



May 4, 1994

Bids for center project rejected

By Jen Goodburne
LAYOUT EDITOR

Amid staunch assurances that the integrity of the "Center Project" will be preserved, Dr. Donald Newport announced last week that the project itself is undergoing some streamlining.

Six construction bids for the Student / Community / Business / Learning Resources Center project were recently rejected after extensive review by the project architect, representatives of the State, and Dow Howell Gilmore & Associates.

The construction budget, approximately \$6 million, fell short of the bids which ranged from \$7.6 to \$8.6 million.

To aid in making up the million+ difference, the college has hired Henry Lyngos as a construction consultant and co-ordinator for the project. With his help, the college is doing a "careful" cost/benefit study.

Lyngos will serve as ACC's representative to work with the State and contractors involved with the construction. His background includes work as a contractor, developer, mort-

gage banker, and building inspector.

"We think it's very important to preserve the integrity of the program that was originally conceived," said Newport. The changes suggested by Lyngos, while bringing the Center Project into the proper range of budget, are for the main part simply cosmetic.

Newport credits the cost overrun to the increase in the costs of construction materials, such as lumber, during the long process of planning and designing.

"The design process has been going on for five or six years," said Lyngos. "It was likely that poured foundations, for example, were cost effective a couple years ago. In today's market, concrete block foundations are more effective. So, you save a little there."

A list of 30 to 40 "targets" has been created to aid in the evolving cost cutting strategy.

Rounded walls, brick facing on external walls, and extensive sky lights are the type of things Lyngos is seeking to eliminate.

"You may see paint instead

of ceramic," said Lyngos, "but I think the average person walking through the door wouldn't notice [the cutbacks in construction.]

Another suggestion is to build all facilities on the ground, as opposed to a second story. While the square footage would remain intact, cost for elevators and stairwells would be eliminated.

"The task is to save the program, not make the sheet of paper smaller or cut the corner off it," said Lyngos. "[We're] trying to get value out of it."

As a result of the setback, the 16 to 18 month project has a revised schedule. April through June of 1994 has been reserved for redesigning. In July, the State will review the changes. Bids will be received in August, and in September contractors will be on site to begin construction.

The building should be in use for the spring semester of 1995/96.

"We made a commitment to this community and to lots of folks that we would deliver a set series of programs and services, and that's what we're going to deliver," said Newport.



Dr. Don Newport recently held a press conference to discuss plans for redesigning The Center.

Photo by Linda Simpson



Now Playing

Page 2

Polemic layout editor awarded

Page 3

Service-Learning Center involved in survey

Page 4

Is political correctness incorrect?

Page 5

Sports er, ah... Awards banquet held

Page 6

Windy city is a hit with ACC

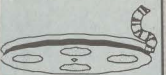
Page 7

Teachers cross "the moat"

Page 8

Photo Essay: A look back at ACC 1993-94

Have a safe, eventful and enjoyable Summer vacation!



Teachers protest Engler's strike legislation

By Scott Reed
STAFF WRITER

Governor John Engler faced mixed reactions when he arrived in Alpena on April 23.

A crowd of approximately 350 gathered at the City of Alpena Marina to meet the governor. About 300 of those present came to protest House Bill 5128, the teacher strike legislation Engler said he will sign.

Teachers and support staff lined Harbor Drive carrying signs that read, "Teaching is my right. Bargaining is my right", "Flush the John" and "My union respects me. My class respects me. Why don't you?"

House Bill 5128 amends the Public Employment Relations

Act by doing the following:

■ Assessing a penalty fine against teachers and the union for striking, and school boards and individual members for locking out.

■ Changing collective bargaining as it affects health benefits and insurance carriers.

■ Permitting school boards to obtain private sector assistance for noninstructional services.

Ann Boucher, an elementary teacher with Alcona schools said, "This has nothing to do with schools. It has to do with politics."

Keith Titus, Democratic candidate for the 37th Senate district, commented, "During the past week, we saw the true colors of Governor John Engler and

the Republican dominated legislature. Education and collective bargaining in general suffered terrible losses. The legislature has decided to divide the state into two very severely delineated camps and people who were able to work together in the political process will find it extremely difficult to do so in the near future."

