part by student evaluation forms.

Scholarship and research, done while at Albion, is another criteria. This usually means publication or performance.

Service in the daily operations of the department and service to the college community are also taken into account.

Poteet said that the evaluators look at more than just one aspect of these criteria.

"We try to look at the whole person," he said.

McDermott said he really enjoys small liberal arts colleges. However, he doesn't plan to stay for the optional one year granted after tenure is denied.

"I hope to find something by the end of the semester," he said. "There's no sense in staying for another year when I have to start all over again somewhere else."

Admissions, from page 1

\$63,000, to replace the slide show used in the past.

Although its use began recently, Lipp thinks it will positively affect recruitment.

"We've had very strong, very positive responses," he said. "We've been calling some of the people who've seen it and they really like it."

The video is sent to merit students and all students accepted by Albion. Students can also call to request that a copy be sent to their homes.

"The whole target of the video was to turn a prospect into an applicant," Lipp said.

"Hopefully the video entices them enough to not only apply, but to come visit," he said. "I think this campus really sells itself, both the campus and the people here."

Tour guides Alyssa Hall, Dearborn sophomore, and Kelley Turnock, Columbus, Ohio sophomore, have also seen the video.

"I think it shows all the strong points of Albion," Hall said.

"I thought it was really good in the sense that the school looks really classy in comparison with the other schools that Albion would be competing with," Turnock said.

"I think it really shows the diversity and the things that Albion has to offer that you might not see otherwise," Turnock added.

A Dec. 14 Pleiad review of the video called it, a "slick, fast-paced, fine piece of propaganda."

The review went on to say that the video sold the college on a

"superficial level" and offered "no less than Albion's 'attractive mask,' by presenting only the best and most beautiful."

"The video suggests all Albion students know the school cheer, 'Io Triumphe,' since it is a 'classic part of school spirit,'" the review said.

The video's feature on student activities shows "The Alternative packed to the gill, which rarely happens, according to most reports," the review reported.

The video contains scenes of Albion's campus and the town, along with interviews of faculty and students. Many of the academic opportunities and off-campus programs Albion offers are discussed.

It also includes sections on residential and social life, with scenes of students moving into school, studying in Wesley, and talking in the Quad. Scenes from Special Olympics are featured in a segment on volunteerism.

The video is shown at high school visits and receptions. Lipp explained that because it is 20 minutes long, it is not always shown to individuals in the admissions office on their campus visits.

"If a student goes to sit in on a class the parents don't usually go with them, so we'll show it to the parents," he said. "Or if a student arrives early and the tour guide isn't here yet, we'll show them the video."

"A lot of students were really impressed," Hall said of the video.

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Religion profs discuss gulf crisis, disagree on war's justifiability

By Kristen Cheney
Staff Writer

[Editor's note: The current crisis in the Gulf region poses many moral questions. With this in mind, religious studies professors were asked for their views on the situation.]

The department of religious studies took a divided stance when asked about its views on the Persian Gulf War.

The professors could not agree whether the war was justified but did agree that war is, in all cases, a result of failure to communicate.

"People can be on both sides of the war as far as trying to justify it," said Johan Stohl, chair and professor of religious studies.

"I can see both sides of it," he said. "Still, all war represents human failure."

Frank Frick, professor of religious studies, agrees.

"I am not a pacifist, but I am a conscientious objector to war," Frick said. "In most cases, it represents a breakdown of the human community."

"I do not feel that we were justified in intervening as [the United States] did," said John Lyden, visiting assistant professor of religious studies.

"I don't feel that Hussein was justified, either. The whole thing was poorly handled, diplomatically and politically," he said.

William Gillham, professor of religious studies, disagrees.

"I think Hussein is an international criminal, and the U.S. is fully justified in its involvement," Gillham said. "I fully back President Bush and his decisions."

Gillham supported his opinion by saying that the war was cleared by the legitimate authority of the president and Congress, it is for a good cause, and the declaration of war was, indeed, a last resort.

"We waited plenty long enough," he said. "People say, 'Bush hasn't waited long enough,' but Hussein also has a past track record of brutalizing his own people...we will regret it later if we wait and don't crush him now. Anyone who thinks differently is fooling himself."

"I think some U.S. involvement is justified," Frick said, "but that's not to say that I agree with the way the war is being conducted. I believe that Hussein is a moral evil that has

to be dealt with."

Gillham said that Bush is conducting a just war by adhering to the Christian ethics of war.

By not targeting civilians, Bush is able to maintain a morality of means to reach his ends, he said.

"However," Gillham said, "Collateral damage' is an exception; war is always a messy thing. You cannot guarantee that no civilians will be killed, even in choosing military targets. That does not make it an unjust war, though."

'There is always the long-term possibility that if real peace is not secured, there could be an outbreak of aggression on the part of Iraq five to 10 years down the road'

—Johan Stohl

Frick said he thought the collateral damage of the war was terrible.

"Once started," he said, "it becomes very difficult to conduct a moral war."

"My problem as a Christian is that killing people represents a failure...Hussein puts civilians in the middle of military targets. That raises serious questions in terms of Christian morality."

"The [Christian] criteria for a just and moral war are very easily abused," Lyden said, "and one can justify any war with them."

"From a religious and ethical point of view, we should certainly consider very carefully whether we have abided by the criteria or whether we have simply convinced ourselves that we have done so due to other motivations."

Gillham disagrees. He said that there is nothing immoral about relating the problems of the Middle East and our actions there to our own national interests.

"I think Bush is a man of conscience," he said. "There is no question that this is a just war. Anyone who says that this is an unjust war cannot earn my respect of their judgment. I don't think they know what they're talking about."

