

The Pleiad

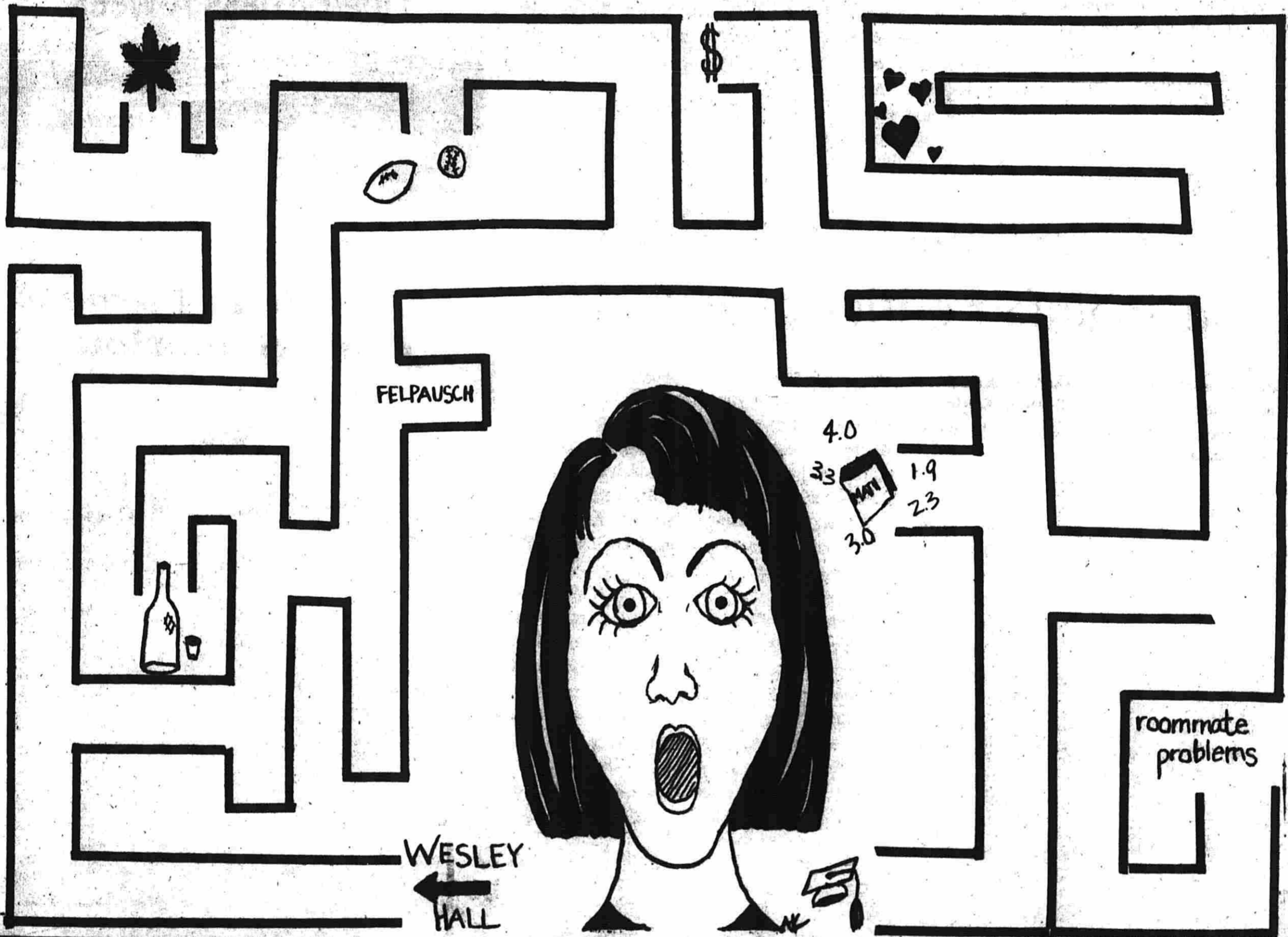
Vol. 109 No. 1

ALBION COLLEGE WEEKLY

Friday, September 11, 1992

What SOAR never told you!

A candid orientation to Albion from seniors who've survived to tell about it...



Free Press columnist calls for Bob Teeter's resignation from college board of trustees. Page 2

Fraternity members respond to having RAs in the houses.

Page 3

Rob Hall renovation costs and the prospects for student union construction. Page 7

A choice for Teeter: resign from campaign or college

George Bush campaign chairman and Albion alumni gets criticism from his former classmate

By Harry T. Cook

Mr. Robert M. Teeter
Chairman
Bush-Quayle '92 Committee
Washington, D.C.

