

Friday, March 27, 1998

## NEWS



### LIFE '98

Five Christian groups on campus get together to sponsor a week full of activities including a concert. The week ends with a conference to discuss Living Incredibly For Eternity.

Page 2

## OPINIONS

### Letter to the Editor

Gregory Saltzman, associate professor of economics and management, clarifies some information regarding the article about affirmative action that appeared in the March 20 issue of *The Pleiad*.

Page 4

### Viewpoints...

Julie Vecchio, Livonia junior, tells about her semester at sea.

Quiana Lawery, *Pleiad* staff writer, talks about a discussion on race that occurred on a train ride.

Rebecca Little, *Pleiad* staff writer, reviews a currently popular movie, *The Wedding Singer*.

Page 5

## FEATURES

### All about Japan

Two American expatriates share their experiences of living in a foreign land.

Page 3

### The history of the bell

The bell in front of Robinson Hall represents part of the college's history surviving even a fire.

Page 6

## SPORTS

### Equestrian Club gains its footing at Albion

The equestrian club is getting started at Albion, but right now they would like to ride at stables in Parma.

Page 8

## ON-LINE



Find us on  
The Web

News • Features • Sports  
<http://pleiad.albion.edu/>

## Spring break spent helping others in Colombia



photo courtesy of Kirk Myers

Several Albion College students spent their spring break in Columbia doing service projects. Some of the students are seen here on the front porch of the mission house where they stayed. Back row (l-r): Marin Walker, Rochester Hills junior; Sebastian Cruz, Livonia senior; Timothy Krabill, Roscommon senior; Kimberly Malesky, Trafford, Pa. junior and Andrew Dunham, director of campus programs and organizations.

## Residential philosophy committee looks at new opportunities for improved housing

Melissa Driessche  
Staff Writer

In the early 1980s seniors were actually encouraged to live off campus. So why do students now have to battle to acquire housing outside the dormitories?

"Living in the residence halls does not really encourage students to go out and be active members of the community because there are not a lot of students living in town," said Kirk Myers, Millville, Minn. junior. That is where the new residential philosophy committee steps in.

"We are basically trying to evaluate residential life here and decide what will be the best philosophy to follow into the next century," said Myers, who is a member of the committee.

The committee discusses what role residential life should and shouldn't play on campus.

"We are also interested in how we can better support the academic

mission of the college," said Michael Zabriskie, associate director of residential life.

"Right now we are discussing what steps we could take to improve all aspects of residential life," Myers said. "We cover everything from physical improvements to the buildings to alternative living situations."

*"We are basically trying to evaluate residential life here and decide what will be the best philosophy to follow into the next century."*

—Kirk Myers, Millville, Minn. junior

Several important aspects of a quality living environment are not being embraced by the current residential life situation, according to Myers.

"We are interested in finding a way to teach responsibility, provide positive role models and develop interpersonal skills."

According to Myers, the commit-

tee is simply focusing on the development of a philosophy that parallels that of the Vision Statement, but pertains to residential life.

The philosophy statement is still in its earliest stages of planning since President Peter Mitchell and the trustees will not receive the completed draft until December.

formed at the end of last semester, is comprised of two faculty members, four staff members, one representative from the residence halls association, two resident assistants and two students appointed by senate.

"We want to make sure we have a lot of voices being heard," Zabriskie said. "We have a great group with a lot of gifts and talents involved in the process."

"We have excellent campus prospects on the committee," Myers said. "But we are interested in eventually hearing what the whole student body has to say."

"The committee is supposed to represent campus wide student and faculty opinion," Day said. "Hopefully the resulting philosophy will be satisfactory to all of the students, faculty and staff."

Myers is optimistic about the outcome of the new philosophy—the key word being NEW.

"We're trying to start with a clean slate to try to find out how our optimum living situation should be, then we will try to mold into that vision."



# NEWSBRIEFS

## Senate elections are quickly approaching

All students interested or even considering running for a Student Senate seat in the 1998 general senate election should plan to attend an informational meeting at 9 p.m. Sunday in Gerstacker Commons. Interested individuals will hear more about what serving on senate entails, will get detailed information about the election process, and will receive all materials necessary to run their campaign.

The general senate election will be held Wednesday, April 22 in Gerstacker Commons. Campaigning begins and a general town hall meeting will be held to meet the candidates Tuesday, April 14. Students with additional questions should contact William Sweeney, Wayne senior, at x1126.

## AIDS Awareness Alliance hosts a program for students

The AIDS Awareness Alliance will put on a program entitled: "AIDS/HIV: What the Future Holds." This will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday, in the Wesley TV Lounge. Everyone is invited to attend.

## Asian Awareness Month gives us "Something to Talk About"

The theme for this year's Asian Awareness Month, sponsored by the Asian Awareness Group, is "Something to Talk About." Various speeches and other events will take place on campus during the month of April to celebrate the heritage of Asian cultures.

At 7 p.m. Monday in the Gerstacker International House Auditorium, there will be a discussion on the culture of the Pacific region of Asia. The discussion will be led by members of AAG.

The culture of the South Asian and Middle Eastern regions will be discussed at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the International House Auditorium, led by Selva Raj, assistant professor of religious studies.

# LIFE '98 brings Christians together in celebration

Clifton Foster  
Staff Writer

There's still time to participate in LIFE.

With the collaboration of five different campus Christian organizations, this week has been filled with events that revolve around the Christian Conference theme: LIFE '98, an acronym for Living Incredibly For Eternity.

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Campus Crusade for Christ, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, the Upper Room and Wesley Fellowship have come together for the second year to organize the conference.

A worship service will be held at 9 p.m. tonight in the Gerstacker International House Auditorium. This will include a reflection on the week, getting minds and hearts prepared for the conference tomorrow.

Some students participating in the conference will also participate in a 30 hour famine which begins at 1 p.m. today, according to Meaghan Powers, Seminole, Fla. senior.

"Students will be fasting to focus on God," Powers said. "But also as a way to raise money for World Vision, an organization that supplies food to third world countries," she added.

Among the past week's reflections, there was a concert in the Kellogg Center, games and Bible studies in small groups.

"The group studies were held to help people dig deeper into the Bible to study what God asks of



photo courtesy of Meaghan Powers

Considering Lily was one of two bands that played in the Kellogg Center as the first event for LIFE '98.

individuals in order to live in the word of Christ," Powers said.

The conference will be held from

minister of Detroit, will be the keynote speaker, speaking twice during the day.

*Students will be fasting to focus on God and raise money for World Vision.*

The conference will consist of four different workshops. The workshops include Living Incredibly for Christ in Vocation, Discipleship, Purity of the Heart, and Sex and the Single Bible Reader.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to participate in the conference.

10 a.m.-4 p.m. tomorrow in the Stack. JoAnn Bartelt, United Methodist

**\$300-\$500**

Distributing phone cards. No experience necessary. For more information send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Primetime Communications, P.O. Box 694355, Miami, FL 33269-1355

**HELP WANTED .....** Men/Women earn \$375 weekly processing/assembling Medical I.D. Cards at home. Immediate openings, your local area. Experience unnecessary, will train. Call **Medicard** 1-541-386-5290 Ext. 118M

**EARN \$450-\$1500/Week**  
Raise all the money your student group needs by sponsoring a **VISA Fundraiser** on your campus. No investment & very little time needed. There's no obligation, so why not call for information today. Call 1-800-323-8454 x 95.

