

Friday, November 7, 1997

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The Eat Shop has adopted shorter hours. Find out why.

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ON-LINE



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Soccer team celebrates big win



photo courtesy of Peter Glendinning

Members of the Albion College men's soccer team celebrate their first win at home with a 2-1 victory over Olivet Saturday.

Director of financial aid resigns

Department left with no one at helm until nationwide search is completed

Rebecca Little
Staff Writer

After only a few months on the job, the new director of financial aid, Stacey Gartee, announced recently that he is resigning from his position, effective this month.

"I struggled with this decision for the past few months. I believe that after several months in a new position, one has to evaluate whether or not it feels like a good fit," Gartee said. "I feel I should be heading in

another direction in my career, and I was compelled to be honest with the college about my decision to pursue other opportunities."

A financial aid director works with enrollment to oversee spending of college money as well as following federal guidelines for giving aid to students. This important position will soon be left empty.

Dan Meyer, vice president of enrollment, already has the heavy task of overseeing operations of the admissions office and juggling finan-

cial aid. Now he will have to start the hiring process for director of financial aid all over again, having just completed it last semester.

"A national search will begin within the next week, and hopefully there will be someone on board by January 1," Meyer said. "I am confident we will find a replacement of equal or better quality, but I am disappointed to see Stacey leave."

After adjusting to Gartee, the office will have to start from scratch with another new director.

"We just went through a transition, so they will be equipped to handle it. We're very happy with the team," Meyer said.

Already this year, the office has gone through many personnel changes. Right before Gartee's announcement, another vacant position was finally filled. The office did not remain completely staffed for long.

"In the interim, the financial aid office will work with me to do the best we can," Meyer said. "We have a great staff, but we need a new leader."

How much should a college education cost?

Financial aid office works to make an Albion education affordable for all

Rebecca Little
Staff Writer

Stacey Gartee's announcement that he is resigning from his position as director of financial aid puts a spotlight on an important office on this campus and many others.

With college costs on the rise, financial aid cannot seem to keep up.

"Undergraduates of American colleges will pay, on average, approximately 5 percent more this year than the last in tuition and fees at four-year institutions," according to the College Board home page.

The Albion College home page states that, "Albion is a tradition of excellence made affordable."

Is it?

"For the 1997-98 academic year, 89 percent of all students at Albion College are receiving some form of financial aid," Gartee said. "65 percent are receiving some type of need based assistance, while 51 percent work on campus."

Over the past ten years, tuition has increased 100 percent. But the amount the school receives in revenue has only increased 50 percent, indicating that the college is trying

to keep up its aid.

In the sea of inflation, Albion is trying to stay afloat. But will students sink?

Currently, Albion offers a number of scholarships based on leadership, academic achievements and other talents. And according to Albion's web site, need based awards totaled over \$7 million.

These scholarships, grants and any other gift assistance are subtracted from the student's estimated financial contribution.

"The remainder we try to make up with loans or work study," Gartee

said. "We want to help you afford it."

So what's the problem?

The problem lies within the self help assistance portion of aid, with loans and student employment. The scholarships and grants often cannot fill enough of the gap between the family's contribution and need, so the remainder is offset with loans.

According to Gartee, Albion is fourth of 125 institutions at default rate, meaning that graduates pay back their loans fairly quickly.

The Sept. 8 issue of *U.S. News*

— see 'financial aid,' p. 2

NEWSBRIEFS

APALS presents 'Howard's End' at Bohm Theatre

The Albion Performing Artist and Lecture Series will present 'Howard's End' at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Bohm Theatre. This romantic satire is set at the turn of the 20th century. The plot is centered around the shaky union of two separate families through a succession of literary coincidences. The Schlegel sisters, vivacious European sophisticates, are fated to repeatedly encounter and enlighten the prestigious Wilcox family.

Admission to all APALS events is free to APALS subscribers, students, faculty, staff, retired administrators and faculty emeriti. Students, faculty and staff must present their college I.D.s at the door. For more information regarding APALS or this performance, please contact Helen Shafran, associate director of campus programs and organizations, at x0433.

Class registration this week

Registration for the coming semester will take place this week. Seniors can register Monday and Tuesday, while all other students will register on Thursday. Registration will take place in Kresge Commons. Students who do not know what time they are supposed to register can obtain this information from their academic advisors.

Survivor's Panel to address campus on Monday

S.H.A.R.E. (Sexual Harrasment and Rape Education) will sponsor a Survivor's Panel at 8 p.m. Monday in Norris 101. The panel consists of Albion students who will share their experiences with sexual assault.

