



IN THE NEWS

Absentee ballot

How to:
The Pleiad gives you step



by step instructions on how to get your absentee voter's ballot sent directly to your K.C. box.

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Dr. Judith Lockyer talks about horrifying her mother, burning books, stair mending and other fancy-tickling pastimes.

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Sexual Aggression Peer Educators hope to reach out and educate at annual survivors panel

By JULIE PEPERA
Staff Reporter

Monday, at 8 p.m. the Sexual Aggression Peer Educators (SAPE) will hold the annual survivors of sexual assault panel in Norris 101. Five or six survivors will recount their personal accounts of being sexually assaulted. There will be no long lectures by professionals; real people will tell their stories. Best estimates say that between one in four or five women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetimes.

Last year, three rapes were reported to campus safety. According to the Center for Disease Control fact sheet for the year 2002, about 16 percent of rapes are reported. If Albion College conforms to the national average, that would mean that about 19 rapes happened here on campus last year. According to



Julie Esty/The Pleiad

SAPE MEMBERS, (L to R) Kelly Kusina Charlevoix Senior, Amy Radgowski, Grosse Pointe Junior, Trisha Franzen Director of the Anna Howard Shaw department for women's studies, and Ashley Kamischke Saginaw Sophomore, discuss this years survivors panel.

Kristen Abraham, Berkley Senior and SAPE member, the goal of the survivors panel is to raise awareness about sexual assault. Another goal is to reach out to the 84 percent of people who have not reported being raped so that they may seek the counseling they need. Counselors from the sexual

assault services of Calhoun County will also be on hand to help the survivors and anyone in the audience who needs them.

At Albion College, a victim who reports a rape has three options: to simply report the rape, to try the case in the campus judicial system (in

which the greatest penalty is expulsion), or to try the rape in a criminal court. The campus trials are closed, and if the defendant is found not responsible, the person that accused them is no longer allowed to speak about the situation because it is slanderous to the accused.

Currently the nearest place to have a rape kit done is Oaklawn Hospital in Marshall. Ken Snyder, the director of campus safety, says that in cases on campus the main issue is usually about consent, more than it is about whether or not the couple had sex. Snyder also states that virtually all the cases reported on campus were reported long after the rape had occurred.

This year's panel is comprised of people who have never spoken at the panel before. SAPE hopes that all students and staff will support this years panel.

Downward-spiraling economy forces city budget cutbacks

By JIM ROBBINS
Sports Editor

Upset that you have to drive all the way to Jackson to buy a pair of underwear? Well, recent business closings are actually much more detrimental to Albion than just making students' lives less convenient. Loss of revenue, as well as a fluttering economy, has the city of Albion facing a budget cut of around \$400,000 for the 2003 fiscal year. Although such a cut may seem minimal when considering that the current general fund budget is set at \$4.8 million, it could result in the loss of several jobs and possibly some departments. "It is a pretty healthy reduction when you consider that we had a tight budget to begin with," said City Manager Mike Herman. Among the departments which might be affected are Albion's recreation program, which currently absorbs about \$150,000, as well as the planning department. "If you look at some of the things we provide services for, like police, fire, plowing

streets and maintaining parks-a lot of these things we have to do; recreation is something that we don't have to provide."

Herman also notes that steps have been taken to try to preserve the recreation department. The city council has placed an issue on the November ballot that will attempt to raise money to save the department. The Albion department of public safety, which at \$2.2 million occupies almost half the budget, could experience the largest cutbacks. The department, which handles both policing and firefighting responsibilities, should not be hindered by the reduced funding, however. "There will be no big changes as far as response time," said Lieutenant John Collins, who is serving as the Interim Police Chief. "The only problem is that overtime might go up for our current officers."

Officials anticipate that the only positions to be dropped will

NEWS PAGE

Campus Safety Incident Log

Editor's Note: The Campus Safety incident logs are available to the public on the college's website at: <http://www.albion.edu/campusafety/incidentlogs.asp>

Oct. 14, 2:40 a.m.

The cement ash-trays outside of Ferguson were tipped over.

Oct. 17 1:18 a.m.

