

## Staff and students work to pass millage

■ Community labors to educate voters about the issues before the February 1 election day.

### Action Line

Action Line is a regular, informational column which answers questions posed by students. Questions dealing with Alpena Community College may be dropped off at *The Polemic* office in BTC 110, placed in the mailbox located in the lobby of BTC or they may be given to any staff member.

Action Line questions, letters, articles and correspondence must be submitted to *The Polemic* office at room 110 in Besser Tech, no later than the following dates during the spring 1994 semester:

- Feb. 2 for Feb. 16 distribution
- March 2 for March 16 distribution
- April 1 for April 13 distribution
- April 20 for May 4 distribution

Unfortunately there are no Action Line questions this issue. Perhaps it was the cold weather or the start of a new semester that left the Action Line question box empty. Send your questions in and read yours answers in next issue of *The Polemic*.

## Second director resigns within one month

By SCOTT REED  
STAFF WRITER

On January 4, Donna Mullen resigned after one year of being the Director of Educational Talent Search here at ACC. Her resignation takes effect January 28.

Prior to this, Mullen was the director of ACC's Upward Bound program. Both of these programs are federally funded, and their objectives are to assist high-potential, low-achieving high school students in completing their high school educations and in obtaining secondary education degrees. They also assist adults who have "stepped out" on their educations.

Mullen's association with ACC began in 1969, when she was a young mother of six. She graduated a year later with an associate's degree.

Mullen left Alpena to go to Michigan State University where she graduated

with a bachelor's degree in teaching in 1973.

From there she went straight to teaching at the Traverse City Intermediate

School District until 1983. That year, Mullen graduated from Central Michigan University with a master's degree in Counseling Education.



Donna Mullen is packing to leave to another position.

Photo by Linda Simpson

public, and all was going smoothly until Jan. 4.

That's when Newport found out the ballot language originally adapted by the Board of Trustees was obsolete under a new law.

"I accept that perhaps I should have known about the changed requirements - but I didn't," Newport said. "... Our ballots had not been printed yet, so at least we didn't have to do them over."

The board met in special session Jan. 5 to ratify the new required ballot language, which divides the one mill into two components.

The first consists of .8916 of a mill representing the reduced millage rate levied due to growth of the district's assessed valuation during the past five years.

The remaining .1084 of a mill restores the portion of the one mill not levied.

The ACC Board of Trustees met in special session Jan. 5 to approve two new ballot proposals for the Feb. 1 election when voters decide on the renewal of a one mill - five year levy for college operating expenses.

The meeting resulted when ACC President Donald Newport consulted with Lansing Jan. 4. Newport learned of new provisions in the state law, requiring a break down of the amount being levied.

"These requirements for presenting millage renewal requests changed the way it's been done for at least 40 years," commented Newport. "I wouldn't say that these different requirements are obscure provisions, but they are not commonly known to many college officials."

On ACC's previously approved ballot, the amount being sought was presented in a straight forward manner: "... one mill ... for a period of five years from 1994 through 1998, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for operating expenses."

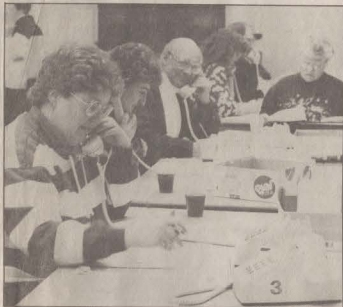
The new law necessitated an overhaul of the above ballot language.

Newport stresses the renewal is nothing new as far as additional taxes go.

It is also not related, in any way, to the new Student/Community/Business/Learning/

Resources Center that has been started, as some people tend to believe.

If the millage fails, programs may be cut, and tuition will likely climb, said Newport.



Faculty and students are placing calls during phone bank.

Photo by Linda Simpson

## Ballot Language Modified

By DENISE KONWINSKI  
COPY EDITOR

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The new law necessitated an overhaul of the above ballot language.

It now presents voters with two figures - .8916 of a mill represents the reduced millage rate levied due to growth of the district's assessed valuation over the last five years. The portion of one mill not levied would be restored by .1084 of a mill.

The two figures add up to one mill, the initial amount being sought by ACC officials.

"Now we are asking voters to vote 'yes' on the two proposals necessary to renew that same millage rate," Newport stated.

Please see millage feature on page 3.

At Mid-Michigan Community College, Mullen directed a program for special needs students until September, 1986, when she returned to ACC as the Upward Bound director.

During the seven years as UB director, Mullen saw the program grow in numbers and the addition of Posen High School as a second service area school. Grant writing increased the UB budget from \$173,000 to \$250,000.

In January, 1993, Mullen was assigned as director of the Educational Talent Search Program, where she instituted the first advisory board, smoothed relationships with area high schools and authored a new grant application.

Mullen has specialized in working with culturally diverse and special populations of students and adults for twenty years.

On leaving ACC, Mullen says she is resigning "because changes in administrative structures have restricted my abilities to work creatively, to take the risk to live more authentically, to work at something which brings a fullness of purpose and

joy. Because of the changes there's no longer an opportunity for me to grow professionally."

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up her feelings. "Without work all life goes rotten. But when work is soulless, life stifles and dies."

Mullen wishes to thank ACC for giving her a position which required many diverse roles and opportunities to be self-directed, and allowing her to direct a program which positively affected the lives of so many youths in this area.

On January 29, Mullen will join her husband at home in Plymouth, Michigan.



Now Playing

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Everything you ever wanted to know about the millage

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New area hangout has "old" style

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Walk-on walks over the competition

**Don't forget to vote for the millage on Feb. 1**





# Campus events move the Earth

By SHAWN DEMPSEY  
NEWS EDITOR

A phenomenon not seen at Alpena Community College since 1977 was witnessed by approximately 200 people on December 17. The ground between ACC's Natural Resources Center and the Besser Technical Center reportedly broke, at a record \$7.2 million on the monetary scale.

The Student/Community/Business Learning Resources Center ground breaking was commemorated with a ceremony and reception.

Eight hundred people, including donors, local officials, faculty, and student organizations were invited to witness the event, and a large number of community members attended.

"We always find it gratifying to see the community support and friends we have," says Carlene Przykucki, ACC's director of public information. She feels it provides reinforcement that the college is doing a good job.

The ceremony took place at noon in a tent which was erected between NRC and BTC and featured speakers and the ceremonial turning of the earth.

For pictures and more information on the ground breaking, please see page 8.

# Student Senate shares the wealth

By KENDRA JONES  
STAFF WRITER

If you were driving through the Van Lare parking lot on the morning of Dec. 15, you may have received one dollar.