Late night snacking is now a memory at the Eat Shop

Melissa Driessche
Staff Writer

Where can you go at 1:30 a.m. when a sudden craving for a grilled cheese sandwich and French fries strikes? Not the Eat Shop.

The Eat Shop now closes an hour earlier - at 1 a.m. "After evaluating a 2 a.m. closing time for about a year, a consensus was reached that the traffic count was much lower during that window between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m.," said Stephen Schnorr, director of dining and hospitality services, which oversees the operation of the Eat Shop.

Schnorr also added that the majority of students who did come to the Eat Shop between 1:00 and 2:00 a.m. were intoxicated. "It only caused problems," he said.

There were three key factors in the joint decision among dining and hospitality services, Student Senate and the Kellogg Center Board to close the Eat Shop an hour earlier.

Because of the low traffic flow between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m., it simply was not worth the cost of keeping the Eat Shop open.

"We found that we were losing money staying open that extra hour," Schnorr said.

Another issue that decided the closing hours was the amount of drunk students who came in during the later hours. "We had incidents of



photo by Jessie Jones

An Eat Shop employee gives a customer her change during the lunchtime rush on Tuesday.

[extremely drunk] people passing out on the cash register and throwing up on the counters," Schnorr stated.

The final problem was parking for Eat Shop employees. Since they had to stay after 2 a.m. to clean and close the area, their cars would be ticketed by police for parking on the street during illegal hours.

Although only one student has called in to issue a formal complaint about the new hours, many are unhappy with the one hour time difference.

"It gives students a place to gather socially and eat late at night on campus," said Dennis Anthony, Battle Creek junior.

"I just don't think the change was necessary," said Abby Semeyn, Northville senior. "You should be

able to go whenever you want. Sometimes I get hungry really late."

Kathy DeFever, Livonia senior, added, "I think the new hours are inconsiderate of the needs of the students - especially on weekends."

Regardless of student discontent, the hours of the Eat Shop will not be extended. Schnorr assures students, though, that they will not be further decreased.

"We will not be reducing the hours anymore," Schnorr said. "Student Senate took a poll and the closing time agreed upon was 1:00 a.m."

Schnorr added that students can always write suggestions on a piece of paper and present them to the cashier at the Eat Shop. He can't promise that anything will happen, but the suggestion will be read and considered.

'Financial aid process explained' — continued from page 1

and World Report ranked Albion the sixth worst of the 160 national liberal arts colleges in debt loads. This means that our graduates have a heavy debt burden. Based on 1996 data from federal government, state government, and college loans, 58 percent of graduates have debt and the average amount per student at graduation is \$17,956.

Financial aid is meant to supplement a family's ability to pay for school, but loans merely defer the bill rather than alleviate it.

"I'm not going to want to deal with the stress of paying off student loans and searching for a job at the same time," said Craig Olzak, Troy sophomore. "Not to mention paying three times what I actually received in aid."

On top of rising college prices, federal aid has drifted from grant-based to loan-based over the last two decades. In the 1996-97 academic year, 5.4 percent more money was available to students than in the previous year, but most of this increase was in the form of loans rather than grants, according to the College Board website.

While it looks like the government is working to help students deal with rising college costs, that help is merely delaying the bills, not paying them.

"If I didn't get financial aid, I wouldn't be able to go here," said Sharon Finnegan, Grand Rapids sophomore. "It's too expensive."

Albion is one of the most expensive schools in the state. Tuition, room and board this year totals \$21,786, compared to the in-state \$10,656 of Michigan State University.

According to the Shuttle Advance home page, "about one-third of the students attending public schools receive some financial aid, and two-thirds of the students at private schools receive financial aid. More than half of all students participate in one of the federal financial aid programs."

"They're two totally different paradigms with 44,000 students at MSU and approximately 22,000 on aid, and then Albion where there's 1,600 students and about 1,200 on aid," Garte said. "Our percentages may look better, but we have more merit scholarships available to our students than does State."

But the fact remains that regardless of Albion's academic reputation, families still are looking for MSU's prices. The financial aid gifts are an important enticer.

"Financial aid was a big factor when I was looking at schools, and Albion gave me the best package,"

said Mike Mara, Naperville, Ill. sophomore.

But will Albion be able to offer that same sort of incentive when enrollment increases?

According to Meyer, the increased enrollment will not affect the aid that upperclassmen are already receiving, but it will affect the financial aid packages of incoming freshmen. The existing money will have to be distributed among more students.

