

THE TIMBER CRUISER

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Alpena Community College

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Suggested Solutions

STUDENT COUNCIL

Any student council reflects the student body which it represents. An apathetic student body results in an apathetic council.

Granted, our council doesn't accomplish much, but do many Junior College Councils? With more student support, however, it could become more than just a homecoming committee.

For instance, the council could set up and organize a dance schedule at the beginning of each year. This would eliminate both the "no dance" problem and the 10-day approval problem. It could also be their duty to apprehend parking violators by advancing a fine system or something similar. Let the council be in charge of keeping the lounge respectably clean and dealing with the offenders who "forget" to discard their trash. Why not let responsible council members (and aren't they all) patrol the library evenings — and if it is ever open on week ends — thus taking pressure off the faculty.

Any one or all of these tasks would result in a more active council with closer student contact.

PARKING

Human beings have an innate respect for that which has another's name upon it. To facilitate solution of the much-celebrated parking problem at ACC, why not block off a predetermined number of parking spaces in that part of the oval nearest the school and imprint, either on the curbs or on small signs erected for that purpose the names of the teachers who are to use them, much as has been done for the Director's parking space? How often, after all, does Dean Van Lare find his own space filled by a student's car? Perhaps the faculty members are due the same consideration. Visitors' spaces, then, might be reduced to five or less in number, marked off as the others and the remainder of the oval space left to students. For these visitors' spaces, the fines would be maximum. Further, may we suggest that steps be taken immediately towards the paving and blocking out of Besser Parking Lot, which in its present state is inadequate to properly support this year's student load, much less next year's expected increase — this cannot be denied by anyone who has battled its disorganization.

ACTIVITY FEE

Have you seen your activity fee lately? We haven't.

Since September, in fact, it has become quite apparent that we never were meant to get our 15 bucks' worth. Aside from the compulsory "fun for children" assemblies discussed in the piece following this, most of the fund has been filched for a select group of "JAWCS".

*JAWC — Junior Athletics Worshiper's Committee.

Of course, some thoughtful person somewhere along the line included SIX sports for our four hundred sports to choose from. But they did not realize for some reason, that most of our activity fund comes from women and 90lb weaklings, neither of which is likely to make the varsity.

We would hastily estimate the maximum percentage of students deriving any measure of use from their fee at 1/3 of the student body. So while the baseball team spent the spring in "Ole Kaintuck", Albie Zink's freshman astronomy team had to postpone its trip to Mt. Palomar. Probably the school board wants to wait until they can send them to the moon.

While our money is being invested in sweatpants and golf balls, everyone, including the social-minded "JAWCS", gripes about the state of the general dance program. Elimination of just one extra "JAWC" activity would probably leave enough money to run scheduled dances for a year. And if any "JAWC"-minded administration members yell too loudly, we can give each activity card holder three credits in ball room dancing.

Scratching one more of the "big" sports would make funds available to someone else who needs them badly — US! We would like to bring you more reading material, and fewer advertisements, but it is impossible when we need the revenue to stay in business. And we don't think you OR the staff will miss the month-old sports stories.

There is only one way to bring activity fund spending a little closer to reality. Write to Student Council, write to us, and write to ALL levels of administration. Gripes are needed, yes. But not casually.

CONVOICATIONS

Everyone has at least two things to say about our convocation series. "We paid for it; why should we be forced to attend?"

And, "It stinks."

Both statements carry considerable merit.

The administrative decision to make all ACC convocations compulsory is as ludicrous as it is serious. Like a number of other facets of ACC en-

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Letter to The Editor

At the appearance of the last issue of the TIMBER-CRUISER, we, the undersigned, voiced once more the oft-repeated complaints against the content and general plan of this paper. The editors thereupon re-issued the also oft-repeated challenge: "If you don't like this paper, why don't you put it out yourselves?"

"Why not," we thought—and accepted the challenge. Our biggest complaint was the parking problem solution offered in last month's editorial. This piece of writing—which, we admit, was excellent slapstick humor—was, we felt, very poorly placed in the only editorial column. It was from this point that we proceeded on our improvement project, of which you may find examples throughout this month's paper. Our aim has not been to compete with the University of Michigan's DAILY or THE NEW YORK TIMES, but merely to exploit the advantages of a small school's paper.