*The sisters of Alpha Xi Delta would like to welcome their new members:*

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Tracy Gray       | Kelly McDonald     |
| Alana Heikkinen  | Allison Moore      |
| Jennifer Johnson | Emily Rafi         |
| Jessica Kelm     | Mary Beth Shearer  |
| Laura Kogut      | Hillary VanderBand |
| Andrea Leonardis | Jill Whitehouse    |

## Wolf's Auto Repair

CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS  
MI STATE LIC #MI-49728

SPECIALIZING IN  
AUTOMOBILE  
AIR CONDITIONING

### CAR PROBLEMS?

Don't wait 'til the last minute.  
Get it fixed NOW!!

ALL GAS AND DIESEL ENGINE WORK  
MAJOR/MINOR REPAIRS • ELECTRONICS  
TRANSMISSION • ENGINE TUNE-UPS  
(517) 629-6613

116 E. Erie Albion, MI 49224  
MON.-FRI. 8 A.M.-5:30 P.M. • SAT. 8 A.M.-1 P.M.







# Different strokes for different siblings

## Crossing Cultures



Nora Wiltse  
Staff Editor

**KAREN HILL ANTON**

Wednesday afternoon in the Wendell B. Will Room at Albion College, a woman quietly began a lecture about living in Japan, Japanese culture and international living.

The speaker, Karen Hill Anton, is an African-American from New York City. This may not be the first image you might imagine for a speaker on Japan. Hill Anton is a permanent resident of Japan, having lived there since 1975. She writes the *Japan Times* column *Crossing Cultures*, authoring a book of the same name. A current member of Prime Minister Hashimoto's Advisory Council on Culture and Education, Hill Anton is also the director of the Inter cultural Communication Center at Temple University, Tokyo.

When Hill Anton mentioned growing up in New York City, one might begin, subconsciously and consciously, to map out the lecture to follow. This woman would be opinionated, vocal, and probably mention what it is like to live in Japan as a black woman. Not only was this not true about the

lecture, Hill Anton served as a reminder of the stereotypes and expectations one might have given her just by hearing a location. Hill Anton may be a color, black, Jewish descent, she has four children. Her children, three of whom were born in Japan, have always attended Japanese schools and speak Japanese as their first language.

She described her unusual family strolling the streets of Japan, her children walking ahead speaking Japanese to each other, her son 6'2" and high above the heads of Japanese men. From this life of internationalism, Hill Anton has become a popular lecturer on internationalism and what it means to be an international citizen.

One audience member asked Hill Anton whether she defended or criticized Japan's traditions in her writing. She replied neither, as she merely describes what she "observes." Hill Anton's lecture was a series of her observations on culture and human relations.

She addressed American criticism of Japanese culture, mentioning the large difference of personal independence versus social interdependence. Americans prize and

reward independence. We are encouraged to develop our own opinions and believe in our personal rights. Japan prizes an interdependent society, living with awareness of all in society and striving to act for society's benefit, not one's own. Americans may label this society to be negatively repressive, but "repression in and of itself is not necessarily a bad thing," said Hill Anton. She pointed out many positive points of a connected society. In fact, Japanese may consider anything else to be irresponsible and even chaotic.

She has also heard criticism of sending her four children through Japanese schooling. While outsiders criticize the strict system, "my children never did," she said firmly. Her children, of course, have never known anything different. Hill Anton said she believes this is because people learn culture. Over time anyone will "adapt, adjust, and accept" another culture, she said.

Hill Anton opposed today's "ambiguous term of nationality." Her children have only lived in Japan, speak Japanese, have Japanese friends, prefer Japanese music, food and activities, and yet are American because their parents are American. This is just one label we place on others.

# Defying any of your typical stereotypes

She described how in Japan her children are "foreign," as anyone in the society is foreign if not of Japanese ethnicity. When visiting the United States, her children are also described with one word, "black." Hill Anton believes when limiting our description to "one simple adjective," we overlook many ethnic and culturally diverse backgrounds. She continues that the adjective "black," simply the color of one's skin, does not decide "whether our hair is curly or straight," we are tall or short, artistic or athletic, and "certainly does not describe how we feel." She does not believe the color of her skin "tells others much about me."

This is the reminder some might have needed, realizing all the cultural and personal assumptions that could be made about Hill Anton from a few short descriptions. One might not have known from one word that Hill Anton has a passion for calligraphy, lived in a home for seven years with no running water, or enjoys "unagi no kabayaki," a grilled eel dish. Limiting oneself to a stereotype or assumption, one might never have discovered she calls her home a small group of islands in the Pacific Ocean, named

# Lecturer and student share cultural insight

## Student shares her Japanese-American experience

Nora Wiltse  
Staff Editor

Speaker Karen Hill Anton told many stories of her children growing up in Japan. These stories related our American questions of Japan to children that had been able to really learn both cultures as the "norm." She raised her children with a wonderful mix of Japanese living and international awareness. Jennifer Clark, Tokyo, Japan, freshman, also has the advantage of this by-cultural viewpoint.

Clark arrived at Albion this fall and unpacked her bags in North America for the first time. Having American parents, she is an American and speaks English at home. But "home" just happens to be Kodaira-shi, an area of Tokyo, Japan.

Clark's parents moved to Japan to teach English after graduating from college. They had been there seven years when Clark was born. She and her older brother attended Japanese schools and spoke Japanese to each other, speaking better Japanese than their parents by first grade.

When Clark was nine years old, she began attending The Christian Academy in Japan, where she entered fourth grade.

They didn't want to keep me in the



photo courtesy of Jennifer Clark  
Jennifer Clark (right) stands with two of her classmates in front of the atomic bomb museum in Nagasaki. Behind them are 1000 origami cranes that were made in remembrance of those who died during the bombing.

Japanese system all the way through college. Once you start junior high and high school, the academic pressure [in the Japanese system] is extremely high."

Clark mentioned the high level of discipline of the Japanese schools. "

When you walk home from school, you have to walk in a certain path, on a certain side of the road."

As a child, Clark did not like these rules

unless they were explained and had a reason, she said. Clark thinks this "way of just thinking freely" was encouraged by her parents.

How did Clark choose Albion for her first winter in the United States?

"My uncle went here, and one of my teachers went here." That teacher, now the athletic director at the academy, was a biology major at Albion. "You never know

where you'll end up if you're a bio major at Albion," Clark laughed.

While Clark notices small differences in culture, ("In Japan, you don't shop for the whole week. You shop every day. And you don't chit-chat!"), there are also differences in social values.

"One thing about America, it's all about rights. In Japan, it's more about responsibility."

In Japan, "It's not like— 'I have the right to be heard.' It's like— 'I have the responsibility to hear others.' So the same things get done, but I think having responsibility as a value meets needs in a better way."

"They have a lot more of a world view than we do here. Just a perspective of being part of the world."

Clark mentioned in Japan she is definitely American, because you must be Japanese ethnicity to be considered Japanese. However, it is still important to "conform to Japanese norms." In the United States, she considers herself "very non-American." So where does this leave Clark to call home?

"I say 'my country,' and mean Japan. I say 'home,' and I mean Japan."

