

The Polemic

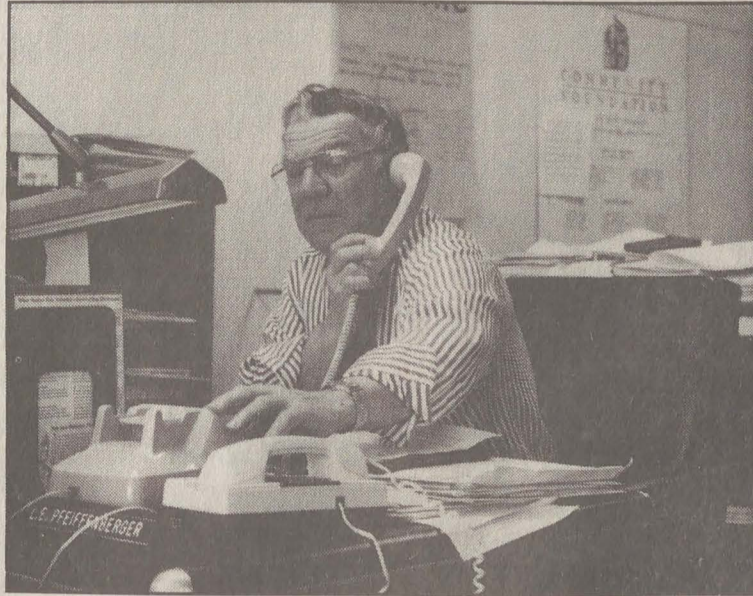
March 8, 1995
Volume 4
Issue 6

Great Lumberjack!
Pg. 6

ACT is
"Out of Order"
Pg. 5

Scavenger
hunt is a hit
Pg. 4

The Alpena Community College newspaper, 666 Johnson Street, Alpena, MI 49707



Lucas Pfeiffenberger, executive director of the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan, works the phone during a recent afternoon in the office.

Polemic receives grant

By POLEMIC STAFF

Thanks to a matching grant from the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan, *The Polemic* is updating its equipment. The \$672 grant will go directly towards the purchase of a new Macintosh LaserWriter Select printer.

"We really need another printer," says *Polemic* Editor Shawn Dempsey, "but without the aid of the grant, we simply would not have enough money to purchase one."

The *Polemic* publishing costs are funded by the Student Activities Fees and is supplemented by newspaper advertising revenue. The amount raised

through advertising varies from year to year based on whether the newspaper has an advertising person.

Thanks to Advertising Manager Deb Haske, this has been a successful year in terms of ad revenues for *The Polemic*. A new Macintosh 636 PC was purchased in December, and the new printer will likely be ordered some time next month.

The Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan serves Alpena County and its neighboring counties in Northeastern Michigan. The Foundation awards grants four times a year. Because resources are limited, applications are carefully reviewed by the executive director, the grant screening committee, and are then presented to the board of trustees at its regular meeting.

"I'm really pleased to see these improvements," says Dempsey. "I think the paper has come a long way in the last two and a half years, and I hope this new technology will help *The Polemic* and future staffers to have as much fun as we've had."

McCourt is hospitalized after a fall

Employment Services Director and Men's Basketball Coach Frank McCourt (pictured right) recently had a nasty fall off a ladder at his home, suffering a head injury that required a hospital stay. McCourt's injuries were not as serious as first feared, though he was airlifted by helicopter from Alpena General Hospital to Saginaw for observation shortly after his accident. ACC President Dr. Don Newport has kept the college apprised of McCourt's condition. During his last report, Dr. Newport assured listeners that McCourt has recovered to the extent that he now is throwing his hospital gown at all nurses and hos-



pital personnel wearing stripes. If McCourt is feeling well enough to berate the officials, we assume he's well on the road to a full recovery. And that's good news.



Photo courtesy of Karen Eller

The ACC cross country ski class takes time out to show its stuff. Pictured above from left are Shawn Dempsey, Gail Evans, Carlene Przykucki, Katherine Bianchi, Instructor Jeff Blumenthal, Cathie Rogg, and (front) Jason Skiba. Also in the class are Sierra Muske, Johnathan Pugh, and Karen Eller. See story on page 8.

Wade's exhibit supports the arts

By SARAH EDWARDS
STAFF WRITER

Are you up for a golfing experience of the lifetime? Do you want to be challenged by carnivorous lily pads, become lost in the visual vista while putting for par, or watch the golf ball spiral down steel curves? If so, then the place to go is the Detroit Artist Market and the exhibit is "Golf Fore Art."

Alpena Community College Art Instructor Laurie Wade was sponsored by *Detroit Monthly* and was pictured on the cover of the magazine. Wade comments, "This is a definite feather in your cap because your work is more visible in the Detroit area."

"Golf Fore Art" is a juried exhibit that presents 18 Michigan artists' interpretation of a miniature golf course green. In order to be considered for

this event, you must submit a mock-up or extensive plans of your ideas. The competition pays for all of the selected artists' expenses and materials costs.

There are lily pads that hover over the green, tusks and bones that hide in the sand, and a column that contains jewels with the top...

The exhibit is in its second year and is sponsored by the Rattlesnake Cafe and Stroh's, to name a few. "Golf Fore Art" is

accessible to the public through mid July, but be aware that the price is high. For example, opening night was \$50 and the price has since risen. The money goes directly to support the museum.

Wade's exhibit consists of a narrow green that is 12" long by 10" wide and 15" high. There are lily pads that hover over the green, tusks and bones that hide in the sand, and a column that contains jewels with the top being covered with palm fronds.

While enjoying the natural beauty of Wade's exhibit, hole six, you feel "...a surreal or strange interpretation of a beach," surrounded by sinisterness.

If you're in the area and are looking for a challenge, stop by and enjoy "Golf Fore Art."

See pictures of Wade's exhibit on page 4

Former student becomes art instructor

By CHRISTINA HOWELL
STAFF WRITER

If you've walked through the halls of East Campus lately, you may have noticed some new faces and seen the bright paintings on the walls. Curt LaCross, the new art teacher here at Alpena Community College, thought his paintings might liven up the halls of East Campus... and he was right!

LaCross is teaching both sections of design and both sections of sculpture. He began his college career at ACC and is currently attending Central Michigan University, where he is earning his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

When asked what attracted him to teaching here, he said that he is from this area and really enjoys coming home. He feels very comfortable teaching here, citing that his first art class was held in the room where he now teaches.

"Curt was always very talented," said Art Instructor Laurie Wade. "He is one of those people you could envy because he was born with a silver pencil in his hand. Remarkably enough, he has coupled that (talent) with skill and technique, and he's now able to put that all together."

LaCross has always been interested in art, although for some time he had no plans of becoming an art teacher. "I can remember a time

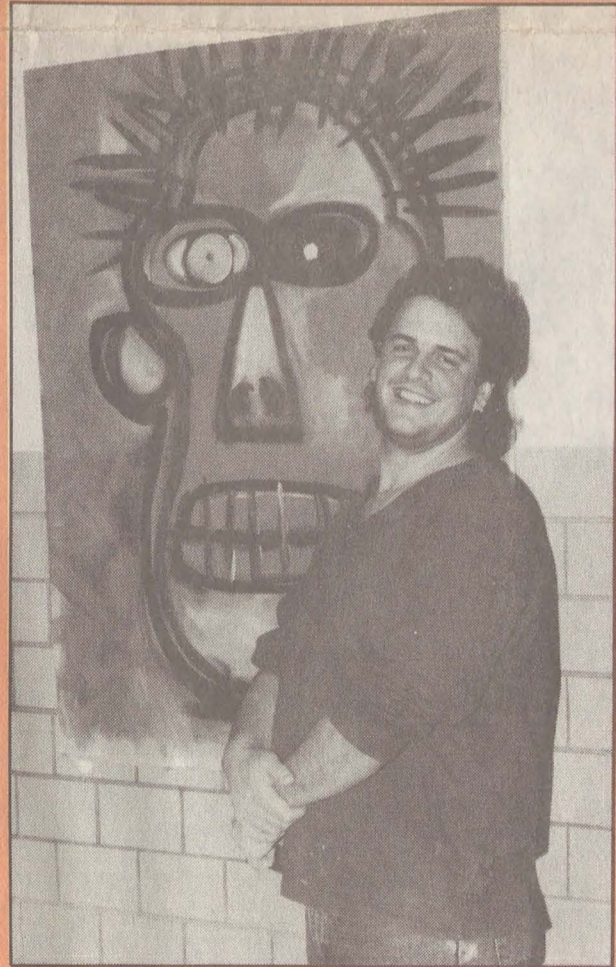
when I couldn't see them letting me into college, let alone ever teaching there. So, that's probably my greatest accomplishment," he said.

