

Friday, February 21 1997

NEWS



Are Female profs an endangered species?

At least nine female professors will have left campus by the end of next year.

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Does Albion College provide job security to its employees?

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Associate director of career development clarifies her office's role.

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Albion community schools celebrate Black History Month

Albion College is not the only educational institution to celebrate this holiday. The local elementary schools held their own unique celebrations.

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IM: it's all for fun

Albion intermural basketball players take the game to a new level.

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New tennis coach

Despite his lack of tennis coaching experience, Darrell Sedersten takes on the training of the women's tennis team, leaving some players with questions.

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Push for parking leads to dead ends

By Laurie Schulz
Staff Writer

Campus safety refers to them as "gypsy parkers" — permitless parkers wandering from one lot to the next, night after night, in hopes of avoiding a ticket.

Parking, or lack thereof, is not news to the Albion College community. One needs only to look outside to see that cars on campus far outnumber available spots. So what's being done about it?

Currently Albion has 364 first-year students, 396 sophomores, 271 juniors and 364 seniors on campus. Of these students, 452 received parking permits for the 482 parking spots available to students, according to Heidi Cushman, Lincoln, Neb., senior and campus safety parking supervisor.

The remaining 30 spots are

for temporary permits and visitors.

Parking permits are guaranteed for juniors and seniors. "A committee then decides which sophomores and freshmen get the remaining permits based on factors such as distance from home, medical reasons, off-campus jobs or student-related activities," Cushman said.

Of the 452 permits distributed, 377 were given to juniors and seniors, leaving 75 spots for more than 250 freshmen and sophomores applying for permits.

"We make the best decision we can," said Mike Sequite, director of campus safety. "There is just not enough [parking] to go around."

According to Jennifer Iles, Indianapolis, Ind., senior, students who bring cars to campus

— see "Parking" pg. three



Sumo wrestlers grapple in the Stack during Union Board's "Battle of the Britons."
Photo by Joshua Bopp

New well aims to prevent contamination

A newly approved bond proposal could bring the city and college better water

By Britt Halvorson
Staff Writer

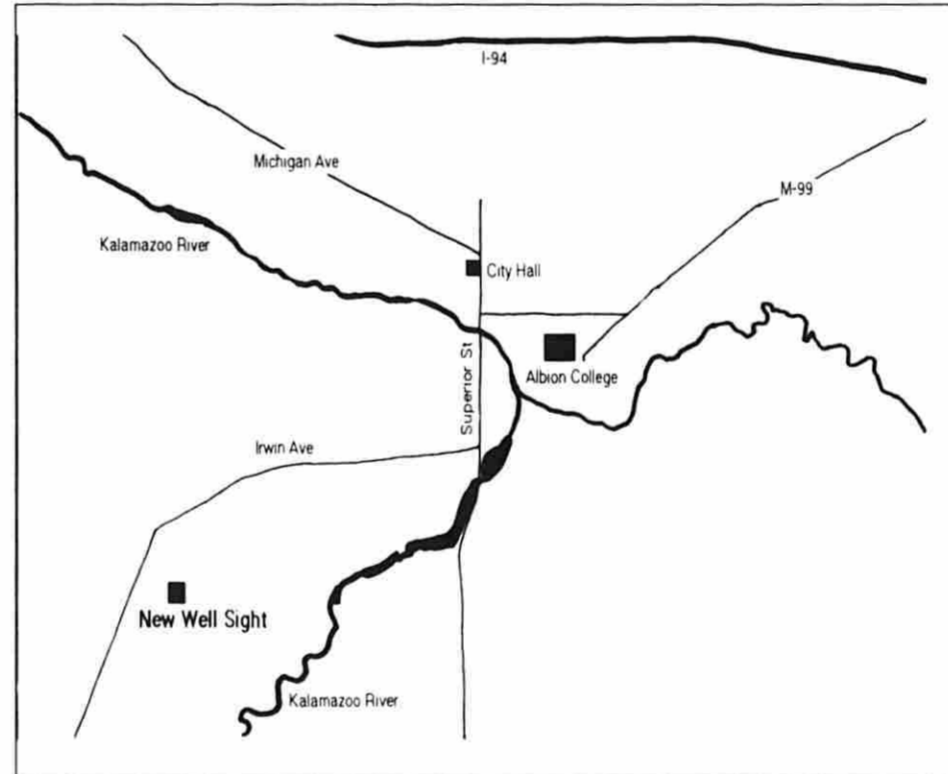
The EPA estimates that \$138.4 billion will be needed over the next 20 years to replace or upgrade the nation's drinking water infrastructure.

The City of Albion is one example of this statistic.

On Jan. 28, Albion residents approved, by a 601-158 vote, a \$1.7 million bond proposal that could result in improved water. It would assist in setting up a new city well field with two wells, a water transmission line to the city, and an iron and manganese treatment plant.

According to a Dec. 4, 1996 report from the Municipal Water Fact-Finding Committee, the proposed 10-acre site, at Irwin Avenue, would replace the current Clark Street wells which have supplied most of the city's water since 1988 and have recently raised concerns about the safety of the water.

According to Lawrence Taylor, professor of geology and member of the Greater Albion Alliance 2000, a community organization working towards improving the town of Albion. "Albion's present water drawn from the Clark Street well is



safe, but there is a very strong possibility that it could become contaminated in the very near future."

The Dec. 4 report also stated that the Clark Street wells, located a little over a 1/3 mile from Cooper Industries, are currently threatened by possible contamination since Cooper Industries is pumping over 2 million gallons of water a day to purge TCE, a volatile organic compound, from the groundwater and surface soils.

According to the *Handbook of Drinking Water Quality* by John DeZuane, TCE exposure can result in central nervous sys-

tem depression and unconsciousness. Repeated exposure to TCE has also been linked to increased rates of non-Hodgkins lymphoma, a form of cancer. The TCE near Cooper Industries was apparently brought about through the use of solvents to control dust outside the plant, then owned by McGraw-Edison. Treatments have been utilized to clean the groundwater since 1984.

According to Taylor, if Cooper Industries stopped pumping, TCE could be drawn to the Clark Street wells and into the city water supply.

Other concerns about the

current location include leakage from underground fuel storage tanks at the nearby Street Department garage as well as possible contaminants from the old Brooks Foundry, Inc. site, 3/4 mile away. The proposed Irwin Avenue site used to be owned by WALM and held the radio station's transmitters.