Dear Bob:

Thirty-five years ago, you and I came to Albion College as freshmen. Over four years there, we were inculcated with the values of integrity, industriousness and service to others. Not incidentally, we were afforded one of the best liberal arts educations available anywhere at the time.

You are now a respected trustee of the college and probably its best-known alumnus. You are also one of the most visible heads of George Bush's re-election campaign, which, as surely you must have noticed, has taken a decidedly nasty turn.

Beginning with the slash-and-burn lies of Pat Buchanan on the

opening night of last week's Republican National Convention, your party has convincingly demonstrated that, contrary to what you wrote me eight months ago, this campaign is going to be ugly.

Not content with hip-shots misrepresenting Bill Clinton's moral struggle with Vietnam as draft-dodging and his wife as some kind of wicked witch who hates husbands, families and children, the principals of your campaign operation have climbed down into the muddy slough of divisiveness and name-calling.

What happened to the kinder, gentler campaign on the real issues that you promised? Have you been outmaneuvered by James Baker's return to the White House and Roger Ailes' closer identification with the campaign? Have the polls — in which you are a peerless expert — so frightened you and others that all caution and civility have been

thrown to the winds for the sake of four more years?

My fellow alumnus, it seems to me you have a clear-cut moral choice: Resign from the campaign or resign from the college's board of trustees. It is grossly unfair to the college to taint its venerability and graciousness with the kind of political smut your campaign is broadcasting and threatens to amplify further.

I do not see how you can preside over a dishonest and lowball campaign and, at the same time, sit in trustees' meetings and march in academic processions of a college that for more than 150 years has stood for academic honesty. Remember, our motto is "Lux fiat" — the biblical "Let there be light," — and our alma mater ends with the words: "Keep our Albion fair."

Either you consider all that sentimental bunk, in which case you ought to resign your

trusteeship, or you are having a hard time reconciling your own decent nature with a campaign that is morally out of control. In that case, you should resign from it with integrity intact.

The Bush campaign certainly needs a decent fellow such as you, but you don't deserve to be smeared with its malodorous sleaze. Face it, Bob: You are outnumbered; the rats have taken over. Staying with that ship of fools and villains can only damage your reputation.

If you're going to stay, distance yourself from your alma mater. It doesn't deserve the notoriety that the campaign, through you, will give it.

Sorry but sincerely,

Harry
Class of '61.

Editors' note: Harry T. Cook is an Episcopal priest and a Michigan free-lance writer. This letter is reprinted by permission of the author from the Aug. 27 Detroit Free Press.

Cook drags Albion 'through the mud' in unfair criticism of Teeter

Editors' note: The Pleiad asked Brett Decker, Troy senior, and Chad Kolton, Saginaw sophomore, to write this opposing view to Harry Cook's column above.

Dear Reverend Cook,

Thirty-five years ago you came to Albion College as a freshman. Over four years here, you claim that you were inculcated with the values of integrity, industriousness and service to others.

We are writing you because we are confused with the agenda you are using these values to achieve. We are confused about the "slash and burn" manner in which you unfairly battered the character of Bob Teeter — a fine man who represents Albion College well. We wonder if you think the Republican Party should have hidden its right-wingers like the other party hid its left-wingers.

We wonder if you can really love Albion while simultaneously dragging it through the mud in your article which reflects the morally defunct media with which we are embarrassingly too accustomed.

Both candidates are being drowned in a sea of rumors, smut and factless stories flooded by members of the media like you. We wonder why the media avoids substantive issues while rushing to reprint tabloid stories that lack an iota of factual evidence. Personal slams such as yours in the Detroit Free Press on Aug. 27 certainly do not help a single voter understand a single issue. We wonder what light was shed on the election by

your disgraceful public mudslinging. Indeed, you were correct when you wrote that "the rats have taken over." However, you failed to name the real identity of these rats. In light of your association with the media, we wonder who is truly on "that ship of fools." We do not think it is Mr. Teeter.

We who truly wish to "keep our Albion fair" wonder how we can do so when a journalist unfairly taints its reputation in a newspaper as well-circulated as The Free Press. We wonder how many letters like ours have gone unsent because of your position on the Albion College Alumni Association Board of Directors. We also wonder how an Episcopal priest can lower himself to engaging in such political refuse. We wonder what Biblical passage tells us to walk boldly, carry a big stick — and use it.