Although being an artist hasn't always been a goal of his, LaCross has found the job that makes him truly happy. "I really think that if you can go to work every single day and enjoy it, then you've got it made."

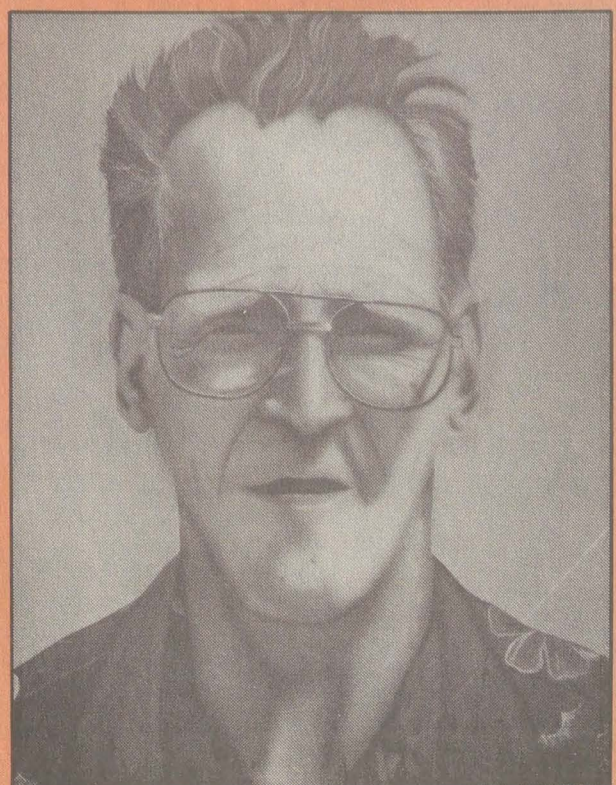
His teaching philosophy is based on individualism, stating the one thing that makes a piece of art original is incorporating personality into it. One thing LaCross hopes to accomplish here, however, is helping his students to be as passionate about what they're doing as he is. "I just want... some of my students to be as enthusiastic about art as I am," he said. "It's been a wonderful outlet for me."

Even in his free time, LaCross enjoys painting, doing ceramics and metal sculpture. He sees art as being like television. "When I get tired of getting clay on myself... I can switch over to oil painting. And when I get tired of doing that, I can go and I can start spraying and doing my air-brushing. And when I get tired of that, I can go weld... So I look at it like being almost like television, kind of changing and going through channels."

For more pictures of LaCross's artwork, see page 4



ACC's new Art Instructor Curt LaCross (above) has adorned the walls of East Campus with some of his artwork (below). LaCross is a former ACC student who will be teaching Both sections of design and both sections of sculpture.



Huron Shores Student Union

Update

BY SHELLY HOLLINGSWORTH
 HSSU PRESIDENT

"Heart of Gold" Winner: Congratulations to George Schwedler, English instructor and student Union co-advisor, for receiving February's "Heart of Gold" award!!! Mr. Schwedler has been very dedicated to and supportive of the Student Union, and we appreciate his efforts in assisting us.

Free Food!!!: Inspired by the Student Senate's generosity when they served hamburgers to everyone, the Student Union decided to serve pizza to the Huron Shores Campus students,

staff and faculty on Wednesday, March 7. We also had surveys for students to fill out giving them an opportunity to voice their opinions to the Student Union, the campus, and any other concerns that they might have.

Huron Shores Campus Sweatshirts: Sweatshirts are still for sale at the low, low price of just \$17.00! The ash-gray sweatshirts are available in L, XL, and XXL, and may be purchased through the HSC Learning Center or Student Union members, Krisztina Varga, Jolene Gamble, and Shelly Hollingsworth.

"Talk of the Town": We will be appearing on "Talk of the Town" on Sunday, March 26!! We'll be talking about the formation of our group and its goals, the Huron Shores Campus, and many other things! Tune in to watch!!!

Future Events: We are working out details for putting on an Easter Egg Hunt and staging an Awards Banquet for the Huron Shores Campus. Also, in July, at the Iosco County Fair, we will be volunteering our time to help run the ACC booth. During this time we'll be promoting our campus and handing out ACC catalogs, applications, etc. (similar to our efforts at Perchville).

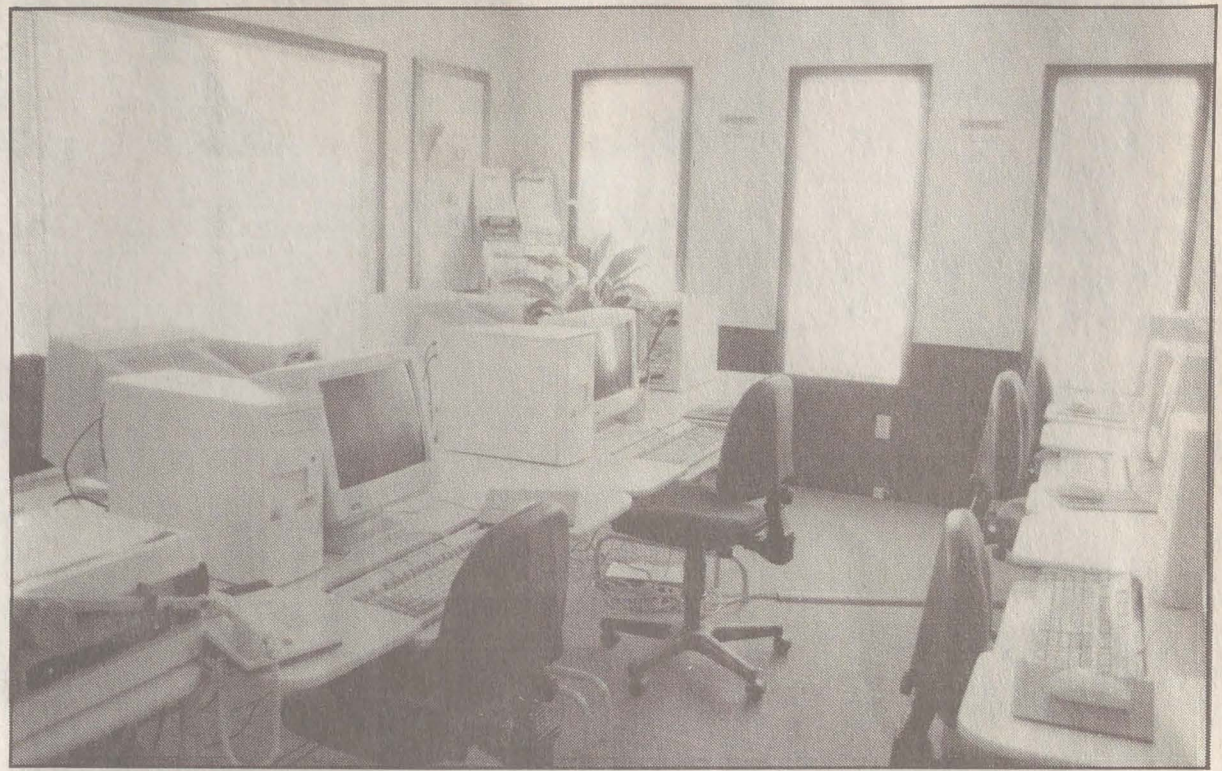


Photo by Mike Sanders

Harrisville's new Huron Technical and Business Institute offers various computer classes in order for students to earn a career in a year.

Develop a computer career in a year

BY MICHAEL SANDERS
 STAFF WRITER

"The race is on for skilled workers--High paying jobs go unfilled as America adjusts schools, values." The headline, from a recent *Detroit News* article about the need for skilled, literate Computer Aided Design workers, hangs on the Huron Technical and Business Institute bulletin board run by Elizabeth Prueter.

The new Institute in Harrisville is focusing on accelerated "career-in-a-year" courses that will set up a student, in three or four twelve-week semesters, for entry into a computer-dependent industry. Prueter runs the Institute as an extension of her sales and service business known as Dynamic Microsystems.

"There always seems to be a good deal of work in these areas," Prueter says, commenting not only on the Mechanical

Design Detailing Programs the *News* demanded, but also on their new medical transcription courses. Both courses offer preliminary computer-introduction courses on WordPerfect and the AutoCAD applications before the actual training begins.