"I think the city is quite fortunate to have found the location that they have," Taylor said. "The new site will provide us with the same water as the old site except that it will be free from sources of contamination." He pointed out several reasons why he finds the Irwin Avenue site acceptable. One reason is that the underlying strata composed of Marshall sandstone provides tremendous quantities of water.

"This supply of water from the Marshall sandstone is probably one of the largest groundwater supply areas in the country," Taylor said. A study done by Michigan State University found that there are a trillion gallons of water just under Calhoun County. The volume of water would be equal to five cubic miles of water with lay-

— See 'Water,' page two

NEWS

'Water,' continued from page one

ers of sandstone and gravel above it. Since Albion is located at "the Forks," the Kalamazoo River is a useful buffer to protect the groundwater supply at the Irwin Avenue site. Taylor explained that gravity naturally pushes the groundwater to the river. The river then acts as a natural filter to the flow of possibly contaminated groundwater from the city.

The proposed Irwin Avenue site is also a fair distance, about two miles, from the Brownswood Road well field, Taylor said, which assisted in providing the

Irwin Avenue wells would draw down or dry out their personal wells. Taylor said that it would be impossible for the site to dry out area wells.

He gave several examples of situations that have demonstrated the area's immense water supply. During growing season, irrigation wells in the township used a reasonably equal amount of water to that being pumped by the city, yet, Taylor said, there has been no effect on area wells.

According to Taylor, Cooper Industries is drawing over 2 million gallons of water a day from the same geologic formation to clean TCE from the supply,

but local wells have not been affected by the pumping. "There's really enough water for everyone," Taylor said.

Taylor also addressed the issue of whether or not the city's geologic research firm, Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, was accurate in its recommendation of the Irwin Avenue site.

The firm is a reliable source with licensed hydrogeologists, Taylor said, and would not have merely concluded what the city wanted them to. "That's self-defeating. Where would the city be without a well that's reliable?"

what the city wanted them to. "That's self-defeating. Where would the city be without a well that's reliable?"

Ideally, there are better conditions for a well site, Taylor stated, but then one runs into problems. A site far from the city would not be cost-effective. Available land is also an issue, Taylor said. "You have a lot of constraints."

Taylor mentioned that he and Timothy Lincoln, associate professor of geology, met with Fishbeck, et al, and both were satisfied with the group's study of the Irwin Avenue site. "Many of the same questions people have been asking — we've asked them."

Rick Mandle, a hydrogeologist with Fishbeck, et al, said that the first tests the group completed were simply to find out if the aquifer would provide enough water for Albion.

If property details are finalized and the city and the township work out an

agreement, the wells will be installed. Then Fishbeck will complete long-term tests required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality on the two proposed wells, Mandle explained.

Another measure required by many states, although not Michigan, but will still be implemented, is that municipalities establish a well field, and set aside a well head protection zone, Taylor said.

The protection zone can be from 1/4 - 1 square mile surrounding the well and it ensures that no disruptive human activity can occur within the specified parameters. Fertilizer plants, gasoline storage tanks, and feed lots, for example, could have undesirable effects on a water supply.

Taylor said that this stipulation would be an advantage to local Albion Township residents. "It's like living in a nature preserve."

Township residents, however, also have questions about the pipeline which is to transport water from the Irwin Avenue site to the new treatment plant. They wonder what effects the installation of the pipeline will have on their property.

Lewis Steinbrecher, city manager and member of the Greater Albion Alliance 2000, said that the city hopes to work with Albion Township officials so that everyone is informed. As for the pipeline, the city expects to be able to stay within the right-of-way of 25 1/2 Mile Road, Steinbrecher said.

From the pipeline, water would arrive at the proposed treatment plant where iron and manganese would be removed from the water supply. These two elements are primarily responsible for the rust, orange and black discolorations which have been bothersome to Albion residents.