"Financial aid may not necessarily go down. If you demonstrate eli-

gibility for federal aid, you get it. That won't change," Garte said. "It will affect the aid we have available, but think in terms of a business. If you increase the amount of customers, there will be more money to do things with. More resources will be needed, but more will be created."

"[President Peter] Mitchell's goal is slow but steady growth. He believes we'd be a stronger school at 1800 than we are at 1600, and I support that," Meyer said. "But it's not going to be an easy task to increase size and maintain quality while con-

trolling aid expenditures. We will have to work together to balance all three."

Meyer also said that the office wants to decrease its discounting rate, so the office is going to simultaneously try to slightly reduce aid in the face of rising college prices, and increase enrollment—all without a director.

Inevitably, next year's freshman class will have an increased amount in loans to make up the difference, an unfortunate consequence of inflation and rising prices.

Financial Aid Facts

- Students at Albion College receiving financial aid: 89%
- Students at Albion College receiving need based assistance: 65%
- Students at Albion College who have on campus jobs: 51%
- College students who graduate with debts from student loans: 58%
- Average amount of debt from student loans: \$17,956
- Comprehensive cost for tuition, room and board at Albion College for 1997-98 academic year: \$21,786

As We See It

Diversity is central to the liberal arts

It should have been blatantly obvious to everyone that this year's Coming Out Week elicited a strong response on campus—a response which all members of the Albion College community should be upset about.

Various incidents, ranging from a sheet sign being torn down to threatening signs being posted in the residence halls, were in direct contradiction to the Albion College Diversity Statement, which states, "We seek...to foster an environment of mutual respect, acceptance, appreciation and caring for all members of our community."

While *The Pleiad* wishes to neither condone nor condemn homosexuality and homosexual acts, we would like to affirm the importance of the diversity statement. One of the foundations upon which a liberal arts institution is built is the affirmation of diversity. Not only should this diversity include the standards of race, creed and gender, but it should also include sexual orientation, along with diversity in ideas and living styles.

Part of being a liberal arts student is being exposed to the unfamiliar, and in some cases, the uncomfortable. Having our views challenged should be one of the greatest learning experiences of our college careers.

We at *The Pleiad* would like to commend Sally Walker, vice president and dean for student affairs, and the President's Advisory Committee on Multicultural Affairs for the memorandum they sent to the campus community, along with those individuals who defended the rights of "Break the Silence" to promote awareness of gay, lesbian and bisexual issues.

We encourage all members of the campus community to practice what is written in the Diversity Statement, promoting respect for all people, regardless of whether or not we may agree with their lifestyles or views.

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

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Pleiad's priorities questioned

To the editor:

I would like to express my extreme displeasure with *The Pleiad's* coverage of Diversity Days and Peace Fest. I had an interview with a member of the staff about two weeks ago. I provided her with multiple pieces of information with which to write an in depth and factual article. To my knowledge that article was written.

However, someone from the editorial staff decided it would be appropriate to write a small blurb, about this full week of events. This I can deal with. However, when 90% of the information in this short blurb is incorrect. That is when I became

upset. I don't know if it was miscommunication or busy time schedules or merely not enough space to include an in depth article. When I see

"Maybe my ideas of importance are twisted and a Discover ad is what we as Albion College students should be reading, but I don't think so."

-Craig Olzak, Troy sophomore

three and a half pages of an eight page paper are filled with advertisements one would think that something as relevant as diversity could get some space. Maybe my ideas of importance are twisted, and maybe a Discover ad

is truly what we as Albion College students should be reading, but I don't think so. Needless to say, *The Pleiad* served a great injustice to the students this week, not merely an injustice to the students sponsoring the events but an injustice to those who could have benefited from these events. I'm usually supportive of student organizations and don't claim to be involved in flawless groups myself, but I think this is one time that

The Pleiad made some poor choices.

Craig Olzak, Troy sophomore and chair of the Umbrella Group

Vision Committee requests further help from students and faculty

To the editor:

We would like to thank the members of Albion College who have so generously spent their time in proposing ideas, giving criticism and helping the committee with our task. We are very appreciative of the student attendance at the last student forum, and would like to announce that the next forum is Thursday at 9 p.m. in the Langbo Living Room in the Kellogg Center. Again, we hope to see many students come to share their ideas and responses in regard to the Vision Committee's progress thus far.