However, in the midst of all your journalistic garbage, we are sure of one thing: YOU are bringing the good names of Albion College and the Episcopal Church into question through your slanderous article and your relationship with a media stained with sensational immorality. Both institutions deserve better — and so does Bob Teeter. So, please, if you truly value all that Albion College taught you, and all that the Episcopal Church stands for, we ask that you "distance yourself" from these institutions — lest they fall prey to a foul and unwarranted association.

Sorry but sincerely,
Brett Decker, Troy senior
Chad Kolton, Saginaw sophomore

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Albion News

New provost talks about curriculum and diversity

By Geoff Lumetta

With the April appointment of Margret Curtis as provost, Albion College made history.

Curtis is the first African-American, and the first woman, to hold this top administrative position on a full time basis.

President Melvin Vulgamore appointed Curtis after she received approval from the

faculty. Patricia Frick, last year's acting provost, is now an associate professor of English on leave this semester.

The provost is the chief academic officer of the college, responsible for the entire academic program. She is

also the ultimate authority on all student appeals concerning grades, course requirements, and graduation requirements. Among other things, Curtis will be involved in decisions concerning the curriculum and the core requirement.

The Pleiad recently interviewed Curtis about her ideas concerning the curriculum and her role as the only African-American in the administration.

What are some of your goals in terms of the curriculum at Albion? Are there any changes that you hope to make?

"I think faculty as a whole is aware that students need a more global perspective—the students that

graduate from Albion College are going to compete with students from other colleges that have global education. This education includes cultural and ethnic

studies and may or may not include language. As for what the future holds, I don't know."

What is your impression of the new gender and ethnicity requirement for incoming freshmen?

"They seem necessary to try to make up for types of situations that have occurred in the past, to

bridge that gap. Perhaps we need to do this first in order to be able to move to another plane in the future."

Do you believe that your job as provost is different in any way because

you're African-American?

"Whether I really think it should be or not, yes. Definitely there are additional expectations, more so than there would be if a white male were in this position. It's more demanding in some respects: both in terms of the college community and the local community."

Do you think that you can set an example for other African-

Americans on campus?

"For me it's important to do my best as provost ... that is to do a good job. In that way, I think students, faculty, whoever, will be able to see that a person does try to do their best

regardless of whether they're African-American, white, male... whatever. That's the first thing that is important and you serve as a role model in that way."



Margret Curtis



Photo by Jonathan Beeton

Tuition increase didn't pay for Robinson Hall renovations

College trustees to decide on student union in October

By Bryan Bonnett

Unless you're as blind as a bat in Fiske House, you've probably noticed a few changes around campus this fall.

Robinson Hall is certainly the highlight of all these renovations. And as students admire the "Lux Fiat" in the entranceway, one question has come up again and again: Did we pay for all this?

Despite some rumors to the contrary, the \$4 million renovation of Rob Hall was not funded by last year's nearly 10 percent tuition increase.

In order to pay for Rob Hall and other renovations, the college took a loan from investors that it will pay back through fund-

raisers usually directed toward alumni.

This loan paid for everything that was done to Rob Hall before it opened for student and faculty use, according to Dale Dopp, vice-president for finance and management. This includes all interior

decorating, furniture and equipment (such as the new computers in the computer lab), Dopp said.

Once the building was completed, electrical, heating and cleaning costs were supported by students' tuition, Dopp said.

The increase also went to increase faculty salaries, fund laboratory technology and equipment, the computerization of the college. These are all elements required today to keep a college competitive, Dopp said.

Indirectly, tuition went to fund regular maintenance expenses in Seaton, Twin, International House and Fiske House over the summer.

Perhaps most surprising to students, the Rob Hall project managed to cost less than expected. The original figure called for \$4.375 million, but seems to be coming out at "around \$4 million," Dopp said.

The building was open for use about one week before classes started, but it is not yet complete. According to Dopp,

numerous minor details are not yet finished in the building or done correctly. The wood molding around the walls, for example, will have to be redone, according to Dopp.

What's the verdict?

Most students had a generally favorable response to the new Rob Hall. They said the building looks good and should do a lot for the college.

However, some students said the college invested a lot of money in renovating Rob Hall but failed to make the building practical. Overcrowded and small classrooms, small bathrooms on the fourth floor and desks that students can barely fit into were common complaints.

One feature students may have missed are the gargoyles in

the bathrooms. This decoration was "snuck in" by the architects at the last moment, according to Dopp.

What's next?

North Hall is already well underway, and while it will look similar to



Gargoyles in Rob Hall bathroom resembling Charles Schutz, professor of political science and Geoffery Cocks, professor of history.