A flier distributed by the Greater Albion Alliance 2000 states that the treat-

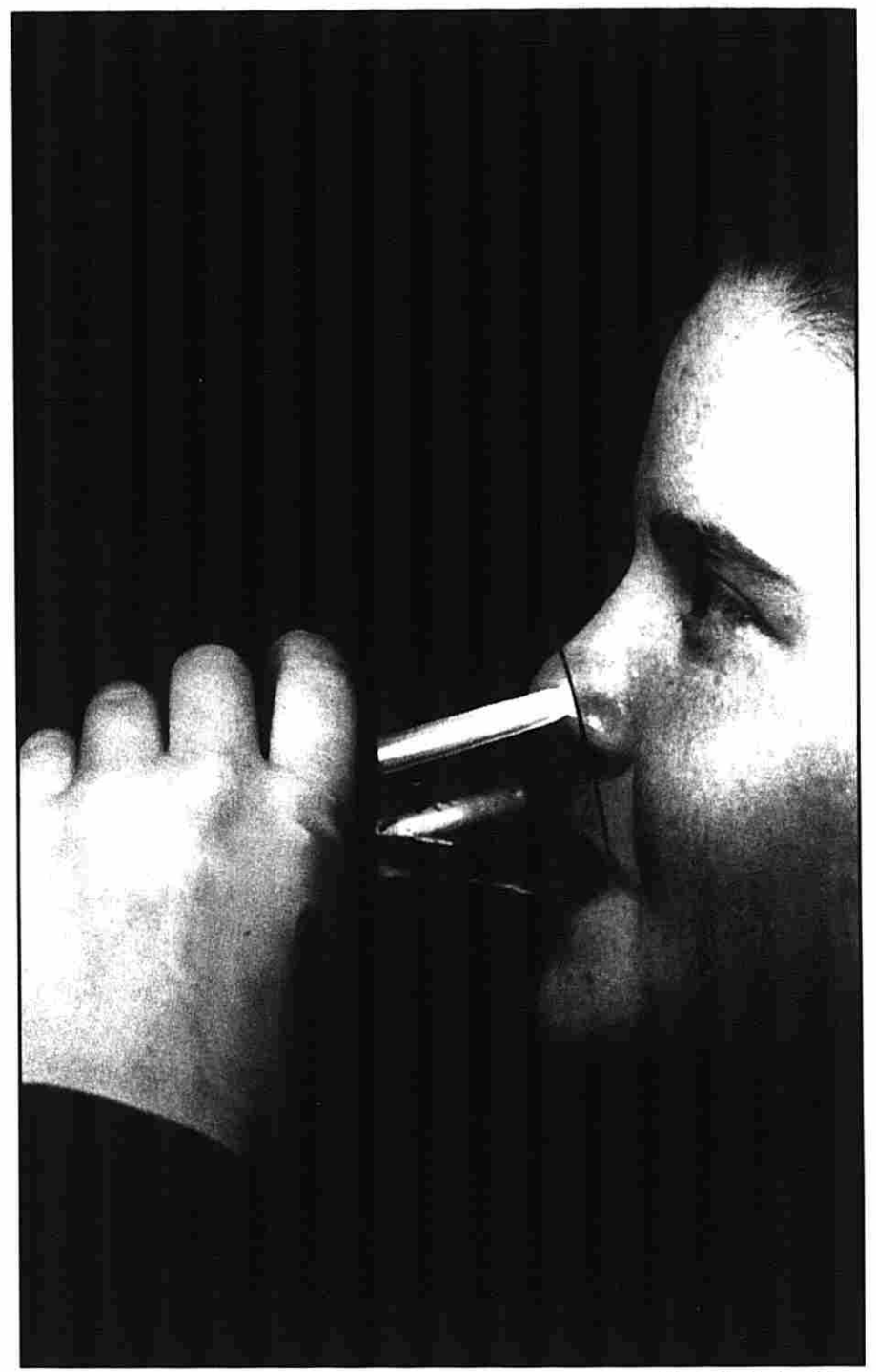
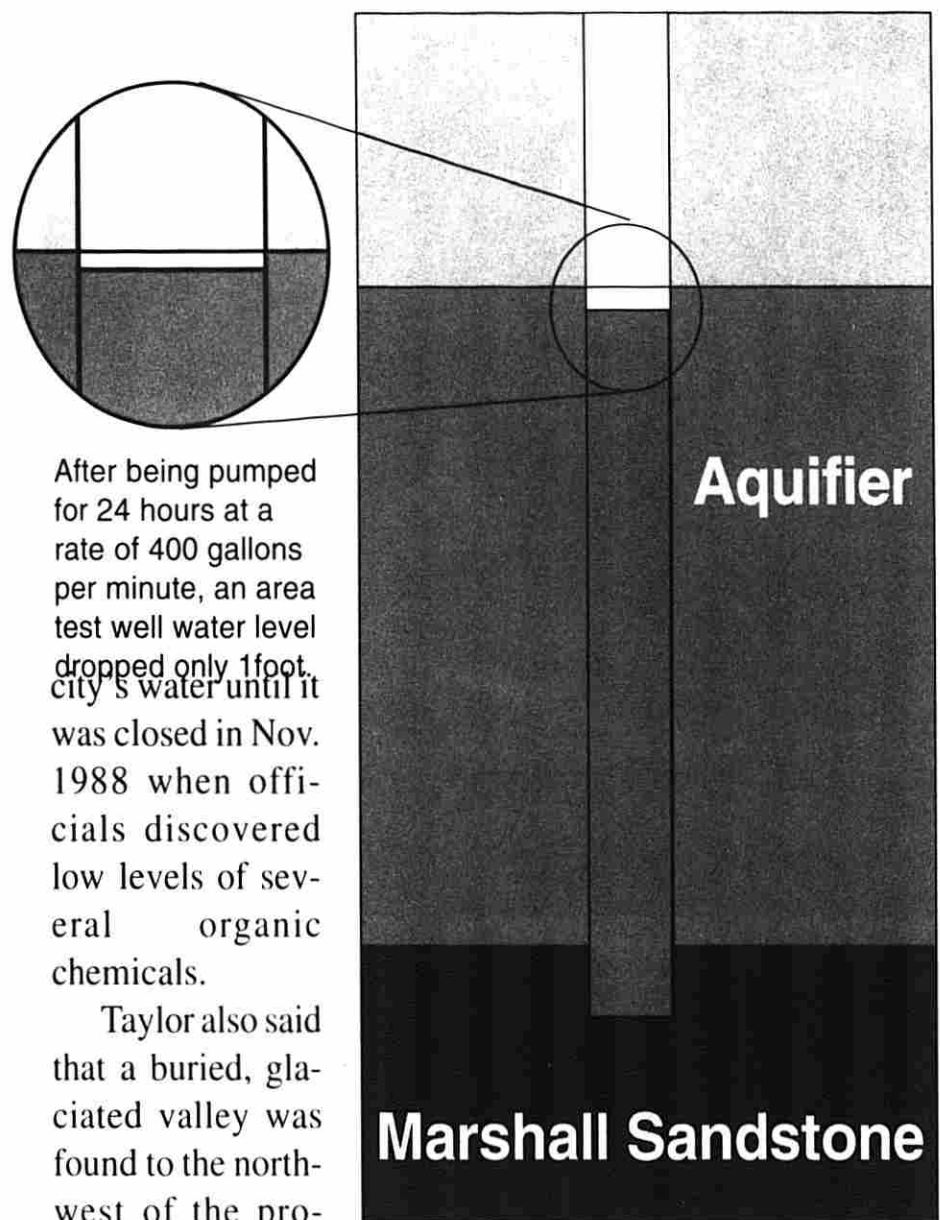


Photo by Joshua Bopp
Amy Shira, Gambier, Ohio, sophomore, drinks some Albion water from the old well site. According to Lawrence Taylor, professor of geology, this water is safe but there is a strong possibility that it could become contaminated.



After being pumped for 24 hours at a rate of 400 gallons per minute, an area test well water level dropped only 1 foot, city's water until it was closed in Nov. 1988 when officials discovered low levels of several organic chemicals.

Taylor also said that a buried, glaciated valley was found to the northwest of the proposed site. Over thousands of years, the valley was filled 200 feet deep with sands and gravel. Rain and snow can now percolate into those sands and gravel which then store the precipitation and, therefore, according to Taylor, there are really two sources of water: the Marshall sandstone and the sands and gravel in the area.

One geologic feature in question, however, is the unconfined aquifer. The Irwin Avenue site would be drawing water from an unconfined aquifer which could be structurally vulnerable to contaminants.

Although the surface area does have communication with underlying glacial deposits, it is not in direct communication, Taylor said. A layer of clay acts as a barrier to filter contaminants and the gravel above it has a similar function.

Some Albion Township residents have expressed concerns that the new

ment will significantly improve the water's clarity, odor and taste. Residents will still need to use a water softener but with the new treatment, the softening process may operate more efficiently.

Now that the bond proposal has been approved, Steinbrecher said that the city hopes to take two steps simultaneously toward an improved water supply.