In the October and November meetings of the Vision committee, tremendous progress was made regarding the future vision of Albion College. At the October 12 meeting, a written summary of the remarks from the student forum were distributed to the entire Vision Committee, in addition to the student comments associated with both the core values

and the statement of purpose. The concept of "passion" for education was also brought up by students at the forum. Albion's commitment to small classes and personalized attention were used as examples of this dedication.

In our meeting on Monday the proposed vision statements were discussed, keeping in mind that we desire a statement powerful enough to house the richness and complexity of Albion College. We searched for a vision statement that could focus on what would spur positive change and would serve as a guideline for continuous improvement and innovation. Using ideas taken from community feedback, proposals and prior meetings, we formed a statement that was agreed on and could then be worked on until it fits our needs. The statement is:

Albion College will become a model as a coherent, interconnected,

and empowering learning-centered liberal arts college.

Using this statement, we attempted to identify these aspects within the multitude of concept papers and suggestions we were given from the college community. By using definitions of the separate aspects in the draft statement, we determined that the complexity of each word differs greatly according to the member of the college community who would interpret it. Through the student forum next week, we hope to further define these terms in the eyes of the students of Albion College.

Students are encouraged to contact their student representatives on the Vision Committee, Andrea Lindley (ALINDLEY) or Frank Broccolo (FBROCCOLO), if they have any additional questions or concerns.

The Vision Committee

Break the Silence sees silver lining to Coming Out Week events

To the editor:

Break the Silence (BTS) would like to thank the members of the Albion College community who showed their support during Coming Out Week. The level of support this year seemed higher than in the past.

Many people took it upon themselves to respond in a positive way to the homophobic acts and attitudes of others. When our sheet sign was torn down and defaced, non-BTS members re-hung it.

Anonymous students chalked ill-intentioned statements on the

sidewalks of the quad, causing hurt and frustration to gay, lesbian, and bisexual students and their supporters. Another group of non-BTS students countered this negative situation with chalkings of their own, turning it into a positive and affirming discussion. There were many other moments during the week when this support was evident: the high attendance during the Coming Out Panel, the significant number of people who wore jeans on Jeans Day, and numerous personal expressions of support.

Overall, we feel that Coming Out Week was a success, and look forward to a continuing appreciation of diversity throughout the year

Clark Dawood, Troy senior and co-facilitator
Janice Best, Albion senior and co-facilitator
Komika Sims, Jackson sophomore
Matthew Becker, '97
Rebecca Linz, Okemos freshman
Jennifer Rummel, Osceola, Ind. junior



Native speaker shares her culture with students

Emily Betz
Staff Writer

A poster of a lush green Costa Rican rainforest hangs above her desk to remind her of home.

This week marks the beginning of "summer" in Costa Rica, the Central American nation where average sea level temperatures on its Caribbean and Pacific coasts are in the 80s. Joselyne Hoffmann, native of the capital city San Jose, left behind this temperate climate to come to Albion as a native speaker with the foreign language department.

"I'm here because I wanted something new," Hoffmann said. "I see something new every day."

Sunday, Oct. 26, that something new was snow.

"I looked outside at the crystals on the trees and saw how sunny it was," she said. "Then when I left for work at the Kellogg Center I had to go back inside to put on something warmer."

Hoffmann heard about Albion from her friend and fellow University of Costa Rica student Mario Morera, who was one of last year's native speakers.

"Mario wrote me about Albion and how much he liked it here," she said.

She applied to study in the United States through the Association of Colleges of the Midwest. The organization recommended Hoffmann to Albion and she was chosen to be one of two Spanish native speakers. The other is Alexandra Jiménez, also of Costa Rica.

Hoffmann takes four classes here including piano, dancing, journalism and French, and teaches weekly tutorials to first and second year Spanish students.

According to Lori Pattison, visiting assistant professor of foreign languages, the idea behind the tutorials is to have the native speakers use their language and cultural skills to provide an additional hour of practice for students.

"[The native speakers] really want the students to learn," Pattison said. "They are close enough in age to the students that the sessions are very nonthreatening."

According to Amy Sheele, Saint Clair sophomore and Spanish student, the tutorials are valuable because the students can hear Hoffmann speak in her primary language. She said Hoffmann tells them from the Spanish perspective about her home and her culture.

Hoffmann said the Albion College experience is very different from her four

years at the University of Costa Rica, where she studied English.

"Of the 40,000 students at the university, only about 150 live on campus," she said. "Most live in apartments in the city or with their parents and work part- or full-time jobs."