With that comment, it seems obvious Clark will always be Japanese at heart— no matter her long blond hair.



## Saltzman corrects mistakes about his presentation

To the Editor:

I wish to make two corrections and one addition to the March 20 article reporting my public lecture on affirmative action.

First, it is important to distinguish between my personal views and the views of judges and justices whose opinions I summarized.

The article quoted me as stating, with regard to the *Hopwood* case at the University of Texas law school, that "There was [sic] no present effects of that past discrimination...that justify racial preferences for blacks as a remedy."

The actual statement in my handout was, "There were no present effects of that past

discrimination, they ruled, that justify racial preferences for the blacks as a remedy."

The statement in my handout clearly was my summary of the views of the two federal appeals court judges who voted to strike down the U of T law school admissions practices.

My own view on this case is similar to that of the one appeals judge who dissented in the *Hopwood* ruling: only the U.S. Supreme Court, and not a three-judge panel of the court of appeals, has the authority to overturn the Supreme Court's 1978 ruling in the *Bakke* case.

Second, constitutional rulings govern colleges and universities run by federal, state or local governments, regardless of whether

they receive federal funding. Private colleges and universities are not governed by constitutional rulings, regardless of whether they receive federal funding.

Finally, as the article correctly reported, I could not answer a question from the audience about whether Albion College receives sufficient federal funding to be covered by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Four days after my talk, I presented this question to a friend of mine who is a member of the faculty of the University of Michigan Law School and who is an expert on discrimination law.

She told me that the funding threshold for coverage under Title VI is very low, so that

Albion College almost surely is covered by Title VI. She said that, if the Supreme Court overturns *Bakke* on constitutional grounds, a similar re-interpretation of Title VI would follow shortly.

Thus, a court ruling that the Constitution bans the use of racial preferences in admissions by public colleges and universities would soon lead to a court ruling that existing statutory law bans the use of racial preferences in admissions by private colleges and universities such as Albion.

Gregory Saltzman  
professor of economics and management

## Hooks criticizes LaPietra's letter writing campaign

To the Editor:

It is unfortunate that *The Pleiad* has fallen victim to the organized letter writing campaign of the Democratic party against Representative Nick Smith. While I recognize the right of citizens to speak out on public policy issues, given that *The Pleiad* is an Albion College newspaper, allowing someone not associated with the college to repeatedly write about the same subject reflects poor decision making by the editorial staff and the paper's advisor.

If John LaPietra (of Marshall) actually had some accurate and useful information to pass on about the Social Security debate, I might see why *The Pleiad* staff would allow his multiple letters on the topic. Instead, Mr. LaPietra presents such nonsense as to suggest that only a "75-year recession" would lead to a crisis in Social Security. While they probably know far less about the topic than LaPietra, the trustees of the program, in their 1997 OASDI Trustees Report, said "because the OASI program is not in close actuarial balance, the long-range deficit of the OASI Trust Fund should be addressed. It is

important to address this problem soon to allow time for phasing in any necessary changes and for workers to adjust their retirement plans to take account of those changes" (see <http://www.ssa.gov/OACT/TR/trib.html>). Representative Smith is one of the few members of Congress with the guts to put a plan on the table given the voting power of today's senior citizens and the baby boom generation. Mr. LaPietra, on the other hand, is in the broad company of those with no

are not "paying their fair share" of Social Security taxes since the tax is limited to this income level. Once again he has given us a glimpse of why he should be studying the topic rather than writing articles on it. The Social Security system was not set up as a welfare program, but a compulsory, retirement system to supplement our private savings. Thus, each worker was to pay in an amount based on their income during their working years and then receive a retirement

making \$68,000, he failed to mention that they would also receive equal retirement benefits from the program, and thus are indeed "paying their fair share" under the intent of the program.

Mr. LaPietra's letters are so full of misinformation that I could write on for pages. Instead, I will simply encourage the students of Albion College to do their own research on such important topics as Social Security, and the broader topic of Congressional representation.

Jon Hooks  
associate professor of economics and management

*"It is unfortunate that The Pleiad has fallen victim to the organized letter writing campaign of the Democratic party against Representative Nick Smith."*

ideas, but rather simply the desire to sit in the bleachers of life and criticize those willing to suggest solutions to problems.

Mr. LaPietra also complains that individuals earning more than \$68,000 per year

payment based on the tax paid in. There was not to be a redistribution from rich to poor. While Mr. LaPietra is finally correct that someone making \$133,000 annually would pay approximately the same tax as someone

*Editor's note: The editorial staff would like to take this opportunity to elaborate on our letters policy. Assuming that space is available, all letters that are not libelous or slanderous are published. First consideration is given, of course, to those letters that deal with issues pertinent to Albion College.*

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

EDITOR IN CHIEF:  
Brian Longheier

CIRCULATION MANAGER:  
Rachele Reidel

MANAGING EDITOR:  
Jamie Justus

TYPESETTERS:  
Aaron Fraser  
Jen Rummel

GRAPHICS EDITOR:  
Jessie Jones

ADVISOR:  
Ian MacInnes

STAFF EDITORS:  
Penny Barnes  
Joselyne Hoffmann  
Meghan Murphy  
Ann Schultz  
Nora Wiltse

Office Telephone:  
(517) 629-1651  
Office FAX (Attn.: Pleiad):  
(517) 629-0509

ONLINE EDITOR:  
Mark Jazayeri

The Pleiad is published by the Albion College Media Board.

PHOTOGRAPHER:  
Charlotte Florent

Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the college community.

ADVERTISING MANAGER:  
Kelly Maciejewski

Second class postage paid at Albion, MI 49224, Publication number 012-660.

BUSINESS MANAGER:  
Katherine Sindall

## Student points out positives of Albion

To the Editor:

The city of Albion has a lot to offer the college community and vice versa.

The city has many small businesses which offer their services to the community (this includes the college students that live here at least seven months out of the year). Albion has at least seven pizzerias, multiple gas stations, two grocery stores, a number of small restaurants and pubs, and many others— all of which are owned locally. Many of these businesses have made an ef-

fort to attract the business of college students by offering discounts and supporting philanthropic causes. We, as college students and community members, should utilize the services these businesses offer because they are convenient, they are often the most affordable services available, and we'll be supporting the local economy.

Within the last four years, more than 25 Albion College students have completed successful internships in the Albion area. These were at local banks, industries, and government related agencies. I am currently one of these interns and have learned more

about the Albion community in the last eight weeks than I learned in my first 18 months as a student. These internships are valuable to both the community and the college interns because they provide an educational "two-way street."

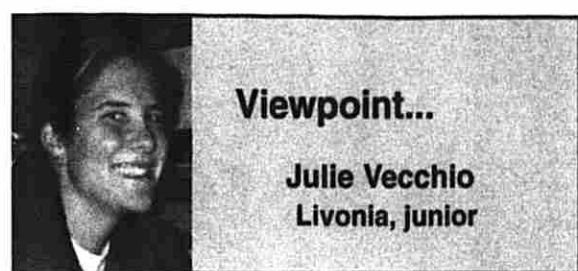
I urge everyone to take a look at the city of Albion and all it has to offer to its college citizens. You might be surprised that what you find is what you've been looking for.