Student Senate members Dena Luckett and Katie Zhytyowski were giving out dollar bills to everyone wearing a parking lot. The women were also taking a survey questioning gender, age and seatbelt use.

As car after car stopped, Luckett handed out dollar bills,

A special award was presented to Lorraine Reuther, ACC's former foundation director, who ran the foundation for the past three years and planned the event.

Senator John Pridnia and State Representative Beverly Bodem were unable to act as ground breakers due to their legislative duties, but both sent representatives. Other ground breakers included Dr. Donald Newport, ACC's president; Jim Park and Steve Fletcher, fund-raising campaign co-chairs; Dick Wilson, Besser Foundation; David Svanda, Governor Engler's rep; Jack Lee, the building's architect; Roger Bauer, chair of the ACC Board of Trustees; Jim Arbuclle, ACC Foundation president; Bill LaHaie, Alpena's mayor; and Melanie Karschnik, Student Senate president.

A reception immediately followed in the lobby of BTC. Music was provided by Dot Gonia and Candy Peterson, and punch and hors d'oeuvres were served. Phi Theta Kappans were invited to serve as hosts.

"[The event] was fantastic, both the turnout and the organization. We had a number of

people not seen on campus in years," noted Newport.

"[The ground breaking] put reality to this dream," commented Przykucki. The event was the culmination of a two and a half year planning and fund-raising period.

The new building, which is already being referred to as The Center, will contain a new gym and workout facility, student lounge, cafeteria, library, auditorium, and corridor connecting BTC and NRC. In addition, some renovations will be made to BTC, NRC, the Besser Annex, and the BTC parking lot. Some of the blueprints are on display on the wall outside BT 101.

After final approval from state officials, which Director of Planning Mike Hood hopes will come within the week, advertising for construction bids can start. The bidding process will go for three weeks before a company is chosen.

With construction expected to begin in March, Przykucki thinks it's going to be an exciting semester for students.

The Center is expected to be in use for the fall '95 semester.

or else said, "You don't have a seatbelt on, so I can't give you a dollar. Please buckle up next time."

A one hundred dollar donation was given anonymously to the Student Senate to be used for a seatbelt awareness project. The donation was linked to the recent deaths of two young Alpena residents, 18 year olds Ryan Kelsey and Heidi Talaski. Kelsey and Talaski were killed in an automobile accident in late fall of 1993; neither were wearing their seatbelts.

Fewer than 50 percent of

Americans across the nation buckle up on the road. In 1991, 337 fatalities occurred with seatbelt use, 758 people died without.

Seatbelt laws are mandatory in 41 of the 50 states and seven of those states require every passenger in an automobile to be buckled up.

Michigan's seatbelt law went into effect on July 1, 1990. The law states all passengers in the front seat, including the driver, must be buckled up. Also, people ages 15 and under are required to buckle up in the back seat.



Dr. Donald Newport and his wife Dee enjoy an exhibit at the bi-annual ACC Student Art Show. The show, held in East Campus on Dec. 17, allowed art students to display their work from the fall semester. Drawing, painting, sculpting, design, and ceramic works were displayed, dramatic presentations were enacted by ACC Players, and a musical rendition was performed by the newly formed ACC Collegiate Singers.

Photo by Linda Simpson

# New royal reign to begin at ACC

## Students to vote for the new homecoming king and queen

By SHAWN DEMPSEY  
NEWS EDITOR

If you have a date you want to impress, escort them to the annual homecoming game and dance where you and your beloved can mingle with royalty.

On Saturday, Feb. 5, first head to East Campus at 7:30 p.m. to watch the Lumberjacks take on Highland Park, and afterwards head to the Alpena Civic Center at 9 p.m. for the homecoming dance.

The party will be in full swing until the DJ stops playing at 1 a.m., and refreshments (non-alcoholic) will be supplied.

The new nobility will be announced by ACC President Dr. Don Newport at the basketball game. The king and queen will receive a gift certificate from The Grove.

This year's theme, moonlight and roses, features the colors red and silver.

The nominees for court will be submitted by various campus clubs and organizations and will then be voted on by the student body.

Nominations will be announced, and voting will take place Monday, January 31,

through Friday, February 4. Pictures of the candidates will be posted at the ballot box.

Admission is free to students at both events. Student Senate is sponsoring the homecoming, so if any student should 'get lucky' during this date, thanks can be delivered to SS at any Wed. 3 p.m. meeting in VLH 105.

# Student body count is low

Enrollment for the 1994 spring semester, as of Jan. 14, reached 1,914 students.

"It really is going to be a flat enrollment," stated Registrar Mike Hood. With a week and a day left for registration, the number isn't that much different from the fall semester of 1,941.

Enrollment numbers have usually stayed near the same amount over the years. About 47 percent of ACC's students are full-time students, and the remaining 53 percent attend part-time.



This Van Lare parking lot scene, which is familiar to students and faculty alike, was made more pleasant to those who wore seatbelts by the presence of Student Senate members and their dollar bills.

Photo by Linda Simpson

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# SERVICE-LEARNING MEMO

To: ACC Students and Faculty

From: The Service-Learning Center

If you have any ideas or community projects that need volunteers to be completed, contact the Service-Learning Center in the Volunteer Center on ACC Campus. We may be able to turn your projects into extra points in your class if you're a student.

Contact:  
Julie Smigelski or Barb Dault, ACC  
(517) 356-9021 ext. 373

**The Book Exchange**

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# Campus Cubes

By MELODY SHARP  
STAFF WRITER

Welcome back students and staff to the frozen tundra at ACC. Speaking of frozen cubes that is what you would have been at East Campus opening day, but those tough physical types endured the cold until the heat and water were restored. It did make the restrooms a wee bit unbearable.

If you would like to see the northern lights twinkle, the Star Search '94 Committee is scheduling auditions. Phone 356-4831 or 471-2762 in the evenings. Auditions will be held at AHS auditorium on Feb. 22. Deadline is Feb. 18. Performance night is March 25.

You may think because the snow is above your car windows there might not be school. To be sure call class cancellation by using a touch tone phone and dial 356-9021; after hearing the available options, press 2; then following the attendant's response, press 9.

Does transferring out of this glacier maze sound nice? If that is your plan for next semester you'll want to attend the free workshop on financial aid for four year colleges at The Learning Center, VLH 127, Thursday January 27, 7 p.m. For more information

contact Jackie Timm at ext. 255 or Monica Bushey at ext. 350.

Do you feel like you have cabin fever, you're a single parent and one more snowday with the kids you'll scream? Then contact Bonnie in VLH 102 for a support group that may be able to help you.