The school has been set up through a small business administration grant and the Michigan Department of Education to deliver post-secondary certificates in both of these fields. Some classes will begin this week, she said.

Four teachers will work with students to develop skills in the vocational areas they know best. The Medical Transcription Program will include a four to six week externship, which will give students some on-the-job training in transcribing medical tapes from local doctors.

Prueter has worked with Alpena Community College, teaching courses related to computers, at both the main campus and at Huron Shores. She has spent time working with the

adult education program at Alpena High School and has offered employment training for businesses at the Center for Economic and Human Resources Development. Prueter hopes that HBTI will allow her to provide private services to students from Ossineke, Alpena, and the Tawasess.

One term courses will be offered to provide introduction and expertise on application programs such as Microsoft Desktop Publishing, WordPerfect for Windows and DOS, and Quattro Pro for Windows. The center is offering introduction to PC courses, keyboarding, and primers for the accelerated-training programs.

There will also be open access hours, to be arranged by teachers, students, and interested community members who would like to work on homework, schoolwork, or explore the technology available at the Institute. These times will allow users, for \$3.50 per hour, to sample the application library along with the wide selection of games and reference materials.

Congratulations Julie on receiving the grant

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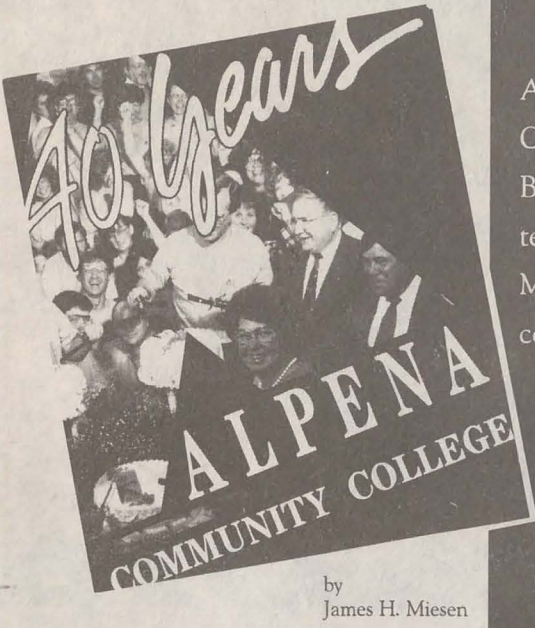
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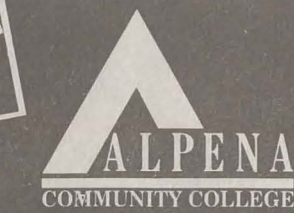
Alpena Community College '40 Years' Anniversary Book

This book written by James H. Miesen is a selective history of Alpena Community College from its beginning in the early 1950s to 1994. It is 100 pages filled with history, remembrances and photos beautifully collected and compiled.

It is available at the Alpena Community College Bookstore in Besser Technical Center, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. The cost is \$12.00



by James H. Miesen



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Way to go!

Good deed student of the month

By TED KRUSE
PARKING SUPERVISOR

This column will be dedicated to the "Good Deed Student of the Month." The Parking Control Department, under the supervision of Ted Kruse, are attempting to find and show appreciation to students who perform a 'good deed' of some nature on campus.

It works this way! When a Parking Control Attendant notices a student going the 'extra mile' to report some type of misdeed or a kind act is shown to another student, this will be brought to the attention of the Parking Supervisor by personal contact or by written notice.

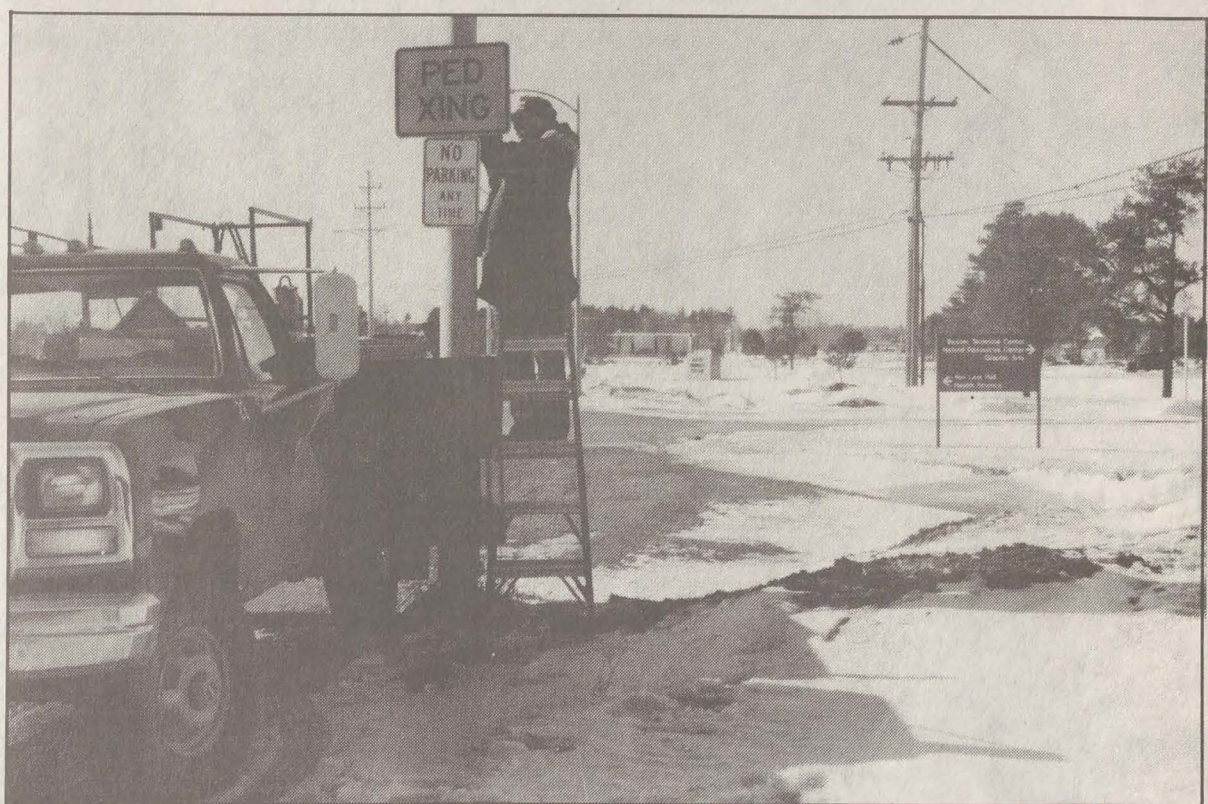
This will be checked out

and, if authenticated, that person performing the good deed will be presented with the following awards: Two tickets to the Royal Knight Theater, through the courtesy of Mr. Mike Roy; a five dollar (\$5.00) gift certificate to either campus cafeteria, with the compliments of Mr. Frank McCourt and the Alpena Boosters Club; an Alpena Community College coffee mug by the College and its President; and a Certificate of Recognition and Thanks from the Public Relations Department, thanks to Carlene Przyucki and Karen Eller.

Any student of staff mem-

ber can submit a name and act of kindness to be considered for an award to any Parking Control Attendant, or Ted, at his office in Besser Technical Center.

The "Way to Go" recipient for March is Lisa Crawford who graciously allowed another student to take the parking spot she had been waiting for in the Van Lare lot.



The city of Alpena installed new pedestrian crossing signs on Johnson Street Friday. ACC Parking Supervisor Ted Kruse has been in contact with the city about the need for more signs for the past several months.

MSU has \$1000 up for grabs

The Northeastern Michigan State University Alumni Association will be awarding over \$1000 to two ACC students transferring to Michigan State University for the fall of 1995.

The monies will be meted out through two different types of scholarships: The William Gilliland Memorial Scholarship will award \$500 to one transfer student from Alpena Community College, and The Carl Basel Scholarship will grant \$750 to a Hillman High graduate transferring from ACC planning on attendance at MSU.

Personal interviews may be required by the applicants. All those applying must be U.S. citizens and have the application in

by April 1, 1995 to Max Lindsay in Van Lare Hall. Neither scholarship is renewable but will be awarded in addition to any other awards earned by recipients.

The scholarship committee bases its choices on the activities and organizations applicants participated in, academic records, and a 250 word hand-

written essay on "Why I chose to attend Michigan State University".