Stohl pointed out that we must make a distinction between "good" and "just."

"No war is good," he said, "but it's after the fact now to decide whether this war is just. The most ethical thing to do now is to bring it to a quick and just conclusion. All will be cleared up only by hindsight."

Most agree the consequences of the war will be negative for both America and the Middle East. According to Stohl, arriving at a peaceful solution will be far more difficult than winning the war.

"There is always the long-term possibility that if real peace is not secured, there could be an outbreak of aggression on the part of Iraq five to 10 years down the road."

"I don't think that war ever solves problems," Frick said. "It only creates a new set of problems. It will not make the region more stable."

"I don't view the U.S. presence as desirable," Lyden added. "I am not convinced that it will help politically. Most people basically approve of the [U.S.'s] actions, but I don't agree with them. I am convinced that many Americans will die there. Once that happens, I think people will recognize the cost and the tragedy will become greater."

Stohl said that the war will have a tremendous effect on our own social needs in the U.S. They will have to be postponed once we are implicated in restoring the war-torn regions of the Middle East.

"What concerns me most is not how to prosecute the war but how to achieve a lasting peace. That will have to be done mainly through reparations, but beyond that, some real cultural, educational, and economic links will have to be established."

Stohl and Frick foresee problems of racism as a result of the war.

"World War II was conducted with racism against the Germans and the Japanese," Stohl said. "That made emotional energy part of its justification. I don't think we've reached the point where we believe that this is a war against all Iraqis. This is still considered a war against Hussein. I suspect, though, that the war has aroused a lot of anti-American sentiment."

"The thing that bothers me is the demonizing of Hussein," Frick said. "I worry about the spill-over of connecting Hussein to all Arabs."

"I remember what Christ said in the New Testament: 'Pray for your enemies.' I pray that God will lighten Hussein's heart," Frick concluded.

NEWSBRIEFS

Campus assaults reported early Wednesday morning

Campus safety received two separate reports of assaults on two students early Wednesday morning, according to Michael Sequite, director of campus safety.

Sequite said the first incident, reported at 12:10 a.m., involved a male student walking alone near Burns Street Apartments. Four non-students in a vehicle reportedly pulled up to the student, knocked him to the ground and drove off. The student suffered only minor injuries, according to Sequite.

The second incident, reported at 12:50 a.m., involved a female student walking alone on Huron Street near Kresge Gymnasium, according to Sequite. Two non-students, one male and one female, reportedly pulled up to her, got out of their vehicle and assaulted her. The student suffered cuts and bruises to the face, Sequite said.

There is no connection between the two incidents, based on differing vehicle and suspect descriptions, Sequite said.

Sequite requests that any student with information on these assaults call either campus safety or Albion Department of Public Safety.

Sequite also suggested that students use campus safety's student escort service and that students should never walk on campus alone at night.

Dining proposal allows students to invite faculty

A proposal has recently been passed to allow students to invite faculty members to eat at upper or lower Baldwin, compliments of the Provost's office.

Students can simply ask a professor to dine and then tell the Baldwin checker that the professor is their guest. No paper tickets will be necessary.

"It's a wonderful idea," said John Hall, assistant professor of history. "I think it will help break down the artificial barriers that exist between students and faculty."

"There aren't many places where students and faculty can informally talk," said James McCarley, professor of economics. "It will be a nice part of the day."

This dining plan will continue on a trial basis. If students support the plan, it will be added to next year's budget with no cost to students, according to Preston Hicks, director of multi-cultural affairs.



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as we see it _____

WANTED: Answers

The closing of The Alternative is not an open and shut case. There are still many unanswered questions.

From the moment The Pleiad began conveying its creation, grand opening, and semester-long operations, we have always felt The Alternative puzzle was missing a few pieces.

The first road block the Pleiad encountered was the mysterious financing of the venture.

In the Sept. 14 Pleiad, Michael Eckstein, Washington junior and former Alternative president, stated the Alternative had no ties or connections, in any way, with the college.

Contrary to Eckstein's statement, the college not only has ties with The Alternative but is currently footing its \$200,000 bill. Did Eckstein lie to the Pleiad?

The college was the financial backing behind The Alternative. And what better financial backing could the organizers ask for than a bank that allows careless mismanagement of funds.

The Alternative was a risky venture. The college and the student organizers understood that it might fail. Many small businesses do. But it appears they were not prudent in keeping to the budget agreement.

The initial figure the college and the students agreed on for equipment was \$40,000. The students spent \$79,000 on equipment instead and the college agreed to pick up the difference. Why?

The college budgeting is currently very tight due to increases in the minimum wage and health insurance premium. This certainly is not a good time for the college to spend an extra \$39,000 for The Alternative's equipment.

The students were offered a cheaper sound system from the college, according to Austin Baidas, West Bloomfield junior and former Alternative secretary.

The students declined the college's offer.

Questions involving the lease remain unanswered. Two important questions are why the college was unaware of the lease for a majority of the semester and, second, why was the lease signed for five years?

But wait, there's more.

Thomas Thayer, director of the Carl A. Gerstacker Professional Management program, stated in the Nov. 2 Pleiad that a small business may take one to three years to be a success.

Dale Dopp, vice president for finance and management, stated in the same issue that the college was willing to allow The Alternative an opportunity for success.

Why did the college pull its funding of The Alternative after one semester?

Simply put, The Alternative was not attracting customers. But did the college give the organizers enough time to make the venture successful?

If The Alternative remained open this semester, it would have cost the college \$50,000, according to Dopp. This is not much more than the extra \$39,000 spent on equipment.

Has the college suddenly become stingy with its money?