A chilly parking alert to the students who haven't gotten the message yet. The plowed out area at the far end of the VLH parking lot is not meant for a parking space. Maintenance pushes the snow back to make room for more. Those who park there will be ticketed. Also, remember to park between the lines or they'll get you. So equip those cars with a shovel, scrapers and a strong blow dryer to find those lines.

Are you looking for a way to entertain your Ice Queen or a way to get the Abominable Snowman off the couch? Then you will want to come to the Homecoming Dance. It's going to be February 5 from 9-1 a.m. at the Alpena Civic Center. There will be a DJ, refreshments, and of course the King and Queen.

Does shoveling snow for a career leave you out in the cold? Come in and Discover at the Career Center. Discover is a career guidance system which uses a computer

to enable you to learn about yourself and apply those facts to a career suited for you. Stop in at VLH 102 or call extensions 286 or 240 for an appointment.

When you can't find anything to do in the snow on Saturdays there are always the computer labs in Van Lare Hall (Rm. 110 and 113). They are open according to dates and times posted on the doors.

Do you think you might have enough snowballs to graduate at ACC? Then get your mukluks over to Campus Services and fill out an application by February 18. If you are going to graduation, measurements for cap and gowns will be taken February 14-18. Cost for such is \$15.25. If you're not going to the ceremony you can order a tassel for \$3.00. Any questions call ext. 223.

Top ice cube on campus is Lumberjack of the Month, Coren (Corky) Williams. Williams is married and has a son who will be two in March, and in her spare time enjoys milking horses, hunting and fishing. She has been with ACC since 1986. As an instructor of Level 1 Nursing Theory and Clinical, Williams says, "It is easy to be motivated because my students motivate me. I get back a lot of rewards." She felt honored to receive this recognition.



# It's not everyday that you can actually see your money at work

Area citizens will determine the fate of ACC's financial stability Feb. 1 when they go to the polls to decide on a one-mill renewal for the college.

The approximately \$500,000 is needed to cover operating expenses over the next five years.

Voters supported a similar measure in May 1989. Here is a glance at some of the worthwhile projects that the money helped bring to ACC.



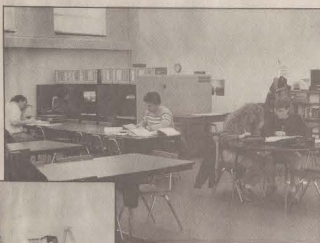
In 1990, the original boiler, installed in 1958, was replaced.

**Q:** What will passage of these two propositions of one mill cost me?

**A:** Passage of the two propositions would mean that one mill, which is \$1 per \$1,000 of state equalized value (SEV), would be levied as follows:

If your property value is	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$50,000
then your SEV is	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000
and one mill costs	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00

Passage of both propositions represents no increase in the previous level of support for the College which voters approved and which has now expired.



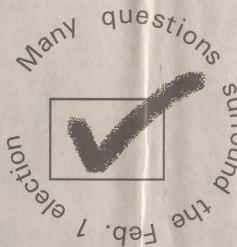
The Learning Center was brought to Van Lare Hall, along with all student services and admissions.

**Q:** Is this millage related to the new building that has been started at ACC?

**A:** No. The money for the Student/Community/Business/Learning Resources Center has been provided through a 50 percent state capital appropriation and 50 percent local match donated by the Besser Foundation and by more than 500 area residents who contributed to the ACC Foundation's Building on Tradition capital campaign. The college also issued General Obligation Limited Tax Bonds, financed by student fees, to fund the college's portion of the building project. No millage funds are being used for the construction project.



The Bookstore was brought onto campus.



**Q:** What is the purpose of the millage request?

**A:** Passage of both Propositions 1 and 2 would provide one mill for each of the next five years for the college's most pressing and continuing operational needs:

- \*Providing up-to-date instructional resources and programs of study;

- \*Providing and maintaining infrastructure such as plumbing, heating, and electrical systems, which are necessary in order to deliver effective instruction; and

- \*Expanding the specialized training opportunities for business and industry.

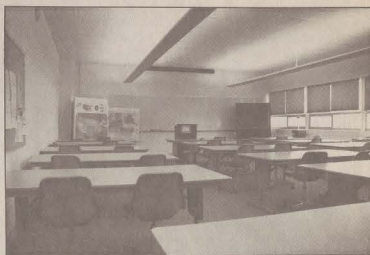


In 1991, ACC built what has become the hottest parking spot on campus - the parking lot adjacent to Van Lare Hall

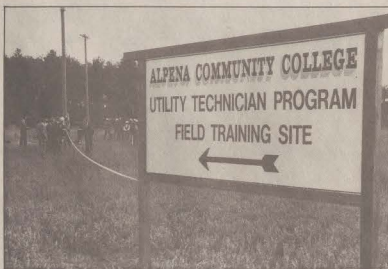


**Q:** Didn't the State Legislature and the use of property tax for schools?

**A:** The current state school finance changes involve K-12 schools only and do not affect local tax support for ACC.



The "model classroom" in Van Lare Hall 121 was the first to be introduced to ACC's campus. It compliments the adult student.



The money ACC received allowed entirely new programs to develop. Utility Tech. has its own field training site along Johnson Street.

Cutlines and Page Design by  
Denine Konwinski - Photos and  
Q & A Courtesy of ACC P.R. Office



# Millage approval deemed "critical"

By DENISE KONWINSKI  
COPY EDITOR

"We believe very strongly that every single vote counts," said Director of Public Relations at ACC Carlene Przykucki.

And when it comes down to the Feb. 1 millage election, no truer words can be spoken.

Area voters, especially those who attend ACC, are being strongly urged to vote yes when it comes time to renew the one-11 mill five-year levy.

Despite accusations the general student body has had thrown at it regarding apathy, Przykucki, as well as ACC President Dr. B. Michael Newport, is hopeful that the public, and students especially, will get the message.

Without the \$500,000 renewal the college will suffer. More than that, when upkeep can no longer be afforded the students will suffer. When tuition goes up under a failed millage, the families of students will suffer, digging \$12 per credit hour deeper into their pockets.

For those of you who aren't convinced by increased tuition and outdated lab equipment, maybe a look into the future will help.

As most people know, the average age of the ACC student is 31. How many of you in that age bracket have kids who will attend ACC in the near future? Whether it will be you paying tuition, or your kids themselves, why pay that extra money needlessly? Why run the risk of having them train on equipment

that's already obsolete?

It's not necessary. "We have an advantage [of gaining positive votes] because we have seen this year a level of activity on campus . . . with various groups that are healthy and growing and doing some neat stuff," said Newport of current students.