Scott Smith  
Romulus sophomore

*The Pleiad welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be not more than 300 words in length and may be submitted to the Pleiad box outside of campus programs and organizations or via campus mail to 4929 Kellogg Center. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, Pleiad style and space limitations and to reject letters that may be slanderous or libelous. Due to space limitations, letters may not always be printed the week they are submitted.*



# SEA semester program and its tales from the front



## Viewpoint...

Julie Vecchio  
Livonia, junior

During the fall semester, I went off campus on the SEA semester program. This incredible program is based in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. It includes six weeks of intensive study in Woods Hole, and six weeks sailing aboard a 134' traditional sailing vessel. On board the boats, we learned not only sail handling and navigation, but also each of us worked on individual oceanography projects.

On Aug. 27, approximately 50 students from across the country descended on the SEA campus in Woods Hole. There were students from all disciplines, including biology, chemistry, art, English, women's studies and many other areas. We all lived together in five houses on the campus and spent our days going to classes in oceanography, nautical science, and maritime studies.

After six weeks in Woods Hole, the real excitement began. The class was divided in half, and it was off to Rockland, Maine, where 23 of us boarded the 134' *Corwith Cramer*. The other half sailed on the *Westward* out of Woods Hole. We met our crew of ten and settled into the ship-board routine. Each of us was assigned a bunk,

our home aboard the *Cramer*. It was six feet long, two feet wide and about three feet high. This was where we slept and stored all of our belongings for the entire time onboard. On board any vessel, there must be a crew on watch at all times. We were divided into three groups, or watches, and each watch was assigned a time to be on duty each day.

We finally set sail the next day under a beautiful, fall sun. About two days out, we began to hit some very rough weather and most of the students started getting violently ill. Those of us prone to sea sickness formed what

ship as well as beginning our scientific sampling. We crossed the Gulf Stream the day after the storm, and things began to really warm up. We sailed for a week before stopping in Bermuda for one day. We then continued sailing southward. For about two weeks we saw no land, and for approximately half of that time we saw no other boats. It was incredible to be in a place so secluded that there was just us, the water and the sky.

After our two weeks of solitude, we landed in Antigua, the northern-most island in the Eastern Caribbean chain. We spent three days in

projects, while we sailed down the Eastern Caribbean chain toward Grenada, the southern-most island. We got to watch Montserrat exploding, and see the beautiful landscapes of many of the islands in the area. When we arrived in Grenada, I immediately fell in love. This island was all rainforest with huge mountains and towering trees. We spent another three days there, and then began our journey northward to our final destination of St. Croix in the United States Virgin Islands.

The last two weeks of the cruise were for me the most fun as well as the most challenging. Since we had been on board the *Cramer* for a month, it was time for us to take a turn at handling the ship. We went into what was called the JWO (Junior Watch Officer) phase. This is where the crew steps back and allows the students to take control of the vessel. Each time we went on watch, a different person was the JWO. This meant that the only person who the student answered to was the captain, Peg. We could not ask the crew any questions or get any advice from them. This was very exciting because it allowed us to be leaders of our fellow students, as well as to be lead by our peers.

For me, the SEA semester was one of the most worthwhile experiences in my time at Albion. Not only was it extremely exciting and tons of fun, but it also gave me an opportunity to do a lot of things which I had never dreamed of.

*"For me, the SEA semester was one of the most worthwhile experiences in my time at Albion. Not only was it exciting and tons of fun, but it also gave me an opportunity to do a lot of things which I had never dreamed of."*

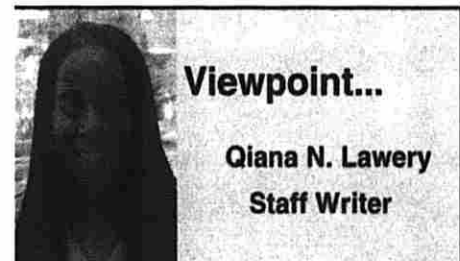
was affectionately known as the "lee rail club." The next day a full storm developed, and many of us got even more sick. Fortunately for me, I was so ill that I slept through most of it, being in my bunk for 22 hours straight. Once the seas began to subside, I felt much better, as did everyone else. We began to learn how to sail the

port and had a wonderful, relaxing time. However, we still worked hard, repairing the *Cramer* from the damage she sustained during the storm. We scraped, sanded, and repainted the yards and cleaned her from top to bottom.

After our three day break in Antigua, it was back to work. We finished up our science

## Words of hope from a stranger

African American student narrates her ride through life



## Viewpoint...

Qiana N. Lawery  
Staff Writer

Never, ever, talk to strangers, especially men.

For as long as I can remember, those were the words that my mom always left ringing in my ear as I walked out the door, either to school, a friend's house, or just outside to play.

As I got older, instead of saying "Yes Mama," my replies turned to "OK, I know that already, Mom, you don't have to tell me again!"

After a while, my mom realized her words of wisdom were embedded in my mind, so she stopped telling me and began to trust I would use common sense. And I always remembered her advice, until my train ride home Valentine's Day weekend.

I was dozing in my seat after vainly attempting to study for a test. A man was sitting next to me. In my eyes, he was just another person on the train.

My light nap was interrupted by a feeling that someone was watching me.

The feeling was not new to me. It happens every time I walk home in downtown Chicago, when I'm by myself in a store (especially an expensive one), or with friends in a restaurant.

I'm pretty sure it has something to do with my color, since I'm one of millions of African Americans in the United States.

As such, I'm used to being watched, observed as if I am some

sort of oddity, or worse, a threat to someone's well being. I am used to being followed around in stores by sales associates who repeatedly assure me that if I need any help with my shopping, any at all, they are right there to help me.

In restaurants, I have fond memories of eating and laughing with friends, only to look around at my surroundings and be greeted with looks of disdain or hostility by patrons. To make us more comfortable, it is frequently suggested that we move to a less crowded part of the restaurant (usually near the back). I'm sure they would extend the same courtesy to others, but they never seem to disturb people as much as my friends and me.

In the midst of walks down Michigan Avenue, I encounter gazes from women and men in corporate attire. They look at me from head to toe, but never make eye contact. I think they envy my style of dress. The same happens when I walk with one of my male cousins, who stands a lanky 6'2". We make such a striking pair that some people cross the street to see if we look as good from afar.

I often think to myself how wonderful it is to be such a subject of interest.

So when I looked up on this train ride, and saw a pair of piercing blue eyes, framed by large glasses, staring at me, I returned his stare calmly.

It's my second nature to put on my coat of armor and look into the eyes of someone who stares at me. It is a challenge. I almost dare them to continue.

As I waited for him to speak, I

thought of how tired I was of being scrutinized, and feeling tense and defensive.

"So, you're studying economics, huh? My daughter just received her doctorate in it. Do you like it?" he said.

My reply was short and cold. He was a stranger to me, and I assumed that he was being patronizing. He continued to make small talk, despite my attitude.

Gradually, his words put me at ease. I observed him and saw he had the air of someone's eccentric uncle who insists upon having a conversation, even if he is the only one talking. He was far from the lecherous old man I first perceived him to be. He told me that he visits Chicago regularly to see one of his sons, go to the opera and enjoy the city.

We also talked about a subject that is always sensitive to people, regardless of background...race.

He was intrigued by the issues I face as an African American woman. He was anxious to know if he, as a caucasian male, subconsciously added to racism.