Engineers will begin a final design of the project and apply for various approvals and permits from the state. The city also wants to plan a series of meetings with township officials to negotiate a utility franchise agreement which would then be put up for approval by township residents.

The Dec. 4 Municipal Water Fact-Finding Committee report stated that "complaints about the City of Albion's municipal water are serious and persistent. There are credible reports that people have declined to move here and that prospective students have declined to enroll at Albion College because of them."

Regardless of whether or not this is true, Albion is doing something about its water problems, heeding EPA administrator Carol M. Brower's advice that, "we can no longer take safe drinking water for granted."

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Newsbriefs

President-elect Mitchell to host open meeting Tuesday

President-elect Peter Mitchell will be on campus Tuesday for a series of meetings. He will also hold an open, informal meeting with students in order to become acquainted with personnel and issues facing the college and his presidency.

He will be available in the Kellogg Center Living Room from 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday. All students are invited to attend.

Members of the Detroit Lions visited campus

Bobby Ross, head coach of the Detroit Lions, and five other members of the Lions organization were on campus Wednesday, Feb. 12. The Lions are looking for a small college near Detroit to hold their summer training sessions. Jim Conway, director of Dow Recreation and Wellness Center and head baseball coach, showed Ross and the other Lion's members Albion's sport facilities.

According to Conway, Albion was one of several schools the Lions were interested in, including Hillsdale, Alma and Adrian colleges.

"They asked a lot of questions and I answered them the best I could," said Conway. "The campus responded very professionally and courteously when I was showing them around."

Conway also stated that the Lions will be in contact if they decide to use Albion. Asked if he thought Albion would be the Lion's choice, Conway responded, "I don't have a feeling one way or another. I'm just proud that they were even considering Albion."

Saturday will be the 12th annual "Walk for Warmth"

The Community Action Agency of South Central Michigan is sponsoring its twelfth annual "Walk for Warmth" in Barry, Branch, St. Joseph and Calhoun counties in order to raise money to aid families with heat-related emergencies. Hundreds of people will make pledged walks so that people in these communities will not have to be cold in their own homes. Participants will meet at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in Tenant Hall.

'Parking,' continued from page one



Photo by Joshua Bopp

A campus safety officer issues a permit violation ticket in the always crowded Lot 8 (Whitehouse).

without getting a proper permit often take the spaces reserved for permit parking. "I'll go out to dinner with my friends and when we get back, there are absolutely no spots left."

Parking without a permit displayed is the most frequent parking ticket given by campus safety. "Last semester we handed out 2,002 parking tickets...1,399 were for not having a permit," Sequite said. "We target the people without permits to make it fair for the people who have them and have gone through the system."

Yearly parking permits are \$50 and various parking violations can result in tickets with fines ranging from \$5-\$25 depending on the violation. According to Sequite, campus safety collects \$22,600 in permit fees and approximately \$18,000 in parking fines a year.

According to Mark Holbrook, director of accounting, the approximate \$40,000 collected from parking is put into the miscellaneous fines and fees account which is used for

general operations of the college. Holbrook also said there is nothing in the current operating budget allotted for new parking lots.

Sequite, the administration, and past student senate committees, have tried repeatedly over the years to increase the amount of parking for the college through numerous proposals. "We just can't get the spots."

The teacher's lot behind Albion Open School was once used as an extra lot for students. According to Sequite, students took advantage of it, leaving no spots for the teachers.

The college must also work with the city of Albion and its zoning laws. "Just recently we tried to put in two more lots down on Porter Street but when we took our proposal to the city zoning commission, it was denied," Sequite explained. "The city doesn't want any more parking lots in that area."

Space for parking lots is also restricted by the amount of property the college owns. According to Sequite, a plan was

made to expand the lot on Farley Drive by the Dow Recreation and Wellness Center into a storage lot for student cars. It was discovered that the college does not own all the property in that area and efforts to purchase it were unsuccessful.

Sequite also cited the constant restructuring of the campus as an obstacle.

"It's a constant battle," he noted. "We lost 20 spots with the new admissions building, but then gained 42 with the restructuring of the Twin and Whitehouse lots. Then we lost more spots when the annexes were torn down. It just keeps on going."

There are currently no major plans for parking improvements on campus. Sequite believes students can be more persuasive with the administration than he can.

"If the students want it and they decide it's a priority for them, they could do it," Sequite said. "We've tried everything from assigned spots to a simple free-for-all. I'm open to any ideas, just let us know."



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The Feb. 14 issue of *The Pleiad* made the following errors:

-Denise Zao's name was misspelled in the page 3 article "Career development makes changes to help students."
-Beng (Barney) Quah's name was misspelled in the page 1 article "Student access to ResNet expands."

The Pleiad regrets these errors.

NEWS

What is job security at a liberal arts college?

By Brian Longheier
Staff Editor

In the month of December, three Albion College employees lost their job security.

Lee Williams, director of campus programs and organizations and assistant dean of students, was forced to resign, and Patricia Visser, assistant professor of biology, and Teresa Stojkov, assistant professor of foreign languages, were denied tenure.

These cases illustrate the complex nature of employment at Albion College - Williams had only a week to clean out her office, while Visser and Stojkov have over a year to find new jobs.

Job security. What do these words mean? Is tenure job security? Does a contract ensure job security?

What sort of contracts are Albion College faculty and staff issued?

According to Madeline Adie, director of human resources, Albion College has three types of employees: administrative staff, faculty, and hourly employees.

Administrative staff, who fill salaried, non-instructional positions, receive letters of appointment. Although not a contract, a letter of appointment outlines some of the specifics of the job, such as the title, the time the appointment begins,

and benefits.

"It's a job offer, and it gives the particulars of that offer," Adie said.

A standard condition in a letter of appointment states that the college has the prerogative to release the said employee with 30 days notice, Adie stated. This explains why Williams could be let go on a Wednesday and told to be out of her office by the weekend.

It appears that most faculty, though, have more job security than do administrative staff.

According to Dorothy Kammer, secondary education program administrator, tenure-track faculty are given contracts, although non-tenure track faculty receive letters of appointment.

Judith Lockyer, associate professor of English and chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, said that upon

being hired, tenure track faculty receive a six-year contract. Upon completion of this contract, the faculty member is reviewed for tenure. If granted tenure, this person will receive a renewable yearly contract, essentially guaranteeing a job until retirement. If denied, he or she will receive a contract for the following year only.

Adie explained, though, that she believes that job security involves more than contracts and tenure.