The money being requested isn't anything additional. The community is supporting it now, and I know it doesn't hurt that much.

Do your job as a citizen and take advantage of the opportunities placed before you, especially in our small corner of the world.

Do yourself, your friends and your neighbors a favor. Vote in favor of the millage renewal Feb. 1.



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# School children learning more than their ABC's

By MELODY SHARP  
STAFF WRITER

Do violence and sexual assaults in America's school systems have you running scared?

Not yet, you say; it won't happen in northern Michigan. Think again and take a walk through the halls of the local schools.

Why are kids finding they need to be able to defend themselves and are finding new ways

to do it? On the elementary scene one would not think students should be very inventive or violent, but don't underestimate their skills when it comes to means of defending themselves or inflicting harm.

One of the new weapons is the modernized version of the mechanical pencil. The incises are removed and revamped with a rubberband. Then ammunition

is furnished, consisting of BB's, wooden skewers and straight pins, making a projectile that will travel at speeds of an arrow shot from a bow.

Also, paperclips may be bent and rubberbands attached to making another shooting weapon. The stronger the rubberbands, the faster the missile travels.

Straws and ink pens are used for blowguns. These are just some of many contraptions used for assault on school grounds and buses.

To further enhance kids' creative minds is the availability

of pornographic magazines and paraphernalia. Have you asked any fourth grader lately what they know about sex?

Some know more than their parents will admit to knowing. With the AIDS awareness being taught in schools and the wide distribution of condoms there is not much left to the imagination.

Gender offenders are breaking out in numerous proportions.

What is the solution to these problems? One may be to stop extra curricular activities

and use the money to pay for metal detectors, security guards and police dogs.

Seriously, another answer could be for parents to get their heads out of the sand and realize northern Michigan is not perfect and neither are our kids.

When was the last time you looked in your child's backpack or visited the classroom? Are you worried about embarrassing them or infringing on their right to privacy? They live in your home. That is your right and responsibility. It sure beats paying for hospital bills, property damage or worse, funerals.

## Smokers hurt their families

By DON FILARSKI  
STAFF WRITER

According to a recent article in USA Today the number of U.S. smokers is decreasing. Still, this year, an estimated 158,000 cases of lung cancer will be diagnosed and the majority of the people diagnosed will be dead within 5 years.

Now, besides all of the damage one can do to oneself, there is mounting evidence that smoking reaches beyond the individual smoker. In a Las Vegas National Review article, Joan Burkhardt tells us what second hand smoke does to children.

"In their first year of life

babies of smokers have higher rates of pneumonia and bronchitis. Decreased lung growth and more frequent ear infections have also been implicated in these infants."

"Also older children with smoking parents suffer acute respiratory illnesses—such as colds as well as pneumonia and bronchitis—twice as often as peers with non-smoking parents."

Smoking still remains a matter of choice, yet, as we learn more and more we can be more sure that we make the right choice.

If we still smoke hopefully an increased awareness and higher education will eventually give us the courage to quit.

# Time on the rampage

By MELODY SHARP  
STAFF WRITER

Father Time has slipped another year behind us filled with incidents.

On the national level a new president was sworn in and the total outcome was summed up in the "Today Show" as, "This was the best first year a president has had since Nixon." If that is an indicator, are we in trouble?

There were other highlights of the year. The floods of 1993 were declared a national disaster. Rodney King found out what civil liberties cops have, a truck driver found out what retaliation can be and following were the arson fires in California set by who knows.

Locally, Alpena saw a few disasters also. For the first time ever there were two murders, one attempted murder, one suicide and a random shooting all in the same month. A house fire claimed the lives of four children. In the summer time the downtown area suffered the loss of four businesses due to suspected arson. Many schools were vandalized costing taxpayers thousands of dollars.

Can a change be made in the events that are happening? Yes, of course. There is no way to stop the natural disasters, but there is a way to change the results.

When the floods came, many relief efforts were immediately put into action. Workers went to bag sand. Temporary

housing was sent in and many volunteers went to help out.

When the truck driver, Reginald Denny, was pulled from his cab and beaten, citizens drove him to safety.

What can be done locally? Perhaps we can make New Year's resolutions to set up neighborhood crime watches. We need to care for fellow beings, no matter what their social status may be. We could volunteer to help make someone's life easier at places such as the Boys Club, Senior Citizens Center, the hospital, mental health and the Volunteer Center at ACC.

Skip the usual diet and self improvement resolutions and fashion ones that will make a difference to someone else this year. It's not too late.

# News should deliver facts

By SHAWN DEMPSEY  
NEWS EDITOR

The Polemic, and indirectly myself, were berated at the January 12 Student Senate meeting. I was told the article "Student Senate secretary impeached," Dec. 15, 1993, was very hard on the impeached secretary. I completely disagree.

Student Senate is my beat. It is the beat I chose, and I chose it for three reasons.

First, as a student, I am interested in my school and in what the group representing our student body actually does.

Second, as Phi Theta Kappa's president, I represent the PTK's voice in student government, and I hope to encourage group interaction.

And third, as a journalist, I believe that in a country founded on democratic principles, all elected officials can and should be held accountable to the people they serve.

My job, the job of the press, should never be to deliver the news of an elected official doing a poor job. The news should never declare what a good job someone is doing.

The news should never support the underdog or judge a human's guilt.

The news should simply deliver the facts, as completely unbiased as possible. Both sides of the story need to be presented, but they are not always available. Quotes must be accurate and must represent opposing viewpoints or feelings. The journalist is not the story, therefore his or her opinion means absolutely nothing.

When a story is presented in this way, in an unbiased way, it is the readers' (or viewers') duty to analyze the facts and draw their own conclusions. If the story is about an abuse of justice, the act will speak for itself. If elected officials are not fulfilling their duties, the people will see.

It is not that opinions, feelings, and insights do not belong in the press, because they very much do. They are well represented on the feature, opinion, entertainment, and editorial pages, but they are not news, and they should not be disguised as such.

As a consumer of news, I feel too often this is not the case. The opinionized and the

sensationalized have become the norm in news. The consumer no longer needs to worry about the facts, nor the issue itself for that matter, because the reporter will tell the reader (or viewer) what to think and how to feel.

This trend bias is disgusting and degrading to me, as it should be to every other consumer of news. Are we unable to understand the facts and form an intelligent opinion from them?

Do journalists think we, as consumers, are unable to draw our own conclusions? And, perhaps the most disturbing question, why do we let the press pimp, pander, and manipulate us?