But there are still more questions to be answered.

The college and The Alternative were represented by the same lawyer, David Moore, when the details of the loan were being finalized.

Unless there was a two for one special, this is not ethically correct. A lawyer's task is to represent his or her client's best interests. By representing the college and The Alternative, Moore created a conflict of interests.

Why did the college and The Alternative allow this?

The Pleiad calls on those involved to break the silence. Considering all students own The Alternative as Thayer claimed in the Nov. 2 Pleiad, we all have a right to know.

"as we see it" is a weekly editorial which represents a majority consensus of the editorial staff.

Environmental symposium: What is 'Beyond Earth Day'?

The events surrounding Earth Day 1991 have fostered discussion of important issues. This interchange of ideas continues with "Beyond Earth Day: Environmental Perils and Prospects," the annual Albion College symposium, to be held March 11-15.

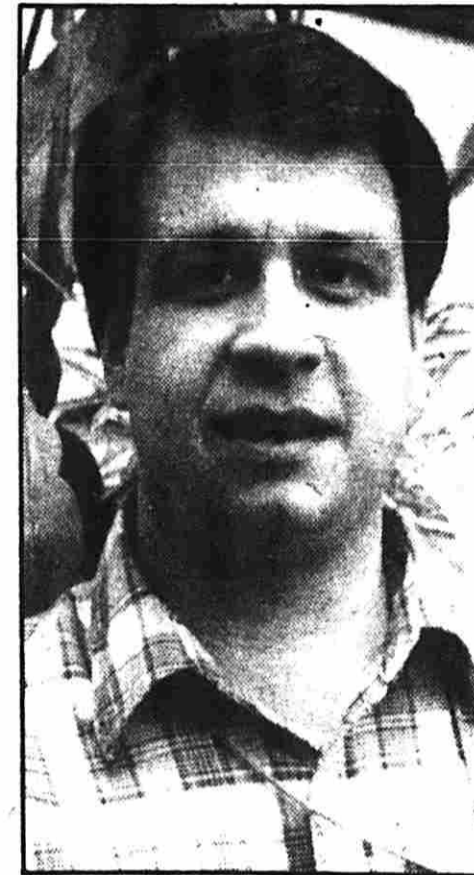
Why another discussion of environmental issues? What makes this symposium different from what is often perceived as boring media coverage of environmental concerns?

We plan to look at environmental problems with an emphasis on practical solutions, both technological and ideological. Too often "environmentalists" are dismissed as emotional activists who really do not understand the issues or who have no idea how to implement change pragmatically.

We plan to dispel this myth by presenting lectures, forums, panel discussions, and workshops featuring leading scholars and activists. We plan to bring both a global perspective and a focus on local environmental concerns.

We hope that we have planned a balanced format with representatives from academia, government, industry, and environmental groups.

Our keynote speaker is Barry Commoner from Queens College, CUNY. Commoner is a scientist who has been one of the major leaders of the environmental movement, not only as an activist, but as a researcher investigating environmental hazards.



Dan Skean

Other speakers with global perspectives will include Paul Wachtel, professor of clinical psychology, CUNY, and author of "The Poverty of Affluence." He will address aspects of the consumer society and its relationship to the environment. Marc Chytilo, chief counsel of the Environmental Defense Center, Santa Barbara, Calif., will give legal perspectives on environmental issues. Russell Susag, director of environmental regulatory affairs for 3M, will speak on the convergence of business and environmental interests. William Stratton, Los Alamos National Laboratory, will address nuclear energy concerns. Ted Williams, '76, Gas Research Institute, will discuss the greenhouse effect. Thomas Coohill, past president of the American Society for Photobiology, will discuss the



Gail Stratton

depletion of the ozone layer. Local environmental issues will also be addressed. Larry Taylor, professor of geological sciences, has organized a forum entitled "Albion Water: Groundwater Pollution in the Urban Environment." In addition to the forum, Grahame Larson, professor of geology at Michigan State University, will speak about low level radioactive disposal in Michigan.

What's wrong with the symposium? We are disappointed that we were not able to attract more female speakers. What's right with the symposium? Come and see.

Dan Skean and Gail Stratton assistant professors of biology Co-sponsors of the Environmental Symposium Committee

Terian suggests 'studying' protest

To the Editor:

Thank you for unlocking the mystery behind Stockwell 302. Now if only we could get the doors unlocked then this dispute could be settled. As a member of Student Senate I was in full support of John Kloosterman's Jan. 22 letter to President Vulgamore and thought the president's response to be grossly insufficient to the criticisms raised. Seriously, it took considerable effort not to laugh at his assertion that students didn't need the study space, based on his "observation of this phenomenon."

My question is, when has President Vulgamore observed library study space? Saturday morning at 11 AM? Thursday morning at 8? or, better yet, when most students are in class? If he looked in the library during the peak evening hours during the busiest weeks of the semester, he should easily be able to see that the study space is clearly needed. And even if it weren't (and this is really stretching it), still, room 302 was the preferred study space; yet the administration snatched it away from the students, opening a dingy basement room in a vain attempt at legitimizing the

takeover.

Let me put it another way: What the administration did was no worse than a mother stealing candy from her own baby, giving it a sour lemon, and calling it a fair trade. The baby cries. No, it screams. Meanwhile the mother is wondering what to do with the candy. I was shocked to read that as of yet, a purpose for the use of room 302 hasn't even been determined. Here's a novel idea: GIVE US BACK OUR STUDY SPACE !! (The trustee can take his furniture home if he wants. All we need is the table that was originally there.)

