





SCOTLAND U.S.A.

. The Origin of the Crest

With pageantry a major part of Alma's Highland Games, a crest harking back to the days of heraldry seemed appropriate. Victor Hogg, an active member of the Lansing-area Clan MacNeil and a former bass drummer for the Clan's pipe band, designed the crest.

The symbols he chose are a silver St. Andrews Cross on a field of blue because St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland; the flag of Scotland (a red lion standing, silver-clawed arms outstretched, inside a double frame of flowers on a field of gold), because of the Scottish heritage reflected in the festival; a harp to signify the music which is so much a part of the festival ("I drew a harp because I couldn't draw a bagpipe"); and an open book for learning, to signify Alma College, because that is where the games are held. The thistle of Scotland at the top of the crest is Hogg's trademark.