

When I attended ACC...

By **KENT LACOMBE**
STAFF WRITER

Since its founding in 1952, Alpena Community College has offered both students and faculty an atmosphere for educational growth and learning, say three members of the faculty who look back fondly on their years as students of this institution.

Among the things that seemed to run parallel between these remembrances was a recognition of change. This change seems to have taken place in not only the outward appearance of the college itself, but in what it has to offer to the student.

Speech instructor Keith Titus remembers, "You had to have two years of language to fulfill your school requirement."

"People aren't any different today than they were then," History instructor Richard Matteson believes. "I think we have the same feelings and aspirations for ourselves. I think the technology has changed."

Matteson remembers a very different college atmosphere. "I attended Alpena Community College at the old Thunder Bay High School. At that time, of course, they had special rooms set aside, but we would just generally intermingle with the high school students. I was in the second graduating class, and my brother was in the first graduating class."

"I was in the first class to graduate from the new building: Van Lare Hall," says Titus. "I think we were a more closely knit group. A large percentage of the students were from Alpena and, being a smaller total group, you just knew everybody better. I think there was a lot more cohesiveness than I see happening now."

In fact, when Van Lare Hall originally opened, not only was it a considerably smaller building, but its landscape was significantly different. Director of Facilities Management Witt comments, "Where the historical site is, at the

east end of Van Lare Hall, were the ruins of a meat packing plant. I can remember that my brother had worked there at one time, but when ACC came here there was just a foundation."

School activities were very different in ACC's early years. "The dances that were held were held at what was Bingham School," says Witt. "It was an elementary school. The activities were more fragmented. Graduation was held at Ella White Elementary School."

Titus adds, "There was a very active theatre group, who put on one or two plays a year. The school paper back then was like a poor high school paper. It was approved by the administration of the college."

When recalling his days with the college newspaper, Witt explains, "I don't believe we published it as often as it is now. We had it printed at a place in Hillman and actually went down there and set the type by hand, and then the paper got printed."

Instructors of the time who stood out in memory include Myron David Ore, a sociology instructor whom Titus describes as "...very popular

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~ Don Witt

with the students."

Both Titus and Witt share fond remembrances of Raymond Laurey, a speech and humanities instructor who always seemed to have a lot of exciting personal experiences to share with his class.

In summing up his feelings about his years as an ACC student, Matteson says, "I have been around a lot of community colleges in the years since I became an instructor, and quite frankly, we take a back seat to no one. In my case I had already gone away to school, had not been particularly successful, and I needed a second chance. Alpena Community College gave me that chance."

"Many times in my life when I look back at the things that made me feel good, I feel good about ACC," concludes Witt. "Without ACC, I wouldn't have a college degree right now."



LSSU GRADUATES SECOND CLASS OF ACC BSNs -- The second class of nurses to graduate from the cooperative bachelor's degree in nursing program between ACC and Lake Superior State University were honored recently at an LSSU reception in NRC 450 hosted by Dr. Mae Markstrom, Dean of the LSSU School of Health and Human Services, and LSSU Regional Center Director Mary Jason. The new BSNs include: (seated, left to right) Melody Curley of Oscoda, Connie Stepanski of Alpena, Judy Stump of Lachine, and Suzanne Gilkey, Diane Knopf, and Mary Damery, all of Alpena; and (standing, left to right) Karen Dzuiba of Tawas, Gil LaCross and Jane Modrzynski, both of Alpena, Dr. Markstrom, and Linda Canfield and Denise Cook, also both of Alpena. (ACC Office of Public Information Photo).

Fields of biology explored

By **JULIE SMIGELSKI**
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If Introduction to Field Biology with Deb Hautau-Milostan is offered again next summer at ACC, consider yourself lucky if you can secure a seat in the class.

This is not a class for the lazy! This is action! You can look forward to hiking for miles, canoeing, and identifying birds, beasts and fish. You will sift through a bubbling brook, walk on bogs, and slosh through marshes. You'll learn that snakes are our friends; which is not to say that all of our friends are snakes.

In a mere six weeks, you will be transformed into a Field Biologist! Then you can take your family and friends on a trip to Island Park (across from Alpena General Hospital) and show off your skills in identifying plants, insects, birds, and mammals. You might even be able to show them where the big

snakes are, although we never found any in our class, and we were really looking.

One last thing. Don't be surprised if you find yourself looking into a microscope trying to identify the eye pattern of an Orb Weaver and suddenly realize that you're looking at a spider. Spiders have eight eyes!

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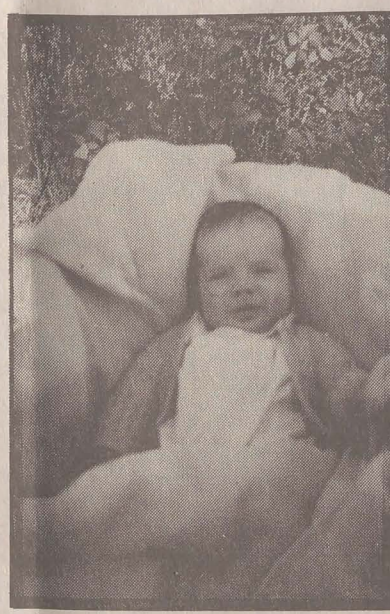
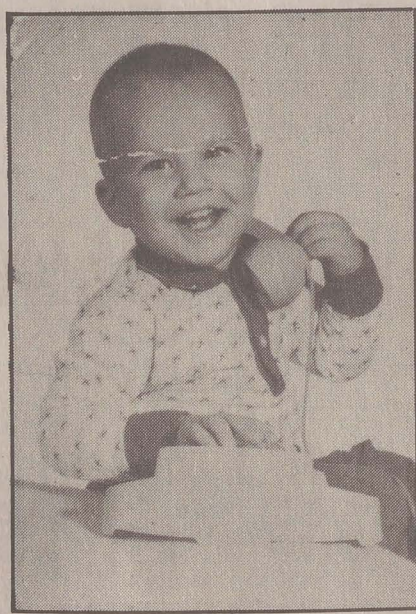
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Guess Who?

Winner receives a \$20. gift certificate from Camelot Music!

On the right are two baby pictures of ACC faculty members. If you can identify them both, you'll be eligible to win a \$20.00 gift certificate from Camelot Music, in the Alpena Mall. To enter your guess, simply write it down on a piece of paper and submit it to *The Polemic* by dropping it off in our office, in room 110 of BTC. Your entry must contain your name, address, phone number and the names of the two faculty members. (Here's a hint: The person on the left is in the math department, and the person on the right is in the English department.) Good luck!

Drawing date: Oct. 14, 1994



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