I told him of my encounters with ignorance, and how hard it is for me to look at someone like him with anything other than trepidation.

Each word spoken caused us to look at each other in a new light.

During that train ride home, I learned more about opera and life in an hour than I ever thought I would want to know.

My mom told me never to talk to strangers, but I think she'd understand that an exception can be made every once in a while.

## 1980s in retrospect



## Viewpoint...

Rebecca Little  
Staff Writer

*The Wedding Singer* is a sweet, romantic comedy that blends the off-the-wall appeal of Adam Sandler with the flashy back drop of 1985. While Sandler fans are probably more accustomed to the crass humor of his albums and the madcap antics of his *Saturday Night Live* characters, he is trying out a new tack.

Written by his college buddy Tim Herlihy, who also wrote *Billy Madison* and *Happy Gilmore*, it still retains the goofy, and sometimes bizarre comedy that characterized the other two films.

Sandler plays Robbie Hart, a wedding singer and hopeless romantic whose only ambition is to get married. His occupation allows him to be around the happiness and love of weddings, and Sandler gets to display his singing as a centerpiece in the movie. He soliloquizes about true love and entertains the crowds with eighties tunes, along with his keyboard playing. Boy George look-alike.

Drew Barrymore's Julia is the new girl in town, who works as a waitress in the reception hall where Robbie sings. She is also obsessed with marriage, and is engaged to the yuppie Glenn (Matthew Glave) whose wardrobe is reminiscent of *Miami Vice*.

Robbie and Julia become friends by discussing their true loves, and bring in two more members with wedding related occupa-

tions to form their quartet. Julia's cousin Holly (Christina Taylor) is the forthright, fun loving slut who also waitresses at the reception hall, and Robbie's best friend Sammy is a limousine driver with the license plate IMKINKE. These two are the true fashion victims of the movie, as Holly dresses in the genre of "Like a Virgin" Madonna and Sammy sports everything from stonewashed jeans to Michael Jackson's spangled glove.

After Robbie is left at the altar by his heavy metal groupie girlfriend Linda (Angela Featherstone), his whole world crashes down around him.

The eighties backdrop heightens the humor as the characters breakdance and moonwalk, drive Delorians, play with Rubik cubes, and wear jean jackets and stone washed jeans.

Sandler fans will appreciate that there are still similarities between this and his other movies. We still have the hot blonde heroine, the fight scene, the cartoonish villain, the appearance of Steve Buscemi and a plethora of scary old men and crazy old women who play incidental roles throughout.

Now audiences will be able to add phrases like "church tongue" to *Billy Madison*'s "stop looking at me, schwan" and *Happy Gilmore*'s "The price is wrong, bitch" to their Sandler vocabulary.

Not only will the *Wedding Singer* appeal to die hard fans, but he will appeal to a whole new audience with his more subdued role.

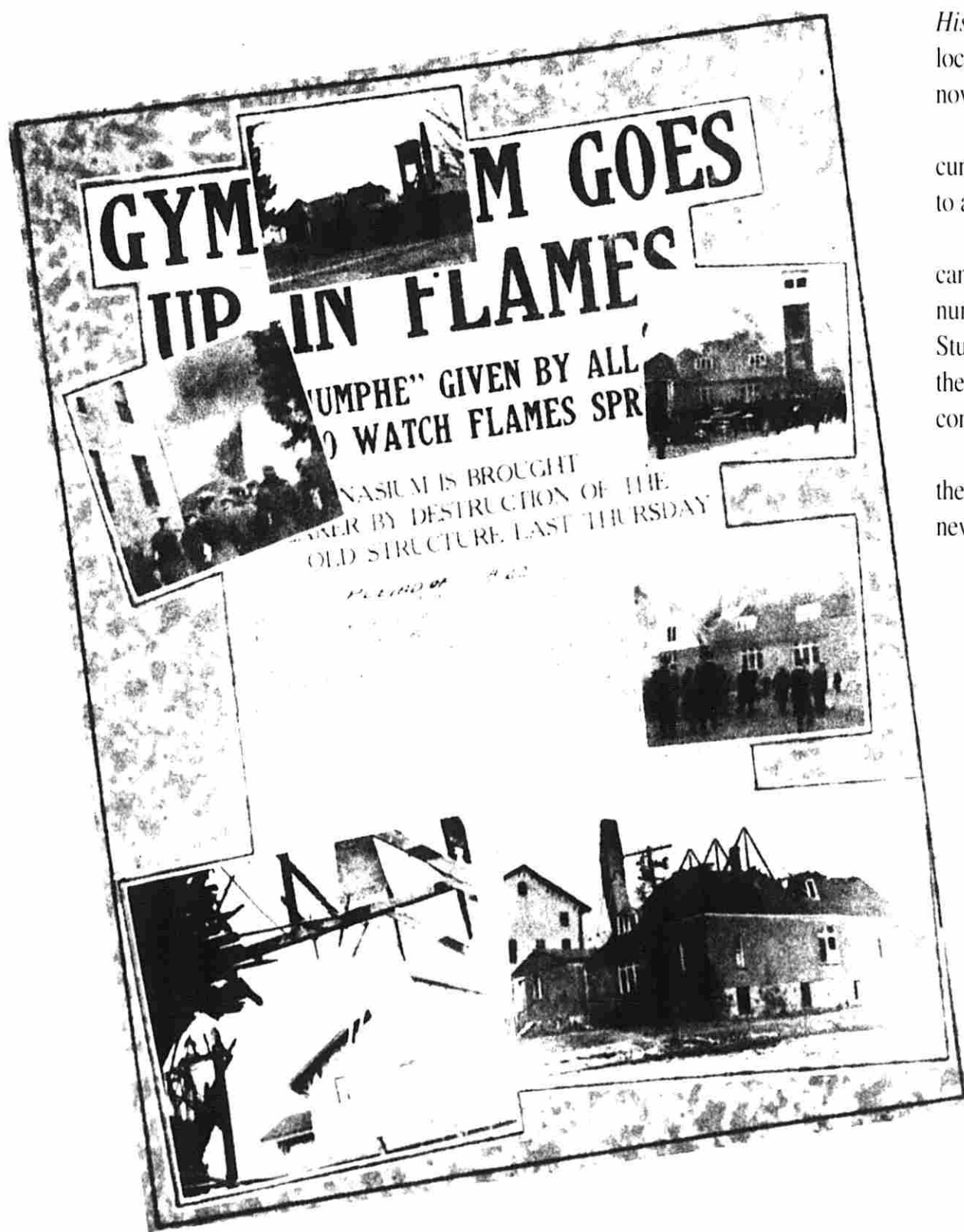
In theaters all across the country: "It's a nice day for a white wedding."





photos from Albion College Sesquicentennial History

Above: The Bell House was moved to this site at the Wilder Lumber Company in the 1890s. Below: This page appeared in *The Pleiad* shortly after the gymnasium burned to the ground. Bottom of page: This girls' physical culture class was held in the gymnasium.



## Historic bell tells a story

Jen Campbell  
Staff Writer

How many students have rubbed the bell in front of Robinson Hall for luck?

Probably not many since SOAR leaders created this myth only a few years ago.

This is just one example of how the historic bell has been, and is, an important part of Albion's campus.