Back to the story in question. I reread it, twice, three times, and I see nothing wrong with it. It was unbiased, unopinionated, and unsensationalized news. It simply stated the facts, and if the story was harsh, then apparently the facts of the case were harsh.

So, members of The Press Bathers Club, you don't win this time, but keep your eyes open and I'm sure you'll see a legitimate opportunity.

# students SPEAK

"WHAT COURSES WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN TAKING THAT ARE NOT PRESENTLY OFFERED AT ACC?"



"British Literature." I've had excellent English instructors here and I'd prefer these instructors vs. a four year institution. ~ Rachel Greenwood



I'm interested in seeing some foreign languages added. It would be beneficial to me since I'm entering the educational field. ~ Wendy Smith



A wider variety of courses to choose from in the financial field. ~ Chris Denmark



Something dealing with the current social issues and problems. ~ Stacey Lancaster



I'd like to see more courses related to social work, like child welfare. ~ Ron Thompson

NOTE: Any student who would like to request a course not currently offered at ACC should contact the office of Curt Davis at VLH 101, or call extension 233 or extension 212.



# ACC students troubled by ABC's and 123's

By JEN GOODBERNE  
LAYOUT EDITOR

**Editor's Note:** This is part one of a three part series dealing with the poor academic achievement of students during the fall 1993 semester. The instructors who took time to contribute their viewpoints did so out of concern and with the hope of helping to solve the problem.

Nobody said it would be easy, except General Custer.

The mounds of student scalps littering the halls and classrooms of Little Big ACC have left instructors scratching their own scalps and wondering: Why do they fail?

Kendall Sumerix's physical science grade curve experienced a drop of 10% ... scores in Keith Titus' speech course dropped from an average of 86 in the spring '93 semester to 79 this fall ... academic analysts are calling Fall 1993 *The Black Semester*.

The general drop in student achievement prompted a round table discussion, attended by a cross-section of concerned instructors.

Topics of the informal meeting ranged from the problems of last semester to speculation of causes and possible solutions.

"I think what we've got is a larger group of freshmen ... brand new, non-college college students, people who don't know how to be college students yet, coming in," said Jim Miesen. Miesen teaches several sections of English composition required of freshmen. He went on to state that the fall is usually weaker than the spring semester,

because the new students have by their 2nd semester learned how to be a student or have dropped out.

However, Sumerix compared the notorious fall '93 to fall '92 and found, "The test scores, of those who took the test, were a full 10% lower ... I gave more C's than any other grade."

Keith Titus, whose courses experienced a 7 point drop from last spring to this fall, said, "It's never been that bad ... and that doesn't include students who don't take the tests. They just didn't seem to care. That was the thing that blew me away ... It wasn't that they were being belligerent."

"I experienced a sense of disbelief," said Miesen. He explained by saying new students often don't expect to have to work much to get their grades.

The topic of student maturity was attacked from two sides. Mention was made of an apparent decline in the maturity of freshmen, but this was attributed to the rise in maturity -- and age -- of instructors who noticed it.

On the other hand, according to Miesen, "I have had older

students coming to me complaining about the younger students in the class who are not serious, who will not do the work. I've never had that happen before."

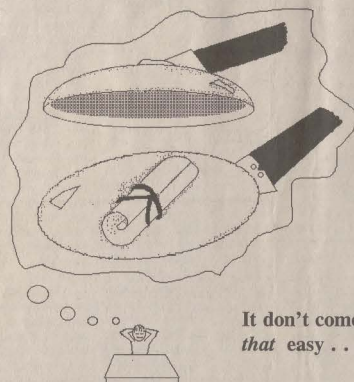
Titus agreed. "These students, this particular class, has to get that message."

He went on to note a de-

pected something was going to happen, even though they had put no effort into it."

It was agreed that failure to read the syllabus is a common sin among the students who experience problems. "They don't read it, and they don't refer to it the rest of the semester. Then they come to you at the end of the semester and say, 'I didn't know we had to do that.'"

It is true that none of the problems being experienced by this class are new. They've also been experienced by every class on every campus ... but poor academic achievement during *The Black Semester* has caused



It don't come that easy ...

concerned instructors to explore the causes of the effects, and things that may help in future semesters.

One of the advantages of our community college is our faculty; they've shown concern and want to help. As a student -- a new freshman, a transfer, or a returning freshman or sophomore -- what do you think? Fill out the poll on this page and return it to *The Polemic* office, room 110 in the Besser Tech Center. It may also be left in our BTC mailbox. Results will be printed with part two of this series in February.

"In the same class size, I had twice as many students who didn't even know which chapter we were on, and expected to pass," said Sumerix. "They ex-

perienced to explore the causes of the effects, and things that may help in future semesters.

perienced to explore the causes of the effects, and things that may help in future semesters.



Photo by Linda Simpson

Appointee Judy Trapp

## Trapp aids disabled

By SCOTT REED  
STAFF WRITER

In December, 1993, ACC student Judy Trapp was appointed to a three-year term on the Michigan Commission on Handicap or Concerns by Senator John Pridnia.

Trapp's position on the Commission is as a chairperson for the Individualized Living Subcommittee, which deals primarily in the specific areas of need in housing, employment, education and health care.

So far Trapp has served on one subcommittee meeting. Currently the committee is working on broadening individualized living skills and trying to expand its services in the area bringing aid to those in need in northern Michigan. The northernmost center for individualized living is currently located in Midland.

## Campus cruisin' with Kruse

By KENDRA JONES  
AND ANGELA BEAUDIN  
POLEMIC WRITERS

"Parking is a big problem," stated Ted Kruse, the parking supervisor, as he drove us around ACC's Campus. "We have to have rules and regulations."

Last semester 2,250 tickets were written, plus 325 tow warnings. A total of \$8,446 in fines was collected.

That may seem like quite a large amount of money for a community college campus. However, much more money

could have been charged in place of "courtesy warnings" and void slips which replaced numerous tickets.

Kruse feels he has been more than fair with his second chances, ticket voiding, and avoidance of using tow trucks. "I don't like towing cars. I know kids don't have money, so I don't like towing."

The wheel lock that was causing such an uproar at the beginning of the semester hasn't been used yet. The wheel lock is an apparatus placed on a vehicle to make it inoperable.

When fines are collected,

money is used to pay for attendant salaries, supplies, mileage, and other areas of need; the remainder of the money goes for buying necessary equipment.

For example, attendants can always use jackets to wear when writing tickets outdoors. Also, Kruse's current ticket books are in serious disrepair and need replacements.

Money which is not needed right away goes into the college account to be saved for future expenses.

According to Kruse, the most common tickets students receive are ones issued for parking in staff and visitor parking spots. Staff cars have different parking permits, so he asks why students continue to park there.