The closing sentence of Dean Van Lare's column presented to us another challenge. This, we felt, was not to be ignored. "... is there a way to encourage more students to feel personally responsible for the welfare of the college?..." were his exact words. A morning in the lounge should be sufficient to prove that ACC students are interested—who gripes more than a college student in the morning? Again may we quote Dean Van Lare: "Students who don't gripe aren't normal." If nothing else, we of ACC are normal.

As evidence of our own normalcy and interest in college affairs, we presented, in the column to the left of the letter, solutions to the problems which now plague and have plagued all year, the halls of our institution. We do not profess omniscience, but we do believe in the practicality of these suggestions, and in the importance of their very appearance. It is our hope that students, faculty, and administration alike will give careful consideration to our contributions. Dissenters are encouraged to set down their cases on paper and turn them over to Editor Gillard, who has promised cooperation in this matter.

Before we are hung in effigy—or otherwise—we would like to state that the accomplishment of this project has afforded us more hours of enjoyment than of hard work. Our dealings with—and opposition to—staff members of the TIMBER-CRUISER, have been a pleasure. Thank you.

I. Alstrom, L. Krull

Smoking a Drag at A.C.C.

Smoking may cause lung cancer, but before the year is over, ACC is liable to cause several nicotine fits. The Victorian conservatism which has us nicotine addicts running to the water closet (and we DO mean CLOSET) to get off a few hurried puffs on a fag is rank ridiculousness.

A year ago an undergrad named Oliver, aged 22, was calmly bicycling along Second Avenue when hauled over by police and informed that he was breaking the curfew. The parallel is excellent.

In a society which begs us to behave as young adults, it is only logical that we be treated as same. This is a stale cry, voiced too often in high school publications. But in this case we are being treated as high school students, so — touch (e).

A quick comparison with other JC's shows that their student bodies are allowed to smoke in either the lounge or the cafeteria, in our case, one and the same. Nowhere do they have to cram into a space fit for a half-dozen smokers to calm their frazzled nerves.

The epitome of the tobacco-comedy, however, lies in the smoking policies forced on instructors. Is someone afraid that the sight of a college instructor smoking will set a bad example for our students? Or is someone afraid that the sight of a puffing student body will be a bad influence on our faculty? We extend our sympathies to our instructors who are told they are not old enough to have an ash tray on their desks.

Dean's Column

YOUR RECORD

An increasingly large amount of my time and also the time of the faculty is being utilized completing recommendations for former graduates and students. The other day when there were several forms on my desk at one time, it occurred to me that it is only fair to alert you as present students, to the importance of your record at Alpena Community College—both your academic record and personal attributes.



Dean Van Lare

When you complete work at any college or university, you establish a basis for recommendation. There is very little you can do in later life that does not, in one way or another relate to your college record.

We are asked for an evaluation of former students by colleges and universities, armed services, business (I have one on my desk right now from North American Aviation Corporation), civilian governmental agencies — federal, state, and local (I recently completed two for the Detroit Police Department) — industries, and professional associations, such as those representing accountancy, law, and medicine.

Sometimes inquiries are made asking about students who were here many years ago.

Invariably, they want to know whether or not the man is "responsible." They want to know about 'cooperation', 'attitude', 'general conduct' and 'attendance'. A faculty member was just in, and when I mentioned what I was writing, said,

"Above all else, mention the importance of responsibility." He had just completed recommendations for two former colleagues. He said that the main questions asked, had to do with responsibility.

Perhaps you will pardon a reference to a personal experience. I think it will illustrate the point I wish to make. This last weekend I spent some time with a consultant. Among other things, he mentioned that he had discussed his coming visit to Alpena Community College with the president of one of the colleges from which I received a degree. The consultant told me that the president of my college gave me a good send-off. I believe he used, among other things, the words 'sound' and 'level headed.'

The president of the college was an instructor when I was in college. I believe I took a two-hour literature course from him. We got a long. Now he is president of the college and also chairman of a commission that can have a powerful influence on the recognition of Alpena Community College. He

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