Rob Hall, it will not be on as grand a scale, Dopp said. Rob Hall is intended to be the "focal centerpiece for the academics" as it once was and is now again, he said.

Whether gargoyles will inhabit North Hall bathrooms is yet to be seen.

And what comes after North Hall? "After North, there isn't any doubt in my mind that the union will be the next project for consideration by the Albion College Board of Trustees," Dopp said.

According to Dopp, the trustees are expected to give a clear signal as to whether or not the union project will proceed at their Oct. 5 meeting.

Architectural plans already exist for the union, while plans for Dickie Hall, the next building set for renovations, have not been completed.



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Seniors: community involvement, freshman year most memorable

By Melissa Kelly

In asking seniors what advice they would give to freshmen, a common thread came through: get involved!

Almost all the seniors interviewed said it was important to get involved with activities and not to worry about what other people think.

And when The Pleiad began asking these seniors about their most memorable experiences at Albion College, another common thread began to come through: freshman year.

Kelley Turnock, Columbus, Ohio, senior, said her most memorable time at Albion was "freshman year in general."

"It was eye-opening and challenging to be introduced to so many things in general," she said.

Daniel Cunningham, Livonia senior, agreed. He said he thinks most people who first arrive on campus tend to "underestimate the value of personal growth."

Cunningham also remembers his most memorable moment in his college career as happening during his freshman year.

"I looked in my room and my roommate was gone, and I

"If you know what you want and have an idea to get it done, get off your ass and get it done," he said. "Don't bitch and bitch and bitch."

Looking back at the time he spent on UB, Johnson said he is proud of the way it has progressed, and added that he thinks he played an important part in making it what it is today.

"I was pretty much a god," he said laughing. Involvement with Special Olympics gave Lynne Porter, Waterford senior, some of her greatest experiences during her time at Albion. Porter, who hopes to work with handicapped people in her career, volunteered for the Olympics for two years before becoming an event coordinator.



Dan Cunningham

"I've been working with handicapped people for years," Porter said. "I get a lot of satisfaction from seeing the joy and excitement on their faces."

Robert Dimitriou, Livonia senior, talked about the time he spent volunteering for the Foreign Language in the Elementary School program as one of his favorite experiences.

Dimitriou went with other students into Crowell Elementary School in Albion to help expose children to foreign languages.

"We opened a couple of people's eyes for future foreign language majors," he said. "If we got one kid turned on to French, it was worth it."

Working for the Kellogg Minority Science Enrichment Program was a memorable experience for Tungia Morris, Chicago, Ill., senior.

Morris has spent the past two summers working at a camp with 11- and 12-year-olds through the program. The kids learned about astronomy, chemistry and biology.

"It opened their minds to what science is really about, why it is fun," she said.

Morris said she enjoyed the program because working with kids gave her a chance to be a mentor, and at the same time get them interested in the sciences.

"I think that there may be some future doctors, engineers and scientists in that group," she said. "I could have directly affected a young person's life!"

Sorority and fraternity affiliations were also named by several seniors as contributing to their most memorable experiences.

"My most memorable and favorite experience at Albion College was the day I joined a fraternity," said Mike Juchno, Troy senior and Alpha Tau Omega member. "From that day on I have had several more memorable and favorable experiences that I can honestly say I wouldn't have had if I did not join a fraternity."

Many of the seniors also wanted to advise freshmen not to waste the time they have at Albion.

"In the long run it's not the exams that stick in your mind, it's the memorable times you've shared with your friends, so enjoy it while you can," Cho said.



Jerry Johnson

thought, 'Oh shit, I'm not going to be able to handle it,'" he said. "I looked back on that moment two weeks later and realized how far I had come."

Freshman year also provided some favorite experiences for Lakshmi Tegulapalle, Battle Creek senior. "Everything is more laid back freshman year," she said.

"Freshman year is a time to stay up all night doing absolutely nothing — productive, that is, other than talking to others."

Aside from freshman year, a wide range of experiences were listed as the most memorable times spent at Albion.

Charles (Torrell) Humphries, Ceresco senior, found the Black Student Alliance played a memorable role in his experiences at Albion.

Humphries became involved with BSA during his freshman year as a means of support and information. He explained that Albion is not a diverse campus, and BSA "allowed me to stay aware of my cultural background and... it has allowed me to educate others about my cultural awareness."

"[BSA] allowed us to become politically involved in campus issues concerning the social welfare of students," he added.

Although his participation in the band and his election as president of Tau Kappa Epsilon have been important parts of his college experience, Tekonsha senior Jerry Johnson chose the two years he spent working with Union Board as his most memorable.