She emphasized her belief that em-

ployees themselves, whether administrative, faculty, or hourly, have some control over their job security. Employees should find employment opportunities that best fit their needs, she said. Even if that means changing jobs.

"No matter what employment relationship you're in, it's prudent of an employee to add value to his or her position," she said. "In my opinion, that's job security in the '90s."

She also emphasized the need for an employee to have a good relationship with his or her employer.

"I think it's an employee's responsibility to support and be loyal to his or her employer," she said, "and if that isn't happening someone should make an adjustment. If you don't feel you add value [to your company, working there] is a waste of time."

Adie said this is a principle that should be applied to both industry and academic institutions, with some modifications.

"You need to look at each individual organization when talking about job security," Adie said. "For a manufacturing company it's quality, delivery, and price. For an academic institution it's quality of education, reputation, and student enrollment."

"[College employees] should do everything possible to promote and retain students," she added. "that's job security."

Lockyer, however, emphasized that businesses and academic institutions operate differently. She cited the fact that when businesses face financial difficulties, they cut costs by laying off employees. If academic institutions were to do



Photo by Matthew Swanson

Madeline Adie, director of human resources

this, the students would suffer from the decline in the number of faculty.

Lockyer placed a great deal of stress on the importance of tenure to keep good faculty on campus.

"It's necessary. I really do believe it is," she said. "More than anything else, it is crucial that academic freedom be protected."

In response to the argument that once professors are tenured they "coast" for lack of a motivating factor, Lockyer said that the Faculty Affairs Committee continues to evaluate tenured faculty for promotions, raises, and bonuses. She said that professors who do not meet expectations will not be rewarded with these incentives.

She said that she does not see the abuse of the tenure system as a major problem.

"I just don't know any faculty who don't work very hard for fairly low pay," she said.

Albion's decline in female faculty is raising concerns

Tenure Statistics

For the 1996-97 academic year there are:

- 73 male professors
- 34 female professors

In the past five years:

- 11 male professors retired
- 8 male professors resigned
- 4 male professors were denied tenure
- 12.5 male professors were hired on tenure-track
- 1 female professor retired
- 12 female professors resigned
- 2 female professors were denied tenure
- 20.5 female professors were hired on tenure-track

By Mihaly Somers &
Jana Gray-Devitt
Staff Writers

A total of nine female professors will be leaving Albion by next year, prompting some concern about the college's ability to retain women educators.

Karen Inman, assistant professor of chemistry, Lori Sudderth, assistant professor of anthropology and sociology, Patricia Visser, assistant professor of biology, Teresa Stojkov, assistant professor of foreign language, Cathie Schweitzer, former assistant professor and chair of physical education, Catherine Lamb, associate professor of English, Pamela Regan, assistant professor of psychology, Jennifer Holbrook, assistant professor of psychology, and Donna Stone, assistant professor of physical education, have all left or have decided to leave Albion, some due to tenure denial and some for personal reasons.

"It is my belief that the situation [for women faculty] has gotten so much worse," stated Patricia Franzen, director of the Anna Howard Shaw Center for Women's Studies and Programs.

"Three large issues were the slow growth in the number and percentage of women faculty here, problems retaining women faculty, and the lack of seniority among women," Franzen wrote in the 1995/96 annual report from the Anna Howard Shaw Center.

"There are less tenured and tenure-track female professors at Albion College. And this has its consequences."

-Amanda Geerts, Grand Haven junior

"Obviously these issues are interrelated," Franzen said. Every year that I have been here (since 1992) we have lost women from tenured or tenure-track lines, all women who have 'voluntarily' left, including several senior women."

"Given the comparative low number of women we have here," Franzen continued, "these losses are significant, a 20% turnover in three years. I know this current year will continue the trend."

Many faculty declined to comment, most of whom are tenure-track and perhaps did not

wish to jeopardize their standing with the college by expressing their views.

Not everyone has felt the effects of discrimination that the departures may imply.

"I personally cannot attribute any difficult moments I may have had to the fact that I

am a woman," said Vera Wenzel, director of off-campus programs.

"That does not deny that there are women on campus who can attribute difficulties to the fact they are women," Wenzel said.

Others, such as Heidi Schwandt, Tecumseh senior, do see an uneven playing field. "As a future teacher, it's frustrating to see that we've reverted back to the old days when men ruled the field and women were struggling to get by," Schwandt said.

"I think there is a distinction in society's view that women are

only capable of teaching our children, while men are seen as more capable of teaching college-aged adults," Schwandt stated. "When most people think of a professor, they think of a man. When they think of an elementary teacher, they see a woman."

Amanda Geerts, Grand Haven junior, takes a more proactive stance on this issue.

"The answer, if there is an answer, is not that simple," Geerts said. "You can't point to one thing and say, yes, it's the campus mentality, or the labor pool, or Albion's water quality, or whatever."

"It may be a combination of factors, but it's not just one. Regardless of the reason, it is what it is. There are fewer tenured and tenure-track female professors at Albion College. And this has its consequences."

"We need to decide which direction we want to head, and then do it," Geerts said. "Stop talking about it, forming committees about it, and thinking about it. We've already thought about it. There are fewer female tenured professors here than there were in the 1940s."

OPINIONS

As We See It Should the Internet be a vehicle for free speech?

Albion College has done an admirable job at keeping its technological opportunities for students and staff updated, but as Albion ventures even further and further into the perplexing "information superhighway," it will need to proceed with caution.

According to a Dec. 29, 1996 Chicago Tribune article, it is "becoming common for schools to offer Internet access while trying to figure out how to regulate it." For instance, Albion's World Wide Web Policy states that, "the primary uses of the Albion College WWW site are:

1. To advance the teaching and learning process at Albion College.
2. To promote the sharing of ideas and information within the Albion College community and with external audiences in the rich environment of the Internet. Because the WWW site is operating within an educational setting, it will follow the standards for academic freedom."

Is this truly the best route for Albion's World Wide Web Committee to take? The Dec. 29 Tribune article described the case at Northwestern University in Illinois where a tenured faculty member, utilizing free access to the Internet via the university-owned Web server, refers to the Holocaust as the "extermination legend" on his homepage. This sparked off a controversy over free speech on the Internet and Northwestern upheld this professor's right to post his beliefs about the holocaust because they view it as part of his intellectual freedom.