The bell was originally a part of the Bell House, which was Albion's first academic building to be put into actual use, according to *The Albion College Sesquicentennial History: 1835—1985*. The Bell House was located directly behind the Central Building, now known as Robinson Hall.

The bell was rung daily for classes, curfew, and emergency fire alarms, according to an issue of the 1972 *Io Triumphe*.

The Bell House was a central part of campus life, and the bell was the focus of numerous pranks, according to the article. Students found it amusing to ring the bell in the middle of the night and enjoy the confusion created by the false alarm.

In 1892, the Bell House was moved to the Wilder Lumber Company in town, and a new gymnasium was built in its place. The

bell was moved to the tower of the gym.

The gym was damaged by a fire in 1921. When the building was restored, it was converted first to a cafeteria, and then to a home economics building in 1938.

Although it survived the gymnasium fire of 1921, the bell never made it to the home economics building. In a 1922 fire, the cause of which is unknown, it came crashing to the ground, resulting in the crack which is still there, according to the Feb. 8, 1985 *Pleiad*.

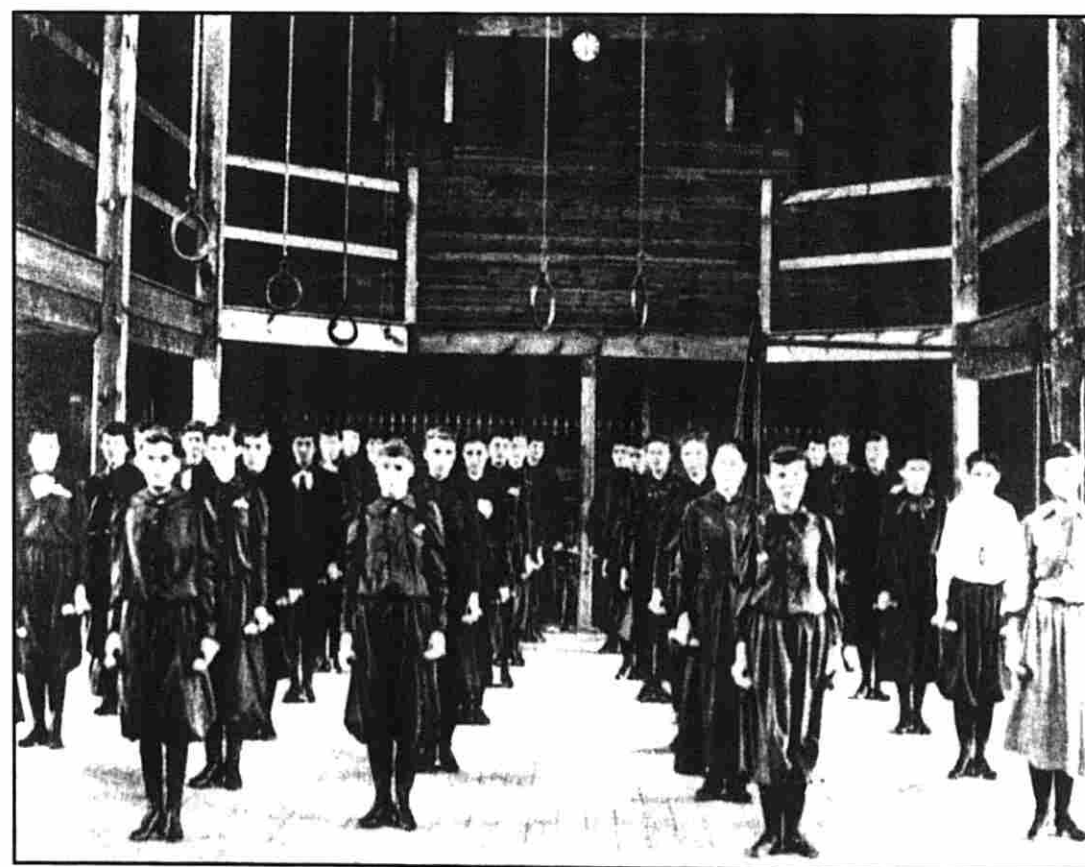
After this fire, the bell was put into storage.

In 1987, the home economics building was demolished and the bell was dusted off and brought out of storage. It was erected in almost the exact location of the original gymnasium's bell tower.

According to the Nov. 13, 1987 *Pleiad*, the bell rests on a foundation made of stones from the original gymnasium.

The students at the time could not understand the significance of a cracked, non-ringing bell being placed with such prominence in front of Rob Hall.

Today, students pass by the bell as they go to classes or to Baldwin, many never realizing the significance of it. It stands, cracked and worn, a gentle reminder of the history of Albion College.



Your Summer Place  
This summer...  
give yourself some  
credit.

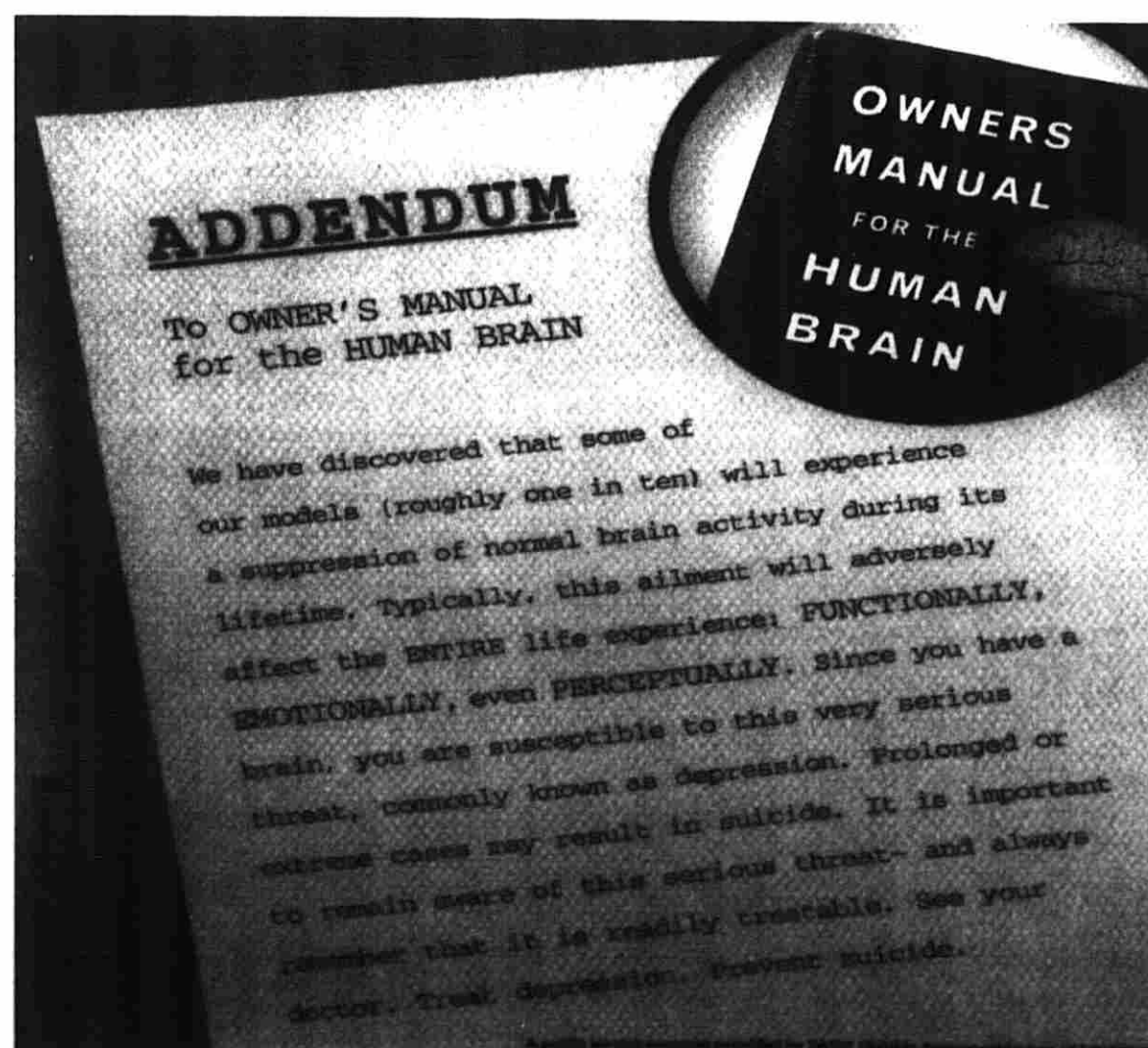
### University of Michigan 1998 Summer Sessions