Applications may be picked up from Mary Skiba in VLH 101.

For information on other available scholarships, watch *The Splinter* or use the scholarship search program in The Learning Center.

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3	\$1.41	.08	\$1.49	15	\$7.05	.42	\$7.47
4	\$1.88	.11	\$1.99	16	\$7.52	.45	\$7.97
5	\$2.35	.14	\$2.49	17	\$7.99	.48	\$8.47
6	\$2.82	.17	\$2.99	18	\$8.46	.51	\$8.97
7	\$3.29	.20	\$3.49	19	\$8.93	.54	\$9.47
8	\$3.76	.23	\$3.99	20	\$9.40	.56	\$9.96
9	\$4.23	.25	\$4.48	21	\$9.87	.59	\$10.46
10	\$4.70	.28	\$4.98	22	\$10.34	.62	\$10.96
11	\$5.17	.31	\$5.48	23	\$10.81	.65	\$11.46
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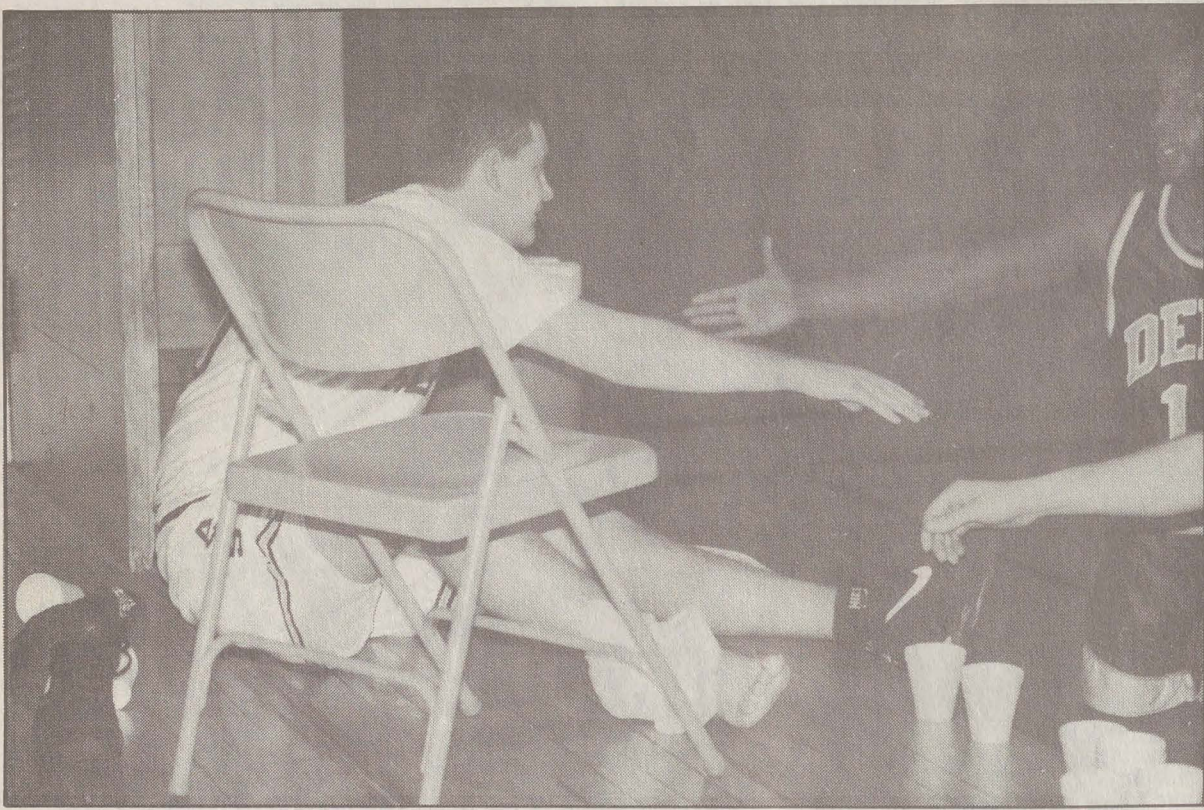
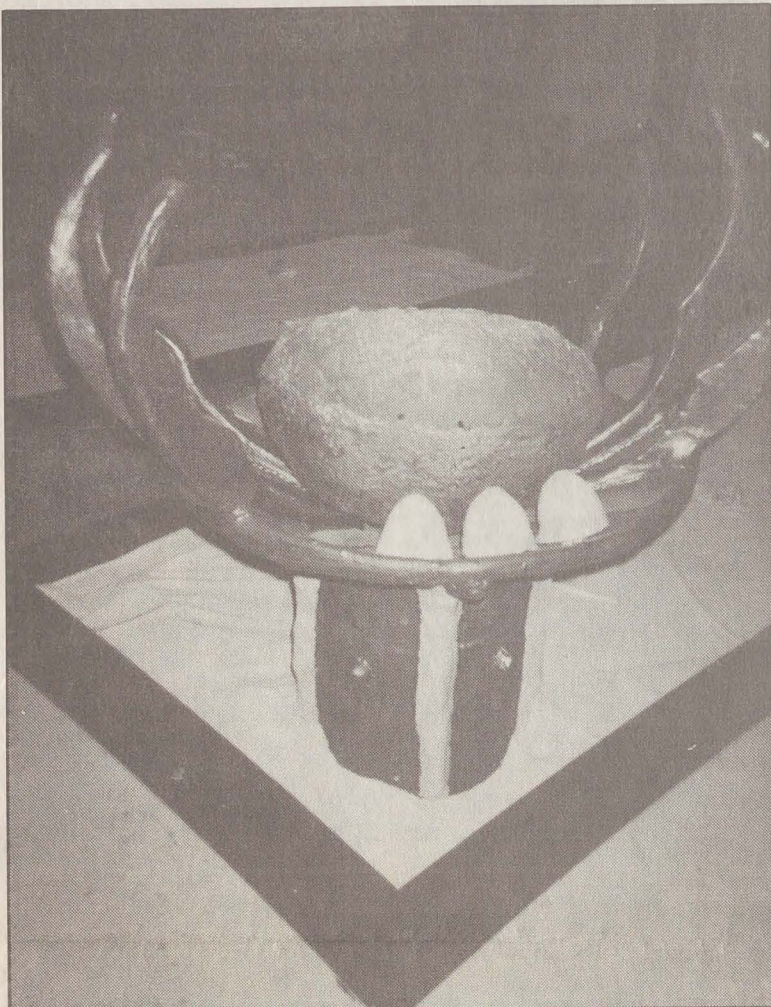
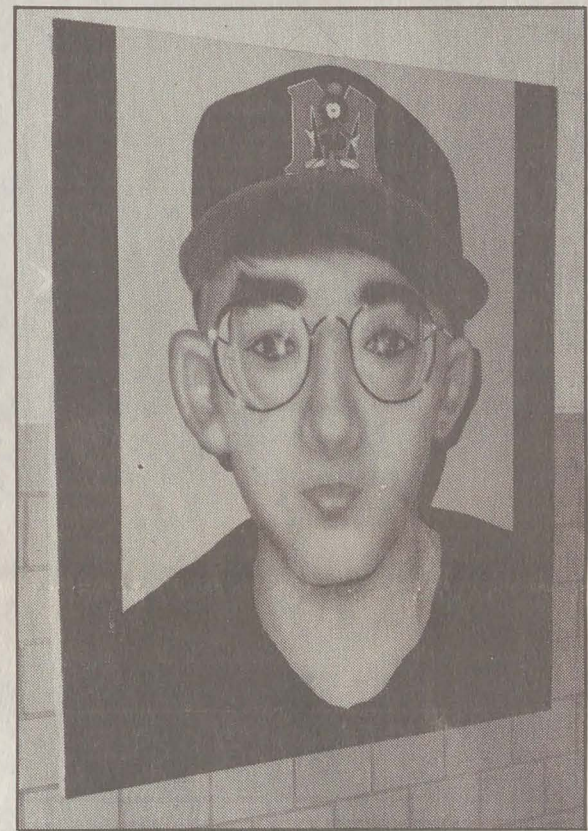


Photo by Jay Johnson

A member of the opposing team stretches a friendly hand to Jeff Hyvarinen who was injured in the Feb. 1 game against Delta.



For the second year, ACC Art Instructor Laurie Wade has a display (left and below) in the "Golf Fore Art" show at the Detroit Artist Market. Wade's exhibit is hole #6. See story page 1.