As it stands, when all the tables in the periodicals room are occupied, the only study spaces left in Stockwell are the hot, stuffy tiers. My point is simple: REOPEN ROOM 302 so the solution to the dispute can be a simple one and hostilities won't have to begin. Fellow students, I urge you to take action: Start studying in the lobby of the administration building!

Satu Terian Buchanan junior

<h1>The Pleiad</h1>	
Albion College Weekly Founded by the class of 1886	EDITOR IN CHIEF: Jeff Sendra ext. 1657
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Karen Inman

on...

'Why I am a scientist'

Why am I a Scientist?

I sure wish I knew the answer to that question. I can't exactly say how I ended up where I am today. Oh, I could give you some trite, yet glorious-sounding answers about wanting to unlock the meaning of the universe, but those high goals belong to scientists much more brilliant than I will ever be, and besides, I'd be lying! No, I'm not sure why it is that I've taken up a role that is most often portrayed by some madman in a white coat, hidden away in a dark, ominous-looking laboratory, creating some concoction that will put an end to the human race as we know it. Maybe I just wanted to put an end to this myth.

Certainly all of the odds were against it. I was born the oldest child of a hard-working Midwestern couple. A couple not much beyond childhood themselves. My mother had completed her high school education

at the local country school. My father had dropped out at 16 to work in the local factory. I am sure that no one would have predicted that their oldest child, a girl, would eventually receive her Ph.D. in chemistry and go on to teach at a fine institution like Albion. Come to think of it, I am sure that I never even heard the term "Ph.D." mentioned in my little farming community when I was growing up.

Although I was never overly encouraged to study hard and go to college, I was certainly never discouraged. (My mother did provide monetary rewards for good grades, but no punishment was ever threatened for bad grades.) I must say that one of the reasons I became a scientist was simple ignorance. No one ever told me that I couldn't do it, so I just didn't know any better. There were several things that were forbidden in our house, but learning and wanting

to "do something" with your life weren't among them. I always had the feeling that even if my goal was to be a ditch-digger, as long as I did my best and was happy, my parents would be proud.

Perhaps this atmosphere led to a strong feeling of self-confidence which, in turn, caused me to venture into a non-traditional, and often demanding field. Certainly I owe a great deal to my family, but I can't entirely explain my current situation just on the basis of my upbringing. Yes, there were inspiring high school teachers along the way, too. It's a well-kept secret that some of the best educators in the country are hidden away in small country schools, working for peanuts, simply for the joy of introducing young minds to the world around them. I was fortunate enough to have contact with some of these wonderful folks. But even these great

teachers did not suggest that I become a scientist. They are responsible for putting the idea of college into my head, but no one suggested what I might study there.

When it came time to fill out the hundreds of forms associated with going to college, I was bothered by the line that always asked me what I wanted to study. I was going to college; I wanted to study everything, of course! Since no one in my family had ever gone to college, I had a somewhat inaccurate view of what it was all about. Feeling compelled to sound more intelligent on application forms, I filled in the blank with such things as, "I want to study science, mathematics, music, and art." I'm sure admission counselors viewed me as a typical undecided high school senior, and that's exactly what I was.

When it came time to sign up for my first semester of classes, a professor was assigned to help me begin to focus on what I wanted to do with my life. Since I was still uncertain, he followed the standard procedure by signing me up for a variety of introductory courses: calculus, chemistry, English-literature, and a general education freshman orientation class. It turns out that my assigned ad-

viser was a chemistry professor. I often wonder how my life would have turned out had I been assigned one of the biology professors.

Well, as they say, the rest is history. By the way, I took some history classes, too, and loved them, but it was my science courses that captivated me. I began to become fascinated with the things that I was learning. It boggled my mind that I, a little hayseed from Indiana, could explain why trucks spread salt on the roads during the winter. It may sound silly, but even to this day, sometimes I catch myself staring at my hand, marveling at all that is going on inside, and at the fact that I can understand much of it.

I'm not sure if I've answered my original question, and I'm not even sure that I can answer it completely. Part of the reason that I am a scientist will always be unknown to me. It may be accident, fate, evolutionary forces, or divine plan, but the fact remains that this is what I am, and I love it.

If I can leave anything here during my time at Albion I hope it will be this: Yes, you can do it, whatever it is you want to do. I certainly beat the odds, and I'm not even sure how I did it!

BSA backs Allen's quiz, finds Finch letter fact-less



To the Editor:

First of all, I appreciate Richard G. Finch's response to Eric Allen's quiz published in the Feb. 8 Pleiad. It shows an interest, however speculative, in race relations. Too often, Albion students ignore or do not acknowledge the issues of ethnicity or race. The Black Student Alliance is supportive of Allen's letter and follow-up because it follows a major tenet of our constitution which is to educate. Part of this education is not to create a color blind society but to appreciate individual qualities of people. A color blind society would ignore these special qualities.

"In keeping with the spirit of a liberal arts education" I am responding to Finch's letter to settle the minds of him and others who may feel the way he does. What was your point? I would really like to know. Is it that Allen should not have written the "quiz"? You need to do some research on the facts you presented in your letter, Mr. Finch.

"Minority" students entering Albion College would probably not feel welcomed. However, this is not because of the reason you gave. A conversation with Annette Washington, '86, from admissions, would accurately inform you of the reasons why there is such a small percentage of African-Americans attending Albion.

The fact that you are unaware of any exclusion, discrimination, or harassment of any blacks on

this campus, clearly is your observation, but what is your assumption? Is it that these things do not occur? Definitely not a FACT.

Take another look at the governmentally controlled institutions, i.e. the military and the civil service. Do you know why there are so many blacks in this institution? (Read "Lack of economic opportunities led African-Americans to military" by Gillian L. Isaacs in the Feb. 15 issue of the Pleiad for some ideas.)