Enjoy Ann Arbor at its best

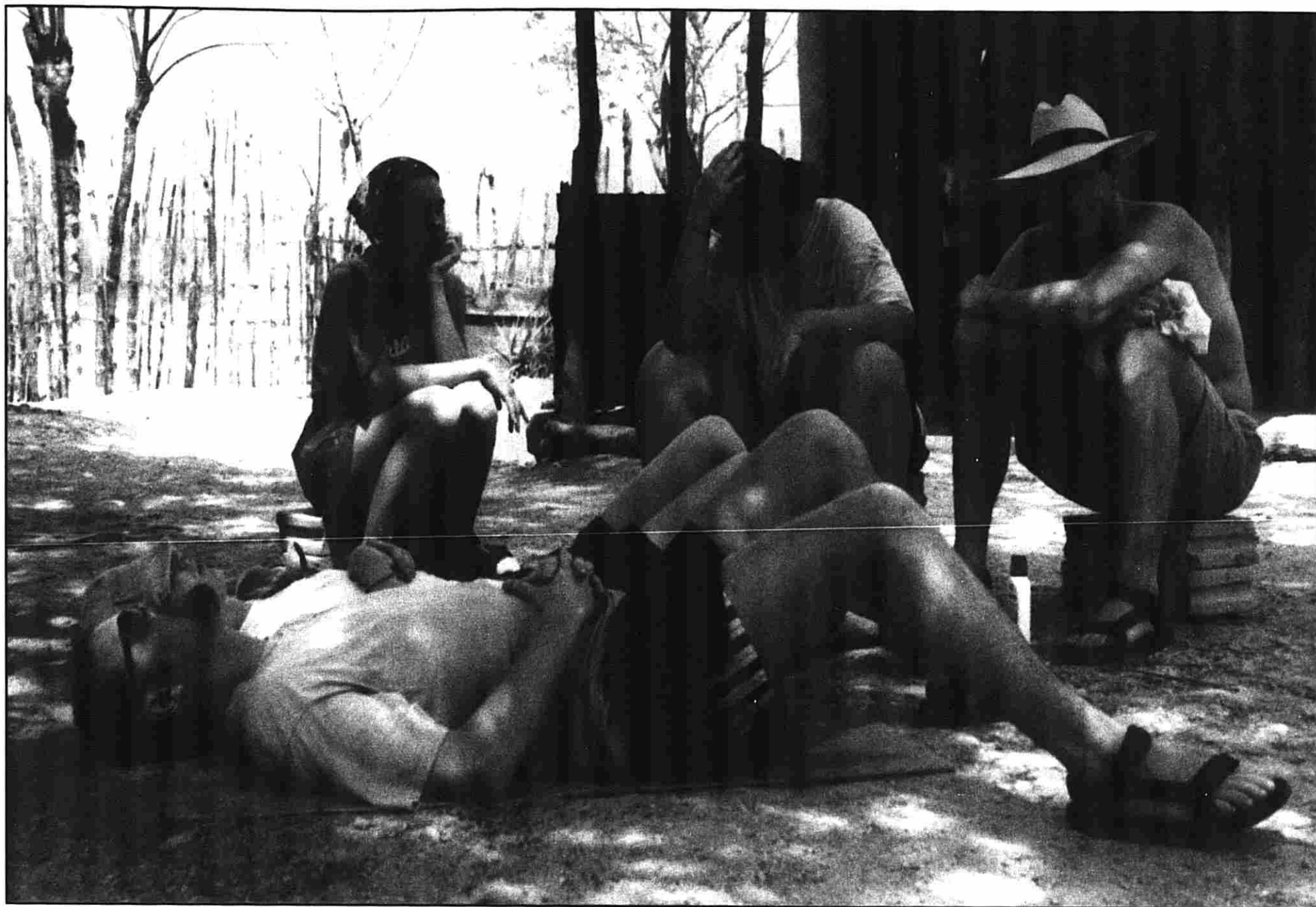
Hundreds of credit courses plus Intensive Courses and Special Workshops in foreign language, music, survey research, internet, information management, education, and more...

Great on-campus housing options

For information:  
Academic Outreach  
University of Michigan  
837 Greene Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-3297  
Phone: 313/764-5300  
Email: [ao-summer@umich.edu](mailto:ao-summer@umich.edu)  
[www.outreach.umich.edu/summer/](http://www.outreach.umich.edu/summer/)







Left: Timothy Krabill, Roscommon senior, Marin Walker, Rochester Hills junior, Elise Georgi, Howell senior, Kimberly Malesky, Trafford, Pa. junior, and Sebastian Cruz, Livonia senior, relax outside of a mission house in Boca Chica. Middle left photo: Kirk Myers, Millville, Minn. junior, digs a latrine hole. Middle right photo: Arturo Caro, Tustin, Calif. sophomore, and Andrew Dunham, director of campus programs and organizations, prepare to take a boat tour of a Colombian coastal wildlife preserve. Bottom photo: Children from the island community take time to pose for a picture.

photos courtesy of Kirk Myers

# WInGS Project

promotes global service, learning

Joselyne Hoffmann  
Staff Writer

At 4 p.m. March 6 in Cartagena, Colombia, members of Youth With a Mission welcomed Albion College's Wayfarers International Group for Service.

From Cartagena, members of WInGS sailed to Tierra Bamba, an island two hours away from the coast, where "huge glorious forts from colonial times contrast with little old houses in which people had lived for a hundred years," said Kirk Myers, Millville, Minn. junior.

"Where we were in Cartagena was a relatively middle class neighborhood, but the island was as Third World as you can get," said Arturo Caro, Tustin, Calif. sophomore.

Prior to their trip, members of WInGS said it would be hard work. And it was.

"The island has 6,000 inhabitants, 3,000 of them children....we plan to do things about nature for the children, but our main project is to build the latrines," said Sebastian Cruz, Livonia senior, a week before the trip.

Marin Walker, Rochester Hills junior, said she had no clue on how she would go about building a latrine.

However, once on the island they worked with members of the mission who taught them what they needed to know.