An exit sign was ripped off the wall in Wesley Hall.

Oct. 17, 4:54 p.m.

A group of juveniles begging for money left the quad before an officer could reach the scene.

Oct. 17 5:16 p.m.

The same group of juveniles were bothering customers at the Eat Shop. An officer asked them to leave campus.

Oct. 17, 7:03 p.m.

Smoke from a fog machine in the TKE house set off the fire alarm.

Oct. 18, 1:34 a.m.

Smoke from the same fog machine set off the the TKE fire alarm. The machine was turned off.

Oct. 20, 3:00 a.m.

There was a sexual assault on campus.

Exciting new renovations to the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Science Lab allow for new research opportunities

By **AUTUMN DODGE**
Staff Reporter

There probably isn't any Albion College science major that isn't familiar with the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Analytical Science Laboratory. However, if you're a non-science major you may not know what you're missing.

The Dow lab has spectacular instrumentation including a nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer (NMR), which provides detailed structural information for the identification of organic compounds. Other instruments include a high-pressure liquid chromatograph/mass spectrometer (HPLC and LC-MS), which separates and analyzes organic liquids and aqueous solutions; the mass spectrometer also determines the species present from the mass.

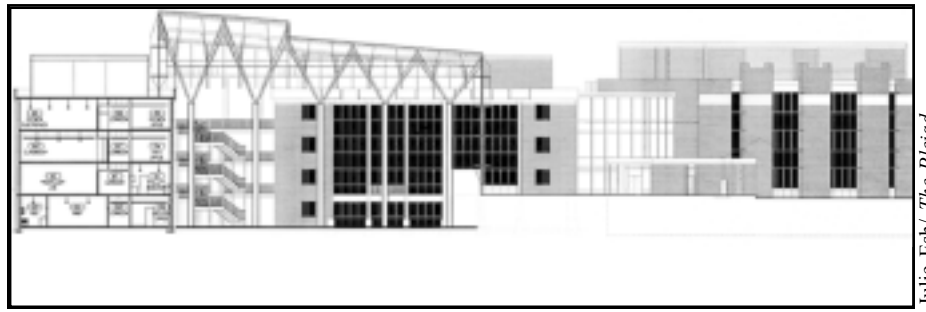
Perhaps one of the most exciting facets of the Dow lab is the new instrumentation. "We have the kind of instrumentation as well as faculty and student

research partnerships that can be done at the graduate school level," said Andrew French, associate professor of chemistry at Albion College.

"The Dow lab made a lot of summer science research possible. There were 75 FURSCA students here over the summer and 35 of them were doing science research," said David Green, visiting professor of chemistry.

The Dow lab makes this possible. Beth Lincoln, professor of geology said, "The Dow lab is open to non-science majors, if they want to do summer research in science."

Dedicated in the spring of 2001, the Dow Lab has greatly improved the Norris-Palenski-Putnam science department. However, faculty and students agree that more modern facilities are still needed. "This building has the same carpet that was in it in the 60s. It's time to redo things. It's more



Julie Esh/ The Pleiad

THE DOW SCIENCE CENTER BLUE PRINT promises big changes. The Science department hopes to change the outdated feel of the building. The new additions will range from new high tech equipment to new carpet. The updated building will provide undergrad students with grad school equipment and opportunities.

than carpet: we've made room for a computer lab on the second floor, but at the cost of taking out a faculty-student lab," Green said. "I have actually heard students say, 'I try to stay out of Palenski; it's such a dreary place,'" said Timothy Lincoln, professor of geology. The solution? Well, if you've walked through Palenski, you may have noticed several blueprints on the walls. The planning and estimation stage have been completed and the trustee funding meeting took place Oct. 18-20. "Right now we are above

budget so we have to decide how to make cuts that won't impact too much but also create the space we need. The architects have made [the plans] really versatile," French said.

A new science building will create enormous benefits; it will allow all the science departments to be in one building, therefore allowing for more interdisciplinary work to take place. Currently, the biology department shares its facility with the psychology department in Olin Hall.