Johnson, who served as UB president last year, said he got involved with UB because he didn't like the way the organization was being run. He said he wanted to take a hands-on approach to the problem, rather than just complaining.

Advice to the freshman...

What would you tell a first year Albion student about your experience in college?

What advice would you give him or her about setting priorities, getting involved and making the most of four years here?

The Pleiad gave 30 seniors the chance to give freshmen advice about Albion College that they cannot find in the student handbook.

These seniors were chosen by their involvement in the college and their general maturity. Time would not allow us to interview all the seniors, though we would have liked to... There is nothing scientific about our survey, but the answers these seniors gave aren't any less real because of this. We hope the information presented here will help guide freshmen in their decisions in the next four years and be of use to the rest of the college community as well.

A closer look at the freshmen

Stats: There are 508 new freshmen on campus this fall, 40 less than last year's class, and there are 27 National Merit Scholars, one more than the class of 1991. Last year 101 freshmen lived in Seaton Hall! Only 58 freshmen are there this year.

Last year's Bash



Students sign up for the Appalachian Service Project at last fall's Briton Bash. This is just one of the volunteer groups that will be in the Quad today.

Briton Bash: A chance to get involved!

"The Place 2B" today will be the Quad, from 5 to 8 p.m., where the second annual Briton Bash will unfold.

The Briton Bash is an organizational fair where students can gain information about Albion's campus groups. It is intended to increase student involvement, foster a sense of college community and increase organizational activity on campus. Booths for 76 organizations will be set up to answer your questions and allow you to join the groups.

Entertainment scheduled includes live music from two bands: the R.I.P. Gypsies and Pangea. The British Eighth and mimes from the Albion Performance Troupe will also perform. WLBN, the college radio station, will broadcast the Bash live. Union Board is also sponsoring a concert featuring the Bad Examples on the Kresge steps, not Goodrich Chapel as advertised, at 7:30 p.m. Opening will be Missionary Stew, the rain locale will be Kresge Gym. Also, UB will show "Father of the Bride" at 8 and 10 p.m. in Norris 101.

Seniors: handling use and abuse of drugs and alcohol on campus

By Melissa Kelly

One of the down sides of any college experience is seeing peers struggle against problems with drugs or alcohol.

After over three years at Albion College, many seniors have been exposed to all phases of drug and alcohol use and abuse.

While some didn't consider drugs or alcohol to be problems on Albion's campus, others have had friends or classmates who have had to leave school because

of the extent of their problems. The Pleiad asked some seniors to share their experiences with drugs and alcohol at Albion.

Most students said they had not used drugs during their time at Albion; but many had experiences with others who were using drugs.

Kelley Turnock, Columbus, Ohio, senior, said problems were more visible during her first years at Albion.

"Freshman and sophomore years were more shocking than now," she said. "Things that in high school were shocking aren't as shocking now."

Robert Dimitriou, Livonia senior, had a similar experience during his sophomore year. He said at one point he felt like everyone he knew was smoking marijuana.

Dimitriou added that at first he would leave the room when others were smoking marijuana, but after a while, "I got used to it," he said.

"This atmosphere is conducive to drug and alcohol abuse, but it is kept in perspective," said Daniel Cunningham, Livonia senior. "If you have the right focus it is not a problem."

"Yes, I have used alcohol," said Mike Juchno, Troy senior. "Through my experiences I have found that alcohol, if used responsibly, can be fun and add to a social setting."

"Allow me to add that I believe alcohol abuse is a common cause of numerous problems in life," he continued. "Consequently, alcohol use at the college level should be taken seriously."

Stephen Mattichak, Plainwell senior, said his approach to al-

cohol use has been "more of a lifestyle choice, an adult decision."

Making friends with values and ideas similar to hers helped Linda Butch, Gladstone senior, make her freshman year a "positive experience." She said that, although her first experience with alcohol was at Albion, she felt it was her choice and not a result of peer pressure.

Brenda Grile, Lowell senior, said she found alcohol more accessible on campus than it was for her at home, and added that

added that by drinking responsibly and arranging priorities, staying out of academic trouble is easy.

"You have to decide to who and what you feel responsible," he said.

Johnson added that if someone decides his or her responsibility is "to a fifth [of alcohol] a night, I probably won't see you next year."

Many students have found through the years that drug and alcohol use may be a source of more problems than pleasures.

'Stick to what you believe in and what you feel comfortable doing.'

—Lynne Porter

"My personal experience would be that my class in particular has a lot of drug and alcohol problems," said Lynne Porter, Waterford senior,

"I know a lot of people who have dropped behind personally and academically [due to drug and alcohol use]."