Segregating blacks into one area may be illegal, but haven't you heard of ghettos? of slums?

This letter is not to exclude Finch from having opinions, but to ask him to be able to present substantial facts to back up what he writes. I invite him and others to go to an event that BSA is sponsoring to help everyone recognize the truth. We cannot educate if people don't want to be educated. To work for and receive a liberal arts education implies that a person knows a little bit about everything, including other races. I encourage Finch and others to work for their liberal arts degree diligently and if they can think of anything else to do to help educate Albion College, please inform me.

Tonya Morris
Chicago, Ill. sophomore
president
Black Student Alliance

What The Rock Doesn't Tell You

Friday

This must be "a capella appreciation month" here at Albion. First there was Chanticleer, and tonight at 9 in Kresge Commons the a capella quintet 5th Avenue will be performing, sponsored by Union Board. Hailing from Minneapolis, this group of young and, as rumor has it, very good-looking men sings both older and contemporary music by such stars as Elton John, the Talking Heads, and Phil Collins. They also perform their own material, and are currently working on their debut album.

By the way, were you aware that this week has been UB awareness week? A great chance to OD on UB.

Speaking of good-looking men, how about Harrison Ford, star of tonight's UB movie "Presumed Innocent"? This is a great movie, and the book it's based on is a favorite among college students nationwide. Show times are 8 and 10 p.m. in Norris 101. Make sure you take along a couple bucks to buy popcorn, pop, and candybars. The proceeds will go to help support the Appalachian Service Project.

Tonight is the last home game for the women's basketball team as it takes on the Comets of Olivet College at 8 in Kresge. The Brits hope to gain a little revenge tonight for the overtime loss they suffered to Olivet earlier this season.

Saturday

The men's basketball team plays its last home game today against Olivet at 3 p.m. in Kresge. At their match-up in January, the Brits defeated Olivet 84-78.

—Hope I. Bailey

Speakers try to 'make sense of opposite sex'

By Cheryl Dugan
Staff Writer

"To help students be successful in relationships is our main purpose," said a staff member of Campus Crusade for Christ Feb. 12 in Norris 103.

Jim McGuire stated this during his lecture entitled "Making Sense of the Opposite Sex," which he presented along with Tracy McGuire.

The husband and wife duo covered four areas in their lecture: thinking, expressing feelings, dating and communication.

"Women think wholistically," Tracy said. According to Tracy, women's minds can be compared to a blackboard because women do not hide anything.

Using an example of how a woman would respond to a fight with her partner, Tracy ex-

plained that the woman would constantly think about the fight and her anger would build up throughout the day. Later that evening she would explode to let everything out.

On the other hand, "men think compartmentally," Jim said.

According to Jim, men have compartments in their minds for everything. He compared their thought processes to a filing cabinet. He said that if a man gets into a fight, he will neatly file away the situation and not be bothered.

The McGuire's solution to this problem is that women need to remind their partners about the fight without exploding, while men need to remember the events throughout the day whether they are positive or negative.

Due to the differences in thinking, both men and women also have different emotions.

Therefore, they both have their own way of expressing feelings, Jim said.

"Women feel first and then think," Tracy said. The reason being is that society has allowed women to show their feelings even as little girls, she continued.

"Women can show their emotions more freely than men," she said.

According to Jim, men have been taught to be tough and not emotional.

"Men think first and then feel. Emotions were devalued even as little boys," he said.

The third topic discussed was

dating.

"Women don't date because men don't ask," Tracy said.

"Men don't ask because they are putting themselves on the line," Jim said, adding that men think when a woman says no she is rejecting the whole person.

"Women take things more seriously which scares men."

Both agreed a solution to help the dating problem is that women should always assume friendship, and men should be open and communicate their feelings.

"Communication is the key," Jim said and according to his

wife, the difference between men and women is that women are more open.

The McGuires gave three application points which can be practiced in order to overcome these problems: first, become a student of the opposite sex; ask a close friend of the opposite sex how he or she thinks and feels in certain situations; second pursue friendships, not romance and third, be accepting and understanding.

"Friendships will carry you through the long haul," Jim said, adding that "we are all human and we all have our shortcomings."

Military, from page 1

"I'm against the whole thing," said Judith Lockyer, assistant professor of English. "I don't think women should be in combat but I don't think men should be either."

Others said physical ability is the deciding factor.

"Women should be involved in combat as long as they can fulfill the same physical requirements as men," said Amy O'Dell, Three Rivers junior and navy reserve member.

John (Jack) Soderman, Grand Rapids junior, disagreed.

"I don't think [women are] as capable as men in combat," he said.

One concern of "many traditionalists and militarymen is that allowing women to engage in combat would degrade the effectiveness of the military and so risk the security of the nation," according to the Editorial Research Report.

Another question currently being discussed is whether women should be draftable if a draft is reinstated.

Most students and faculty agreed that women should be included in the draft, but for different reasons.

Some said that as citizens, it is a women's duty.

"As voting citizens, we should have to serve our country," O'Dell said.

"We're always fighting for every aspect of women's rights," said Cathy Schweitzer, visiting instructor of physical education and army reserve member. "If we want the rights then we should also be expected to fulfill the

obligations."

Another faculty member agreed but expressed concern for the children.

"If we're going to be an equal society then women need to share equally in obligations as well as rights," said Myron Levine, chair and associate professor of political science.

"However, in cases where both parents are in the armed forces, hardship exemptions [passes which allow one parent to stay home with the child] should be granted," he said.

One student said everyone should serve their country, but they should have options in the possible roles.