Kruse continued through the lots, pointing out all the signs that many students often overlook. One-way signs are posted throughout the Van Lare parking lot, on both sides of the drive. Visitor and faculty parking signs are posted in all of the lots, including Van Lare Hall, Besser Tech, East Campus, the Natural Resource Center, and Graphic Arts.

Kruse's "biggest headache" is the car line-up on Johnson Street in front of the VLH entrance. A "No Stopping, Standing, Parking" sign is posted in front of the lot, yet car after car line up awaiting a parking space to open up.

"People are like sheep, they see something and follow," Kruse said, while stressing how dangerous it is to park there. As often as possible, police patrol cars are sent over to Johnson Street and ticket cars stopped there.

"This is not the easiest job in the world," Kruse revealed with a sigh as he dropped us off after our drive around campus.

*If you were unhappy or surprised at a grade you received for the Fall '93 semester, fill out this survey:*

The poor grade I received was a(n) \_\_\_\_\_  I dropped the class

The grade was:  My Fault  
 My Instructor's Fault

Explain in the Comments Section  Other \_\_\_\_\_

I (did) (did not) seek help at The Learning Center.

(gone to class)  
Had I  (studied) more, my grade would've been higher.  
 (other) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: (tell us who, what, when, where, why ... )  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*feel free to submit additional comments on a separate sheet of paper.*

### Proper diet helps prevent plaque build up.

I was brushing my teeth, naked as usual, when I noticed something was wrong with the visual. My horizontal hold had gone far awry, just look at the width of my hips, waist and thighs. It must be the mirror! It's completely distorted! Just look how my body is out of proportion! Then I looked closer, both this way and that. It isn't the mirror; it's deposits of fat! Are those big Bertha's butt and huge thunder thighs? Oh, when will I learn to lay off the fries? At too many meals, I've said, "What the heck," and now the skin of my chin's grown to cover my neck. I panicked and thought, "Oh no, what to do?" But my only solution was bend over and moo. I hurried to finish and hide my eyes from this scene (I needed to squeeze into restrictive blue jeans). I placed my brush in my mouth,

against my teeth it did wiggle, and off went my flab into an incandescent jiggle. Rinse, gargle, and spit, I'd finished at last, and I swore I'd begin an eight month long fast. I whipped on my towel and shielded my eyes from this voluminous image I'd begun to despise. I ran from the bathroom, scanned over my clothes, and rapidly dressed from my head to my toes. But low and behold, look at this sight! I look pretty good, so maybe I might head to McDonald's for a breakfast done right. (Oh didn't I say? Oops, my oversight. I'm starting my diet later tonight.)

By Shawn Dempsey



Resolutions make for a pretty outrageous year

TOP TEN

By Scott Reed  
Staff Writer

RAGEOUS NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS:

With the new year already in progress, I would say about 99 percent of us have broken our resolutions. Well, maybe it's because of the resolutions that we make.

Most people usually promise themselves they are going to go on a diet or that they will stop smoking. But come on, we're humans! Like we'd really follow through with those resolutions.

Well, over the Christmas break, I took a nationwide poll to find out what people resolved to do for the new year, and what resolutions worked for them.

I found the more outrageous the resolution, the easier it is to stick to it. (Actually, this isn't true, but the more outrageous a resolution is, the harder it is to remember that we've broken it.)

So, I proudly present to you the TOP TEN MOST OUT-

#10: I am going to learn to play the bagpipes.

#9: I am going to get more copper in my diet.

#8: I am going to memorize every Barry Manilow song.

#7: I am going to save up enough money to backpack through Saskatchewan.

#6: I am going to trace my neighbor's family tree.

#5: I am going to be kind to all microorganisms.

#4: I am finally going to shine my medieval suit of armor.

#3: I am going to give up using the letter t.

#2: I am going to let my distant relatives glue my ears together.

And the number one most outrageous new year's resolution: I am going to conduct a study of the effects of ordinary household items on bilingual aquatic reptiles.



This festive 50's scene was taken from inside Be-bops Cafe. This new restaurant will soon be installing an espresso cappuccino machine.

Photo by Jim Ballmer

Be-bops offers new flavor

By Jim Ballmer  
Staff Writer

James Dean and Jane Russell. V-8 engines and huge tail fins. Saddle shoes and poodle skirts. The 1950s had many characteristic things.

The name of a new restaurant across from the Alpena Mall is taken from a popular slang term from that era: be-bop.

The Be-bops Cafe is (of course) a 50s style place that is a must if you have children. There are televisions playing MTV, neon lights, an old gas pump, an antique Coke machine that still works, a claw machine,

a Lego table (don't ask, it's too hard to explain), a Wurliizer jukebox that plays Beatles, country, and classic CD's, and a pinball machine that keeps matching so you have to walk away from another free credit when your order is ready.

The atmosphere is nice and the service is friendly. Owners Maryann and Ron Leslie Sr. (who also own the local Dairy Queens) are quite happy with their new "baby," and are quick to add, "it's something different."

Be-bops Cafe is open late into the early morning and is not as expensive as other places. I suggest the chicken rings.

"Top Tunes" not to be forgotten

By Jim Ballmer  
Staff Writer

"I need to get that tape." I find myself saying this a lot. Every time I hear a wicked song I make a mental note, but when I walk into Camelot, amazingly enough, I can't think of a single tape I want.

At this point I proceed to mentally flog myself. I wonder why I didn't write down some band names and drop the note into my wallet.

Sound familiar? You can relax! I, your ever-helpful and all knowing journalist friend, have compiled The Top Ten List of Music You Forgot to Buy and Need to Get. Here it is:

10. Smashing Pumpkins/Siamese Dream- This Chicago based group is the essence of what is alternative. The guitar solo in "Cherub Rock" screams like a raving drunk while Billy Corgan's tormented lyrics are somewhat thought provoking.

9. The Beatles/Revolver- Too old you say? Not anymore. The original analog recording sounds great on digital CD. Re-

hears. And anyone who knows anything about music would tell you that Neil Peart is far and away the most complex drummer in the business. The bottom line: Rush is a musician's band. "Red Barchetta" and "Tom Sawyer" make Moving Pictures a commercially viable package.

5. Jesus Jones/Doubt-Surprised? Check this out guys: You're on your first date with a knock-out that you finally convinced to go out with you. You want everything to be perfect and, did I mention that you're freakin' "Nice" stereo," she purrs as she checks out your car's tape deck. "Do you have any tapes?" You're ecstatic as you pull out your Case Logic tape holder.