Grile said although she knows people who have dropped out of Albion, she believes it was as much academic difficulty as "partying too much" that caused them to leave.

Other seniors said they had seen more affects of drugs or alcohol on their peers. Butch said she knows around 10 people who had fallen behind in school because of drugs or alcohol. She said most of them were regretful that they hadn't studied more or been more serious earlier.

Cunningham said "a fair number of freshmen" that he knew had to leave school because of such problems.

"Freshman year is a really formative year, and there were guys I saw from day one that I knew were not going to make it," he said. "You can pick them out pretty early."

Morris said she does not drink or take drugs, and offered some advice for freshmen: "I don't recommend drugs because they inhibit a person's performance," she said. "If a person wants to drink, then do it moderately and slowly. Don't try to impress others because it is the 'in' thing."

Porter agreed. "Stick to what you believe in and what you feel comfortable doing," she said. "Drugs and alcohol are not the means of a good time, they are the product of one."



Lynne Porter

Jerry Johnson, Tekonsha senior, agreed. "The chains of living with parents, the realm of high school are gone," he said.

To avoid abusing the freedoms of college involves "preventive maintenance" and "is a matter of discipline," Johnson said. He

NEWSBRIEFS

1991-92 Albionian sent to printer; new editor named

Due to the summer resignation of 1992-93 Albionian editor Amy Paeth, Bay City senior, there has been some confusion about the status of the 1991-92 yearbook. According to yearbook advisor Jody Sharrow, the 1991-92 book has been sent to the printers, and the projected release date is "sometime in November." Sharrow added that pending Publications Council approval Martin Eltzroth, Lansing sophomore, has been named editor of the 1992-93 yearbook.

Six new members elected to Publications Council

Six new members of the Publications Council were elected on Sept. 2. They are: Adrienne Killackey, Burnsville Minn. junior; Kristina Korbakis, Battle Creek sophomore; Michelle Murawski, Rochester freshman; Joe Rowley, Hudson junior; Sarah VandenBout, Grand Rapids sophomore; and Kirk Warner, Paw Paw junior.

In addition to the students two faculty are also on the Council: James Diedrick, associate professor of English, and Kim Tunnicliff, director of the Ford Institute for Public Service. Lee Williams, newly-appointed director of Campus Programs and Organizations, is the staff representative.

The Publications Council is the governing board of The Pleiad, The Albionian, and The Albion Review. It organizes budgets, appoints editors and enforces publication guidelines.

Delta Gamma reinstated

After a five-year absence, Delta Gamma, Albion College's oldest sorority, is returning as an active chapter to the campus.

A recolonization program was sponsored by the Delta Gamma national office last week. The program included an information session, informal interviews with national and alumnae representatives, and a preference party to pledge new members.

The Zeta Chapter of Delta Gamma will be formally reinstated Dec. 11-12. Fall pledges will be initiated during that weekend. They will then be able to participate as active chapter members in formal rush during second semester.

SPERT needs volunteers

Students and Parents Enjoying Reading Together needs several volunteers from the college to help area children improve their reading skills, according to a letter recently circulated on campus. A training session will be offered to volunteers prior to starting. Anyone interested may contact the Albion Volunteer Service Center at 629-5574, or Dorothy Kammer at 629-9166.

Year's first writing comp. exam scheduled for Sept. 19

The first writing competency exam of the year will be given from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19 in Norris 101. Students must register in the English department office (Epworth 100) no later than 3 p.m. Sept. 17. There will be a review session at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 17 in Epworth 202.

Some information compiled from college press releases.

EDITORIAL

as we see it. Academic renovations

Changes and improvements around Albion this year are apparent everywhere. Though the verdict on how positive these changes will be is left to the future, the presence of change itself should be cause for rejoicing.

It shows that the college administration — specifically the president — is making an honest and concerted effort to improve our school.

The Pleiad believes it is now time for the students and professors to start making progress where the administration has left off by improving the academic atmosphere at Albion.

Aside from the obvious building improvements, the college has been more successful in recruiting top students in the last two years, has instituted a gender and ethnicity requirement for freshmen, and has hired its first full-time African-American faculty member, Floyd Perry, professor of education.

Students must reciprocate with efforts of their own if our college is going to move from a good institution to a great one.

This means being vocal and responsive in class discussions. The upperclassmen, especially, have a responsibility to set an example and show that it is not "cool" to sit silently in the back of classrooms.

This also requires professors to encourage student involvement and make them feel comfortable responding in class. Complaining to a class that it's lazy or too quiet is not a solution for students' lack of interest.