State representative Beverly Bodem (R-Alpena) who supported the bill disagrees. "While labor's voice will be preserved," she said, "it cannot continue to decide matters that rightfully should be determined by administration, parents and elected school board members. This legislation is a logical and necessary extension of our recent school reform achievements."

Bodem pointed out that teacher strikes have been illegal in Michigan since 1947, but courts are reluctant to halt walk-outs "while local families are left to contend with the demands and costs of illegal strikes."

Frank Musto, local Uniserv Director of the Michigan Education Association commented, "Even though this bill does not directly affect the community college at this time, it is pretty clear what will happen in the long run."

Musto pointed out that the bill not only affects the health care area but allows volunteers to assume previously paid positions and the subcontracting of services in areas such as counseling.

"This is the beginning of a dismantling process of collective bargaining," Musto continued, "that has been in place for more than thirty years. It won't stop with K-12."

House Bill 5128 does not affect ACC, but a new bill now in legislature will affect ACC instructors' retirements.

Dave Bowman, Director of the MEA Uniserv in Petoskey, said the bill does more than dock teachers a day's pay. It limits

their rights to assembly, meaning they could be fired for protesting actions of the school board or administration.

He also said those who are angry with Engler and his policies should join forces.

"Together," he said, "we can remove the governor from office."

President of the faculty council Frank McCourt said,

Gilbertson to speak at graduation ceremony

By Angela Beaubien
STAFF WRITER

Graduation plans for 1994 are complete for the May 12 ceremony to be held in the East Campus gym.

Dr. Eric R. Gilbertson, president of Saginaw Valley State University, will serve as guest speaker.

Dr. Donald Newport, president of ACC, selected Gilbertson as orator to further enhance the relationship between ACC and SVSU.

"Gilbertson has a good perspective on community colleges," stated Newport.

President Gilbertson grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated from Bluffton College in Ohio with a bachelor of science in economics. He also achieved a master of arts in economics from Ohio University and a juris doctorate degree (with honors) from Cleveland State University.

For eight years, Gilbertson served as president of Johnson State College in Johnson, Vermont. During his presidency, Johnson State experienced a remarkable enrollment increase.

Additional professional experience includes legal consulting service to the Ohio Board of Regents, and assistance to the President of Ohio State University.

Gilbertson is highly active in many organizations such as

"The total issue is that the last legislature and the Governor, in particular, have absolute contempt for teachers and teaching and that teachers have a legitimate contempt for the legislature and Governor. Until there's some dialogue between teachers/MEA and the legislature, there probably will not be a lot of good happening."

the Boards of Bay County Alliance for Schools, Saginaw Future Inc., United Way, the Saginaw Symphony Association, the Saginaw Valley Torch Club.

He and his wife Cynthia have two teenage children, Sara Anne and Seth Forrest.

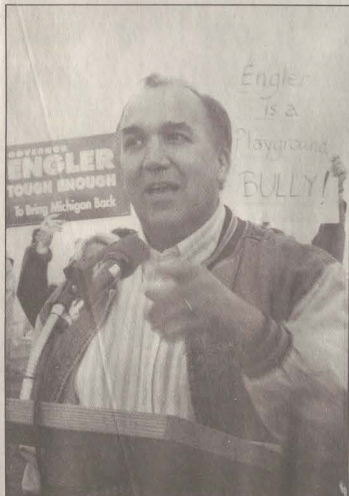
The 21st annual Anna and Jesse Besser awards will be presented by Besser President Jim Park to the outstanding female and male sophomore students. Students are nominated by ACC faculty members and final selection is made by a ten member committee composed of faculty and staff.

The award winners are selected until the graduation ceremony and are introduced by Park who will read a citation describing the reasons for the selection.

The award comes with a \$100 check for the recipient and his/her name will be inscribed on a permanent plaque which is located in the ACC library.

Music for the graduation will be furnished by The Collegiate Singers under the direction of Jean Martin-Brown. Loretta Beyer will play the processional and recessional.

A reception for all graduates, their families and staff will be held at The Jesse Besser Museum directly following the ceremonies which begin at 7 p.m.



Governor Engler faced mixed emotions from the crowd while speaking at Alpena Boat Harbor.

Photo Courtesy Alpena News