Former ACC student Curt LaCross has returned as the new art instructor and he has brought some of his artwork with him. This work is displayed in East Campus. See story page 1.

Scavengers tear through Alpena

■ ACC Student Senate takes credit for the uproar

By SHAWN DEMPSEY
 POLEMIC EDITOR

Horse manure, thought experienced scavenger Lynda Reidasch, is something that might be on the list of items for *The Hunt '95*, so she brought some to school with her. It wasn't, but Reidasch's team still took second place in the scavenger hunt.

Seven teams of two to six people competed in the Student Senate sponsored event, held Feb. 11. Teams met in Van Lare Hall to receive their top-secret lists of items and then combed the Alpena area in an attempt to find the items and have them returned to VLH by 5 p.m.

The winning team, consisting of Jenny Saddler, Stacey Pointkowski, Jenny Muszynski, Becky Burton, and John Nielsen, found most of the 100 items to each claim \$50 gift certificates to the Alpena Mall.

The Learning Center team actually had one more item but it wasn't in the designated area

by the 5 p.m. deadline. Damaris Reid, Reidasch, Jeff Blumenthal, Monica Bushey, Jewel Lancaster, and Dorothy Fancher took a close second to each claim \$25 Mall gift certificates.

The TLC team plans to pool its winnings and purchase a new refrigerator and some new computer software for the Learning Center.

Third place winners Vicky Lindsay, Caroline Lechel, Maria Schoenbaum, Jason Skiba, Mary Skiba, and Cynthia Starnes each received \$15 Mall gift certificates and an award for the best video performance. For 500 points, the team sang and did motions to *I'm a Little Teapot* in the Alpena Mall while being video taped.

Jen Ganske and Aaron LaCross won the award for best interpretation of an item by submitting a wooden door stop with a condom on it as a rubber door stop.

The best strategic planning award went to Chris TenBrink, Chris Erno, Joe Charton, and

Jim Wallace. The team spent a great deal of its time in Kmart purchasing items for *The Hunt*.

Items in the list included a canoe (only one full-sized canoe was submitted), a rubber chicken, a piece of aluminum siding, Mickey Mouse ears, a specimen cup, a Batman lunch box, photocopy of a body part (most were hands, however one butt was copied), soap-on-a-rope, and an eight rack tape.

In addition, all teams sang a different song at the Alpena Mall while being videotaped, and points were given to find prices of particular items at the Alpena IGA.

While the points were being tallied, the teams watched their singing performances and ate pizza in the VLH lounge.

The Hunt '95 was a new event for the Senate, created to fill the void left by the cancellation of this year's Casino Night. To promote the event, the Senate held a free luncheon in the Besser Tech Lobby.

WHAT ARE EMPLOYERS LOOKING FOR?

Find out at CAREERS DAY
 March 22, 1995
 Alpena Community College

The Employment Services Center at ACC invites students and staff to hear area employers discuss what they look for in a resume and when interviewing an applicant. They'll give their best advice to those about to enter the job market and assess the local, state and regional job outlook.

1:30 - 3:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1995

Students: There are no classes this day, so take advantage of this opportunity to hear and question a panel of employers.

Career areas, panelists and discussion locations:

BUSINESS	HEALTH OCCUPATIONS	LAW ENFORCEMENT	TECHNICAL
Natural Resources Ctr 450	Health Science Ctr 141	Van Lare Hall 120	Natural Resources Ctr 150
• Karen Hepburn First of America Asst. Branch Mgr.	• Diane Fisher AGH Clinical Nursing Director	• Lt. Robert Krafft Michigan State Police	• Joe Cercone Besser Co. Human Resources Director
• Cindy Loison Training Coordinator Lafarge Corp.	• Jackie Kennedy NMC/MH Personnel Director	• Brad McRoberts Alpena County Undersheriff	• Joe Gentry Presque Isle Corp. Industrial Relations Mgr.
• Therese Muszynski R.A. Townsend Office Mgr.	• Annette Miller Hospice Executive Ass't.	• Dan Sassin Probate Court Chief Probation Officer	• Susan Kirby Indiana Michigan Power Human Resources Supervisor
• Phil Straley, CPA Nethercut, Cernat, Straley, Ilesley, PC	• Nancy Ross Tendercare Staff Development Coordinator	• Thad Taylor City of Alpena Director of Public Safety	• Mic Tude Thout Cliff Anschuetz Service Mgr.
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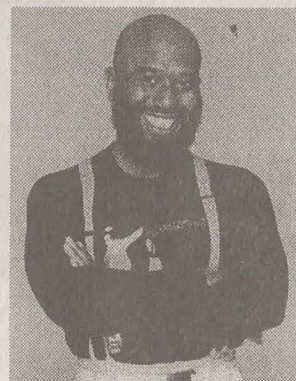


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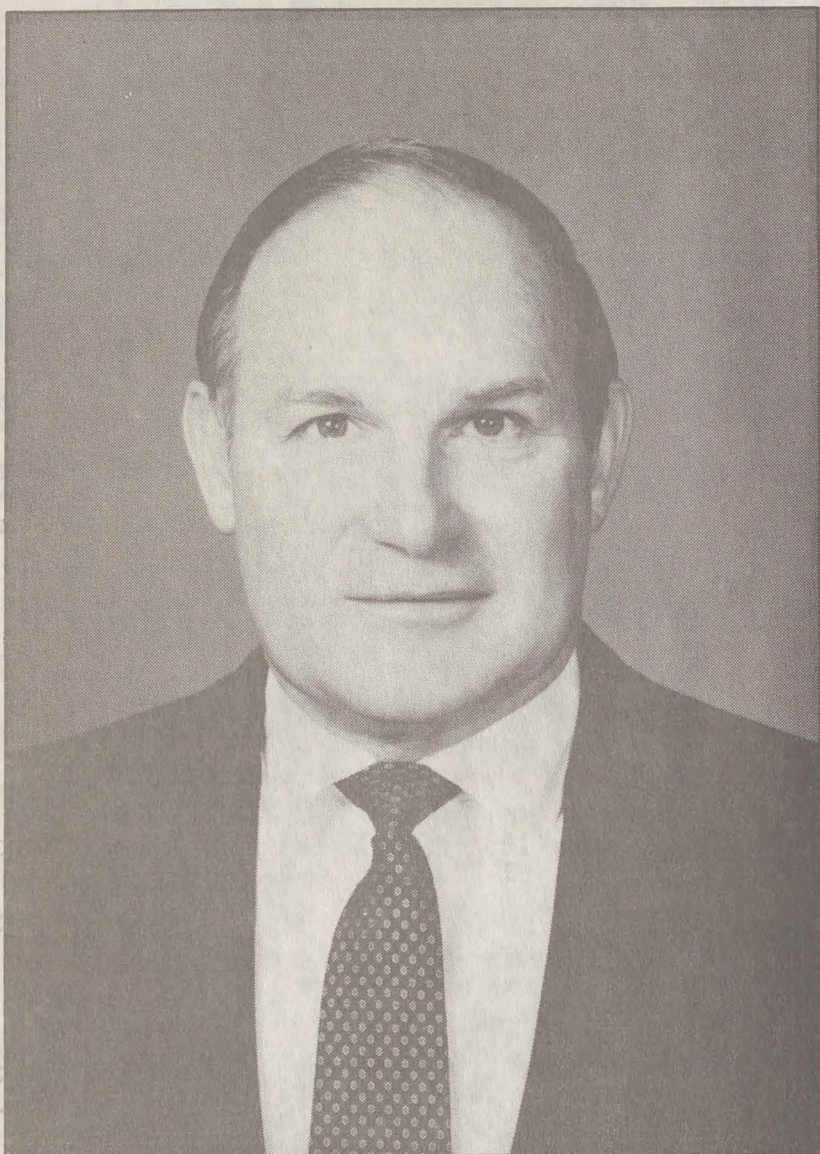
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Looking back at a coaching legend