Another benefit of improving the science facilities is the attraction of new students and faculty who will see the advantage of graduate-level research facilities at an undergraduate institution. So, if you are a science major, you will be seeing great changes coming to the department; if you're a non-science major, make sure to find an opportunity to use the Dow lab in a way that interests you.

Advancements in information technology

By **AUTUMN DODGE**
Staff Reporter

Probably everyone has noticed some changes in the information technology around campus. Perhaps the biggest change is the Ferguson 24-hour lab, which features fifteen wireless laptops as opposed to standard PC stations, four digital editing stations and two scanning stations, as well as a color printer.

These changes have students excited: "I love the 'Fergie!'" said Anastasia Spanos, '03. One of the most exciting additions for many students is the free software offered to students through the Microsoft Campus Agreement (MSCA). "I find it convenient because I use the software programs constantly. If it wasn't offered to students I would have to buy it on my own or spend all my time in the labs. It's really useful," said Julie Esh, '03. The new software includes



MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and Front Page.

At least 333 students have had free software added to their computers said Lisa Batterbee, director of user services.

"Albion College has once again been recognized as the most wired liberal arts college in Michigan and as # 7 nationally by Yahoo! Internet Life magazine." Albion's continuing advances in equipment, software and facilities are what make the difference. "Since I have worked for Resnet for the past few years, I have been able to see firsthand all the changes that have taken place. It's really great to see the organizational advances in student services and new products such as Office XP that students have at their disposal," said Tony Plagens, '04.



Obtain an absentee Voter's ballot

By **DANA LOBELLE**
Staff Reporter

We all know how important it is to participate in elections. But what do you do if you're official address is at home, and your stuck at school? If you have voted in person at least once, you may vote by absentee ballot. You can request that the ballot be sent to your KC box.

By phone, call the clerk's office for the city in which you are registered and ask to be mailed an application for an absentee ballot. You will receive the application within three business days. Return it to the clerk, and you will be mailed

an absentee ballot.

By mail, write to the clerk where you are registered and request an absentee ballot. This will act as your application. You need to include: (1) name (2) date of birth (3) the address at which you are registered (4) reason for eligibility and (5) signature. The reason you are eligible should read as follows: "I expect to be absent from the community in which I am registered to vote for the entire period the polls are open on Election Day."

If you do not know how to reach your local clerk, you

can visit www.sospublius.org. Follow the link called "find your clerk" and type in your registered address. To return your ballot, mail it back to the clerk's office. You must sign both your request for a ballot and the ballot's sealed return envelope for either to be valid. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Nov. 2 at 2 p.m. and the deadline to submit the completed ballot is Nov. 4 at 4 p.m.

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be the two community policing officers, who work out of the low-income housing areas in Albion. Training procedures may also take longer with the reduced number of available officers. According to Herman, the city will not be handicapped in its operations once the cuts are made. "We are not looking to eliminate any services," Herman said. "If we lay off a couple of positions, it doesn't mean we won't still have the service, it just means it may take us longer to get things done."

Several factors, besides closing businesses, have put the city in a bind. As a result of the downturn in the economy and increasing unemployment, property value has dropped, thus leading to decreased revenue from property taxes. The increasing number of unemployed citizens has directly affected revenue gained from income taxes. Population decreases have also had a negative impact. Over the last 30 years, Albion's population has dipped by about 3,000; as it continues to decline the city receives less support from the state.

The State of Michigan is suffering from its own economic difficulties. A state-wide budget drop of \$500 million is expected for 2003. Because of this, state revenue sharing is expected to drop significantly and the city's budget may be cut into even further.

"Last year we had a difficult budget, but we managed to cut corners and not have to lay people off," Herman said. "But we're not going to be able to do that this year." The city council will decide what cuts to make and where to make them in the upcoming months.

AS WE SEE IT

Between the ghosts, goblins, bats in flight and the black cat crossing your path, Halloween delight finds itself in fright. But fear is not merely a seasonal treat, emerging in forms independent of this holiday cheer. This month finds those on the East Coast afraid as they face a sniper in their midst. This week on campus, fear undoubtedly—if subconsciously—surfaced in the more complex form of homophobia.