While Albion currently has not had any such controversies concerning free speech and people's homepages, we at *The Pleiad* feel the college needs to fortify its Internet policy so it becomes apparent that at this liberal arts institution, we support the right of free speech — no matter what vehicle is used to spread it and regardless of how offending some may find the homepages.

an unsigned "as we see it" represents a majority consensus of the editorial staff

Career development offers more

Bogardus feels The Pleiad coverage was not complete

To the Editor:

Last week's article, "Career development makes changes to help students," was not a complete portrayal of the services available to students and alumni through the Office of Career Development.

The Office provides numerous services in addition to those mentioned in *The Pleiad* article. The newest services can be accessed through the Career Development home page, but they are not limited to it.

For the first time, current job listings are available, broken down by occupations including media, health care, education, science and technology, public service, and many others. Special sections on internships, volunteer work, summer employment, missionary work, graduate school,

Perhaps the most useful aspect of the Office is its function as a source for researching possible career paths and strategies.

The Office of Career Development understands the high marketability of a liberal arts degree. The Office recently sent hundreds of recruitment letters to companies as diverse as Franco Public Relations Group, Walt Disney World, ArtsMarketing, Midland Center for the Arts, The Radisson Town Plaza Hotel, and Channel 7 of Detroit.

All graduate school applicants and all education majors can take advantage of our credential referrals service. Our most recent presentation dealt with internship options for environmental concentration students.

In addition, we advise all interested students

on job search strategies in their particular field of interest, and offer mock interviews to all majors. Although many on campus interviews can focus on business careers, most opportunities are open to all majors.

On-campus recruiting is only one avenue to include in the job search. The opportunity to participate should be taken advantage of, but it is not the sole means of acquiring a position.

In fact, most employers do not choose to do entry level hiring through on-campus recruiting activities. This means that individuals must ex-

The Office of Career Development is committed to our mission of promoting activities that enable all students to identify, develop, and pursue post-baccalaureate opportunities.

plure many aspects of the career development process including self-evaluation, research, networking, preparation of papers, and proper contact methods in order to conduct a successful job search.

The Pleiad article states that, "The first steps toward [reaching] these ultimate [career] goals is the responsibility of the student." I believe that many students from each major are aware of this responsibility, due to the high number of requests for one on one advising sessions.

The Office of Career Development is committed to our mission of promoting activities that enable all students to identify, develop, and pursue post-baccalaureate opportunities. All students and alumni are welcome to visit our office as well as check out our home page to learn more about the services provided by the career development staff at Albion College.

Sincerely,

Laura S. Bogardus, associate director of career development

Cavanaugh dislikes the way the Eat Shop prepares food

To the Editor,

I would like to inform you of an event I recently witnessed at the Eat Shop which could seriously endanger the health of all the Eat Shop customers.

While waiting in line at the Eat Shop the other night I watched how the employees were potentially spreading what could be very dangerous forms of bacteria. The woman working on the grill would get the raw meat patties out of the freezer or cooler with her bare hands and then proceed to make tacos, burritos and touch other cooked food without first washing her hands.

This is cross contamination! Because she did not wash her

hands after touching the raw meat she could have spread E.coli or any other meat related

The woman working on the grill would get the raw meat patties out of the freezer or cooler with her bare hands...

bacteria to the containers full of vegetables she was using or put

it directly on the prepared food she was serving.

This whole procedure is against all health standards. One of the reasons I became a vegetarian was to avoid health risks caused by meat related sicknesses, and now I have to be worried about eating food from the Eat Shop that may put me back at risk of cross contamination! Until practices are changed and health safety procedures are where they should be, eating at the Eat Shop is dangerous to everyone's health!

Sincerely,

Katie Cavanaugh
Okemos junior

The Pleiad is the Albion College Weekly, Founded by the Class of 1883

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Quotation of the Week

"Albion's present water drawn from the Clark Street well is safe, but there is a very strong possibility that it could become contaminated in the very near future."

- Lawrence Taylor, professor of geology

FEATURES

Black History Month



Photo by Chris Cobley

First graders at Harrington elementary school listen as Sweetie Ann Williams, an African American storyteller, tells them stories.

Black History comes to life

African American history programs enrich Albion's elementary schools

By Chris Cobley
Staff Writer

Albion College student teachers are bringing African American history into their classrooms this month.

In February, students celebrate African American culture and diversity. The students focus on different aspects of diversity and how they affect their lives.

Nancy Noechel, Livonia senior and student teacher, is celebrating black history in the classroom. The students in her first grade class are reading books about Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr.

After story time, the students work in small groups to explain the significance of the story. Once the students have explained the story they illustrate the main characters by drawing posters or pictures. The students' posters are hung in the classroom.

Why is black history so important to teach in the public schools?

"Because for so long, every day was white European day," Noechel said. "This makes students more aware. They have to think this was not just a nation settled by white men."

Leonore Goldman, Kirkwood, Mo., senior, is a fourth grade student teacher at Harrington Elementary School. She is doing a unit on the Freedom Fighters (African Americans who led the Civil Rights movement).

Students choose an important African American in history whom they would like to portray in a play. They then act out the scenes in front of their classmates.

"Students are very interested and rather excited," she said.

Kelly Sexton, Allen Park senior and kindergarten student teacher, is doing similar activities with her students. She is reading books on different African American cultures and singing songs with her students.

As student teachers incorporate

diversity into their lesson plans, Albion Public schools are also trying to teach multiculturalism and diversity to students as well as their parents.

Sweetie Ann Williams, an African American storyteller, spoke to the students at Harrington elementary school on Thursday, Feb. 13.

Williams helped students celebrate multiculturalism through creative dramatics. She also used song and dance to encourage audience participation.

"Performing arts applies to all the learning styles children have," Williams said. "This makes learning fun."

Williams had students play musical instruments and perform skits in front of their classmates.

She also uses cartoon characters as the central theme in her stories. Williams told two stories entitled *Brer Rabbit and the Briar Patch* and *La Cucaracha*. These stories focused on issues such as beauty, self-image and love.

"They have a better understanding, but there is still a wealth of information that has not been tapped into yet," replied Williams when asked about students' understanding of African American history.