By DAN MARQUARDT
 STAFF WRITER

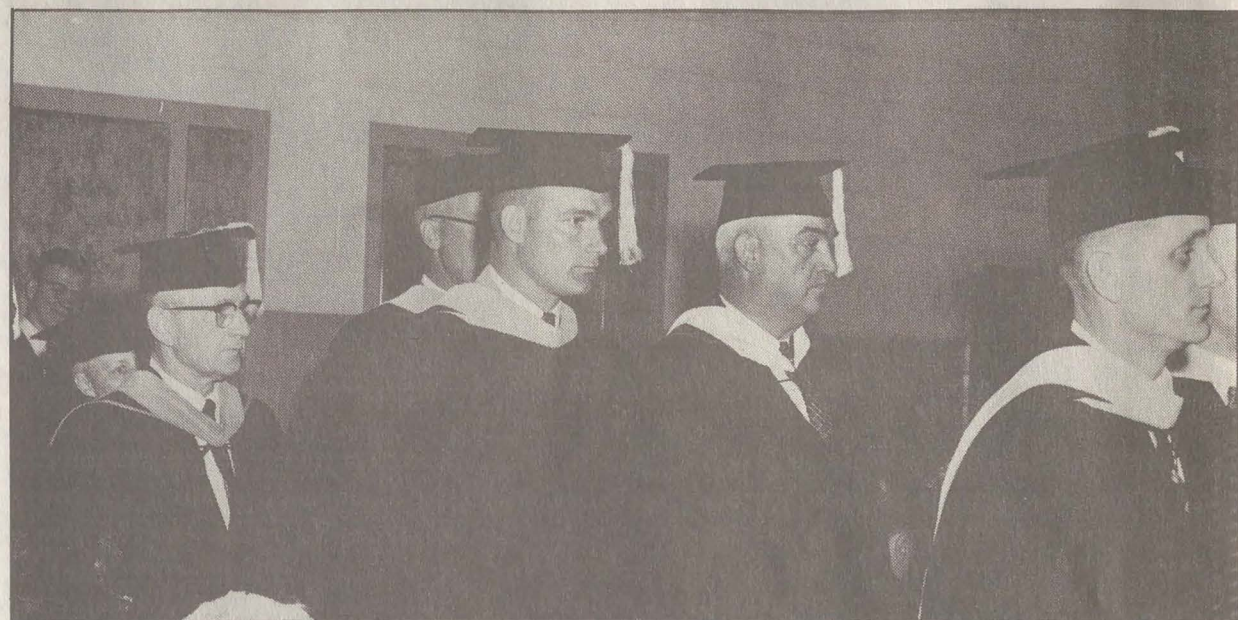
Jim Dutcher grew up on Adams street on the Northside of Alpena, coached at ACC, and made it to the top of the

coaching ranks, ending up at the University of Minnesota. Jim Dutcher could be described as being one of the leaders in the building of Lumberjack basketball.

According to his former

Jim Dutcher (left) coached the University of Minnesota Golden Gophers for 11 years. Dutcher, an Alpena Community College graduate (right), also coached the Lumberjacks for eight seasons.

Photos courtesy of
 Carlene Przykucki



players, Dutcher was recognized as a fair coach. The players appreciated this and the concentration on fundamentals that were so apparent in the coach's program.

Coach Dutcher is still praised by one of his more famous athletes, Harvey Marlatt, who starred at Eastern and later played for the Detroit Pistons. He is now known as Coach Marlatt, as he coaches the Huskies of Atlanta High School. Marlatt said about Dutcher, "He would bend over backwards to help anybody, I have the utmost respect for him."

Even people close to Dutcher outside the basketball scene give nothing but adoration for his accomplishments.

For eight seasons, Dutcher called the shots from the Lumberjack bench at the old Alpena High School, which is currently

Thunder Bay Junior High School. Dutcher was also lucky enough to coach in his hometown where the people were supportive of their teams. Dutcher praises the crowds and the overall support he received while coaching the Jacks.

When asked what he liked about coaching at Alpena Community College, Dutcher said, "I had a lot of family there, it was nice. The program was kind of in its infancy, and there was a lot of opportunity to try and build a program there."

After his reign at Alpena, Dutcher was hired and named the Head Coach at Eastern Michigan University. There he coached for six years, from 1966-1972. In his stint at Eastern, the school reached the NAIA national championship game and the Division II national championship game.

Dutcher coached another big name while at Eastern Michigan — George Gervin, the "Iceman," one of the greatest scorers in the history of the NBA.

A big opportunity arose soon after, as the coach was hired at the University of Michigan. Dutcher was John Orr's assistant for the Wolverines from 1972-1975. In 1975, Dutcher became a part of a special time when the Wolverines captured a Big Ten Championship.

Dutcher finished his coaching career at the University of Minnesota. This final coaching move would include building a home in the land of 10,000 lakes during an 11-year stint with the Golden Gophers. Due to some unfortunate circumstances involving three of his players, Dutcher decided to leave the coaching profession.

Jim Dutcher currently lives in Bloomington, Minnesota, where he is a senior vice president of a brokerage firm. Since his coaching days at Minnesota, Dutcher has seen four daughters graduate from the same school. The coaching legend has not drifted too far from the game, however. He is currently doing color telecasting for University of Minnesota basketball, an activity he has been involved with for the past three seasons.

Jim Dutcher exemplified everything a winner stands for. From a small town program in Northeastern Michigan to a familiar national powerhouse in Minnesota, the coach brought with him success through dedication, determination, and heart.

ACC President Dr. Don Newport said of Dutcher, "He is one of the folklore heroes of Northeastern Michigan, a gentleman I respect a great deal."

Intramural basketball hits the court

By DAN MARQUARDT
 STAFF WRITER

The ACC Intramural Basketball season is in full swing with five teams battling for the top spot. The season has been going on for about five weeks now, and playoffs are scheduled for the first week of March.

Bobby Allen, assistant men's basketball coach and in-

tramural director, has been doing an excellent job keeping things running smoothly.

Student involvement is up from a year ago, and many students are visible in the stands during evening games.

The teams and their members are: The Regulators -- Ryan Finkelberg, Dave Szejbach, Ron Brooks, Kevin Brooks, Alan Polaski, Scott Bays, Brad

Chalapniczak, and Tim Krueger; We Need Help -- Bobby Allen, Mike Kollien, Tracy Gribble, Jason Gribble, Kay Lumsden, and Renae Gates;

The Spitoons -- Ken Dragiewicz, Andy Becker, Duane Jennings, Tim Mullaney, Ryan Boyk, Jim McGrail, Mark Loomis, Steve Wisniewski, Larry Donajowski, and Mike Moran;

UTT -- Jim Wallace, Chris Erno, Matt Graves, Joe Charlton, Steve Greene, Skip Parish, Gary Stec, George Honolik, Chad Crowley, Tony Ornatowski, and Don Graves;

Superstar Monarchs -- Maurice Stedman, Steve Jakubcin, Bryan Grochowski, Steve Menzel, Bob Kollen, Kyle Rondeau, Justin Byelich, Paul Cooper, and Tony Wojt.

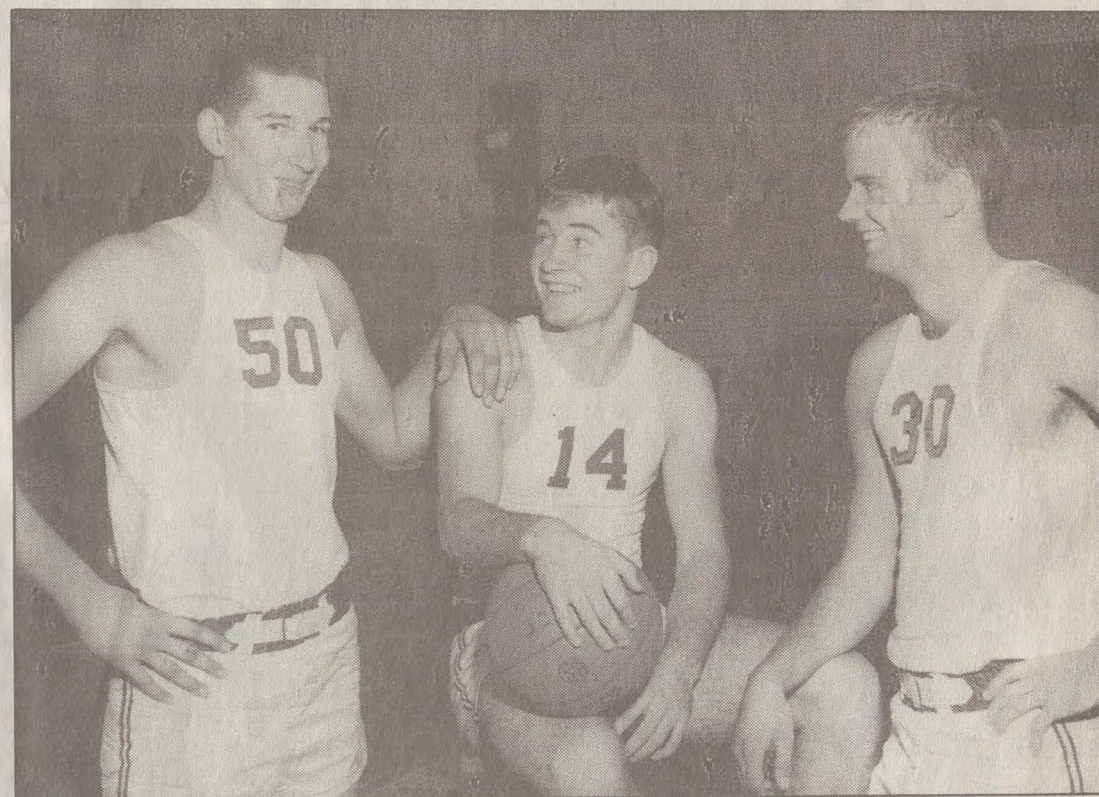
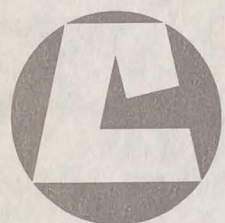