Your dream date unzips the case and scans the selection. You feel something is wrong when you look at the expression on her face. "I've never heard of Death Angel. And what is this... Urge Overkill?" Exactly my point. Having this tape could be a life saver, and if you don't like Jesus Jones you can always pick up the latest Janet Jackson.

4. Led Zeppelin/Houses of the Holy- Need I write anything?

3. King's X- This release is an upbeat romp with Beatlesque vocals, amazing 12-string bass, and searing guitars. "Lost in Germany," "Prisoner," and "It's Love" are walls of melody.

2. Alice in Chains/Dirt- Brainy guitarist Jerry Cantrell writes most of the songs and the tormented frontman Layne Staley screams out the agonizing lyrics. It's a perfect Apolloan/Dionysian relationship that is reminiscent of Ray Manzara and Jim Morrison. "Them Bones" and "Angry Chair" rock with unrelenting fury while "Sick Man" and "Would?" are dreary and ooze with chilling harmonies. It's weird how unnerve music can also be smart.

And the number one release you forgot to buy and need to get is:

Van Halen/5150- One of the best things about Van Halen is the fact that they don't follow trends, they make them. In 1984 the U.S. was overcome with "hair" bands that wore make-up. Van Halen kept rocking. After the 1984 album, David Lee Roth parted ways and Sammy Hagar joined the ranks. Usually a band folds up when the charismatic singer parts ways. Van Halen kept rocking. In fact, 5150 was Van Halen's first number one album and with brilliant jams like "Best of Both Worlds," "Dreams," "Love Walks In," and "Get Up," I can see why.

Your dream date unzips the case and scans the selection. You feel something is wrong when you look at the expression on her face. "I've never heard of Death Angel. And what is this... Urge Overkill?"

volver is the fab four's first "experimental" release and with great tunes like "Eleanor Rigby," "Tax man," and "Tomorrow Never Knows," how can you go wrong?

8. Collision- This three piece band is the modern day Zeppelin. "Chains" has a melodic, fretless bass line and a "True Love" scorches.

7. Enya/Shepherd Moons- Enya is an ethereal goddess and her production is simply astounding. You gotta know her drive is more than money when she painstakingly overdubs her vocals hundreds of times to get her particular lush sound. Shepard Moons is good thinking music and is ideal for homework. "Book of Days" is bliss.

6. Rush/Moving Pictures- The first year Bass Player magazine had their "bassist of the year" contest, Geddy Lee of Rush overwhemingly took first



Lucille played by Susan Martindale (second from left) "flirts" with Jim Miesen (Sam) at the cemetery while Sonya Titus (Ida) and Carol Witherbe (Doris) disapprove.

"Cemetery Club" will be featuring two ACC instructors

By Kara Boomer  
Staff Writer

Two college instructors will be appearing in The Alpena Civic Theatre's next play, "The Cemetery Club," playing January 27-30.

Sonya Titus and James Miesen, both instructors in the ACC English department, are cast in two of the leads. Carol Witherbe, an elementary music teacher, Susan Martindale, the

owner of Waters Edge Motel, and Doris Lance, a retired business owner, make up the rest of the cast.

This is a very experienced cast having over 100 combined years of theatre experience. Titus, Miesen, Witherbe and Lance have been active in theatre for more than 25 years each. Ron Ross, the director of "The Cemetery Club" is also very experienced, recently directing the play "Sound of Music."

This comedy-drama involves three women in their late 50's attempting to continue their lives after the deaths of their husbands. These women, who have been friends for more than 20 years, have different ideas of coping with the deaths.

One of the women is "chasing men," one spends a lot of time focusing on her dead husband, and the third feels she needs to move forward with her

life. "The Cemetery Club" contains funny scenes, but has a serious topic and several dramatic moments.

Performances on Jan 27-29 will be 8 p.m. and Jan 30 at 2 p.m. Admission for ACC students is free.

Reservations are necessary. "Sound of Music," Civic's last play was sold out for three weeks. Call 354-3624 to reserve your seat.



Alpena Civic Theatre presents: The Cemetery Club "a comedy drama" Jan. 27-29 at 8 p.m., 30 at 2 p.m. For tickets ph. 354-3624



# Oost, Playin' the field IM winter season opens



By JEREMY WILLIAMS  
SPORTS EDITOR

What is going on? After it looked like the Lumberjack squads were going to have a good year, both teams hit slumps. Personal problems have interfered and forced players to quit or to be booted off the mens' and womens' teams.

For the men things do seem to be looking good. Coach Jeff Duncan feels his team is still getting better. After redshirting two players, he is carrying 11 men.

Duncan replied about his team, "We are still a young, inexperienced team. The guys are working hard. I still think we are an exciting team to watch."

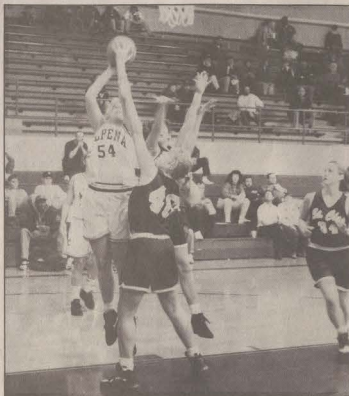
It's true. The Jacks are still runnin' "and gunnin'" and they're getting better with each game.

The biggest problem facing the players is the long road trips with the bad weather. Players get home at 3-4 a.m. and have to go to school the next day. Maybe that's why they get in slumps. Fatigue could be a real factor, because the talent level is definitely there.

The Lumberjacks are lucky to have a few players with equal talent. One game one guy will have 28 points and the next game another guy will have 28 points. The Jacks are getting near the end of the season, so don't be surprised if they get on a roll.

For the women, things are falling apart. Players have quit and personal guyls have hurt the Lady Jacks. Coaches Andrea Albert and Mike Kollien have their heads up and they're looking to finish the season out strong.

Since the break the women and he have stepped up their games. They beat Henry Ford and then



You can't stop Heidi Haskins; you can only hope to contain her.

Photo by Linda Simpson

hard worker. He hustles, rebounds, plays solid defense and chips in 12-14 points a game. The bad thing is he only gets 20-25 minutes a game.

Yeah, I know there is a lot of decent big men on the club, but Parker has the most endurance and can run the floor better than most of the guards. Parker should play in the last minutes of the game.

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Since the break the women and he have stepped up their games. They beat Henry Ford and then

only lost by ten to St. Clair, the second ranked team in the nation.

One particular player has been playing out of her mind. She is my primetime player of the month and she is Heidi Haskins. The Alcona native has been in a zone averaging 24 points per game in the last four contests. She scored 35 points and ripped down 17 boards against Highland Park.

