

ACC instructor Dorothy Fancher speaks in Kansas City

Applied reading course currently in development

By MELODY SHARP
STAFF WRITER

Reading Instructor Dorothy Fancher was a featured speaker at the National Association of Developmental Education conference held in Kansas City, Missouri, March 2-6. Over 1,700 people attended the conference designed for teachers involved in post secondary developmental education of underprepared students.

As a third year attendee, this was the first time Fancher submitted a proposal for presentation.

Fancher had become interested in learning style preferences at previous NADE conferences. However, emphasis had always been placed on students and how they acquire knowledge. Fancher was also "extremely disappointed" with the emphasis on outlining and mapping which, "I felt was not conducive to auditory learning."

After her own research within the classroom and attendance at other conferences, Fancher began focusing on the

role instructors play in the learning preference of their students.

Fancher and Lynda Riedasch, developmental studies technician, submitted a proposal in June, 1993, covering auditory, visual and kinesthetic learning preferences of instructors and students and four note taking systems.

Riedasch needed to withdraw from the project and Fancher was chosen to present it last month.

Fancher became a reading instructor "partly because I hated to read all through grade and secondary schools. Even though I love to read now, I don't consider myself a good reader."

She was teaching kindergarten in Detroit when the opportunity presented itself to pursue a master's degree specializing in reading. Her students were from language deprived backgrounds and she accepted the challenge to "learn how reading is learned and how to implement reading skills in youngsters."

Fancher moved to Alpena in 1988 and responded to a posting at ACC to develop a reading

program for underprepared adult students.

"Although I joke my students just grew taller, it isn't true. My college students are not beginning readers. They are students who have weaknesses in deciphering concepts from the printed page. Regardless of the reason for the deficiency, I endeavor to instill effective reading strategies in my two reading level classes."

The conference included sessions on self-esteem, motivation, math, writing, classroom strategies and "The use of humor in the classroom with The Farside [comic strip]."

Summing up the conference, Fancher stated, "I felt it was worthwhile. I got a lot out of it. I contributed to it. I feel I can implement some of the ideas in the classroom and I know my session was well received according to the returned evaluations."

Fancher is currently working on the development of an applied reading course for underprepared students. This course would be geared toward the vocational technical student.



Dorothy Fancher's reading program helps adult students prepare for college.
Photo by Linda Simpson

Bowling aids Big Brothers/Big Sisters

By KARA BOOMER
STAFF WRITER

ACC will be represented when the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Alpena County holds its 8th Annual Bowling Challenge Friday, May 13, at Thunder Bowl Lanes in Alpena.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Alpena is an organization which provides one-to-one friendships between an adult volunteer and

a child. The big brother or big sister is a friend and companion to a child who works on goals established in conjunction with the child and his or her family.

Custodian Jean Nowak is the coordinator for the ACC teams participating in this year's Bowling Challenge. She stated, "Last year we had two teams that participated and we're trying to get more involved this year."

The teams that bowled last

year were made up of the custodial staff and secretaries.

Teams consist of five people who collect donations for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters. The goal of the local agency is to raise \$20,000 from this event, \$50 per participant or a team total of \$250.

Door prizes include Alpena Civic Theatre season tickets for two in the '94-'95 season, dinner for two at J&M Roadhouse, free use of Gamble's log splitter (rental value \$50), and other company and organizational awards.

The two grand prizes are a poolside room and dinner for two at the Holiday Inn (\$150 value), and five full service washes, one Blue Coral Wax and one Pennzoil oil change from Ripley Street Car Wash (\$100 value).

The deadline for team entry forms is April 15. For more information, contact Jean Nowak at East Campus.

This local agency, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Alpena County, is funded by private donations received from local businesses and individuals, with 40 percent of their budget raised through the Bowling Challenge.

Campus Blossoms

Spring is in the air. Robins are out in the yard bobbin' their little heads off waiting for worms. Someone should tell them it's hard for "them" little worms to squash up through frozen ground. Of course maybe robins like frozen entrees.

If this is spring then that means summer is next. The summer and fall schedules are out, actually on time, even before early registration. Only one problem though. The dates on the front aren't exactly right and it may be confusing or misleading.