Trying to get students involved in class discussions takes more than asking if there are any questions after a 50 minute lecture. If your techniques haven't worked in the past maybe it is your method of teaching that needs modification, not the student's attitudes.

Professors who try to be patient, receptive and interested in what they are teaching seem to have the best results.

All the construction companies in the world cannot renovate mental complacency. It will take concerted effort from students and professors to improve our academic climate. And to make sure that students will be attracted to Albion for more than just nice buildings,

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

Pleiad states goals, responsibilities to students, community and Ghandi

Khalil Gibran, a famous poet once said, "I can't wait to reach eternity because there I will meet all my unwritten poetry and unpainted pictures."

The staff of The Pleiad would add to this: "all the unread Pleiads."

Imagine if eternity did contain all the unread Pleiads. There would hardly be any room for anything or anyone else. I'd bet we'd find only Ghandi and Martin Luther King Jr., keeping themselves busy playing one-on-one basketball and waiting for at least two more players for a good game.

We at The Pleiad are dedicated to reducing the number of unread Pleiads. The

Pleiad has a new style this semester, a new appearance, theory and attitude. The first goal of these changes is to get more people at Albion to read their paper.

Our hope is that if people do read The Pleiad, it will have a positive effect—on the reader and on the college community as a whole.

The editors and writers of The Pleiad are dedicated to improving Albion in any way possible through our college paper. We do this by pointing out where the college is succeeding and encouraging that success to continue, as well as indicating Albion's failures and offering solutions.

The Pleiad can be a unifying tool, involving its readers through letters, personal columns, short fiction and poetry. This is why we

will approach you, our readers, throughout the semester to contribute to The Pleiad.

We will try to focus our stories on people and issues instead of events. We hope this will make The Pleiad more thought provoking and, at the same time, more interesting.

Lastly, The Pleiad exists with the attitude that we are a college newspaper. And that college is a time for students to do things they wouldn't be able to do in writing for Albion's public relations department or The New York Times.

You can be imaginative, avant-garde or even weird. The Pleiad will give students the sacred opportunity to be... creative!

We hope you'll be reading when this momentous occasion occurs.

The Pleiad statement of purpose

With the beginning of a new semester, the editors wish to clarify The Pleiad's purpose and editorial policy for its readership.

The Pleiad is a student-run publication. It is owned by Albion College, which has vested the power of publisher in the Albion College Publications Council, and is voluntarily bound by the Publications Guidelines of Albion College. The newspaper has two purposes: To inform the college community and train students interested in journalism.

Because The Pleiad is a student newspaper, its news content is usually concentrated on issues about or relevant to the college community. Although The Pleiad occasionally prints news items about the greater Albion community, other Great Lakes Colleges Association member schools, and national colleges in general, a greater emphasis is placed on the Albion College community—an area where its editors and writers enjoy greater expertise and influence.

Every event that occurs within that sphere cannot be covered, however. Space and staff limitations require that The Pleiad cover and print only that which is of the most interest to the college community as a whole.

The Pleiad staff strives to report the news as accurately as possible. The code of ethics adopted and followed by the newspaper staff clearly prohibits any reporter or editor from working on a news article if that person has a vested interest in the article's subject.

Editorial Policy

The editorial staff of The Pleiad decides the content of the newspaper each week, including policies and editorials. The staff is comprised of the editors and staff writers whose names appear in the masthead. Unsigned editorials represent the opinions of a majority of the editors.

Columns appearing on the opinions, events, or sports pages, or articles marked as "reviews," reflect the opinions of those who sign them.

Letters and Columns

Inherent in the concept of free speech is public access to the media. The Pleiad opinions pages are forums for free expression, discussion, debate, and inquiry in the form of personal view columns, cartoons, and letters to the editor submitted by readers.

Personal view columns are designed for commentary which, for reasons of clarity, require a sizable amount of space. Readers wishing to write a personal view column are urged to contact the editor in chief or the opinions editor for arrangements.

Letters to the editor are briefer comments, usually containing no more than 300 words. The letter deadline is 4 p.m. the Monday before publication. Letters should be mailed to The Pleiad or placed in The Pleiad mailbox at the CPO office.

All letters to the editor that meet the following criteria will be published:

All contributions must be legible and include the writer's name and telephone number. The Pleiad reserves the right to reject letters to the editor that are libelous or obscene, to edit as necessary for space limitations, grammatical or spelling errors, and Pleiad style.