Because of this, almost all classes are scheduled in the evening. According to Hoffmann, after classes students go out to discos or bars around the university.

Hoffmann said she enjoys spending time with the other international students at Albion. She has also made excursions to Ann Arbor to see foreign films like "Shall We Dance," and to visit bookstores and cafes.

Costa Rica is known for its flavorful coffee, and Hoffman said coffee here just isn't the same.

"In Ann Arbor I ordered a 'cafe con leche' which was the closest thing I've found to Costa Rican coffee."

She said the food in Baldwin is taking some getting used to as well, especially the bounty of fried entrees.

"[The food] is much more spicy and greasy [here]," she said.

She misses the arepas venezolanas (small corn tortillas filled with beans, meat or cheese) her Venezuelan mother prepared for dinner.

She said the atmosphere in Baldwin is different than that in the dining hall at UCR where students just sit wherever there is an open space at the table. She said she noticed it is much more "cliquey" here.

Hoffmann said she also noticed there is not much diversity on Albion's campus. She is a member of the Organization for Latino Awareness to help promote Hispanic culture at Albion.

She said when she meets new people she sometimes encounters language barriers, such as misunderstanding connotations of slang words getting used to new voices and the speed of American speech.

"I'm here because I really want to improve my English," Hoffmann said. "I'm starting to think in English, but my brain works slower [in that language]."

Hoffmann hopes to travel to New York or Texas in December to visit friends, and possibly Idaho where her younger brother will be working. When Hoffmann returns to Costa Rica she will begin work on her masters degree in an English venue.

Hoffmann said she misses not having friends she can reminisce with, but she is making new ones here in Albion.

"I like living here [in I-house] because I can share with people of many different countries."



photos courtesy of Joselyne Hoffman

Photos from top: Flags on the Murcielago Islands. A waterfall in the Rainforest at Bajos de Toro Amarillo. A house in Santa Rosa National Park, Guanacaste Conservation Area.



The Guggenheim Museum on the Grand Canal

photo courtesy of James Cook

Mary Garner,
Staff Writer

Off-campus trip to Venice offers a unique experience

Are you thinking about going off-campus before you graduate? Are you looking for a program that offers a unique and truly international experience? If you answered yes to these questions, then maybe you should look into the new off-campus program that Albion is offering in Venice, Italy.

James Cook, professor of English, started making plans for this program in 1992, and has finalized the project so that the first students will be in Venice for the fall semester of 1998. Although the program is open to all majors, it is focused on giving students a taste of international life, including the study of the Italian language along with the art and history of the city.

"Venice is not overrun with American students, so they'll have more opportunities to use the Italian language and really have a cross-cultural experience," Cook said. "It's a

world heritage site, a place that everybody should know."

Venice is known primarily for its canals, art, architecture, and unique romantic atmosphere.

Ericka Webb, Pocatello, Idaho junior, said that she feels that the Venice program incorporates several important elements necessary to really experience a different culture.

"In addition to language instruction, we will be learning about the art and literature of Italy. I think this will help us gain a more complete perspective of Italy's historic importance."

The course of study for this off-campus program involves two units of intensive

Italian; one unit of Italian culture (which includes history, art, music, film and theater), a half-unit of Italian masterworks in translation, and a half-unit paper based on the student's Italian experience.

"But students should know that they are not required to have any experience with the Italian language," Cook said.

Cook, who has 40 years of experience teaching Italian to English speaking students, will be the instructor teaching the translation course. He expects to be the founding director of this program and go with the students during the fall semester for the first year or two, but after that it will become "a faculty development opportunity for other Albion faculty with research and teaching interests

appropriate to Venice."

Students living in Venice will share fully furnished apartments, equipped with cooking and laundry facilities, with other participants in the program. Each member of the program will also be paired with a student from Zambler Institute, the program's sponsor, to help them get acquainted with the city.

Zambler is a private institute that has been providing Italian language instruction to foreign students for forty years. The Italian language instruction is provided by Zambler personnel and the art, history, theater, film and music aspects of the course are taught by faculty members from the Ca' Foscolo campus of the University of Venice.

The Venice program requires at least nine students to run successfully, but ideally the program could use about a dozen. If you are interested or have questions regarding this program, contact Cook by e-mail (JCOOK) or stop by his office at 412 Vulgamore Hall.

Student Volunteer Bureau helps 'Make a Difference'

Tiffany Gates
Staff Writer

"When I raked leaves at the public library, it was a nice opportunity to become familiar with the Albion community and the incoming freshman class. Because of this, I continue to have the friendships of many people."