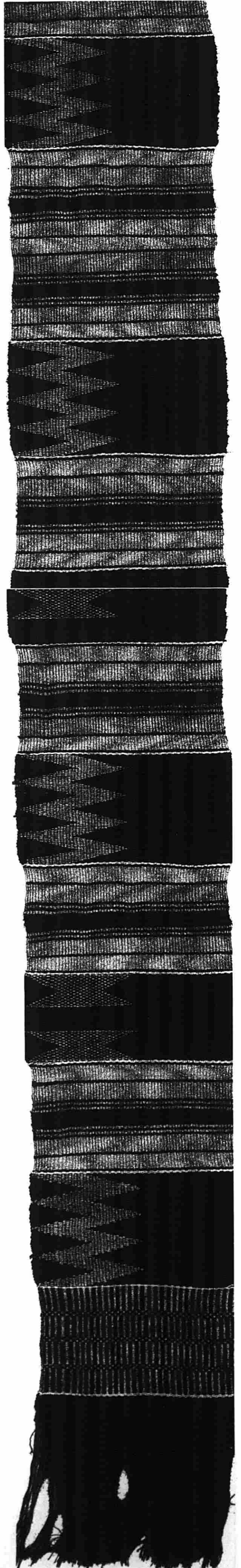
"Black history is not only about people but also issues."

Harrington school hosted a workshop for parents. Williams spoke to the parents about multiculturalism and diversity.

Williams will be performing at Crowell Elementary School at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The public schools are sponsoring several other programs. An ethnic luncheon will be held on Monday at Harrington, and there will be an ethnic dinner on Tuesday at Crowell.

Community involvement day will be Friday at Crowell. L.J. Mekeown, Chief of the Albion department of public safety, will speak to the students.



IM offers Albion's own version of NBA

By Zack Loeplich
Staff Editor

Every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday night, Shaq, Jordan, Penny, and Sir Charles can be found at the Dow playing basketball.

"I compare my skills to Chris Webber, Washington Bullets forward and fellow alumni of Detroit Country Day," said Scott Salla, Plymouth sophomore.

John Cooper, Battle Creek senior, compares himself to another Bullet superstar, 7' 8" Gheorghe Muresan. "You can't stop me, you can only hope to contain me."

Eric Bernaiche, Gross Ile junior, puts himself in slightly more elite company. "I'm more like Michael Jordan, because I can shoot from the outside, elevate, create, and finish strong."

Intramural basketball has sparked the NBA superstar in several of Albion's students. For the past six weeks, players have been able to showcase their talents in an organized basketball league complete with officials and conference standings.

With two 20 minute halves, players, good and bad, have a chance to participate and a chance to create their own spectacular plays.

"I think my best play, so far, happened in the third game of the season," recalled Salla. "I stole the ball from none other than my own roommate, and then proceeded to dunk over him that same play."

Bernaiche thinks his best play so far occurred when his IM team, D.O.A., found themselves down by one with only seconds to go in the game. He took the in-bound pass and drove to the basket only to be fouled before he could get the shot off. At the free throw line and with only three seconds on the clock, he hit both ends of the one and one, sealing the victory for his team.

Just as the NCAA has its 64 team "March Madness" men's basketball tournament, Albion had its "March Mural Madness" — a single elimination tournament to crown the champions of the IM league.

Although the winner receives no championship ring or free trips to Disney World, they do have the honor of being titled the intermural champions till the next IM season.

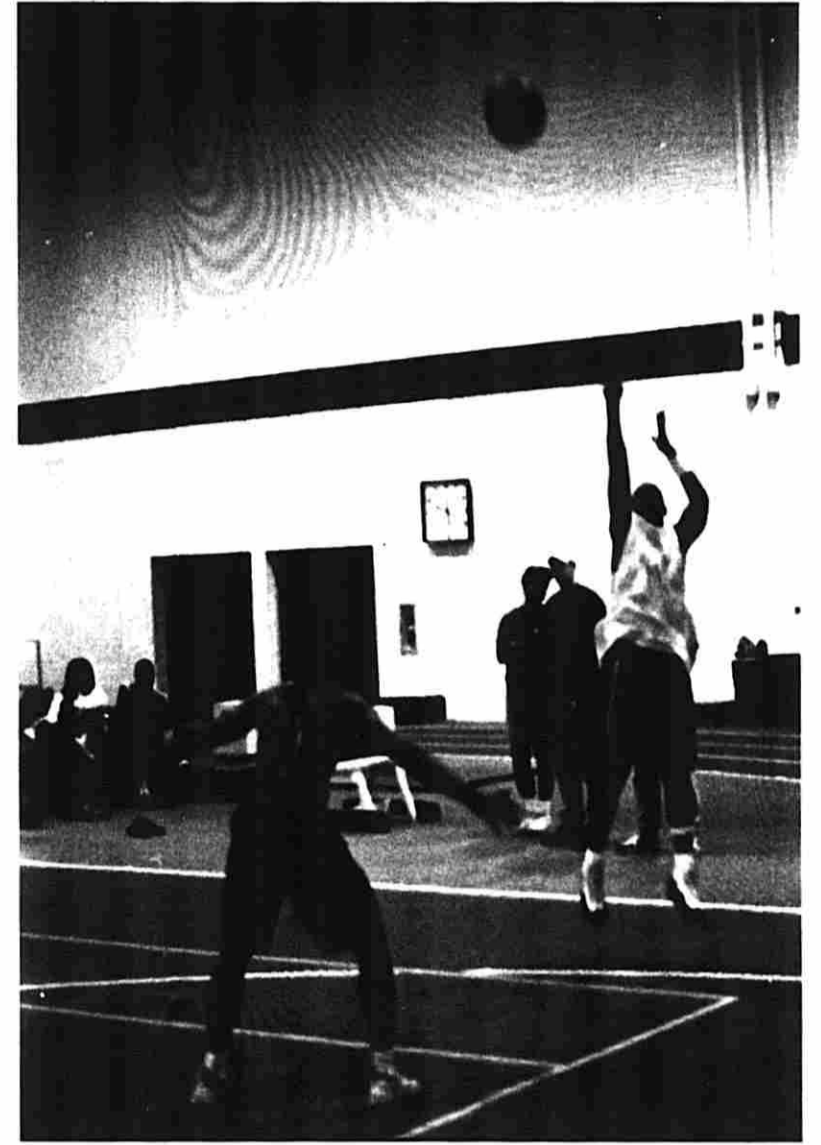


Photo by Joshua Bopp

Intermural basketball hits the court every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday night at the Dow Wellness and Recreation Center.

Senate Corner

Senate met on Monday, February 17 at 9 p.m. in Olin 112.

Major issues that were taken into consideration included:

- Election of Chris Moore and Chris Sanders as senators
- Appointment of Anne Kretzmann as Chairperson of the Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee
- Untabing and approving a revised amendment to the by-laws regarding the management of the Albion College Book Cooperative. This amendment will allow a member from any senate committee to serve as Manager or Co-Manager of the Book Cooperative. This position will also meet the requirement of a pet project.
- Approving S.I.N.G. (Silence In Not Golden): Albion Wimmin's Monthly as a new student organization
- Our next meeting will be Monday, February 24 at 9 p.m. in Olin 112. ALL STUDENTS are encouraged to attend.