Advertising

In an effort to maintain consistency between the business and editorial departments, The Pleiad reserves the right to reject all advertising that violates the policies and philosophies of the newspaper. The advertising deadline is 10 days before the date of publication. All inquiries regarding advertising should be directed to the business manager.

The Pleiad

Albion College Weekly
Founded by the class of 1886

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Style

Fraternity members evaluate new RA policy

By Rebecca Daniel

The new resident assistant policy in the fraternity houses has been both welcomed and criticized by fraternity members.

"We wake up one morning to find these programs have been instituted," said Brett Decker, Troy senior, Sigma Chi president and RA. "Most of us are frustrated by the lack of voice the Greeks have in the establishment of new policies."

The Albion College Board of Trustees approved a series of policies aimed at reforming Greek housing last April. The new policy included provisions for an RA on each floor of the house and a residence coordinator for the entire fraternity system.

This policy allows the college to administer Greek housing in the same manner as other residential halls owned by the college.

The selection of an RA is based on interviews conducted by Residential Life staff as well as recommendations made by the fraternity. The RA on call is also required to do "walk-throughs" nightly, and any disturbances

'We are now the Alpha Tau Omega dorm.'

—Shawn Borich

must be documented.

Edward Merrill, Eaton Rapids junior and member of Alpha Tau Omega, said he believes the sense of anger stems from apprehension about the college's ideas of dealing with the fraternities.

He said this may be only the first of a series of manipulative changes instituted by the college. He said he suspects that, in the future, RAs may be selected from outside the Greek system.

A fellow brother, Shawn Borich, Milford junior, put it this way: "We are now the Alpha Tau Omega dorm!"

On the other hand, some Greeks have accepted this policy as a method of self government. It will enable them to approach and tackle problems the way they see fit, instead of allowing outside influences to govern their behavior.

Steve Bloomfield, newly-appointed residence coordinator of the fraternities, said he trusts

this new policy, as well as the RAs' dedication towards the policy.

"It's a tough time," Bloomfield said. "There are a lot of issues and liabilities wherever you go, and it doesn't matter if it is in the business world or college world—these [RAs] are just resources we can use to solve problems before they get started."

Tom Reason, Pickney junior and past president of Delta Sigma Phi, said he thinks the policy is great because it minimizes the hassles placed on the president of the fraternity and directs them towards the RA.

"As long as it is run appropriately and each house gives each other respect, it will be fine," Reason said.

But is this policy strong enough to get a fraternity member to "write up" his own Greek brother?



Steve Bloomfield

Photo by Jonathan Beeton

Although his allegiance is strong, Decker said he must first attempt to accomplish what is best for the fraternity; and his allegiance does not exempt him from his responsibility as an RA.

Based on interviews and the opinions expressed, the Greeks seem to accept the policy like one

would accept castor oil—it may taste awful going down but sometimes the results are beneficial. Only time will disclose if this policy will be advantageous to the Greeks, or just make them sick.

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Editor's note: Letters have been pouring into The Pleiad this week asking just one crucial question. No, they're not about the tuition increase or the state of our beloved institution of higher learning. They all ask: How can I spot a freshman in a crowd?!

As usual, we at The Pleiad have all the answers. So for the sake of our readers we shed light on this perplexing subject in:

Top Ten ways to spot freshmen in a crowd

1. Sporting their varsity H.S. '92 letter jackets.
2. Everyone who eats breakfast before 8.
3. Freshly printed Albion sweatshirts.
4. Asking seniors if they, too, are freshmen.
5. Paying homage to the porcelain throne.
6. Being a member of Baldwin's clean plate club.
7. Learning that Mel and Nan are not another hot freshman couple.
8. Bringing money to pay for the movies at Norris.
9. Not being able to pronounce Greek letters; asking where Omega Moos party.
10. Asking their professors if it is o.k. to write in their books!

Events not on the calendar:

Saturday:

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Student volunteer fair at Tennant Hall (in Goodrich Chapel complex).

12 p.m. Shuttle to Battle Creek Mall, returns at 4 p.m.

8 p.m. Guest recital, concert organist Yun Yang-Hee, Goodrich Chapel.

Wednesday:

5 p.m. Debate Team open meeting, Rob. 202.

Thursday:

4 to 6 p.m. Open hearing on Mission/Admissions sponsored by Strategic Planning Committee, Norris 101.

7 to 9 p.m. Informational session on graduate school applications, Norris 101.

Consult the Albion College fall calendar for other events.

Union Board presents:

Father of the Bride
Friday, Sept. 11

The Prince of Tides
Saturday, Sept. 12

8 p.m. & 10 p.m. Norris 101

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