Photo courtesy Carlene Przykucki

Gary Gunderson (above left) is a former Alpena Community College star center. He played with the Lumberjacks from 1959 to 1961, when he was third leading scorer in the country with 27.3 points per game. At the time Gunderson played for ACC, basketball games were held in the old Alpena High School which is currently Thunder Bay Junior High. Gunderson is pictured with Tom Miller (middle) and Bill Schroeder (right).



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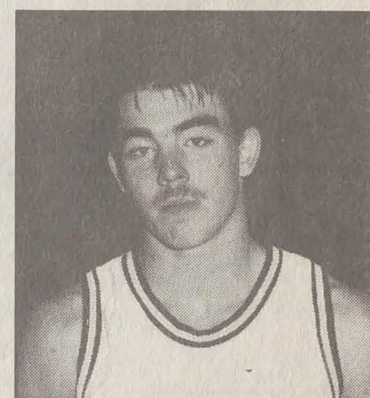
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Correction

Lumberjack Guard Matt Walker, #10, (left) was mistakenly identified in the Feb. 8 issue of *The Polemic*.



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Internet censorship is explored

University of Michigan student Jake Baker is the subject of this pair of opinion pieces. Baker, you may recall, recently published a graphic rape and tort-

ture fantasy on the Internet, using the name of a student in one of his classes as the name of the victim in his story. He maintains that the story was harmless

and that, in any event, his right to free speech is protected under the First Amendment. The writers below address this issue, as well as the woman's right to privacy, libel law, the implications of censorship, and the relatively unregulated nature of the Internet.

Freedom of speech is prohibited at U of M

By CHRISTINA HOWELL
STAFF WRITER

The University of Michigan policy toward E-mail clearly reflects an unfair restriction on the First Amendment rights of Internet users. The Bill of Rights is a document describing the fundamental liberties of the people of the United States of America. This same Bill of Rights also forbids the government to violate these rights.

A state or local constitution must guarantee the fundamental rights listed in the U.S. Constitution, although it can be more detailed than the Federal Bill of Rights. Therefore, U-M's policy, which restricts freedom of speech, should be deemed unconstitutional.

A closer look at U-M's policy hints at the possibility of censorship. Censorship is not something that should be handled by some "agency". Rather, it is something that each adult must take into his or her own hands. When we choose what to read and what not to read we are, in a way, censoring. So, when it comes down to the fact that some people don't like what's being "said" on the Internet, the saying holds true: If you don't like it, don't read it.

There are some similarities between newspapers and the Internet, but there are also many differences. Still, freedom of speech is freedom of speech. Newspapers are staffed with professional writers who have style guides and editors to refer to when writing their articles. The Internet, on the other hand, is simply a group of people who like to play with their computers. They aren't trained for style and content like news writers are. The Internet is just something they do for fun.

Constitutional rights are ignored at U of M

By SARAH EDWARDS
STAFF WRITER

In my opinion, Baker is protected under the First Amendment, providing that the crimes he has written about have not occurred. I also feel that his story does not fit under the definition of libel, which means injury to reputation. I do feel, however, that he has crossed the line when it comes to U-M's policy. The entire story is surrounded by clouds of uncertainty.

According to the Associated Press Libel Manual a private role figure has to be able to prove actual malice to be considered libel. Can she prove her case? It would be most interesting to hear what the woman whose name was used in the story felt. Did she read this article? What does she think of having her name used? What would she like to have happen to Baker?

One of the interesting things about the Internet is the availability to be spontaneous with what is written and who can reply. If there becomes an editor, in a sense, then you eliminate probably one of the most attractive features that the Internet has going for it. And to censor this feature may detour the amount of users.

Perhaps the question lies in the litigation that encompasses the printed material world and the Internet system. If the crimes or acts never happened, then what is the issue of the female's privacy being broken? I just don't see how choosing a name can do that. Perhaps the issue of free speech and privacy, in this case, is

There is no way of knowing exactly how many people use the Internet. It is a world-wide computer system that anyone with a computer and a modem can get into. Consequently, if we don't know how many people use the Internet, how can we have any idea who these people are? Well, with a little computer knowledge, it is possible to find out the names of the people using the same billboard as you. That's how U-M student Jake Baker got caught. He was charged with using interstate commerce to transmit a threat to injure a person. Baker used the name of a female classmate during one of his computer fantasies. He described raping, torturing and murdering her... and he got caught.

So, whose responsibility is it to police postings? It is everyone's responsibility. Anyone who logs onto the Internet should be held accountable for what they say. There is currently a system where Internet users can log complaints against other users. Perhaps there should be a system preventing those with too many complaints from logging on for a certain period of time. But, there's still a problem. If someone with too many complaints against them wants to get on the Internet badly enough, they can log on under a different name.

The actions of one University of Michigan student shouldn't deprive other Internet users of their freedom of speech. He should be punished, but I believe that should be done by the woman he "assaulted". If she wants to take him to court, or just wants an apology, that's fine. We have enough real criminals to take care of. There are men beating and raping women every day, and these people need to be punished for their actions. How can someone be punished for something that never physically happened? Maybe the guy needs psychiatric help, but there's no way I'm going to allow a crazy man to deprive me of one of my fundamental rights.

irrelevant.

The media differences between the Internet and the world of print are obvious, but there are a few points that are shaded when it comes down to the use of the Internet. With print material, you have editors and rules that you have to follow. The Internet has no rules. The writers that compose papers, magazines, and a variety of other print material are for the most known and know the game. On the Internet, you can claim complete anonymity, unless of course you choose differently.

There needs to be some level of responsibility added to the Internet. If this occurred, I feel confident that stories like this would cease to exist if the writer knew that there were stiff consequences. But the burning question appears to be how and what could be done.

I feel that awareness of the risks are made known by the disclaimer U-M requires the user to sign. But I think that U-M is still responsible because it holds the actual access code and then hands it out by the name on the line philosophy. Perhaps they should do something to screen the user before allowing them that privilege.

In doing this, U-M then can hold the abusing parties responsible for their actions. The key to the whole issue is knowing who did it. I think that the fact that your identity can be hidden from the world allows the user to get away with things that otherwise they may not do.

The Polemic sends thanks to everyone who submits questions or letters to the editor, however we cannot print letters unless they are signed! Anyone may request that his/her name not be published, but names will be made available upon requests made at The Polemic office.

Prisoners are people too

By SHAWN DEMPSEY
POLEMIC EDITOR

Something that appeared in the last Polemic has been bothering me. Jason Skiba, assistant editor, wrote an editorial regarding the letters we receive from people serving time in prison. His opinion is that we shouldn't run these letters because these people committed crimes and deserve to be lonely. I do not agree.

Our policy is to print all signed letters to the editor.

The fact that the person writing the letter is in prison does not change this policy.

We receive about three letters from prisoners per year, and these letters come from all over the United States. I have

no idea why we receive these letters or how anyone found our address, but the letters continue to arrive.

The people who write to us claim to be lonely; I bet they are. They have committed some type of crime and as their punishment, they are locked up. They are removed from their family and friends and anyone they care about or anyone who cares about them.

Perhaps it is true that when people go to prison, they deserve some loneliness, but it is also true that everyone deserves

some compassion. To sentence someone to a life of utter loneliness is to sentence someone to no life at all. No one deserves that.