Coach Albert stated on Haskins performances, "She has stepped up to take the position as being one of the leading scorers."

The team is limited with six players, but don't count them out.

Both Lumberjack squads are still focused on the main goal of getting to the playoffs. The teams need fan support and that's where you come in.

It doesn't cost much to go cheer for your school and boo the referees. If you want ACC to be a winner go and support the athletes.

By JEREMY WILLIAMS  
SPORTS EDITOR

The second semester has begun and a new intramural basketball season has taken flight, as well.

The six teams consist of ACC basketball players from the past, ex-high school greats, a few members of the ACC faculty, including Coaches Jeff Duncan and Mike Kollien, and a lot of die hard fanatics who play for the fun of it.

The teams for this season are High Voltage, Man In The Box, The Rebels, The Kamakazees, Maximum Effort, and Ego Trip.

What's next for intramurals, you ask. There will be Bowling and Floor Hockey starting up as soon as the basketball season ends on March 2.

If you have the time to participate in any sport you care about, please come out and do so.

Forms are available for registration in Van Lare Hall 101.



In intramural basketball, Scott Moncrief fires a jumper.

Photo by Linda Simpson

## To lead or not to lead

By JEREMY WILLIAMS  
SPORTS EDITOR

After upsetting the powerhouse Flint Northern, Travis "T-Rock" Smith just accomplished his best feat ever. The tiny terror scored 25 points and snatched 8 steals to lead his Flint Southwestern Academy team over their arch rivals. From then on Smith has elevated his game and brought it to ACC.

Last year Smith started 14 games and helped ACC to be real contenders. His defense has topped some of the leagues playmakers and this year Smith's on a pace to break all of his own career records. In his second year he has been named captain of the squad. I had a chance to sit down with him so we can all get to know the man they call "T-Rock."

Q) Why did you choose ACC?  
A) I chose ACC because I got closer to Coach (Jeff) Duncan. Coach Duncan can relate to inner city kids because

he used to coach in Flint. So I felt I could play for somebody like that.

Q) Where are you going after ACC?  
A) I want to pursue a basketball career. I'm looking to go to the next level.

Q) How do you see your job being a captain?  
A) I feel I need to hold the team together and keep everybody's attitude up.

Q) Do you feel pressure?  
A) No, because I'm used to the leadership role. I'm used to calling the shots, I've been doing it for Flint Southwestern since the ninth grade.

Q) What are your personal goals for the year?  
A) I want us to get a winning record and do some damage in the playoffs. I want to be a prime time player, but not a star. I want everybody to know who I am.

Q) What is the hardest thing about playing ball here?  
A) My social life. My family lives in Flint. My good

friends and loved ones live in Flint, too, and I miss them a lot.

Q) What is the biggest reward of playing basketball here?  
A) Gaining respect by my opponents and peers.

Q) Predict how the team will do this season.  
A) I see us finishing near the top, hopefully number one.

Q) What is the greatest asset of being on the team?  
A) Hanging out with my teammates. If I have to see them everyday I want to be friends with them. I love practicing. I want our team to be close-knit and not have a lot of problems.

Q) What is the biggest problem facing the team?  
A) Losing players. That is the big one. I don't want to us break apart, but guys become ineligible and guys quit. That hurts.

Q) Who supports you the most in your basketball effort outside of your family?  
A) Coach Duncan because he is always there and we have been together for two years. I can always turn to him when things are going bad.

Travis Smith displays his skills on the court and displays a good attitude around campus. The happy-go-lucky fella can be seen sporting the number five so I urge you to see him in the next home game.

## Longshot Indiana native becomes premier player

By JIM BALLMER  
STAFF WRITER

Considering the ACC women's basketball team has only five players, each member is important. Very important! One of the key players, Amy Samson, hails from Fort Wayne, Indiana and is on the team through a quirk of fate.

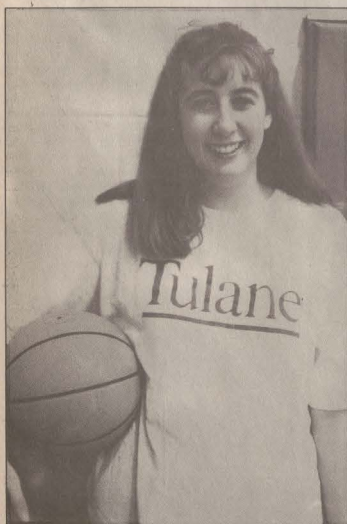
She arrived in Alpena last summer with her dad preparing to attend ACC in the fall. She joined a team in the Gus Macker tournament held in Alpena, was seen by Coach Andrea Albert and the rest, as they say, is history.

Samson began playing ball in the eighth grade because "My friends said I'd be good because I was tall". This was the beginning of an interest in the game that has now got her a position on the Alpena team.

Samson is enjoying her stint at ACC on the court even if the team bench lacks depth. "I like all my teammates, we get along really well.", she says.

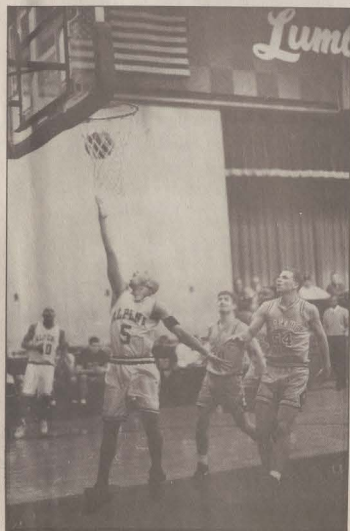
"In high school I didn't get along with the coaches, but now I get along with the coaches here.", Samson says when asked about high school ball compared to college ball.

As for future plans, Samson says, "I'll come back next year and be physically education teacher or a coach."



Posing for the camera, Amy Samson smiles during practice.

Photo by Linda Simpson



Travis "T-Rock" Smith drives past defenders to score.

Photo by Linda Simpson

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**DUNKIN' DONUTS**



# ACC prepares for ground breaking . . .



A crowd of 200 begins to form outside the ground breaking tent.



The celebration cake highlights the fund-raising campaign slogan.



Honorees await the signal to break ground.



The ceremonial shovel lifts the first spade full of dirt.



The lobby of BTC is decorated and ready for the ground breaking reception.

Photos by Linda Simpson  
courtesy of Lorraine Reuther  
Page design by Scott Reed



Governor Engler's representative David Svanda addresses the attendees.



President Dr. Donald Newport presents Foundation Director Lorraine Reuther with a collage commemorating a successful fund-raising campaign.