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Sunday—2:00, 5:00, 7:15
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Wednesday is College Night—Buy one ticket, get another free (with College I.D.)



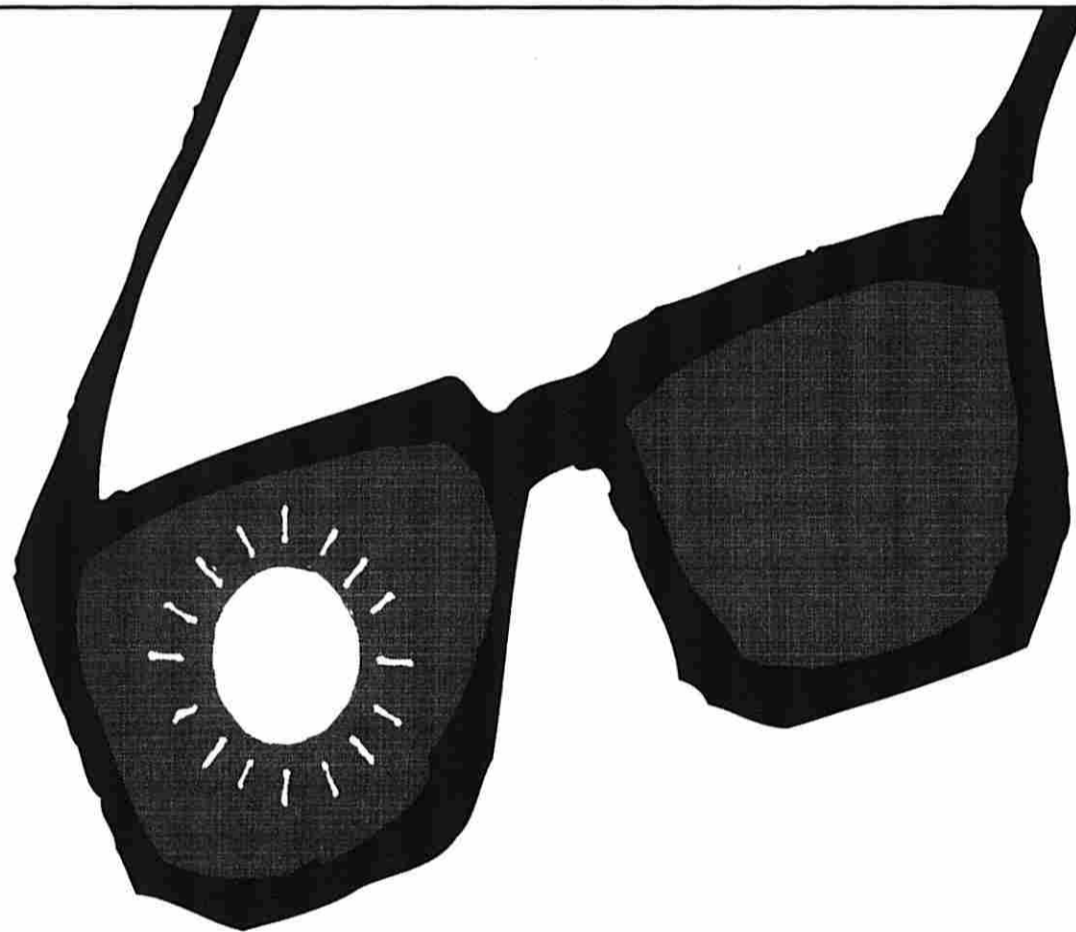
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SPORTS

Team okays new coach, questions hiring process

By Zack Loeprich
Sports Editor

With no tennis coaching experience, Darrell Sedersten, assistant professor of physical education, has taken over the head coaching position for women's tennis, vacated last year by Joy Salow.

"I used to play an awful lot of tennis in college," Sedersten said. But he is also the first to admit that lately he has traded in his tennis racket for golf clubs.

Members of the women's tennis squad are not unhappy with their new coach, just with the process the college went through to hire a new tennis coach.

"We're very happy with the end result, in terms of the new coach and the practice schedule," said Britt Hanson, Chicago sophomore and member of the women's tennis team. "However, we are not happy with the process that was taken to recruit and hire a new coach."

In October, Hanson and other members of the team met with then athletic director, Pete Schmidt, to discuss what the college and its athletic department would do to hire a new tennis coach.

Team members made it clear in the meeting that they wanted to be part of the selection process to find a good tennis coach. Schmidt agreed, but never got back to any of the players.

"We were left in the dark," Hanson said. "We were very frustrated."

According to Jim Conway, director of the Dow Recreation and Wellness Center, the athletic department posted ads in five surrounding city's newspapers and posted notes in five tennis clubs



Photo by Zack Loeprich

New women's tennis coach, Darrell Sedersten, volleys balls during practice at the Dow. This is Sedersten's first experience coaching tennis at any level.

in the area.

"We had quite a few responses," Conway said.

The reason several of the applicants did not take the head coaching job, Conway stated, was that it was only a part-time position. Other factors were

conflicting schedules, commuting to Albion and pay.

Late in the first semester, Schmidt left for his new position as assistant football coach at Indiana University, but he also left the coaching position for the tennis team up in the air.

This set the search back until second semester and delayed tennis practice for three weeks.

"It just came down that there was no one to take the position," Sedersten said.

Sedersten does reassert that, "they [the athletic department] did make an effort."

Conway also made phone calls to Kalamazoo College to talk to their tennis coaches.

"I made phone calls to Kalamazoo because we all know where Kalamazoo sits in tennis."

From these calls, Conway received several names of potential coaches for the future.

Sedersten backs up the athletic department's effort.

"Basically, the college interviewed a number of candidates. It wasn't for a lack of effort on the athletic department's half."

Two weeks ago, the tennis team started its practices in the Dow.

"Already the situation is better than it was earlier," said Hanson. "We're further ahead than we were at the end of the season last year."

To help out Sedersten, Eric Melville, a tennis pro from Battle Creek, assists the team.

Next season, both the men's and women's tennis teams may have a new tennis facility to practice in.

"The indoor facility is being talked about," Conway said. "No final plans have been made yet."

The college will also be searching for a full-time tennis pro for the facility.

"Everything is focusing on next season," Conway said.

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