"In other countries they have unilateral conscription [everyone has to serve their country in some way]," said Carrie Nuoffer, Bath freshman and APA member.

"It is a good idea as long as there are alternatives for those who don't want to be in the military," she said.

Still others believe that women should not be drafted until America has achieved full equality.

"As soon as we get equal pay in the U.S. then we'll go," said Nancy Margherio, Orchard Lake junior.

Others are against the draft altogether.

"I'm not a supporter of the draft," Tunnicliff said.

"No one should be drafted," Hall said. "But if there is a draft it should be equal across the entire society: every class, every race, every gender."

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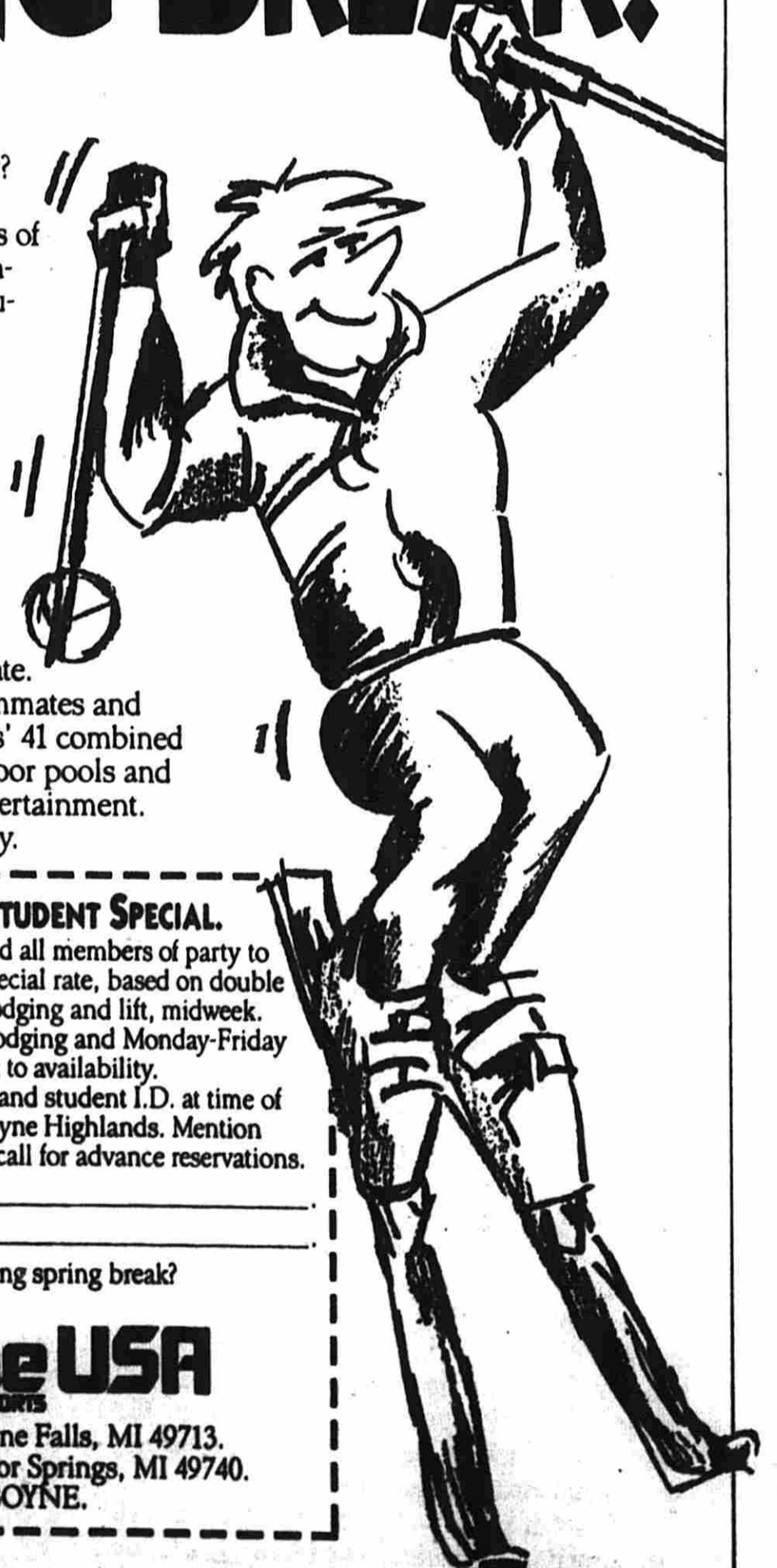
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Trustees approve tenure recommendations

[Editor's note: Tenure is used by colleges to encourage teaching and research without implementing fear of losing a job for having ideas different than that of the college. For a complete explanation of tenure, see article on page one.]

By Jeanne Newlon
Liz Maurer
and
Betsy Dupree

John Bedient

As he sits back in his chair amidst many books in what looks to be a well-used office, John Bedient, assistant professor of economics and management, looks very much at home.

As well he should; Bedient was tenured last month.

"Tenure is a very stressful process for anyone to go through. I feel renewed and invigorated," Bedient said.

"The student evaluations are taken very seriously in the tenure process," said Gregory Saltzman, associate professor and acting chair of the economics and management department.

"His evaluations were just outstanding...well above the college average," Saltzman said.

Bedient was born and raised in Albion, but currently lives in Marshall. After receiving his B.A. from Alma College in 1975, his M.B.A. from Indiana University in 1979 and becoming a certified public accountant, he came back to Albion to work for the family business; The Albion Recorder and The Marshall Chronicle.

He was appointed to a part-time teaching position in 1979 and a full-time position in 1985.