This is how Sarah Wright, Kalamazoo sophomore, summarized the benefits of participating in community service in the Albion community.

Other Albion College students also had the opportunity to lend a helping hand in the community on Saturday, Oct. 25.

"Make a Difference Day," a national event sponsored locally by the Student Volunteer Bureau, was held on this day from 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Students from Albion College cleaned the neighborhoods, raked leaves and held a food drive. The canned goods will be distributed to homeless shelters in town.

"Our goal is to encourage volunteering aimed at student interest throughout the community and campus," said Aneesa Songer, Houghton Lake senior and director of SVB.

SVB executive members are concerned with the homeless situation in the United States. According to the Government Homeless Internet home page, 12 million adults in the U.S. have been homeless at one time throughout their lives.

Three SVB members attended a conference in Washington, D.C. about homelessness on Oct. 23 - Oct. 26.

"We learned how to incorporate dealing with urban problems into our college curriculum and educational policies, and we will consider presenting it to the Educational Policy Committee," said Matthew Wright, Hartland sophomore and SVB alternative break coordinator.

"Also, we were enhanced by the variety of organizations, such as National Alliance to End Homelessness, Campus Outreach Opportunity League and the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and



photo courtesy of Kyle Kramer

Several Albion College students help out during the annual "Make a Difference Day."

Homelessness, that strive to bring an end to hunger and homelessness."

"Students can go through the Student Volunteer Bureau to look for volunteer internships," Wright said.

The SVB coordinates with organizations within the community. They participate in

Best Buddies, LIFT- a tutoring program for elementary students, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Boy and Girl Scouts, and visitations to the nursing homes.

There are opportunities for everyone to get involved. You can call the SVB office at x1561 for more information.

A Challenge of Endurance

Albion College students, faculty, and community members travel down to North Carolina to reunite with friends and to test endurance in a grueling triathlon

Penny Barnes
Staff Writer

Are you tough enough for a family outing that involves taking a mile swim, followed by a 4.1 mile run and then topping it off by eight miles of canoeing?

Some Albion College students have been quite successful at just that, according to Keith Havens, head coach of the men's and women's swimming and diving squads and national title holder in whitewater canoeing.

In September, Havens, along with members of his swim team, community members, family members and Scott Dillery, assistant professor of mathematics, traveled to the Smoky Mountains of Bryson City, North Carolina for the annual Outdoorsman Triathlon.

"The triathlon has been going strong since 1977," Havens said.

Triathlons consist of three separate events. Times are taken for each

of these events and added together at the end for an overall time. The Outdoorsman has chosen to incorporate running, swimming and canoeing.

"The key to success is to be pretty good at all three events," Havens said. Havens has competed in the triathlon almost every year since 1978.

Havens took a first place victory again this year in the men's masters division, making a total of six first place finishes. He had the fastest splits with a 25.59 swim, 29.32 run, and 1:21.28 canoe trip.

"It's the camaraderie and good friendships that keeps me coming back every year," Havens said.

"It's just like a family," Havens said. "Everyone knows just about everybody."

Thomas (Scott) Johnson, Gobles senior, has competed for the past three years in the race. The official score sheet gave him a 2:45.57 overall time for a second place finish behind fellow Briton swimmer, Theron Eichenberger, Marletta sophomore.



Photo courtesy of Keith Havens

Thomas (Scott) Johnson, Gobles senior, works on his whitewater canoeing for the triathlon. The triathlon consist of a 4.1 mile run, a one mile swim and concludes with an eight mile canoe trip that takes roughly an hour and a half.

Eichenberger finished with a 2:35.18 overall time.

"This year seemed tougher, but I got better times," Johnson said.

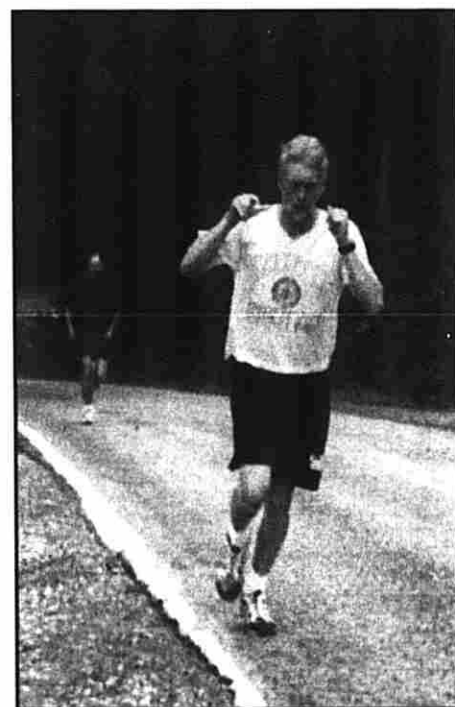


Photo courtesy of Keith Havens

Britton Johnson, Gobles freshman, brother of Thomas (Scott) Johnson, takes time to pose on the run portion of the triathlon

"I've been there three times and I already feel like a part of it," Johnson said. "I knew everybody and everyone knew me by the third year."