Early registration for the summer session, for returning students, is April 18 - June 3, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Tuition is due when you register. Fall semester registration is April 18 - August 5, with tuition due August 5. If you have any questions, please call Student Services at ext. 219; they can help clear up any confusion.

Everything is coming up roses. Do you have a favorite instructor who deserves roses? Student Senate is sponsoring the 1st annual ACC Instructor of the Year - 1994. To get your favorite instructor in the running all you have to do is write a 500 word or less essay titled, "The best instructor at ACC is . . ." Essays need to be dropped off in the box at VLH reception desk by April 15. The award will be presented at Awards Night April 29.

Petitions are out for Student Senate elections. All positions are open for the coming school year.

Rain, rain go away, I'm gloomy enough for one day. But if you really want gloom, don't forget to pick up your exam schedule. You can find it at the switchboard in VLH.

It would seem flowers are not the only thing blooming in the Greenhouse this season. It appears a love bug crawled out from under a leaf and bit two of our instructors at NRC. Congratulations to Debbie Hautau and Mark Milostan on their engagement. I guess Biology and Botany do mix.

Head blossom on campus this month is Dot Gonia, Youth Volunteer Corps director. Gonia was awarded Lumberjack of the Month. Her main hobby is playing string bass which she has done for Besser Chorus and Civic Theatre. She will be playing in a Thunder Bay Theatre production this summer. Gonia stated, "Wonderful, I'm speechless. I just don't know what to say." Anybody who knows Dot knows that was a first.

New adviser heads Student Senate

By DENINE KONWINSKI
COPY-EDITOR

Jeff Blumenthal, currently a developmental studies technician in The Learning Center, has been named Student Senate adviser, and "as of now, it's permanent," he said.

Blumenthal was "railroaded into the position," after attending a meeting to see what Student Senate is about.

"I was kind of wondering about it (the open position) and before I knew it, I was voted in; but that's okay, I'm happy to be involved," Blumenthal commented.

Blumenthal feels he can be an asset to the organization because he is "young and ambitious" and is full of enthusiasm. He sees this as a good

way to be involved with the college and the outside community.

He also brings with him new ideas, one of which is 'fall mentoring' during freshman orientation, where sophomores would help new students become familiar with campus.

Blumenthal also looks forward to working with the Student Senate itself. "It's an ambitious group, and a healthy mixture as far as ages," he stated.

As of now, Blumenthal is getting a feel for what Student Senate is doing, and "keeping them on track" for the rest of this semester.

Blumenthal is replacing Rob Roose, who stepped down from the position as Student Senate adviser after taking a job in Marquette, at Northern Michigan University, where he will be a financial aid technician.

Alpena Mall recognizes community's volunteers

By DENINE KONWINSKI
COPY-EDITOR

In conjunction with Leaders of Volunteer Efforts (LOVE), ACC's Volunteer Center is taking part in 'Volunteers: The Promise of a Nation,' on April 17.

A display at the Alpena Mall aimed at recognizing active volunteers and recruiting new ones will take place in honor of National Volunteer Week.


According to Volunteer Center Director Vernie Nethercut, the main purpose of the event is to bring recognition to those who already donate their time in some volunteer effort.

Cake and entertainment will be provided. The schedule of events for the day follow:

- 1:00 - 1:00 Music by Ed Jahnke
 - 1:00 - 1:30 Unicyclist/jugler Tom Tropic
 - 1:30 - 2:00 Puppet show by Cathy Weston
 - 2:00 - 2:30 Music by Jonathan Pugh
 - 2:30 - 3:00 Music by Bi-focal Brass
 - 3:00 - 3:30 Unicyclist/jugler Tom Tropic
 - 3:30 - 4:00 Alpena High Concert and Treble Chorus
 - 4:00 - 4:30 Unicyclist/jugler Tom Tropic
- The names of many area volunteers will be placed on posters created by local organizations and agencies. The posters will be part of the display, and will be kept at the mall throughout the week.

Tables will also be set up, with representatives providing information. Table space at the mall is limited to 35, and will be granted on a first come first serve basis. To reserve a table, contact Bill Daugherty at 354-7259.


ACC's Volunteer Center has been working with the community for 17 years, and places college students with various organizations seeking help each



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