In addition to his many accomplishments, Bedient was the recipient of the Faculty Adviser of the Year Award two years ago.

"I've been a part of things (on campus) for so long, but there hasn't been a real change in my view of a teacher-student relationship," Bedient said.

"The student interaction really is my job. It's all very seamless moving from the classroom to advising to putting your home phone number on the syllabus."

"I can't imagine being any place else. I can't see myself at a place where teaching isn't the primary responsibility," Bedient said.

In addition to teaching, Bedient decided two years ago to work on his Ph.D. in finance which would act as a "bridge between accounting and economics and broaden what I will be able to



John Bedient

teach."

He has already published a workbook for Lotus 1-2-3, which is a spreadsheet program for personal computers, and has plans for a workbook for journalism majors.

Bedient said he likes what he does.

"You can work at your own speed..." that's not to say it's not a hectic job, he continued.

"When I was working at the newspaper I had one briefcase; now I have three. It's a 24-hour job," Bedient said.

Judith Lockyer

"She makes you think. She brings up things that you've never thought of before," said Tonya Morris, Chicago, Ill. sophomore.

"She made everything really interesting," said LeeAnne Richardson, Farmington senior.

These students are speaking of Judith Lockyer, assistant professor of English and one of Albion's new tenured professors.

Lockyer is one of two Albion professors who specialize in American literature. She received her B.A. and M.A. from the University of Kentucky in 1971 and her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1984. She was appointed at Albion in 1985.

Although she has written a book on William Faulkner—Ordered by Words: Language and Narration in the Novels of William Faulkner—which is in the final steps of publication, Lockyer said her current interest is in 19th century African-American women novelists.

"They were the most disenfranchised groups," she said. "They weren't allowed to talk."

According to Lockyer, it is hard to do research while teaching because the college demands much from the faculty. It was Albion's commitment to teaching, however, that drew her here.



Judith Lockyer

"Albion was closer to what I wanted," she said, "a place where teaching matters."

"She's one of the toughest graders in the department," Richardson said. "She has very high expectations, but not so high that you can't reach them."

"For me," Lockyer said, "issues of gender and ethnicity are particularly important ways to challenge students."

The role of education, according to Lockyer, is to challenge common beliefs.

"Education is about helping people to learn how to think better," she said. "The most effective way is to put their ideas up to interrogation. Students care when they are pushed," Lockyer said.

"I am concerned about women students at Albion. There are women students who are amazingly bright and amazingly assured; there are a whole lot of women who doubt themselves and I want to help them," she continued.

Lockyer said having tenure does not feel any different, but it is "nice to know."

Mark Meerschaert

"He always has a big smile on his face when he comes into

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Mark Meerschaert

class," said Linda Butch, Gladstone sophomore, of her mathematics teacher, Mark Meerschaert.

"He always makes class a lot of fun," she said.

Meerschaert, assistant professor of mathematics, certainly does have something to smile about...he was recently granted tenure.

The Board of Trustees recently gave approval to the tenure recommendations for Meerschaert.

When asked to comment on how he felt when he found out he was granted tenure, Meerschaert said he was relieved.

"You make a commitment to the college and then you wait for the college to commit you," he said.

Meerschaert received his B.A., M.S., and Ph.D. from the

University of Michigan. He began his teaching career at U of M and has also taught at U of M Dearborn.

In graduate school, he worked for an engineering consulting firm doing mathematical modeling.

The modeling included military research which determined certain variables for weapon systems used by the government.

These variables included the effectiveness of the system, specific tactics to use, and the number to buy.

"Some of the weapon systems I worked with are now being used in the Gulf War," Meerschaert said.

Meerschaert is currently researching mathematical statistics and will be going to Santa Barbara, Calif. this summer to give a speech on this topic.


He is also working on a textbook on mathematical modeling which he expects to finish in 1992.

"Next time I teach the mathematical modeling class, I hope to use my textbook," he said.

"Talking to Dr. Meerschaert helped me decide to become a math major," said Michelle Hribar, East Detroit senior.

"He has also helped me with graduate school by doing things like writing letters of recommendation," she said.

Meerschaert says he loves to teach and he especially enjoys Albion due to the environment being conducive to a valuable education.



Albion College Music Department Concerts/Recitals 1991

Feb. 20, 21, 22, 23	Musical: "Brigadoon"	8:00 p.m.	Herrick
Feb. 24	Musical: "Brigadoon"	2:00 p.m.	Herrick
Feb. 25	Sr. Recital, Anne Billings, Trombone Geoff Dickinson, Viola	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Feb. 26	Jazz Ensemble Concert	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Feb. 27	Faculty Recital, Denise Root, Fr horn: Kris Bellisio, Clarinet; Narciso Solera, Piano	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Mar. 16	Sr. recital, Myriam Tames, mezzo soprano	8:00 p.m.	Visual Arts
Mar. 21	Children's Concert	10:30 a.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Mar. 22	Orchestra Concert	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Mar. 23	Sr. recital, Cheryl Henderson, soprano Cheryl Ratzich, piano	4:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Mar. 24	Jr. recital, Scott Stefanek, violin	4:00 p.m.	Visual Arts
Apr. 5	Sr. Recital, Kimberlee Heath, soprano	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Apr. 6	Sr. recital, Gin Oei, violin	7:00 p.m.	Visual Arts
Apr. 7	Choir Concert	4:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Apr. 11	Percussion Ensemble Concert	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Apr. 12	Wind Ensemble Concert	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Apr. 13	Verdi "Requiem"	8:00 p.m.	St. Marys, Jackson
Apr. 14	Verdi "Requiem"	8:00 p.m.	Kellogg Aud., Battle Creek
Apr. 16	Chamber Ensemble Concert	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Apr. 19	L/C Butch Thompson Trio	8:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel
Apr. 21	Concerto Concert	4:00 p.m.	Goodrich Chapel

Locy's Locker Room



With only seven short days until spring break, I thought I would incorporate my break plans into a sports article.