Beyond this, though, is the idea that prison is supposed to rehabilitate. Most people who go to prison are eventually released. Regardless of what crime they committed, they will someday rejoin society. They will live near us, work with us, and socialize with us. Most of the time, we probably won't know they were ever in prison.

How can a person deprived of human contact rehabilitate themselves? People need to communicate -- especially prisoners. They need human contact with the world outside of prison to

prepare themselves for their release. They need some support and understanding in order to learn to live lives without crime.

Whether we like it or not, people commit crimes. Alienating the people who commit crimes is not going to solve the problem; it will only make it worse.

If we receive more letters from people serving time in prison asking for correspondence to help fight the loneliness, they will be run. Whether you decide to correspond or not is up to you.

People commit crimes. Alienating the people who commit crimes is not going to solve the problem; it will only make it worse...

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The Polemic

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Alpena Community College
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Cross country skiing is a roll in the snow

By JASON SKIBA
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Actually, at first I was going to sign up for a personal fitness course. I was proofreading *The Polemic* when I noticed the ad for cross country skiing. The bold type caught my attention. "What winter activity is ranked by the World Health Organization as the No. 1 physical activity for conditioning the cardiovascular system?" It seemed like a good idea and for two credits, why not?

That's how it all began.

Soon I had a dilemma. I didn't want to be in a class of total strangers, especially if they were any good at skiing. So I did the obvious, I talked my best friend Jonathan Pugh into taking the class with me. The next day we were discussing the class in *The Polemic* office when my editor, Shawn Dempsey, asked, "What skiing course?" The next thing I knew I had recruited not one but two people for the class.

The first night I walked in with just a tad bit of queasiness, after the first 10 minutes it was gone. Jeff Blumenthal, the instructor, looked cool and calm; little did he know the kind of class he was in for. There were nine of us in the class. Every person in there (all women besides Jonathan and myself) were just as inexperienced (if not more) at skiing. Boy, was that a load off my shoulders (and probably a load on his)!

The lecture that night went rather well. We first introduced ourselves and talked about skiing and also some of our other winter activities. Stories included ringet playing, a upside-down type of hockey by Gail Evans, a Canadian citizen; skiing stories from Kathy Bianchi; laugh lines from Carlene Przykucki and Karen Eller; and some experiences from Catherine Rogg, Jonathan and Shawn. When I told the story of how I had hit a parked car the last time I had gone downhill skiing, the class just died. It was okay. I didn't mind being laughed at if it meant having the class warm up to each other. That didn't take long. Everyone there was a genuinely nice person and after the first class I felt like we had all known each other for years.

I must admit, at that first lab I was ready to scrap the class altogether. There hadn't been that much snow and the skiing was awful. Even though afterwards we all went and got hot cocoa, I was still just a tad bit uneasy.

The next Tuesday, we learned some of the basic things about skiing itself and then we decided to meet at Thunder Bay Resort in Hillman.

It was this lab session that convinced me that this class was a keeper.

During this lab session, we really skied for the first time. The trails were groomed and that helped a lot. Everyone had a good time getting used to being on these protrusions from our legs and when we were done I had a really good feeling about myself. Jeff had been right - it was good exercise and it gave you an exhilarating feeling to be out there braving the elements.

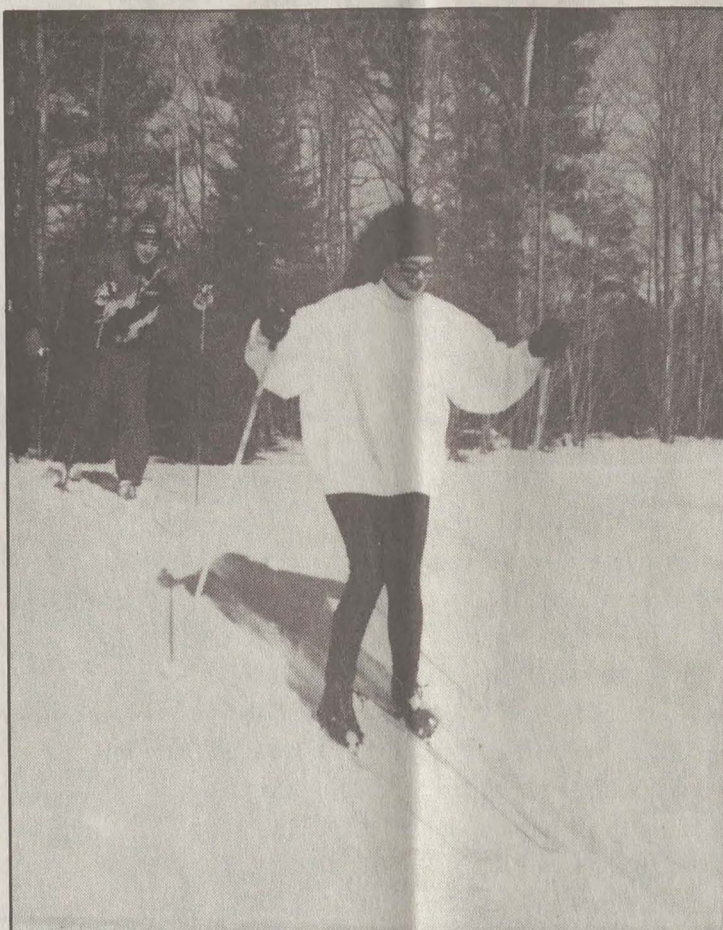
The next lecture sessions included a guest speaker, learning about waxing skis and skate-skiing.

The next lab sessions included learning the techniques for skating, transferring weight correctly and going up and down hills (It's harder than you think).

Included in the class is one field trip decided on by the class members. We decided on Stokely Creek in Sault Saint Marie, Canada. The trip is on the fourth of March and we are all looking forward to it.

Jeff is going to have the class next year and encourages all skiers, from beginner to experienced, to sign up. The class runs on a personal goal system so everyone moves at his/her own pace.

I would definitely recommend this class to any person at the college from age 18 to 81. You move at your own pace so there's no chance of doing something you can't handle. The friends I've met from this one class have helped to add to the enjoyment I receive from going to this institution. They've aided me in having a positive outlook on life as a whole and looking forward to that next time I can snap on my skis and go.



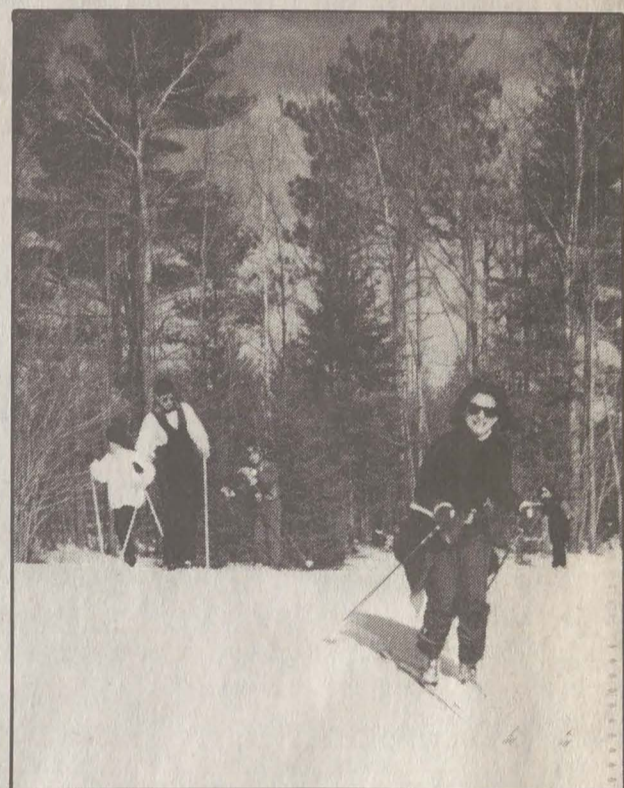
(Above) Gail Evans and Catherine Rogg take a break from a grueling workout to pose for the camera.
(Top Left) Kathy Bianchi goes for the plunge as Jeff Blumenthal coaches her on style.
(Bottom Left) Starting out sometimes takes longer than the event! Here, the class gets some last minute tips before going for the gold.



Page Designed by Jason Skiba



(Above) The class gets some tips on techniques from instructor Jeff Blumenthal.



(Above) With Cathie Rogg in the lead, the skiing class goes for broke and dares an incline.
(Left) Trekking across the open area are from front: Karen Eller, Kathy Bianchi & Gail Evans.

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