The suffix “phobia” is derived from the Greek “phobos,” meaning fear or loathing. Webster defines homophobia as “irrational hatred or fear of homosexuality.” The key aspect of this definition is that the fear is irrational—that which has not been reasoned.

In 1933, FDR proclaimed, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” *The Pleiad*, however, does not fear the fear that goes unchallenged and unjustified. As we confront the theories, practices and truths our college experience has to offer, we do not just accept or deny them, but first critically examine our reasons for doing so.

Note: An unsigned “As We See It” represents a general consensus of the editorial staff.

From the Desk of...

Dr. Judith Lockyer, professor and chair of English

One day in early October, Ann (one of my students) and I visited the Harrington Elementary School library read at all.

Ann is working on a reading project, and I went with her to look at the books. The library is open and cheerful; we perused the shelves. Every so often a child would come in to find a book; a couple of boys tested the memories of books recently read by clicking at words on a computer screen. I found *Caddy Woodlawn* there, and all the *Laura Ingalls Wilder* books, and even *The Moffats* and *Ginger Pye*.



Julie Esh/The Pleiad

For a little while, I had time to savoring; the stairs need mending every often. It's quite a job keeping these libraries going. Yes, libraries are expensive. But to be indifferent or disdainful to them would be far more costly.

While I'm grateful for the Internet, I am overwhelmed with all the information out there. I like my fast computer and wireless communication in general. But I worry that its speed may make us more impatient with actual reading. Some things are faster and easier, but without the skills to read critically, to analyze data, to discriminate among significant and ridiculous ideas, nothing is really any better.

The last week in September was Banned Book Week. I read in the newspaper that the number of banned books is way down this year. I worried a bit about whether that means that more people believe in readers or that fewer people take reading seriously. But while English professors are generally some of the more zealous bibliophiles, we are definitely the only ones. Loving to read is a habit of mind that we can enthusiastically nurture at this college. Even so (I feel like my mother) it's still important to remember that books have been banned and burned.

Bigger will be better.

By PETER T. MITCHELL
Albion College President



Albion College Communications Dept.

The arrival of a large and talented first-year class has been a source of celebration among most of us. Since growth inevitably results in change, there are concerns being voiced on campus that warrant attention and creative planning. Before we address the implications of growth, it is important to understand the reasons for our success in enrollment. First, our Vision, “Liberal Arts Work,” is now fully operational and we can show prospective students tangible evidence of how collectively the elements combine to provide a superior education. Second, our faculty, staff and students have created a very friendly environment on campus that makes prospective students feel welcome and affirmed here at Albion College. Third, David Hawsey and his terrific admissions and financial aid staff members do an exceptional job of marketing the college and responding to the individual needs of each prospective student.

The growth was an integral part of the planning. Our Vision was designed to increase the enrollment from 1550 to a stable enrollment of 1900 students. Our enrollment vacillated between 1600 and 1900 over the past 30 years. Stabilizing the enrollment at 1900 allows for accurate planning, fiscal efficiency and the ability to focus on overall quality—especially in our academic offerings. The Vision was also intended to move Albion into the second tier of *U.S. News & World Report*, which we achieved last year. The primary concerns voiced to me about our potential growth to 1900 are that Albion will become a large and impersonal college without the resources to maintain a high quality educational experience. First, the concern about size and ethos: going from a hard to read something you've been assigned; we're all perverse readers—enough not to want our work cut out for us by someone else. Of course, I'm biased, but trust me anyway—they know some things. We professors ask you to go to the library to do the work of scholars. That's your most important job right now; and you're very lucky to have it.

OPINIONS PAGE

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Liberal Minds at Work... What's your guilty pleasure?



Alison Whyte,
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Joe Donajkowski,
Alpena sophomore



Lauren Sisson,
Grand Rapids first-year



Nathan Decker,
Saginaw junior



Maggie Keller,
Vicksburg junior

Rachel Schoneman/The Pleiad

“Singing Madonna while doing dishes.” “I never miss my cartoons.” “Does it have to be PG-rated?” “Spicy hot beer sticks.” “Hitting on John Steeno.”