"It's like a big family," said Katie Snyder, Dexter sophomore. "It's good competition, but it's just like a family affair."

Johnson, Snyder, and Eichenberger finished first in the collegiate mixed relay race with a final time of 2:39.15. A second team of Britons, Tara Kneeshaw, Kalamazoo freshman, Britton Johnson, Gobles freshman, and Katherine Waters, Troy sophomore, took second place with a time of 3:16.03.

Havens said he credited the high finishes to strong and well rounded athletes.

"Paddling is the key," Johnson said. "It's twenty minutes of swimming and an hour and a half of paddling."

"All of the students who placed are members of the Albion College Canoe Club, but none had whitewater experience," Johnson said.

"I was intimidated a little by the paddling," Snyder said, "but after the practice run on the river I felt pretty good."

Snyder also won the collegiate women's division with a time of 3:42.12. Kneeshaw took second with a time of 3:44.44.

Whitewater rapids are classified in classes, Johnson explained. A class five is the highest and most dangerous. According to Johnson, last year the river flooded and was a class three or four rapids.

"The athletes started their training in August upon the arrival of the new school year.

They practiced five days a week, according to Johnson. An intramural triathlon was held two weeks previous to the Outdoorsman triathlon as a practice run.

Johnson said his training helped him drop nine minutes from the running portion of the race for a time of 36.32 this year.

"There was no nervousness," Snyder said, "it was like a big adventure."

"As long as people keep coming back," Havens said, "we'll keep having the race."

Albion College goes back to the ragtime era

Meghan Murphy
Staff Writer

It's part of our history. It's a staple of our culture. It's rooted in America.

It's ragtime.

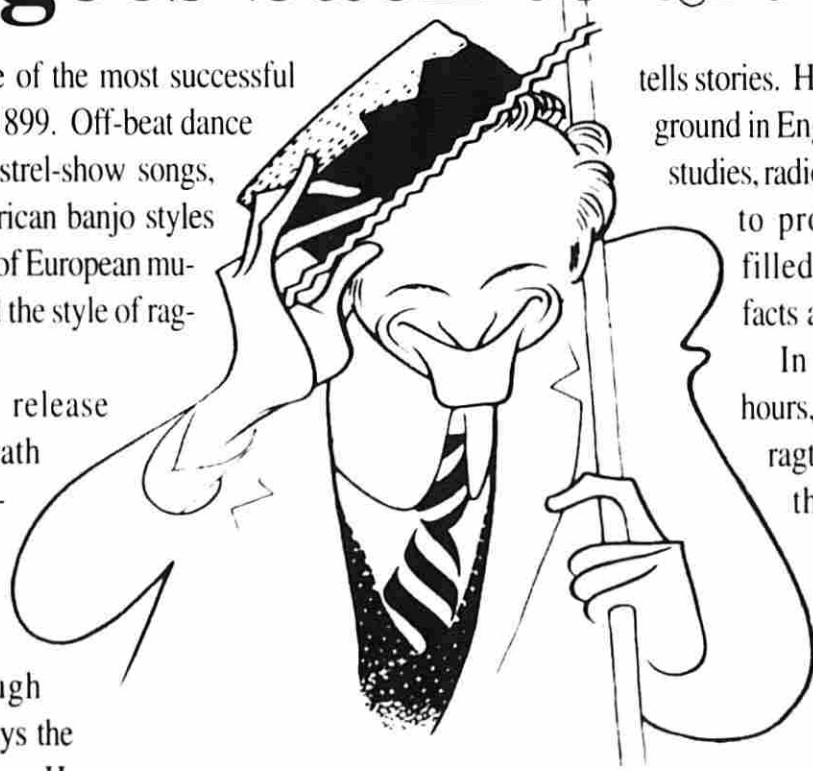
Max Morath will detail the history of ragtime, through music and stories, at 7 p.m. Saturday in Norris 101. This one-man show is sponsored by Albion Performing Artists and Lecture Series (APALS). The event is free with a valid student ID.