While many students are stuck student teaching at places like Harrington Elementary School and Homer High School, I will be well on my way to the white sandy beaches of the Bahamas.

To pay for this expensive vacation (not including help from the parents) most of my spending money will come from selling part of my childhood memories.

The memories I speak of are baseball cards.

This "hobby" [as some call it] is no longer just a hobby. The buying and selling of cards has turned into a large business which many people, myself included, have profited from.

In my "Cards for Bahamas" auction I am planning to sell a few cards in order to go on my vacation in style. Here are few of the goods:

--- The first card on the block is my 1980 Ricky Henderson rookie card. (Rookie cards are obviously worth the most because it's the player's first card issued.)

This Henderson is retailed at around \$200. I figure this card should bring big fun on Paradise Island. I see two days of scuba diving and one day of serious gambling on Ricky's account.

Thanks Rick!

Next on the chopping block is a 1986 Donruss Jose Canseco rookie. This card should take a lot to sell because it has increased so much in such a short time. I bought this card in '86 for about \$5 and now I figure it will sell for around \$100.

Jose should bring me one long day of charter boat fishing with a few friends, my treat, and a nice expensive dinner to boot.

Thanks for the food Jose!

One card that will not leave my Comerica safety deposit box is the backbone to my collection. This card was handed down to me by my grandfather and his

Athlete of the Week

David Marcinkowski, Royal Oak junior, had steady performances in a pair of league games last week. He scored 16 points in both an 88-84 victory over Kalamazoo and in a 76-71 loss at Calvin. He was not only the Pleiad player of the week but also the MIAA player of the week.

grandfather to him.

This 1933 Babe Ruth is listed at roughly \$3,500. Not bad for a family air loom. I wonder what fun good old Babe could bring me in the Bahamas. (Just kidding).



Next to go in my spring cleaning is a 1975 George Brett rookie. This particular card and set is one of my personal favorites. These cards were smaller than the normal cards of today and for that reason were called mini-sets.

George is listed at about \$200 but I figure it will sell for around \$150. George is springing for my share of our condo on the beach and fun native gifts for all my pals stuck student teaching.

Don't thank me guys, thank George.

Lastly in my walk down memory lane, I will sell my 1977 Mark "The Bird" Fidrych rookie of the year card. Since I was only eight years old at this time, this was my biggest card. Everyone said how this card would be worth so much in 10 years. Well, it's time to sell the "Bird" since I must go on vacation in style.

I figure Mark should bring in one fruity drink, pool side at Paradise Island.

Retail for the "Bird"-- \$1.25. Thanks, but no thanks Mark.

Everyone have a safe and fun spring break and whatever you do----- BUY BASEBALL CARDS! It's worth it.

Track teams aim high in MIAA Men and women seeking championship

By Reed J. Barich
Staff Writer

MEN

"I think we have a legitimate shot at the MIAA title," said David Egnatuk, associate professor of physical education and head coach of the men's track team.

The Brits last season came up just short of the MIAA title, finishing behind Calvin College.

"The team has a lot of depth...we're equally strong on the track and on the field," said Lance Coleman, Grand Rapids senior.

In addition to depth, the team possesses two returning All-Americans. Coleman placed fourth nationally among Division III schools in the 100-meter run last year.



One setback for the team will be the temporary loss of Douglas Goudie, Rochester junior, who is battling a bad case of tendonitis.

Goudie, another All-American, placed seventh in the nation [NCAA-Division III] for the 10,000-meter run last season.

Despite the loss of Goudie and last season's seniors, the team's strength should not be weakened.

According to Egnatuk, the Brits will be gaining much new talent with a large number of freshmen showing up for practice.

"We should be able to compete quite adequately with the addi-

tion of freshman talent we've seen," Egnatuk said.

The team travels to Florida during spring break to train and compete.

The season begins on March 1 when the team travels to the Hoosiers' Open in Bloomington, Ind.

WOMEN

"We're almost starting from scratch this year," said Cathie Schweitzer, visiting professor from University of Iowa and head coach of the women's track team.

The team is focusing on a new attitude this year under the leadership of a new coach.

Schweitzer, who started the women's track program at Bowling Green State University, will be guiding the team in pursuit of the MIAA title.

"Our goal is to concentrate on each individual and try to improve her performance...the key will be working with individuals," Schweitzer said.

The team found it almost impossible to compete last season, according to distance runner Melissa Hanley, Rochester Hills sophomore.

"Last season there wasn't really a team...the majority of the women did field events and there weren't many runners," Hanley said. "This year is different."

The team has seen a drastic increase in numbers. In comparison to last season the women's team has expanded from 10 to 23 women, according to Schweitzer.

Like the men's team, the women will benefit from the arrival of freshmen talent.

"We have a bunch of freshmen women out this year that can do a variety of things. There will be people to fill all the events," Hanley said.

"We will definitely be more competitive in conference standings this year. I'm sure we'll score more points in the conference," Schweitzer said.

The team expects to place in the MIAA this season, according to Beth DeBaptiste, Paw Paw sophomore. DeBaptiste placed eighth in the league last season for the javelin throw.

"There is an overall good feeling on this team," DeBaptiste said.

The team meets Alma and Adrian March 3 at Alma for its first MIAA meet.

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22 5th Avenue in Kresge Commons 9 pm

23 Memphis Belle* 10 pm

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