According to Myers and Caro, they had to dig holes from nine in the morning until four or five in the afternoon. Sometimes in solid rock or coral.

Even though they planned to teach some basic English, mathematics and geography, only Timothy Krabill, Roscommon senior, had the chance to work directly with the kids, teaching them some basic English.

"The point of the organization when it started was to give students the opportunity to experience another culture and do a service project out of the United States," said Andrew Dunham, director of campus programs and organizations and



staff member accompanying WInGS on the adventure.

WInGS raised funds through different activities such as a CD sale and a senior photograph event. In addition, each member covered about \$110, plus their personal expenses, passports and immunizations.

Cruz said Krabill, Kimberly Malesky, Trafford, Pa. junior, and himself were the veterans, since they went last year to the Dominican Republic and worked with a non-profit organization called Outreach Latin America.

Concerning safety, Walker said that before leaving for Colombia, non-participants who knew about the trip were more worried than most people in their group were.

Parents were hysterical, said Malesky and Elise Georgi, Howell senior.

"But Cartagena is a relatively safe city and tourist area," Cruz said.

Myers and Caro said the most rewarding experience was getting to know people such as Karen and Jorge Silva, Javier and Miguel.

Four out of the eight people who traveled speak Spanish.

Myers, one of the four participants not fluent in the language, commented that he wished he knew Spanish.

Myers said that talking to Jorge Silva helped him to understand how democracy works in Colombia.

Although "all kinds of groups are fighting for power, there are happy people," Myers said. "It puts Albion in such a different perspective....On the island people earn about \$160 a month but they are pretty happy."

"It helped me to see all the opportunities that I have here....It helped me to explore my heart....When I came back I felt the greater love for Albion," Caro said.

While Caro said that "maybe extending the group a little bit" would be an improvement, Myers said that students could help out more by providing basic medical training or teaching English, for example.

"What I enjoyed the least about the trip was leaving Colombia," Caro said.

"I don't know how to describe the experience yet," Myers said, "But when people ask me 'How was Colombia?' I will tell them it was great!"





photo by Jessie Jones

Denise Routhier, Flushing junior, practices her long jump approach for tomorrow's meet at Defiance, Ohio. This is the first meet for both men's and women's track and field teams.

### This week in sports

#### Today

J.V. Baseball, home vs. Olivet, 4 p.m.  
Women's tennis, home vs. Oakland, 6 p.m.

#### Tomorrow

Track @ Defiance, Defiance Invitational  
Women's tennis, home vs. Alma, 1 p.m.

#### Sunday

Baseball @ Kalamazoo, 1 p.m.  
doubleheader

#### Monday

Baseball @ Kalamazoo, 4 p.m.

#### Tuesday

Women's tennis, home vs. Defiance,  
3 p.m.

#### Wednesday

Men's tennis, home vs. Defiance, 3 p.m.  
Softball @ Defiance, 3 p.m.  
Women's track, home vs. St. Mary's

## Equestrian club sets goals, dream big for future

David Evensen  
Staff Writer

A different breed of sport is emerging at Albion College.

An equestrian club is being formed on campus, and anyone who has spent time riding horses knows that this is not the typical MIAA athletic pursuit.

Tara Movitz, Phoenix, Ariz. freshman and president of the equestrian club, worked with Amanda Reed, Bear Lake sophomore, and Micah Hall, Fort Gratiot sophomore, last fall to organize the club. Over 50 people are now on their e-mail list, according to Movitz.

Elizabeth Grewe, West Branch junior and secretary of the equestrian club, referred to the goals for the club.

"Eventually having a stable and an arena would be big. I'm a junior now, though, so my biggest goal is to

see [the club] grow and expand when I'm gone. We just have to start small."

Grewe said that fund-raisers will be planned in the future.

"Eventually we'd like to get our own horses," Movitz said.

Movitz said the club is trying to arrange for use of local stables around Parma and ride the horses there. She noted that President Peter Mitchell has told them that they could use the stables at Briton Manor if they ever need them in the future.

Another long term goal would be to take part in competitions, but Movitz noted that insurance is a big factor when competition is involved.

"Right now we want it to be more of a fun club," she said. "We want to be educational and just ride horses. It will also give people who know how to ride already the chance to ride when they are not at home."

Grewe said if the weather permits, the club would like to organize

a trail ride before the end of the school year.

To Movitz, who has been riding since she was seven years old, the rewards of horseback riding are self-evident.

"It teaches you patience," she said, "and horseback riding is one of those things that you have to practice to learn. But it's like a bike — once you learn how, you don't forget."

"[Equestrian] is definitely a partnership [between the horse and rider]," she said. "If one of you messes up, it affects the other. It's just like working with another person, but the horse can't tell you what it's thinking."

The term "equestrian" encompasses everything from rodeo events to show jumping, Movitz said.

In any of these events, training a

horse to do what you want requires a lot of patience and respect.

"They're not robots," she said. "If they don't want to jump for you,

*"It will also give people who know how to ride already the chance to ride when they are not at home."*

—Tara Movitz, Phoenix, Ariz., freshman

they won't. You have to ask, not demand. You have to learn to be sensitive to small changes. If you don't respect them, they won't respect you."

Earning respect from a horse is not always easy, she added.

"Sometimes you get a horse that is great and does everything that you want it to, but some horses

know if you don't know what you're doing and they will play games with you."

Learning to ride a horse requires something more, as well.

"You have to be brave," Movitz said. "I can't even count the number of times that I've been thrown."

The first time Movitz was thrown, a firecracker went off and caused her horse to jump ten feet sideways.

"You're always going to get thrown, though," Movitz said. "The more you ride, the more you get thrown from the horse. Just like the saying goes, though, if you want to get better you just have to get up and get back on the horse."

Those interested in the equestrian club should contact Movitz at x1288 for more information.

Newly designed—professionally managed

### The New Bohm Theater

(517) 629-8881

#### Now Showing:

Back by popular demand

#### Titanic:

F—7:45  
Sat.—2:00, 7:45  
Sun.—2:00, 6:45  
M-Th.—6:45

#### Borrowers:

F, M-Th—5:15  
Sat., Sun.—2:30, 5:15

#### Wild Things:

F, W—4:55, 7:00, 9:15  
Sat.—2:15, 4:55, 7:00, 9:15  
Sun.—2:15, 4:55, 7:00, 9:15  
M, T, Th.—4:55, 7:00

#### Man in the Iron Mask:

F, Sat., W—7:30, 10:00  
Sun., M, T, Th.—7:30

Prices: \$2.75 for children 12 and under, senior citizens and before 6 p.m. and \$3.75 after 6 p.m.

Wednesday is College Night—Buy one ticket, get another free (with College I.D.)

FREE HOUSING IN  
EXCHANGE FOR  
BUILDING SECURITY  
AND LIGHT  
JANITORIAL WORK

#### First United Methodist

Church is seeking two building attendants for SUMMER & FALL semesters. Please call 629-9425 weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m.-noon or 1:00-4:00 p.m., or pick up an application at the church office, 600 E. Michigan Ave.

Application deadline:  
April 3, 1998

## This Weekend UB Presents...

Friday, March 27:  
Starship Troopers at 8pm  
L.A. Confidential at 10pm

Saturday, March 28:  
L.A. Confidential at 8pm  
Starship Troopers at 10pm