Ragtime peaked with popularity in the late 19th century and continued into the early 20th century.

Scott Joplin, a pioneer in the ragtime era,

published one of the most successful early rags in 1899. Off-beat dance rhythms, minstrel-show songs, African-American banjo styles and elements of European music influenced the style of ragtime music.

A press release sent by Morath representatives states, "he takes his audiences on a tour through time. He plays the piano. He sings. He



tells stories. He uses his background in English, American studies, radio and television, to produce a show filled with historic facts and music."

In less than two hours, Morath defines ragtime music and the cultural era that it grew from.

Morath performs throughout the country. He re-

corded for RCA Red Seal, Epic and other record labels. He produced public television programs on the ragtime era. When he is not on tour he composes, writes and edits.

"Touring through the USA, I realize how our music speaks for all of us," Morath stated in the press release. "I'm proud to be a part of it."

In the press release, Paul Wellborn of the Tampa Tribune calls Marath a natural-born showman. He calls him the "greatest living expert on the ragtime era."

Along with a piano and some singing, Morath presents the ragtime era along with some humor and some history. The veteran performer presents the era with a theatrical style.

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Cross country finishes strong

Clifton Foster
Staff Writer

Albion's men's and women's cross country teams wrapped up their seasons with strong finishes at the MIAA conference meet in Olivet last weekend.

Women

According to the 1997 "Fall Sports Preview," the number of women runners has increased substantially in number over the past two years. With this increase comes an increase in toughness.

"There are people who could be sitting out because of slight injuries, but they still continue to run," said Janna Muccio, Big Rapids sophomore. "I think that demonstrates a tough team."

Muccio said the new strong runners have helped Albion greatly in moving up in the league standings. After six invitationals, the ladies have compiled a third-place league standing.

Muccio also mentioned that pack running has been a strong point in the team's success.

"Our coach commented that every coach tries to instill the idea of running as a pack, but it doesn't always happen that way," Muccio said.

Last weekend at the MIAA conference championships, Albion women's team continued its strong running.

Albion finished third in the conference behind Calvin and Hope. The Britons finished two places better

than its last season fifth place finish.

At the league jamboree at Adrian College on Sept. 27, the Albion women's cross country team finished third behind Calvin and Hope.

"Over half the team had season best times," said Amy Wolfgang, head coach of women's cross country. "They ran very well."

Albion placed fourth behind Calvin, Kalamazoo and Hope. In the other MIAA meet at Adrian College on Sept. 27, the Britons once again placed fourth.

Calvin has won the MIAA each season since 1987. Last season, Albion finished fifth in the MIAA.

Ben Engelter, Parma senior, was



photo by Jessie Jones

Members of the women's cross country team chill out after a tough race.

Pacing the Britons was Shannon Stephens, Sterling Heights freshman. Stephens was also selected to the all-MIAA second team.

The team's next meet is the regional meet, Nov. 15 in Terre Haute, Ind. The top two teams in the region and the top four individuals will qualify to nationals.

Men

After overcoming some injuries, the men's cross country team finished the MIAA season strong.

selected to the MIAA all-conference second team.

Depth and team unity have been strong points for the team this year.

"We have a lot of strong runners this year," said Brad Wright, Cadillac junior. "So when someone gets hurt, another can step in and do the job."

"Our team unity is also good. As a team we do our best to keep everyone motivated," Wright added. "And our coach does a good job keeping everyone running together."



photo by Jessie Jones

Dave Evensen, Houghton Senior, paces the pack at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside meet early in the season.

This weekend at the Coffeehouse:

Friday night—Adam Druckman

Saturday night—Alex Lumelsky

both shows beginning at 10 p.m.

All shows are free and open to the public.

the Coffeehouse is a non-profit, student-run organization. If you are interested in volunteering, please call x1806 for more information

COFFEEHOUSE HOURS:

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W—9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

F & Sat.—9:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.



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M, T, Th.—4:55, 7:25

Bean:

F, W—5:15, 7:10, 9:15

Sat.—2:30, 5:15, 7:10, 9:15

Sun.—2:30, 5:15, 7:10

M, T, Th.—5:15, 7:10

Red Corner:

F, W—5:00, 7:20, 9:45

Sat.—2:00, 5:00, 7:20, 9:45

Sun.—2:00, 5:00, 7:20

M, T, Th.—5:00, 7:20

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